

Sports

Baseballs to be tested for liveliness

Saberhagen, Scott to start as pitchers in All-Star contest

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — While starters Bret Saberhagen and Mike Scott prepared Monday to test All-Star power, baseball prepared new tests for what is being called a livelier ball.

Saberhagen, the top pitcher in the American League at 15-3, and Scott were named starting pitchers for this evening's 58th All-Star Game at the Oakland Coliseum.

And while the pitchers debated why home runs have increased by 22 percent this year, American League President Dr. Bobby Brown announced both leagues would begin laboratory testing to determine whether the ball is more lively.

"We're going to repeat tests we conducted in 1984 when we

awarded the ball contract to Rawlings," Brown said. "We don't expect any difference."

Brown said results would be back within 14 days "and possibly a lot sooner."

The lively ball debate dominated discussion at Monday's pre-workout news conference.

"Is the ball juiced?" repeated National League President A. Bartlett Giamatti, the former president of Yale University. "No more than I am, sir."

Scott and Saberhagen each have allowed 12 home runs this season but are split on the reasons.

"Is it juiced? I think it is," Scott said. "I can't prove anything. But when a guy hits a fly ball, it seems like I have to hold my breath."

Saberhagen attributed the increased homers to three factors.

"Players are stronger, the ball is a little juiced-up and the wood for bats is a little better," he said.

Rick Sutcliffe, who is likely to pitch for the NL, scoffed at suggestions the ball is livelier.

"I think pitchers needed an excuse. Every now and then, you have to give the hitters credit," Sutcliffe said. "I pitch in Wrigley Field. You could hit a tomato out of there."

Either way, Saberhagen, Scott and the rest of the pitchers must cope with power-packed lineups.

Eric Davis, who leads the NL with 27 homers, will bat leadoff and be followed by Ryne Sandberg, Andre Dawson, Mike Schmidt, Jack Clark,

Darryl Strawberry, Gary Carter, Ozzie Smith and Scott.

Rickey Henderson will lead off for the AL and be followed by Don Mattingly, Wade Boggs, George Bell, Dave Winfield, Cal Ripken, Terry Kennedy, Willie Randolph and Saberhagen. Oakland rookie Mark McGwire, leading the majors with 33 homers, is an AL reserve.

The Coliseum is not regarded as a hitter's ballpark and the game will begin at 5:30 p.m. local time to accommodate NBC-TV. The network has its own troubles, however, as strikes by cameramen, technicians and directors have wiped out two-thirds of the production crew.

A sellout crowd of 50,000 and clear skies are predicted for the game.

Knicks hire Pitino as head coach

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Knicks' 84-day search for a new coach ended where it started Monday: with Rick Pitino, who turned Providence from a college doormat to a Final Four team in two years.

Pitino, a Knicks' assistant under Hubie Brown from 1983 to 1985, was named the team's coach at a news conference at Madison Square Garden.

The 34-year-old New York native was the first candidate interviewed by the team after it fired Coach Bob Hill and General Manager Scotty Stirling on April 20. He withdrew his name from consideration May 1 after the Knicks failed to meet his hiring deadline, but changed his mind when the team offered him the job last week.

Pitino, who recently signed a five-year contract extension at Providence, said leaving the school was the "most difficult decision of my life."

"I was 100 percent happy there," he said. "But I couldn't turn down the challenge of coaching the Knicks. If I didn't take the job, I would have always wondered about it."

Pitino and the president of Providence, the Rev. John Cunningham, said his contract at the school did not contain a buyout clause.

"I had a long talk with him Saturday morning and told him Providence College would not stand in the way of his professional advancement," Cunningham said. "He did not ask me to get out of the contract. I extended it to him."

Pitino said he didn't accept the Knicks offer until Monday morning, after meeting with his Providence players. He said he would not have taken the job if any of his players objected, but none of them did.

