

## Young faces help Pirates develop winning formula

PITTSBURGH (AP) — It's not a fire sale, not a Thrift sale. General Manager Syd Thrift insists the wholesale changes he's made dealing away nearly all of Pittsburgh's veteran players aren't designed to save money, but to have face.

Thrift insists the Pirates, not bothering to lead for their fourth consecutive last-place finish, are going to the Raiders to start winning with young talent, and some to keep losing with old players.

"We're making this a better ball club. We're bringing the talent in," Thrift said.

Lately, the Pirates have been winning. They carried a six-game winning streak at home against Atlanta Monday night.

Since April 1, Thrift has traded moving away what many would consider the heart of the Pirates — and, Tom Landrum certainly, the heart of their payroll for this type of.

The team's four highest-paid players — Tony Pena, Rick Reuschel, Don Robinson and Johnny Ray — are gone, along with their estimated \$3.3 million a year in salaries.

In their place are major league baseball's youngest and perhaps lowest-paid team, a team that has

only two players, Andy Van Slyke and reserve outfielder Terry Harper, who make more than the big league average of \$425,000 a year.

Seven players make the major-league minimum of \$62,500 a year.

Not only has the wheeling-dealing Thrift dealt or discarded other veterans such as Jim Morrison, Larry McWilliams and Bill Almon since March, 13 players currently on the 24-man roster weren't there a year ago.

Only two Pirates, pitcher Bob Walk and Harper, are over 30, and Walk, who joined the team in mid-season 1984, finds himself the senior Pirate.

In the last eight months, Thrift has traded away the Pirates' two best starting pitchers, Rick Rhoden and Reuschel; Robinson, their bullpen stopper; their most popular player, three-time All-Star catcher Pena, and Ray, one of baseball's most consistent hitters.

"Our philosophy has been to get good, young talent for veteran players," Thrift said. "We're not trading for financial reasons. We've given up talent, but we've got talent in return."

## UT hopes to continue success against Tigers

AUSTIN (AP) — The last two times David McWilliams was across the field from an Auburn football team, he was the defensive coordinator for the Texas Longhorns and remembers fondly the way his defense jelled against the Tigers.

"I remember Jerry Gray making about 400 tackles that day in 1983 and about as many interceptions," said McWilliams, who makes his debut as the Longhorns' head coach Saturday at Auburn.

"And in 1984, I was so impressed with Bo Jackson and how hard he ran even after he had injured his shoulder and even though we did a pretty good job at stopping him," he said Monday.

This year, McWilliams isn't sure what to expect.

But when his young Longhorns take the field against the fifth-ranked Tigers, he hopes his team can use the game as a confidence builder — win or lose.

"I think it's a tough opener to have," McWilliams said. "The players know they have to work harder. They know who they're playing. At this time, I think it is a positive point to open with an Auburn."

"Well, no matter what the score, we have got to come out of there with some confidence," he said.

This will be the seventh meeting between the two teams, with the Longhorns winning all but one. Texas has won the last two games in 1983 and 1984, and those were also season-openers.

The Longhorns originally were scheduled to open the season with Brigham Young on Sept. 12. But when Southern Methodist was barred from football for 1987 and canceled its 1988 season because of recruiting violations, Texas worked out the early date with Auburn.

It will be the Longhorns' earliest start since 1980. If there is any pressure for McWilliams to produce success early, the new head coach said he hasn't felt it.

"I'm not basing my whole career on one game," said McWilliams, who replaced fired coach Fred Akers.

"I want to win this one for the players. We have an 11-game schedule and Auburn is not the only team that we are playing. We have a game each week and that is the most important game we play. Even if we beat Auburn, we have 10 more games to play."

## Noonan finally ready to help Dallas

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Relieved and anxious, Lincoln's Danny Noonan took a plane to Dallas Monday after ending a 41-day holdout with the Dallas Cowboys.

The Cowboys' No. 1 draft pick, who became the team's longest rookie holdout, signed a contract Sunday afternoon in Dallas and returned to Lincoln Sunday night.

"I'm glad it's over and I'm ready to go," Noonan said Monday. "The Cowboys are tough to deal with when it comes to money. Other guys, like Sherrard and Randy White, have held out for 30 days or so and they eventually got what they wanted. It worked for me, too."

Noonan, an All-America noseguard at Nebraska last season, got what he wanted when he agreed to a contract that will pay him approximately \$1.6 million total for one-year contract.

"I don't feel like a millionaire. But I think I might go out and buy my first car now," said Noonan, who doesn't own a car.

"My wife (Penny) and I have a place picked out in Dallas, just a half block away from the Cowboys' offices. She's as ready to get to Dallas as I am."

The former Lincoln Northeast all-star missed the entire Cowboys' training camp at Thousand Oaks, Calif., and will probably not be a starter when the season begins Sept. 13. Dallas head coach Tom Landry said Noonan will probably play in the Cowboys' final exhibition game Saturday with Houston.

