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## McEnroe returns to old form

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vt. (AP) — The real John McEnroe returned Thursday, showing flashes of brilliant tennis and displaying fits of temper.

Playing in his first tournament of 1986, McEnroe dispatched doubles partner Peter Fleming 6-1, 6-4 as rain repeatedly interrupted play at the \$315,000 Volvo International tournament.

The match, which was halted by rain Wednesday after five points had been played, was scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. Thursday. But because of scattered downpours, McEnroe and Fleming didn't walk onto the court until 11 a.m.

Before they could begin their warmup, another downpour sent the players back to the dressing room and the match didn't start until 12:25 p.m.

McEnroe, not playing the tentative game he displayed in his opening game round, ripped through the last six games to grab the first set, breaking Fleming's service in the third, fifth and seventh games.

On the first set point, McEnroe's forehand half-volley was called long, and the left-hander disputed the call. It was not a protracted dispute, but it was a harbinger of things to come on a day that saw lightning briefly cut off electricity in the area, only to be followed by brilliant, hot sunshine.

McEnroe began the second set with a beautiful backhand passing shot down the line to grab a 15-0 lead. His next serve was a fault, then the rain returned.

After another delay, the pair returned to court and played two more games before another downpour interrupted play.

When the match resumed this time, it was a different McEnroe that took the court, one that more resembled the frustrated player that decided in January to take a self-imposed sabbatical from the sport.

His game lacked the sparkle he had displayed earlier in the day. He complained over a baseline call and later spat in the direction of the line judge.

"Come on, McEnroe, you've got one baby at home already," someone in the crowd at the Green Mountain resort yelled.

After the opening point of the 10th game, a telephone began ringing in a television booth high at one end of the stadium court.

"It's the National Enquirer," McEnroe said, referring to the national tabloid with which he has had a running feud.

Three points later, McEnroe had broken Fleming's service at love and completed the victory.

## Sports

# Walker intends to join Dallas, 'play with best'

NEW YORK (AP) — Herschel Walker, declaring "I'm a football player and I want to play football," announced Thursday that he was leaving the dormant USFL to begin negotiations with the NFL's Dallas Cowboys.

While the fate of the USFL's other 400 players was being decided at a meeting with players union officials in Washington, the league's most visible star was telling reporters that he had been given his release by New Jersey Generals owner Donald Trump and was ready to join the Cowboys.

The running back's agent, Peter Johnson, said talks would begin next week with Dallas, which drafted Walker on the fifth round of the 1985 NFL draft.

Walker, the 1982 Heisman Trophy winner, brought the USFL instant recognition when he signed with the Generals following his junior year at Georgia. In 1985, his third season with the team, he rushed for an all-time professional record of 2,411 yards.



Herschel Walker

But then the USFL won only \$3 in its antitrust suit against the NFL and decided to scrap its first fall season and remain idle for the second straight year. And Trump announced Wednesday that he would release any player who asked him, including Walker and quarterbacks Jim Kelly and Doug Flutie.

That made Walker's decision to jump to the NFL seem inevitable although Walker had sug-

gested he might go into the real estate business with Trump, whom he holds a personal services contract.

"I love to play football," Walker said Thursday. "God has given me the ability to play football and I want to play with the very best."

"His agreement Mr. Trump to play football, not to be an evaluator operator in Trump Tower," said Johnson.

Johnson did not spell out details of Walker's contract with Trump, which has four years remaining at a reported \$1.5 million a year that makes him the ball's highest-paid player. But he hinted that Trump would have to make up the difference if he signs with the Cowboys for less.

The release by Trump allowed Walker to begin negotiations with Dallas, although to sign, he would need a second release from the USFL office, then permission from the NFL. But those are

See Walker, page 8

# Sherrard inks with Cowboys

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Mike Sherrard, the Dallas Cowboys' first-round draft pick, signed a four-year contract with the NFL team Thursday after a "caffeine-assisted negotiation," his agent said.

The contract, hammered out on Sherrard's 32nd day as a hold-out, reportedly is worth about \$1.5 million.

Leigh Steinberg, Sherrard's agent, said he, Sherrard and Cowboys vice president Joe Bailey worked out the contract in a "caffeine-assisted negotiation that burned the midnight oil" late Wednesday night and early Thursday morning.

"I was getting anxious and I'm actually looking forward to practice. I think I'll be able to contribute with my deep speed," Sherrard, a former UCLA wide receiver, said. "I know guys have been working out for five weeks and I'll be willing to put in extra time if I have to. I've been working out with some guys at UCLA."

The announcement of his signing came about 2 p.m. PDT Thursday at a press conference

"I don't know how well I'm going to adjust to the NFL, but I always thought deep down that things would work out with the Cowboys."

—Mike Sherrard, New Cowboy receiver

with Sherrard and his agent at the Cowboys' training camp in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

"I don't know how well I'm going to adjust to the NFL, but I always thought deep down that things would work out with the Cowboys," Sherrard said.

Offers from the Arizona Outlaws of the USFL were mentioned repeatedly throughout the past several weeks, but during it all, Sherrard continued to say he wanted to play with the Cowboys. He worked out a month with Cowboys pass coordinator Paul Hackett before serious negotiations even began.

The importance of getting Sherrard into camp grew when veteran wide receiver Mike Renfro suffered a separate shoulder in the Cowboys exhibition game against the Chicago Bears in London last Sunday. Renfro will be out four to six weeks.

With Renfro out, Cowboys head coach Tom Landry said, Sherrard has an opportunity to move quickly into the lineup.