"We love each other at Providence, and it's difficult to leave the ones you love," Pitino said.

"But they are still a part of my life, and always will be."

In his first year at Providence, Pitino took over a team that was 11-20 the year before and led them to a 17-14 record and a berth in the National Invitation Tournament. Last season, he guided the Friars to a 25-9 record.

"I was 100 percent happy there. But I couldn't turn down the challenge of coaching the Knicks. If I didn't take the job, I would have always wondered about it."

— Rick Pitino

Jackson to announce today decision on football career

AUBURN, Ala. (AP) — Heisman Trophy winner Bo Jackson, who once bypassed professional football for a major league baseball career with the Kansas City Royals, is expected to announce today that he will carry the ball for the Los Angeles Raiders of the NFL.

Jackson and his agent, Richard Woods of Mobile, scheduled a news conference for 11:30 p.m. CDT today at Auburn to announce his decision on signing a contract to play for the Raiders after the baseball season ends.

The rookie outfielder for the Kansas City Royals turned down a \$5 million contract from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers following the 1985 season, when he won the Heisman at Auburn and set the school's all-time rushing record. At the time, he said he would never play football again.

Woods, who met over the weekend with Raiders owner Al Davis, was not immediately available for comment Monday on any terms of a contract with the Raiders, but he said Sunday night in a telephone interview that such an agreement is

"very likely."

"The prospects of him playing baseball for the Royals and football for the Raiders are excellent," Woods said.

In Toronto Saturday, Jackson announced he wanted to play for the Raiders, which made him their seventh-round draft pick this year. But he said his decision to return to football for at least part of one season does not mean his baseball career is over.

"Once I said I'll play baseball, I meant it," Jackson said. "I'm a baseball player now, and I'll always be a baseball player. I'll be a baseball player until they tear the jersey off my back."

At the All-Star break, Jackson was hitting .254 with 18 home runs and 45 runs batted in. He also had 112 strikeouts in 277 at-bats, which is on a pace to break the all-time single-season record of 189 strikeouts.

As a football player at Auburn, Jackson gained 4,303 yards on 650 carries, good for a per-carry average of 6.6 yards and a per-game average of 113.2 yards.

McGwire can't explain talent for hitting long ball

OAKLAND (AP) — Rookie Mark McGwire of the Oakland Athletics, baseball's hottest long ball hitter with 33 home runs at the All-Star break, is enjoying his Ruthian run but is at a loss to explain it.

"I don't try to hit home runs," he said. "They just come. It's rare that you try for a home run. It's the time that you don't try that you hit them."

Ozzie Virgil of the Atlanta Braves, who reached the All-Star break with 20 homers, agreed with McGwire.

"I can't swing for homers," he said. "That won't work. When you hit them, guys say, 'You swung so easy.' When you swing hard, it takes you out of your groove and throws your timing off."

Virgil thinks it's a matter of mistakes.

"Look," he said, gesturing around the NL dressing room, "if you took a bunch of these guys

and threw the ball down the middle to them, you'd get a good number of them to hit it out. I just think pitchers have made more mistakes."


Are hitters swinging for the seats?

"Home runs put money in your pocket," Virgil said with a smile. "That's what people want to see."

Trying for homers Monday at the All-Star workout's home run hitting contest, McGwire hit one and Virgil two. Andre Dawson had four as the NL outperformed the AL 6-2.


McGwire, the guy with 33, is as puzzled as anybody about the increased number of home runs.

"It's unexplainable," he said. "I've hit home runs throughout my career but it's a surprise that I've hit so many up here in so short a period. I'm doing nothing different. I'm the same hitter I was in college, just a little older."



McDONALD'S

INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS



At University Drive
Hwy 21
Texas and S.W. Parkway
At Manor East Mall

ALL-UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the All-University Champions in the sports for the first summer session.

