

Friday, July 28, 1989

Dodgers edge Astros, 7-5

HOUSTON (AP) — Lenny Harris provided the bat. Eddie Murray provided the knockout punch. Murray, using a 32-ounce bat provided by Harris instead of his usual 36-ounce model, pinch-hit a three-run homer off Houston relief ace Dave Smith in the ninth inning Thursday to give the Los Angeles Dodgers a 7-5 victory over the Astros.

hind for a victory, we needed something like that," Morgan said. "I'm glad Lenny gave Eddie 'the chosen one.' It got a homer for him and a victory for me." Smith had given up only one homer in his last 170 1/3 innings and failed to get a save for only the second time in 23 chances. "He (Manager Art Howe) brought me in to get a ground ball," Smith said. "I threw him two sinkers out of the zone and the third one was a fastball that stayed up."

nings, but the Dodgers scored twice in the seventh on singles by Mike Marshall and Mickey Hatcher, Hamilton's sacrifice fly and Rick Dempsey's RBI ground-out. Astros starter Jim Deshaies left after giving up a leadoff walk to Harris and a single to Jose Gonzalez in the eighth. Andersen gave up a run-scoring single to Willie Randolph before getting Kal Daniels to hit into a double play and Marshall, who had three hits, to fly to right. Deshaies walked Randolph in the first and Marshall doubled him home to end Deshaies' string of 19 1/3 scoreless innings.

Two more Texas prep athletes arrested on criminal charges

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Two more Texas high school football players have been arrested and jailed on criminal charges, with the latest against Judson High School squad members. A potential Judson High starter was kicked off the team and a former player was banned from an upcoming all-star game after the two were arrested on burglary charges. Michael D. Garcia and Destry Lee Ensley were arrested by suburban Universal City police who received a tip that items in some residential burglaries were being sold at pawn shops by teen-agers.

and was the newspaper's 1988 Greater San Antonio defensive player of the year. Ensley, 17, was a junior varsity player last season and had a chance of being the team's starting nose guard this year as a senior, Judson football coach D.W. Rutledge told the San Antonio Express-News. Judson played the Class 5A championship game last season against Dallas Carter High School, the football team which has seen nine of its players and former players charged with armed robbery. Two of those students, Gary Edwards and Derric Evans, both 17, have pleaded guilty to the charges and face maximum life sentences in prison. Their sentences will be decided Aug. 11.

In response to the Judson athlete's arrests, Rutledge kicked Ensley off the football team. "We have a hard, fast rule about players being involved in drugs or stealing and that rule is that they are off the team," Rutledge told the San Antonio Express-News Wednesday. "That's a rule that was made a long time ago and it has nothing to do with personalities. It's just the rule and we are going to follow it." Garcia was to play in the Texas High School Coaches Association All-Star Football Game at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Irving's Texas Stadium. But after his arrest, Rutledge banned him from the game. "No, Mike will not represent us at that game," Rutledge said. "I'm going to send the other player (defensive back Derwin Gray) who nominated."

Tech's Thurman trying to survive despite size in Pokes' training camp

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Tyrone Thurman has about as much chance of making the Dallas Cowboys as a bug does surviving a collision with the windshield of a tractor trailer. However, the 5-foot-3, 145-pound Thurman, a free agent from Texas Tech, keeps making great plays in the land of the NFL giants. "Super flea may just have the best hands we've seen in training camp, better even than Kelvin Martin, but unfortunately his hands aren't very large," said John Wooten, the Cowboys' top scout. "He's a tough little scooter."

"He probably has a 50-50 shot to make our team because we have to have aggressive kickoff units. If Tyrone doesn't make it here, then I bet the Canadian teams will gobble him up." Coach Jimmy Johnson isn't as optimistic as Wooten about Thurman's chances. "It would be difficult for him to hang on," Johnson said. "He's a hard worker and I like his attitude but he has a lot to overcome." Thurman knows all this. "I've had the odds stacked against me before," he said. "Realistically I'm going to have to show a lot of returning kicks if I'm to make this team."