"Obviously, there's a better chance, now even though he's coming late. He had been a very dedicated guy in our offseason program," Landry said.

Steinberg said Sherrard has been working out daily at UCLA and is in "excellent shape."

Steinberg said neither the USFL's suspension of play nor Renfro's injury had an effect on the negotiations.

"Joe (Bailey) never referred to the death of the USFL, and I never referred to the status of the Dallas receiving corps," Steinberg said.

Landry said he's preparing

See Sherrard, page 8

# Norman's 65 provides 2-shot cushion at PGA

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Greg Norman continued his summer-long blitz with a 6-under-par 65 on a rain-softened course and established a two-stroke lead Thursday in the first round of the 68th PGA National Championship.

The Inverness course, which did not yield a subpar 72-hole score the four times it played host to the U.S. Open, was stripped of its defenses by an inch of overnight rain.

"The golf course played about four shots easier" than in practice rounds when the tiny greens were extremely firm and hard to hold, Norman said.

"The course was set up to play tough, but with the rain you could hit it at the flag instead of playing it short and trying to run it on the green."

Others found it not quite so easy, however.

There was Jack Nicklaus, for example. The 46-year-old Masters champion had it three under par at one point and was striding confidently toward a position among the leaders until he went bogey-bogey on the 16th and 17th, angrily slapping the enlarged head of his putter at one point.

Nicklaus, gunning for a record sixth PGA championship, finished with a 70.

"Sure, I'm disappointed," he said. "I'm disappointed at making two bogeys. If I weren't disappointed, I shouldn't be playing."

Still, he was two strokes better than Tom Watson, who so anxiously seeks this, the one title he needs to complete a career sweep of the recognized major championships, a quartet which also includes the U.S. and British Opens and the Masters.

# Observers skeptical of Carlton's retirement

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Steve Carlton may not be keeping batters guessing any longer, but the silent pitcher's sudden departure from the San Francisco Giants left baseball observers wondering if his retirement is permanent.

Carlton, the 10th winningest pitcher in major-league history and the dominant left-hander of his time, did nothing to dispel the aura of mystery that surrounded him right to the apparent end of a 22-year career.

His only comment came in a statement the Giants released Wednesday in which he said: "I've decided it's in the best interests of everyone involved to announce my retirement at this time."

In the statement, Carlton thanked the Giants' management and fans, and said he realizes the club is committed to its young pitchers. But Carlton did not mention future plans or expand on

his retirement decision. He declined to respond when asked by a reporter later if he hopes to pursue a comeback with another team.

Giants President Al Rosen called Carlton into a Wednesday morning meeting after the 110th National League All-Star had been shelled in Cincinnati the night before in an 11-6 loss. Rosen said Carlton's decision to quit was "the greatest way to do it."

# Orioles' dual grand slams fall short in wild loss to Rangers

BALTIMORE (AP) — Two grand slam home runs in the same inning weren't enough to carry the Baltimore Orioles to victory over the Texas Rangers, but Orioles' manager Earl Weaver appeared to take the loss in stride.

"It's just like a 1-0 loss, look in the paper; one more loss," said Weaver after the Orioles surrendered a five-run lead and lost the Wednesday night game 13-11.

Texas' Toby Harrah hit a bases-loaded homer in the second inning before Larry Sheets and Jim Dwyer connected for grand slams in Baltimore's nine-run fourth inning. The three slams set a major league record.

The Rangers, however, took the lead with six runs in the eighth inning, and went on to claim the victory.

The bases-loaded homers weren't

the only unusual goings-on at the ballpark, however. The game started more than one hour late because of rain, and during the delay, Baltimore catcher Rick Dempsey entertained the crowd by pantomiming to songs played over the public address system.

During the eighth inning, action stopped when a cat ran onto the field. The feline made two attempts to jump over a fence, then tried to clear a tarpaulin before retreating to the Orioles' dugout.

In addition to losing the game, the Orioles learned that Don Aase, the leading relief pitcher in the major leagues with 28 saves, had a strained back. Aase, bothered by a tender elbow in his last two appearances, twisted his back Wednesday while picking up his infant daughter and was unavailable in the bullpen during the game.

# Major League Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE					NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division					East Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB	
Boston	62	44	.585	—	New York	72	34	.680	—
Baltimore	59	49	.546	4	Montreal	54	50	.520	17
Detroit	58	50	.537	5	Philadelphia	52	54	.490	20
New York	59	51	.536	5	St. Louis	51	55	.480	21
Toronto	58	52	.527	6	Chicago	46	60	.430	28
Cleveland	55	52	.514	7½	Pittsburgh	42	62	.400	32
Milwaukee	53	54	.495	9½					
West Division					West Division				
California	57	50	.533	—	Houston	60	48	.556	—
Texas	57	52	.523	1	San Francisco	56	52	.519	4
Chicago	48	58	.453	8½	Los Angeles	54	53	.505	8
Kansas City	48	60	.444	9½	San Diego	51	55	.481	8
Seattle	48	61	.440	10	Cincinnati	49	57	.462	9½
Minnesota	47	60	.439	10	Atlanta	49	57	.462	10
Oakland	47	63	.427	11½					
Thursday's Games					Thursday's Games				
Texas 9, Baltimore 8					New York 7, Chicago 6, completion of suspended game				
Detroit 15, Cleveland 1, 1st game					New York 12, Chicago 3				
Cleveland at Detroit, 2nd game, (n)					St. Louis 6, Philadelphia 5				
Milwaukee 10, New York 2					Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh 4				
Toronto 5, Kansas City 4									
Seattle at California, (n)									