

Friday, June 9, 1989

Longhorns defeat LSU 12-7 Texas moves to Saturday's CWS championship

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Scott Bryant and Arthur Butcher each drove in three runs to make Louisiana State's Ben McDonald the losingest pitcher in College World Series history as Texas advanced to the championship game with an 12-7 victory Thursday night.

McDonald, the No. 1 pick in Monday's major league draft, lost for the second time in two starts in the tournament. Added to his two losses as a freshman in 1987, he became the first pitcher in CWS history to lose four games in a career.

Texas, 54-17, advanced to Saturday's championship game against the winner of Friday night's game between Florida State, 54-17, and Wichita State, 65-16. The Longhorns, who won the championship in 1949, 1950, 1975 and 1983, advanced to the finals for the eighth time. LSU finished with a 55-17 record.

McDonald, 14-4, hurt himself with two errors during Texas' four-run first inning. Lance Jones and David Tollison started the rally with singles and moved up a base when

McDonald's pickoff attempt went into center field.

Bryant looped a triple down the right-field line for two runs and scored on Butcher's first-pitch single. Butcher stole second and scored when McDonald fielded Craig Newkirk's bunt and threw wildly past third.

Texas made it 6-0 in the second on Butcher's two-out, two-run double and added another run in the third on Steve Bethea's two-out solo home.

LSU got three runs in the bottom of the third. Phil Espinosa led off with a double and Tookie Johnson walked with two outs. Both advanced on a wild pitch by Kurt Dressendorfer (18-2) and scored when Keith Osik's hard grounder to shortstop bounded off Bethea and into left field for an error.

Wes Grisham walked and Craig Cala singled home Osik home before Mike Bianco fouled out.

Texas put the game away with four runs in the fourth. Jones led off with a walk, took second and scored on Bryant's single. Bryant has driven

in 112 runs, tops in the nation. The hit was his 106th of the season, tying the Southwest Conference season record held by Texas' Brian Cisarik in 1987 and Mike Patrick in 1988.

Butcher followed with his third hit, a single, and Newkirk doubled to score Bryant and knock out McDonald.

David Lowery laid down a squeeze bunt against reliever Mark LaRose, scoring Butcher, and Jeff Shults followed with an RBI single. In all, 11 runs were charged to McDonald.

LSU added one in the fifth on a single by Grisham, a walk to Bianco and an RBI single by Matt Gruver, then closed the gap with three runs in the seventh.

Espinosa doubled and scored on Kevin Berry's pinch-hit single. Berry scored on Pete Bush's two-out double. Reliever Brian Dare walked Johnson and gave up an RBI single to Osik before striking out Grisham to end the inning.

The Longhorns added an insurance run in the ninth when Lowery reached on a two-base error by third baseman Espinosa and later scored.

Pistons nip Lakers 108-105, take 2-0 lead back to L.A.

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — Destiny appeared to be pulling the Detroit Pistons' way Thursday night when Magic Johnson limped off the court in the third quarter, opening the way for their 108-105 victory and a 2-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

The Los Angeles Lakers, already playing without Byron Scott, the other starting guard, lost Johnson to a strained left hamstring late in the third quarter.

The two-time defending champions hung tough for awhile, taking an eight-point lead into the fourth quarter, but a 12-1 spurt to start the period put the Pistons ahead for the first time in the game.

"I felt a twinge early in the third quarter, but thought everything was OK," Johnson said. "I pulled it trying to get back on defense."

Johnson's injury overshadowed the brilliant shooting of Detroit's Joe Dumars, who had 26 of his 33 points in the first half. He was 10-for-16 from the field.

Dumars, who had 17 points in a

span of 13:36, scored 10 during a 17-8 Pistons spurt that closed the gap to 38-37 with 8:54 left in the first half. Johnson, who replaced Thomas when he was called for two fouls in the first 2:28 of the game, had five points during the run.

Trailing 102-95 with 6:06 left, the Lakers refused to quit.

They closed the deficit to 106-104 with two free throws each by Mychal Thompson and A.C. Green, the latter with 32 seconds left. The Pistons ran the 24-second clock down until Isiah Thomas took a long jumper with eight seconds to go that missed the rim, causing a violation.

James Worthy was fouled with two seconds to play and missed the first of his two free throws. Worthy made the second.

Thomas was fouled with one second left and made both for the final margin.

The Lakers were unable to get off a final shot as the ball went out of bounds on the inbounds pass.

Detroit, 13-2 in the playoffs this

year, went into the game giving up an average of barely 90 points in the postseason, four less than the best points-allowed playoff average of any championship team.

It was 51-50 with 3:39 remaining before Cooper's second and third 3-pointers gave the Lakers their six-point advantage at halftime.

The Lakers played brilliantly on offense until the final period, managing only a record-tying 13 points and going without a field goal for the first 8:20 of the quarter. Los Angeles still broke Detroit's 16-game streak of allowing less than 100 points.