Cardinals looking to stay close in NL East

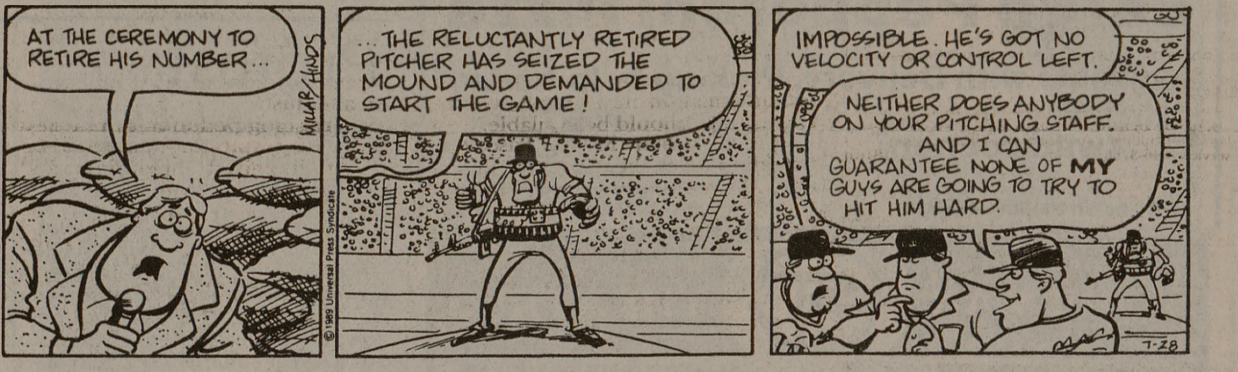
ST. LOUIS (AP) — Jose Oquendo's hitting streak ended at 23 games, the longest in the majors this season, but two of his teammates are going strong as the St. Louis Cardinals try to stay within striking distance in the National League East. Vince Coleman has stolen a major-league record 50 consecutive bases since last September, and right-hander Jose DeLeon has thrown 19 consecutive scoreless innings in his last three games. Coleman stole three bases and drove in both runs and DeLeon threw a two-hitter over eight innings in Wednesday night's 2-0 victory over the Chicago Cubs. The fourth-place Cardinals are within six games of the first-place Expos entering a three-game weekend series in Montreal. "Now that the streak has ended, at least we picked up a game," said Oquendo. "I hope we can get a winning streak going."

two earned runs in six innings against the Los Angeles Dodgers. In his last two starts he has given up five hits in 15 innings with 14 strikeouts, lowering his earned-run average to 3.23. "I feel I'm throwing the ball as well as ever," said DeLeon, 10-9, who was troubled during his losing streak by a sore shoulder that he hurt swinging a bat too hard on June 9. "I'm not going to swing the bat like I used to do," said DeLeon, who is hitting .083. "I've got a terrible swing. It doesn't matter what I hit." Coleman has won the National League stolen base title in each of his first four major league seasons and leads the majors this year with 44. Despite his streak, though, he was struggling before Wednesday's game. When Willie McGee came off the disabled list last week, Coleman was benched for five games while going through a 4-for-35 slump. His three steals were his first since July 16 and his RBI were his first since he drove in three runs July 6. "That's how I would like to have it

and was the newspaper's 1988 Greater San Antonio defensive player of the year. Ensley, 17, was a junior varsity player last season and had a chance of being the team's starting nose guard this year as a senior, Judson football coach D.W. Rutledge told the San Antonio Express-News. Judson played the Class 5A championship game last season against Dallas Carter High School, the football team which has seen nine of its players and former players charged with armed robbery. Two of those students, Gary Edwards and Derric Evans, both 17, have pleaded guilty to the charges and face maximum life sentences in prison. Their sentences will be decided Aug. 11. "I (Garcia and Ensley's arrests) made me sick when I heard about it," Judson superintendent Dr. Galen Eloff said. "I said, 'It makes us sound like Carter High School.'" Two Dallas Hillcrest High School students also were arrested, including one on Monday, and are charged in a June armed robbery.

all year long," Coleman said. "I want to contribute to winning ball games." Of course, the hottest Cardinal before Wednesday was Oquendo, a career .258 hitter before this season. During his streak, Oquendo had 13 RBIs and scored 15 runs. In one stretch he had seven consecutive two-hit games. Oquendo, hitting in the third spot for the first time this season, went 0-for-3 on Wednesday. But he hit two balls hard and was in the on-deck circle when the Cardinals made their third out in the eighth inning.