The holdout was centered around the amount of money Noonan would be paid, plus arguments about a fifth-year option and other payments, the former Cornhusker said.

The No. 1 draft choice denied reports from the Cowboys' management that he wound up with the same contract that was offered five weeks ago.

"They dropped some of their demands about the option year and I feel the holdout was worth it," Noonan said. "I had complete trust in my agent (Condon) and he worked out the best possible deal I could get."

"I would have loved to have resolved this earlier. It got to the point

where I was thinking about getting a T-shirt that said 'No. 1 haven't signed yet.' But the Cowboys fans and all the other interested people can rest assured, that I'm a Cowboy now."

Noonan was to check in for a physical examination Monday afternoon and begin practices with the team on Tuesday.

"I'm looking forward to getting started," he said. "It's been almost nine months since I've been involved in any serious contact and I'm expecting a lot of soreness even though I feel I'm in the best shape I can be in."

"All the way home (driving from Kansas City Sunday night), I thought about the moves and the practices and the things I'll have to do to get the job done. There'll be a lot expected of me and a lot of pressure on me, but I like that."

"I know they're anxious for me to get there. I talked with Randy White (Cowboys All-pro defensive tackle) and a few other guys on the team the

other night in Dallas and they all wished me luck with the negotiations and said they were hoping I'd get there soon," Noonan said.

Landry said that he was pleased to finally get Noonan with the team. "He's missed a lot and he's way behind, but we will be able to use him in pass-rush situations early in the season until he learns our defense."

Noonan said that should not be a problem.

Landry and Gil Brandt, Cowboys' director of player personnel, compared Noonan to White. "He's got size, speed and quickness you look for in a defensive lineman. I think he's very versatile," Landry said.

"He looks a lot like Randy White coming out of college as far as his skills, size and quickness," Brandt said.

## Broncos, Seahawks and Raiders appear to head tough AFC West

From The Associated Press  
It has become a law of nature in the NFL — you can't have everything.

If you have a powerful offense, you're doomed to have a mediocre defense and vice versa.

For more than a decade, the Denver Broncos thrived on a stingy, gang-tackling defense while the offense often stumbled and fumbled.

The biggest change in the Broncos this fall will be new faces on defense.

Adding to Reeves' worry was the tendency of the Broncos' undersized defense to wear down. In the last seven games of 1986, including two playoff games and the Super Bowl, Denver yielded more than 30 points per game.

The Broncos went into the draft looking primarily for size at outside linebacker and fullback. They got neither.

Top pick Ricky Nattiel, a speedy wide receiver and kick returner from Florida, has caught everything thrown his way, and he gives Elway another deep threat to go with Vance Johnson and Mark Jackson.

With no significant changes at running back, the offense will continue to depend on Elway, who came of age in leading the Broncos 98 yards in the closing minutes in the AFC championship game victory over Cleveland.

Seattle ended 1986 as the AFC's hottest team, winning its last five games and outscoring opponents by an average of 33-15. But that was after a four-game losing streak and the Seahawks missed the playoffs.

The Seahawk fortunes rose and fell with quarterback Dave Krieg. In the last five games, Krieg completed 66 percent of his passes for 1,288

yards, 11 touchdowns and just one interception. But during the losing streak, he was benched for inconsistency.

The Los Angeles Raiders, fresh off a thrashing of the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday, will use their defense and the offensive skills of Marcus Allen — and possibly Bo Jackson — to try and regain Super Bowl form.

Like the Seahawks, the Raiders' quarterback situation has not been settled. Marc Wilson has failed to take the offense to the heights that Jim Plunkett did and Coach Tom Flores has yet to make a firm commitment on a starter for the opener in two weeks.

The San Diego Chargers, meanwhile, are still trying to regroup under new head coach Don Saunders who replaced Don Coryell at mid-season last year.

## NFL owners and players predicting strike, cite free agency as main disagreement

WASHINGTON (AP) — The executive committee of the NFL Players Association, discouraged by a lack of progress in contract negotiations with NFL management, set a strike deadline on Monday but would not reveal the date.

"We will do what we have to do to reach a fair agreement," NFLPA executive director Gene Upshaw said. "With that in mind, the executive committee unanimously agreed on a date in which the strike would be."

The current collective bargaining agreement expired at midnight Monday. But the earliest the union can strike is Sept. 15, after the season's first weekend, because its mandatory 60-day notice of intent to strike was filed on July 15 with the National Labor Relations Board and the 28 NFL teams.

Upshaw said the nine-man union executive committee would recommend the date to the full board of player representatives on Sept. 8 at Washington. He said he wanted the players to consider the date before revealing it to the public.

Jack Donlan, chief negotiator for the owners, has said he expects the

players to set the walkout following the third weekend of the season, at which point they would have the minimum amount of time required to qualify for a year's pension.

