Sports

Goodwill Games

U.S. women's basketball team crushes Soviets, wins gold

MOSCOW (AP) — With Cheryl 154 games was to the United States filler again leading the way, and in 1957. Miller again leading the way, and cheered on by a boisterous flag-waving contingent, the U.S. women's basketball team handed the Soviet Union its first major tournament deeat in 28 years, 83-60, Thursday night and won a gold medal at the Goodwill Games.

Miller scored a team-high 18 points as the United States surged from a two-point deficit to a 14point halftime lead. And — supported by large group of Americans doing a stadium-style "wave" at half-time and chanting "U-S-A, U-S-A" Miller and her teammates pulled away in the second half to win the biggest East-West matchup of the medal.

national team had lost in major international competition was 1958, against Bulgaria. Other than that,

The basketball gold was the only one for the Americans on the seventh day of the international sports festival. Athletes from Eastern block countries dominated.

Soviet athletes won eight gold medals Thursday to raise their total to 43. The United States has 31, and East Germany has six. The Soviets have 122 medals in all, and the U.S.

A team of Soviet cyclists set a world record in the 4,000-meter pursuit for the second day in a row - their time of four minutes, 12.31 seconds also was good for a gold

imes. A Swiss cyclist, Barbara Janz,
The last time the Soviet women's edged American Melinda Mayfield for the gold medal in the women's

Mark Gorski, the American gold the only loss for the USSR women in medalist in the men's sprint at the

finals when his Soviet opponent, Otar Mchedlishvili, defaulted with an injury. But the U.S. silver medalist in Los Angeles, Nelson Vails, was eliminated by East Germany's

Mikhaehl Hubner. In diving, the women's spring-board gold medal went to another East German, Brita Baldus, with 493.02 points. Tristan Baker of the United States was fourth at 476.64, while U.S. national champion Michele Mitchell finished seventh at 461.40.

Soviet athletes took gold medals in all four individual events of rhyth-mic gymnastics, with an East German sharing the gold with two Soviets in the rope event. The best U.S finish was an eighth place for Diane Simpson in the ribbon.

But for the Navy Seabees who are stationed at the U.S embassy and the draped it over her shoulders and pa-other Americans in the basketball raded around court.

'84 Olympics, advanced to the semi-crowd, the United States won the only game that counted.

The Soviets moved in front early and led 21-19 with 9:20 remaining in the first half. That is when the Americans went to work.

It started getting rebounds, running the floor and hitting all kinds of shots, while shutting down the Soviet attack and 7-foot-13/4 Liliana Semeo-

Anne Donovan, the 6-8 U.S center, blocked one of Semoenova's shots and the Soviet giant scored just four points - and had no rebounds. The U.S. outscored the Soviets

20-4 for a 39-25 halftime lead. In the second half, the lead swelled to 26 points and the U-S-A chants became louder. When the final buzzer sounded, Miller was handed an American flag. She

'Red machine' gears up for title race

MONTREAL (AP) — Cincinnati firing of Rose, a native son and the major leagues' all-time hit leader. olayer-manager Pete Rose said the Reds have moved from trying to reverse their dismal start to competing for the National League West's division title.

"No question, we're a contender in the West," said Rose. "Our best ball is ahead of us. You can see we're coming. By now, we're not trying to turn it around, we've already turned

it around. On May 17, the Reds, who last year challenged the Los Angeles Dodgers into the last month for the division pennant, were 5-22 and 10 games out of first place. Fans and the media were screaming for the

But in their last 54 games heading into Thursday night, Cincinnati was 33-21 (winning their last three and eight of the last 10), putting them five games under .500 and 5½ games behind division leaders San Francisco and Houston.

"We're just getting good starting pitching, good relief pitching, good hitting, it's a simple as that," said Reds outfielder Dave Parker. "We struggled in the first half but we picked a good time to put it all to-gether. Hopefully, it will carry us into the second half."

in Cincinnati's recent series against the New York Mets. The Reds rapped 45 hits and took three games from the East Division leaders, the first time this season New York has been swept in a series.

"When you get 45 hits in three games you can even beat the best team in baseball," Rose said. "And that is what we did. We're playing good ball and have a chance to beat

One player whose fortunes have followed that of the club is Tom

Browning, who improved his re- last half of the year

The momentum gained strength cord to 7-7 with a 11-1 victory over the Mets on Wednesday, started the season 0-4 before he finally beat the Pittsburgh Pirates on May 18.