<p>SOFTBALL</p> <p>Class A: CoRec - C.C. Creations Men - C.C. Creations</p> <p>Class B: CoRec - The Ultimates Men - Malpractice</p> <p>Class C: CoRec - Big Bucks</p> <p>BASKETBALL TRIPLES</p> <p>Class A: CoRec - No L Play Men - Old Timers Women - Spuds Club</p> <p>Class B: Men - Untouchables</p> <p>HORSESHOE DOUBLES</p> <p>Men - Gary Buck, Kevin Lowry</p> <p>GOLF SINGLES</p> <p>Class A: Men - George Naifen Women - Cori Hembree</p> <p>Class B: Men - David Brown</p>	<p>VOLLEYBALL TRIPLES</p> <p>Class A: CoRec - Comeh-Coolah Men - Nice Try</p> <p>Class B: CoRec - Nets Men - Pony Pac</p> <p>RACQUETBALL DOUBLES</p> <p>Class A: CoRec - Kathy Craig, Stan Butler Women - Mary Bean, Renee Thiebaud</p> <p>Class B: Men - Thuan Nguyen, Mohd Warrad</p> <p>Class C: CoRec - Julie Patrick, Tuan Tran Men - Eric Flynn, Bob Cahill</p> <p>TENNIS SINGLES</p> <p>Class A: Men - Jay Bigam Women - Jeannine Zaeske</p> <p>Class B: Men - Bill Beggs Women - Kathy Craig</p> <p>Class C: Men - Luis Rodriguez</p>
--	--

TAMU OUTDOORS

The TAMU Outdoors program is offering these two trips during the second summer session.

To sign up for trips or for more information on specifics of the outdoor recreation program, please stop by the TAMU Intramural-Recreational Sports Office in 159 Read or call Patsy at 845-7826. All trips have a pre-trip meeting which is mandatory for participation. Adventure trips are open to all Texas A&M University and Bryan/College Station community members, 18 years and older.

ROCK CLIMBING/RAPPELLING ENCHANTED ROCK STATE NATURAL AREA — Experienced instructors will introduce you to safe, proven skills of moving on rock. This trip is offered to beginning and intermediate climbers and will explore different areas of Enchanted Rock than the first summer trip. Rental of camping equipment, climbing equipment, camping permits, and instruction is included. Limited to 10 people.

Dates: July 24-26
Cost: \$25 (\$30 non A&M)
Registration: July 6 - July 20

CANOEOING THE GUADALUPE RIVER — Spend the weekend testing your whitewater skills and camping on the bank of the scenic Guadalupe River. The trip is geared for beginning and intermediate canoeists. Kayakers with their own gear are welcome, but must have experience. Rental of canoes and camping equipment, campground fees, shuttle costs, instruction both before the trip and while on the river, and experienced guides are included. Limited to 14 people.

Dates: July 31-August 2
Cost: \$25 (\$30 non A&M)
Registration: July 13-July 27

EXERCISE CLASSES

There are still openings available in the Exercise Program offered by the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office. There is an intermediate class from 12-1pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The cost for this class is \$30.00. The second intermediate class is offered from 5:30-6:30 on Tuesday and Thursday; the cost is \$25.00. The beginners class is offered on Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-6:30. The cost for this class is \$25.00. An unlimited number of classes may be attended for \$40.00. These classes are taught by Waist Basket instructors and are held on campus. For more information or to sign up, come by 159 Read Building or call 845-7826.

TEAM SPORTS SUMMER SESSION II

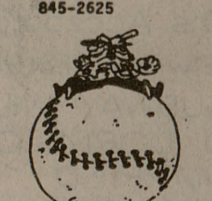

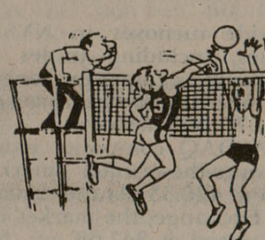
ENTRIES OPEN: JULY 14 ENTRIES CLOSE: JULY 17

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN IN THE INTRAMURAL OFFICE, ROOM 159 READ BUILDING.