The next three games of the best-of-7 series are scheduled for the Forum in Inglewood, Calif., starting with Game 3 Sunday, but the Lakers face a challenge only two teams have been able to meet — coming back from a 2-0 deficit to win the Finals.

Only the 1977 Portland Trail Blazers and the 1969 Celtics have done it.

Besides money, what could be gained, or lost, in 'The War'

It has been aptly titled "Leonard vs Hearn II — The War, Once and for All," but fight promoter Bob Arum has shortened it to simply "The War." The title doesn't have the style of the "Thrilla in Manila," but with a purse of \$24 million, you have to cut costs somewhere.

It's been seven years since Sugar Ray Leonard won the welterweight title with a 14th round TKO of Thomas "Hit Man" Hearn, a victory that Hearn says has haunted him since.

A victory in Monday's rematch could prove to be the crowning achievement for both fighters, at least that's what they say. Hearn can get the revenge he has been seeking for the past seven years and prove to himself, if not anyone else, that he is and will always be one of the greatest fighters in the world.

Leonard has said his return to the ring is simply "for the love," and the feeling of being on top of your industry.



Steven Merritt
Sports Editor

Both feel that they have a chance at boxing immortality.

The fight has been promoted as a battle in which money is not the underlying reason for bringing the two together. By the way, Leonard will get \$13 million and Hearn will receive \$11 million, but money is not the issue here.

However, this matchup is easier to believe, in terms of not fighting for the money than many bouts of the past. The

Larry Holmes/Gerry Cooney debacle comes to mind as does the Holmes/Tex Cobb massacre. Both Cooney and Cobb had no chance against the Heavyweight Champion Holmes. But they were smart enough and were in some semblance of physical shape to allow themselves to be punching bags for a few million in reward.

The chemistry between the two fighters is also another factor to consider in addressing the "not for the money" question. There seems to be genuine bad blood between the two, and this friction isn't all media hype. Hearn has had a genuine obsession with defeating Ray and it seems that Leonard's belief in predestination could be his underlying reason.

In looking back at the careers of these two fighters, there is no question that these two men are among the best in the world. Leonard's domination in the 1976 Olympics gave an early indication of the

greatness that was to come. His current 35-1 record — 25 of those wins came by knockout — speaks for itself in more ways than one. Leonard's finesse can truly be called an art form. The grace and seemingly effortless movements he uses in the ring sets him apart from any fighter today.

Hearn is a bomber, he wastes no punches and generally takes the offensive early. As with all great fighters of our time, however, Hearn has used this style effectively.

He is the first man ever to win four world titles and has achieved on of the highest winning percentages in boxing history. One of Hearn's most memorable bouts came in 1984 against Roberto Duran, as he knocked Duran down three times in less than two rounds to end it early.

But one question still remains to be fully answered when the media, money and hype are taken away: Why do these men want to

risk their health in an effort to win a fight that might not prove anything?

In the 1981 bout, Hearn's legs and chin were proven to be less than perfect and the eye injury suffered by Leonard would lead to a detached retina. They weren't indestructible. Many of the boxing faithful have predicted that this match will take on the same drama of the third Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier bout in Manila. Both men were considered past their primes and were also thought to be far from complete athletes after the fight. Leonard is 32; Hearn, 30.

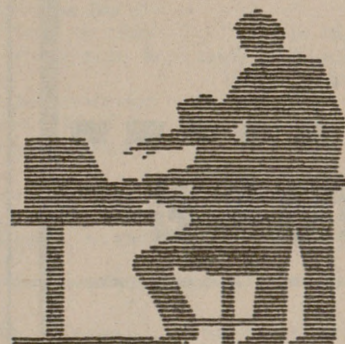
Leonard put it this way: "You want immortality. You want (this feeling) to continue for the rest of your life, and you never want your life to end....I want to keep doing this, because I never think about history, but (down deep) I'm doing it for history, to leave a legacy."

Boxing immortality does have its price, however. Ali can attest to that.

Learning Center June Class Schedule

Beginning WordPerfect	June 12 & 13, 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Beginning Lotus	June 12 & 13, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Beginning DOS	June 6, 8, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Intermediate WordPerfect	June 26 & 27, 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Intermediate Lotus	June 5, 7, 1:00 - 5:00 pm
	Parts I & II - June 19 & 20, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
	Part III - June 22, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Advanced PageMaker	June 17 (Sat), 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
	June 26 & 27, 29, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Microsoft PC Works (C.S. Community Education)	Every Wednesday in June - 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Microsoft Works (Mac) (C.S. Community Education)	Every Wednesday in June - 6:00 - 8:00 pm
	Every Thursday in June - 6:00 - 8:00 pm

For more information call (409) 693-2020.
Reservations are required.
Outside speakers available upon request.

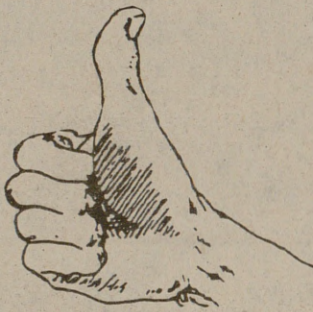


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