> "I'm more aggressive, challenging the hitters," said Browning who was a 20-game winner last season as a rookie. "I'm just going at them, not trying to get fancy. I just wasn't pitching my type of ball game earlier in the year. I feel like I'm in the groove now.

Rose said his club still has to continuing its winning pace through its current series with the Montreal Expos and then concentrate on the

All-Star Game tickets still available

HOUSTON (AP) — The Astrodome ticket office will begin selling 2,000 tickets to the All-Star Game at 7 a.m. CDT today, it

was announced Thursday.
The tickets are from allotments returned by other major league teams and are expected to be sold quickly, making the 57th annual classic a 45,000 sellout, said Rob Matwick, a spokesman for the

Houston Astros.

The tickets will be sold on a cash-only basis, Matwick said.

Surprised Hernandez to start for NL

NEW YORK (AP) — Unseating 10-time All Star Steve Garvey from the starting first base position on the National League team for Tuesday night's game was not easy. And for Keith Hernandez it was also un-

expected.

Hernandez was one of three New York Mets selected in fan balloting to the starting team for the All Star Game in Houston in results announced Thursday.

"I've been watching this with quite a bit of interest the last 10 days," Hernandez. "I don't want to get into a lot of detail about why, but I am surprised.'

Hernandez was one of the players who admitted during last year's federal drug trials in Pittsburgh to using drugs. He was the only player of 21 censured by Baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth for previous drug use to be voted to a starting position on either the or American League teams.

Hernandez since the trial had been booed in many parks. But his .286 average with six homers and 36 RBI were good enough to get him 995,279 votes, 137,000 more than Garvey, who was the first NL player to receive more than four million votes, in 1977, and the only player ever to be voted in as a write-in, in 1974.

Joining Hernandez on the NL starting squad will be teammates Darryl Strawberry and Gary Carter. St. Louis manager Whitey Herzog has said he will start Mets pitcher Dwight Gooden, who will be joined by another New York right hander, Sid Fernandez on the NL's pitching staff.

Strawberry, who will start in the outfield beside Atlanta's Dale Murphy and San Diego's Tony Gwynn, was the leading vote-getter for the National League. Strawberry attracted 1,619,511 votes, most in the

majors and more than 135,000 ahead of the next most popular player in the fan balloting - Carter.

Also selected to the starting team for were second baseman Ryne Sandberg of Chicago, shortstop Ozzie Smith of St. Louis and third baseman Mike Schmidt of

The reserves for both the American and National Leagues are expected to be named today.

Gooden, Cieniens to start for All Stars

NEW YORK (AP) — Roger Clemens of the Boston Red Sox and Dwight Gooden of the New York Mets on Thursday were named to their leagues' pitching staffs, setting up an anticipated matchup of wourse but streedling pitch. young, but struggling, pitchers in baseball's 57th All-Star Game at the Houston Astrodome Tuesday.

The American League, which has lost 13 of the last 14 All-Star Games, selected eight pitchers, while the National League chose 10.

Clemens, a right-hander who has the most victories in the major leagues this season, was off to a 14-0 start, one victory short of the American League record, before losing his

Gooden, 10-4, who won the 1985 Cy Young Award in the National

The other AL pitchers will be Don Aase of Baltimore, Mike Witt of Cal-ifornia, Ken Schrom of Cleveland, Willie Hernandez of Detroit, Ted Higuera of Milwaukee, Dave Righetti of New York and Charlie Hough of Texas.

The rest of the NL squad includes Gooden's teammate Sid Fernandez, Mike Scott and Dave Smith of Houston, John Franco of Cincinnati, Mike Krukow of San Francisco, Shane Rawley of Philadelphia, Jeff Reardon of Montreal, Rick Rhoden of Phitalysteh and Francisco Valence Pittsburgh and Fernando Valenzuela of Los Angeles.

Major reagne Raseball

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San Diego 4, St. Louis 3 Montreal 8, Cincinnati New York 5, Atlanta 1 Chicago at Los Angeles, (n)



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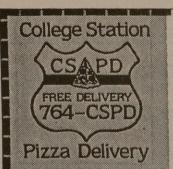


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