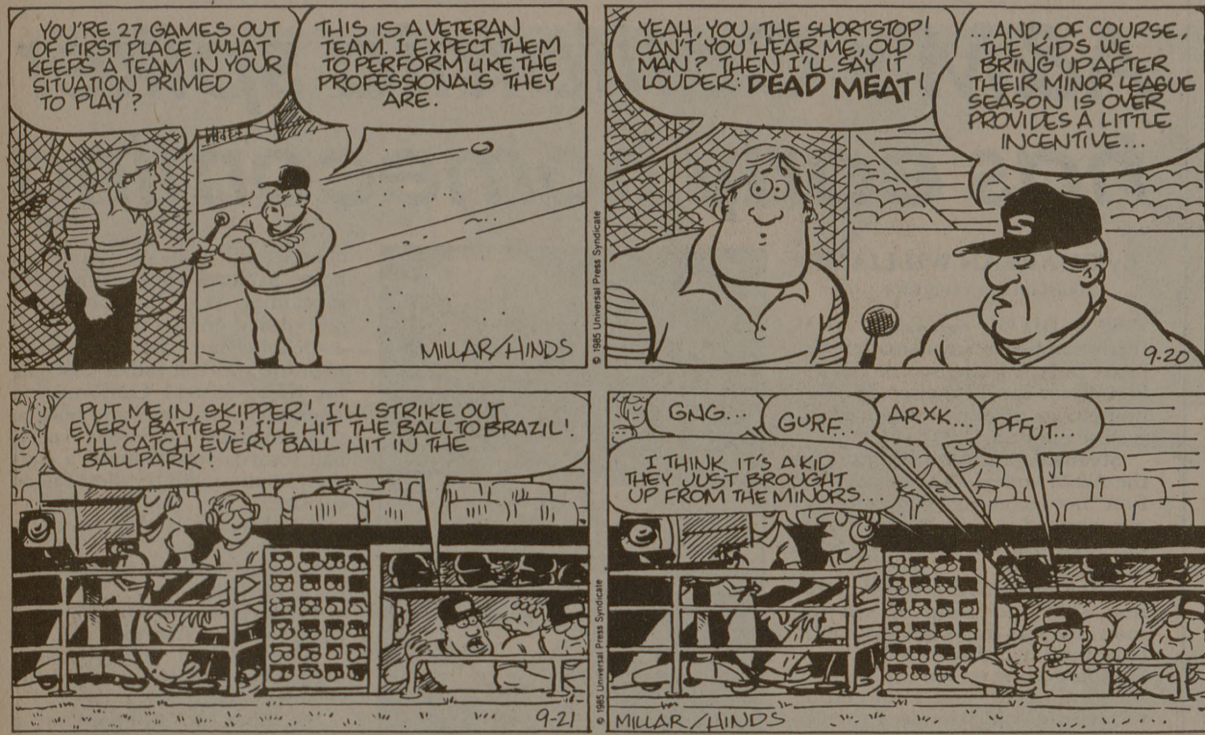


TANK McNAMARA®

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Astros take Dodger series, post ninth straight victory

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kevin Bass thinks the Los Angeles Dodgers are hearing footsteps. Bass collected four hits Thursday night as the Houston Astros won their ninth straight game, a 6-5 victory over the Dodgers in Los Angeles, to sweep a two-game series.

Cincinnati, a 15-5 winner in Atlanta, cut the Dodgers' National League West lead to 5 1/2 games. "The best thing the Dodgers could do is play loose and forget about it," Bass said. "It's something they could be thinking about because losing can be contagious."

Bass led a 17-hit attack in which Craig Reynolds and Jerry Mumphrey contributed three each. Houston left-hander Bob Knepper (15-10) won 7 1/3 innings, issuing six hits for his fifth straight victory. Knepper, who hasn't lost since Aug. 26, struck out six, walked one and left the game with the bases loaded and Houston up 6-2.

Dave Smith took over for his 25th save and was never out of trouble. One out later, Bill Madlock singled in two runs, extending his personal hitting streak to 12 games. Mike Scioscia then doubled in a third run to make it 6-5.

In the ninth, the Dodgers loaded the bases with one out, but Enos Cabell grounded into a fielder's choice and pinch-hitter Greg Brock grounded out to end it. The Astros reached the Dodgers for 15 hits, four of them singles by Bass.

SPORTS EDITOR'S NOTE: The Battalion's Associated Press wire service went down at approximately 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night. Therefore, no AP baseball stories and scores could be collected and run for Thursday's newspaper. We here at Battalion Sports apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused.



Other Thursday games: (Home team in capitals)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

DETROIT 10, New York 3
Milwaukee 5, BALTIMORE 2
Seattle 6, KANSAS CITY 4
California 8, CHICAGO 0

NATIONAL LEAGUE

PHILADELPHIA 6, St. Louis 3
NEW YORK 5, Chicago 1
Cincinnati 15, ATLANTA 5
San Diego 11, SAN FRANCISCO 3
Pittsburgh 8, MONTREAL 6 (10)

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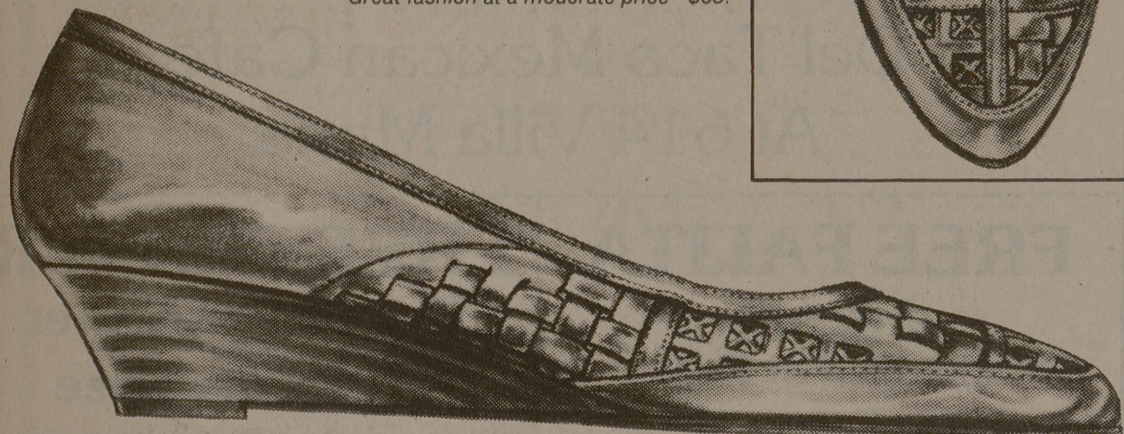
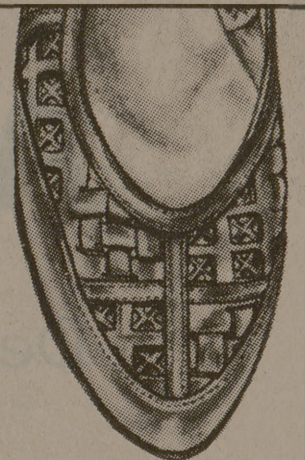
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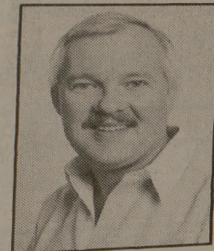
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