TANK McNAMARA



by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds

SWC slowly turning to leaders with strong ties to conference

With the start of the 1989 Southwest Conference season close at hand, a look back at the turbulent 1980s is the best way to measure the change which is slowly emerging in a conference hit hard by the reality that money can't always buy happiness in college athletics. Six different football programs were put on NCAA probation in the '80s, with SMU receiving the unheard of "death penalty," leading to a virtual evacuation in Mustang athletics. All but Baylor, Rice and Arkansas got to experience the abrupt news conference in which the particular athletic program as well as the university was placed under one of the largest microscopes available to man: national television. As the conference enters the 1990s, it will not be able to readily escape the ethical questions which have become such an integral part of major college athletics. Addressing educational, recruiting and alumni involvement issues will have to be made a high priority for each athletic department as the conference struggles to

regain the integrity and respect lost in the eyes of many around the country. The direction chosen by the SWC remains undefined, but the new leadership emerging around the conference definitely points in a positive direction. Coaches such as A&M's R.C. Slocum, SMU's Forrest Gregg and Houston's Jack Pardee represent a new form of leadership in the conference, a no-frills, get-the-job-

done attitude which in emphasizes hard work as the first and foremost key to success. The SWC has heard the plea for integrity before as early as 1983, when TCU's Jim Wacker made a private appeal to the eight other coaches to correct recruiting practices before the situation got out of hand. He was ultimately ignored by these men, a move which the conference pays for every time recruiting violations and the SWC are mentioned in the same breath. But those days, before the wrath of the NCAA was unleashed, are long gone, as are many of the coaches who scoffed at the idea of putting an end to illegal recruiting practices, thereby placing themselves at a competitive disadvantage. It was all part of the game, they said. Wacker and Baylor's Grant Teaff are the only remaining coaches from 1983, and are joined by a collection of men who have deep roots in the conference. Gone are the Jackie Sherrills and Ron Meyers, who attracted as much media

attention with their flashy personalities as the team itself. Pardee and Gregg probably represent those coaches with the strongest ties to the SWC. Pardee, an All-American linebacker at A&M in the 1950s, grew up in the west Texas oil fields, where he developed an intense work ethic that made him successful not only in college but in the NFL as well with the Los Angeles Rams. Gregg spent his younger years in the small northeast Texas town of Sulphur Springs, moving on to a successful career at SMU and later to All-Pro status in the NFL with the Green Bay Packers. Both men represent the spirit of Texas football in the ability to instill a proper work ethic in their players, an attitude that can be traced to each man's experiences growing up in small-town Texas as well as under the leadership of such coaches as Bear Bryant and Vince Lombardi. They were never given anything, it had to be earned. The same should be true for

the college athlete of today. Gregg had to completely rebuild the SMU program. It is his team now, not something left by some coach who caught the red-eye flight to anywhere when the NCAA dropped the hatchet. He has the opportunity to return SMU to the traditional glory days of football on "the hilltop," by bringing the team back to the campus for games in Ownby Stadium, where they should have stayed. Slocum has also established himself as a low-key, say-what-you-mean kind of leader for A&M. His stand on keeping boosters away from the athletes is a logical start to solving one of the biggest problems faced by any athletic program. His strong ties with the A&M program made him the practical choice in keeping the unity of the team and coaching staff after the turmoil that A&M football went through last year. The SWC has been through good times and bad with the imported leaders, now let's see what the hometown boys can do.



Steven Merritt Sports Editor

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