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Brenham's Peters breaks victory record

Aggie baseball signee no-hits Consolidated to set national mark

By Alan Lehmann

SPORTS WRITER

You'd expect a pitcher with 51 consecutive high school pitching victories to have a blazing fastball and an ego as big as an Alaskan oil spill. But Jon Peters, who now holds the national record for most consecutive high school victories, is as untouched by fame as his curveballs are by opposing hitters.

The Brenham ace recorded his 51st victory without a loss Friday night in Brenham in front of about 4,000 spectators and droves of national media.

He did it in grand style as he shattered the old record held by Timmy Moore of McColl, S.C. Not only did he throw a no-hitter against the A&M Consolidated Tigers, but he

provided plenty of offense as well. With his team winning 9-0 in the bottom of the fifth inning and a runner on second base, he laced a two-out RBI single to end the game by the 10-run rule.

Although Peters was three for three at the plate and drove in two runs, he would rather have ended the game on the mound.

"I would have liked to have gone another inning to end the game with a strikeout," Peters said.

Peters did record 12 strikeouts, retiring the last eight men in order, seven of the outs coming on strikeouts.

Although Peters has struck out 10 or more hitters in 29 of his 54 career starts, he sees himself as a control pitcher.

"I don't have an overpowering fastball," he said. "I have to put the

ball where I want it to get hitters out."

Peters hasn't had any trouble getting the hitters out this year. His no-hitter Friday was his third of the season.

But don't think Peters has let that fact inflate his ego.

"I couldn't win without my teammates," he said. "Every time I go out they hit the ball and play good defense."

Brenham's other pitcher is no stranger to success either. James Nix is currently seventh on the national list of consecutive wins by a high school pitcher with 25. But Peters said there is no rivalry between the two.

"James and I pull for each other," Peters said. "He's thrown the ball well for us this year. There's no rivalry. We both just want to get back to the state championship."

If Brenham does get back to Austin this year, they would be defending their three consecutive class 4A state championships dating back to 1986.

Off the field, Peters handles homework as easily as he does his, evidenced by his 92 overall grade point average in high school.

"My parents taught me early study," he said.

His strong sense of discipline carries over to his conditioning program. Although he works with weights only during the off-season, Peters runs two miles daily, and runs laps around the field after games and practices.

Peters also has a level-headed attitude about higher education.

"Even if I get drafted high, I'll go to college," he said. "I'm not ready to play professionally yet."

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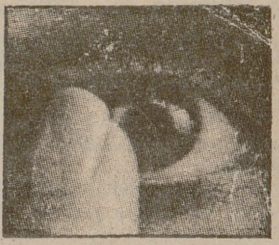
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Puhl's two-run triple leads Astros over Mets

HOUSTON (AP) — Terry Puhl had a two-run triple and two singles Sunday and Mike Scott defeated New York for the first time in the regular season since May 16, 1985, as Houston won 7-6 to snap the Mets' six-game winning streak.

"My job is to spot start, and today was one of those fortunate days that I came to the plate and did well," said Puhl, a starter from 1977 to 1984, until injuries in 1985 and 1986 limited him to 57 and 81 games, respectively.

"I feel as long as I'm swinging the bat well, I should start. But I've been saying that for five years now."

Scott, 4-1, left the game after five innings due to tightness in his left hamstring. He struck out six and allowed five hits and three unearned runs.

Scott, who was acquired from New York in 1982 for Danny Heep, entered the game with a 2-7 lifetime mark against the Mets.

David Cone, 2-2, lasted only 2 1-3 innings for New York, allowing seven hits and seven runs, five

earned. It was his shortest stint as a starter.

"They were sitting on the fastball," Cone said. "The other pitches didn't work, either. I was overthrowing the fastball and the location was bad."

Dave Smith pitched 1 2-3 innings for his fourth save, allowing a run in the ninth inning.

Kevin McReynolds led off the ninth with a pinch single and moved to third on Len Dykstra's double. Howard Johnson, who drove in four runs, hit a grounder to first to score McReynolds, but Smith got Keith Hernandez to hit a grounder back to the mound and Darryl Strawberry ended the game with a bouncer to first base.

Johnson has a seven-game hitting streak in which he is 13-for-29 with nine runs batted in.

"This would've been a tough one to let slip away," Smith said. "A 7-3 lead just won't do it against the Mets."

Ryan out-duels Clemens as Texas stops Red Sox

ARLINGTON (AP) — Nolan Ryan won the first battle between the best fastball pitchers in Texas, leading the Rangers past Roger Clemens and the Boston Red Sox 2-1 Sunday on Rafael Palmeiro's two-run homer in the eighth inning.

Under a 82-degree Texas sun, each pitcher threw his best heat. The 42-year-old Ryan allowed three hits in eight innings and struck out 11, the 184th time in his career he struck out 10 or more. His 49 strikeouts in 35 innings lead the American League.

Boston scored in the first when Ryan threw a wild pitch with a runner at third. That held up until the eighth, when Cecil Espy singled and Palmeiro homered off the right-field foul pole, 330 feet away.

It was the second home run of the year for Palmeiro and broke a streak of 24 consecutive scoreless innings for Clemens against Texas.

The 26-year-old Clemens gave Texas a taste of inside pitching in the first inning, knocking Palmeiro down with a high, tight fastball.

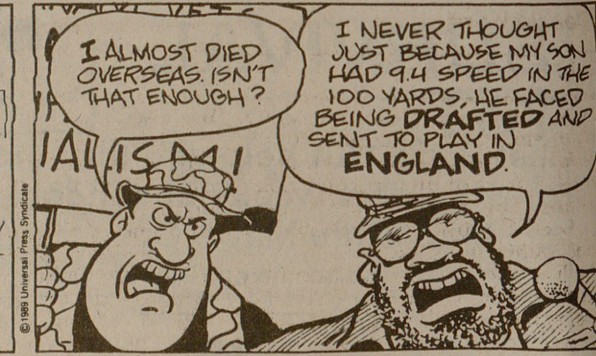
Steve Buechele was hit by Clemens in the second inning after Geno Petralli had singled and moved to second on a groundout. The Texas threat ended when Jeff Stone grounded out.

Russell pitched a perfect ninth for his fifth save.

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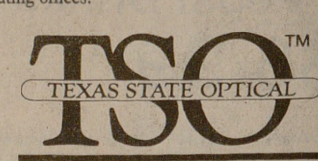


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