LEAGUES: Men's, Women's and CoRec **ELIGIBILITY:** All currently enrolled students and faculty/staff and spouses with a recreational ID and Intramural validation are eligible to participate.

CLASSES: Class A - Highly skilled
Class B - Moderately skilled
Class C - Novice

RULES: Rules for all sports are available in the Intramural Office, Room 159 Read Building.

<p>SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL</p> <p>ENTRY FEE: \$30.00</p> <p>SCHEDULES AVAILABLE: Mon., July 20 at 10 AM</p> <p>PLAY BEGINS: Mon., July 20</p> <p>PLAYOFFS POSTED: Wed., July 29 at 2 PM</p> <p>PLAYOFFS BEGIN: Thu., July 30</p> <p>RAINOUT AND INFORMATION NUMBER - 845-2625</p> 	<p>BASKETBALL TRIPLES</p> <p>ENTRY FEE: \$20.00</p> <p>SCHEDULES AVAILABLE: Mon., July 20 at 10 AM</p> <p>PLAY BEGINS: Mon., July 20</p> <p>PLAYOFFS POSTED: Tue., July 28 at 2 PM</p> <p>PLAYOFFS BEGIN: Wed., July 29</p> 	<p>VOLLEYBALL TRIPLES</p> <p>ENTRY FEE: \$20.00</p> <p>SCHEDULES AVAILABLE: Mon., July 20 at 10 AM</p> <p>PLAY BEGINS: Tue., July 21</p> <p>PLAYOFFS POSTED: Wed., July 29 at 2 PM</p> <p>PLAYOFFS BEGIN: Thu., July 30</p> 
---	--	--

INDIVIDUAL & DUAL SPORTS SUMMER SESSION II

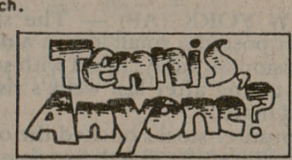
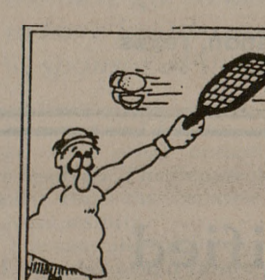

ENTRIES OPEN: JULY 14 ENTRIES CLOSE: JULY 17

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE TAKEN IN THE INTRAMURAL OFFICE, ROOM 159 READ BUILDING.

SCHEDULES: Available Monday, July 20 after 2 PM **PLAY BEGINS:** Tuesday, July 21

LEAGUES: Men's, Women's and CoRec **ELIGIBILITY:** All currently enrolled students and faculty/staff and spouses with a recreational ID and intramural validation are eligible to participate.

CLASSES: Class A - Highly skilled
Class B - Moderately skilled
Class C - Novice

<p>TENNIS DOUBLES</p> <p>Matches consist of two out of three sets. Games are played to 4 points (no deuce). Each team must bring an unopened can of balls to each match.</p>  <p>HORSESHOE SINGLES</p> <p>Matches consist of two out of three games to 15 points. Horseshoes will be provided but are available for checkout in 157 Read for practice.</p>	<p>RACQUETBALL SINGLES</p> <p>IRA rules will apply. Matches are two games to 15 points with an 11 point tie breaker, if necessary. Each participant must bring an unopened can of balls to each match.</p> 	<p>GOLF DOUBLES</p> <p>Participants will be assigned to opponents based on skill level and must play within an assigned period of time.</p> <p>Classes A, B and C will play an 18 hole qualifying round with the top 8 teams in each class advancing to the divisionals. Based on these scores, the top 4 teams in each class will advance to the All-University round. The All-University Champion will be determined by the total score from divisionals and All-University rounds (36 hole total). Class A plays from the maroon tees and Class B and Class C play from the white tees.</p> 
---	---	---