"I'm hoping that's the date they have in mind," Donlan said Monday. "We've got a whole lot of issues to get through. I don't think we could get through them in a week or two."

Negotiations last took place Aug. 14-15 after which union representatives went on the road to meet with players in training camps.

"Due to both of our schedules, we knew there wasn't much hope of our getting together," Upshaw said. "I decided to go on the road. . . . I visited eight or 10 teams in that two-week period to inform the players of the lack of progress because their was so much misinformation about the progress that was being made at the tables."

Negotiations for a three-year contract are at a stalemate, Upshaw said.

"Eventually we'll get down to bargaining," he said. "We intend to bargain with the other side, we intend to reach an agreement with the other side."

The union is seeking im-

provements in several areas, including guaranteed contracts, increased pension benefits and, most importantly, a free-agent system that does not involve compensation.

Donlan has said free agency is the main impediment to an agreement. The owners also are seeking a salary scale for rookies and mandatory drug testing.

Upshaw said: "We predicted things that management would do, and they're doing that."

Donlan said using free agents is "just one of the options we have. We wouldn't try that without a full meeting of all the owners."

Donlan expressed hope that the two sides can get together soon to iron out their differences. "We're ready to negotiate any time, any place," he said.

In 1982, a 57-day player walkout eliminated seven games from the schedule. Commissioner Pete Rozelle has said that strike cost owners around \$150 million.

The NFLPA also called strikes in 1970 and 1974, although those walkouts didn't last nearly as long and the impact on the game wasn't nearly as dramatic.

## Chicago puts away Houston 4-3

HOUSTON (AP) — Ryne Sandberg's first-inning home run established a single-season Chicago record for homers and the Cubs defeated Houston 4-3 Monday night, sending the Astros to their season-high sixth straight loss.

Sandberg's home run, his 15th, gave the Cubs 183 for the season, Chicago's previous record of 182 was set in 1958.

The National League record for a 162-game season is 207 set in 1966 by the Atlanta Braves.

Chicago rookie Les Lancaster, 5-1, allowed two runs and six hits in 7 1/2 innings.

Lee Smith pitched the final 1 1/2 for his 32nd save.

It was Smith's 449th appearance for the Cubs, tying Don Elston's club record for pitchers.

Houston's Danny Darwin, 8-9, pitched one inning and allowed two runs on four hits before leaving the game in the second with a pulled muscle in his left midsection.

In the second, singles by Jody Davis and Luis Quinones brought on Jeff Heathcock in relief of Darwin.

After a single by Dave Martinez loaded the bases, Davis scored on Sandberg's ground out.

Chicago took a 3-0 lead in the third when Jerry Mumphy tripled and scored on Keith Moreland's sacrifice fly.

The Cubs made it 4-2 in the sixth on an RBI single by Lancaster.

The Astros scored two runs in the fourth on an RBI single by Denny Walling.

Houston made it 4-3 in the eighth when Gerald Young singled, moved to second on a groundout, and scored on Alan Ashby's single.

The Astros entered the game second on the NL West, 3 1/2 games behind San Francisco.

**NOW 2 LOCATIONS**  
**Northgate** (across from Post Office)      **Redmond Terrace** (next to Academy)  
**LOUPOUT'S**  
**TEXTBOOK HEADQUARTERS**

**Texas A&M Weightlifting Club**  
**Membership-\$30.00**  
**for entire fall semester**

Free Weights, Dumbbells, Stone Exercise Machines, Monark Exercise Bikes. Supplements, T-Shirts, Wholesale prices. Personalized Instruction Available.

**Located on Campus**  
**Rm 256-G. Rollie White Cols.**  
**Open to all A&M Students and Faculty**

**For more info call**  
**845-5020**

**Rick Popp**      **Steve Buras**  
**President**      **Vice President**

**Coupon**

**INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PANCAKES RESTAURANT**      **\$2.99**

**Mon:** Burgers & French Fries  
**Tues:** Buttermilk Pancakes  
**Wed:** Burger & French Fries  
**Thur:** Hot Dogs & French Fries  
**Fri:** Beer Battered Fish  
**Sat:** French Toast  
**Sun:** Spaghetti & Meat Sauce

**All You Can Eat \$2.99** 6 p.m.-6 a.m.  
*no take outs must present this*  
**Exp. 10/1/87**  
**International House of Pancakes Restaurant**  
**103 S. College Skaggs Center**

**Students! Work Smart. Work Simply... With Hewlett-Packard!**



11C.....	\$50.00
12C.....	80.00
15C.....	80.00
18C.....	140.00
28C.....	190.00
41CV.....	140.00
41CX.....	200.00
71B.....	420.00

**Professional Computing**  
AUTHORIZED HEWLETT-PACKARD DEALER

**505 Church Street • College Station, Texas**  
**(409) 846-5332**