

Astros win after team meeting

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros are trying to change their tendency for a late-season swoon, according to Ken Caminiti.

"We've had a history of fading down the stretch because we tense up. We've got to realize that September is a long month and we can still get some momentum going," Caminiti said after he drove in three runs to lead the Astros to a 6-3 victory Sunday over the St. Louis Cardinals.

A year ago Sunday, Houston was within 4½ games of first place but faded badly to finish 12½ behind Los Angeles in the National League West. The victory snapped a five game-losing streak that followed a closed door pregame team meeting.

"Glenn Davis called the meeting and after that everybody just got up and put in their two cents," Caminiti said. "We needed it. A lot of guys stood up and said what needed to be said. It was taken positively."

"More than anything else it changed the attitude of the team," Caminiti continued. "We were just waiting for something to happen instead of going out

and making it happen. When we didn't get the big hit we were going back to the bench and sulking instead of trying to pick the next guy up."

In contrast, the Cardinals had won 10 of their last 14 and are heading home for an eight-game homestand after a successful 10-game road trip.

"We played good on this trip. How we do the rest of the way de-



pends on my pitching," St. Louis manager White Herzog said.

Said Cardinals' shortstop Ozzie Smith: "We're a veteran ballclub and we have been written off a lot in the 1980s. Considering the injuries we've had this year we're doing OK."

Caminiti drove in two runs on a decisive double in the sixth.

With Houston trailing 3-2, Davis reached on an infield single with one out against Ted Power, 5-6.

One out later, Terry Puhl walked before Caminiti lined a one-hopper against the right field wall.

Bob Forsch, 4-4, went six innings and gave up three runs on four hits while walking two and striking out two.

Dave Smith, the third Houston pitcher, worked the final inning for his 23rd save in 27 opportunities.

Glenn Wilson added a two-run double for Houston in the seventh.

The Cardinals took a 2-0 lead in the third on Willie McGee's third homer, which drove in Tony Pena, who had singled.

The Astros tied it in the fourth when Kevin Bass led off with a single and went to third on a double by Davis.

Bass scored on an infield single by Puhl and Caminiti drove in Davis with a sacrifice fly.

In an unusual play, Houston's Rafael Ramirez was called out in the first inning without ever batting.

FBI ends Rose inquiry

(AP) — The FBI has dropped its investigation of Pete Rose, a newspaper reported Sunday.

Baseball Commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti banned the Cincinnati Reds manager and baseball's all-time leading hitter from the game for life on Thursday, noting there was evidence that Rose bet on baseball and his own team and that Rose refused to attend a hearing on the charges.

But The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer said in its Sunday editions that the FBI had concluded a gambling and drug investigation of Rose and does not intend to file criminal charges.

"The FBI simply isn't investigating Pete," Edwin Boldt Jr., the bureau's legal adviser and press spokesman in Cincinnati, told the newspaper Saturday. "I'm happy to say that on the record."

Transcripts of a hearing on the gambling accusations lodged against Rose could have been used in the drug-trafficking and tax evasion trial of Rose's former housemate, Thomas Gioiosa, which began Thursday in U.S. District Court in Cincinnati, The Dayton Daily News reported Saturday.

Although the FBI has apparently

closed its gambling and drug inquiry, Rose still is being investigated by a federal grand jury in Cincinnati focusing on alleged income tax evasions.

Boldt acknowledged that the had collected evidence that Rose bet with bookies and had associated with members of a cocaine trafficking organization. The evidence included tape-recorded conversations and betting sheets containing fingerprints, along with checks to bookies.

He said the FBI did not plan to take any action on the information

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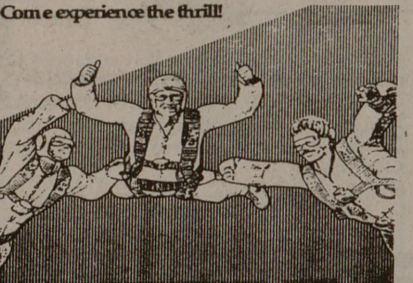
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