

Seattle overpower rest of A.L. West; Rangers regroup for Wild Card



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sports editor



WEST
Part 6 in a 7-part series



SEATTLE MARINERS
90-72; 1st in AL West; Lost Divisional Playoff to Orioles

Looking at the Mariners on paper, there is probably not a better team in baseball. If every player on every team had career years, Seattle would run away with the title. There is just too much potential on this team for it not to do well.

So what happened last year—Seattle had the absolute worst bullpen in recent memory. Departed reliever Norm Charlton consistently blew save after save, and the rest of the pen followed suit with horrendous performances nightly.

The Mariners can out-hit everyone in baseball and last year their rotation was better than it had been in a long time. But the big question this season will be how Randy Johnson reacts to the way the organization is treating him.

A free agent at the end of the season, Johnson has been denied the long-term contract he was seeking before spring training. And with Seattle's refusal to put the left-hander up for trade, it appears the Mariners are just planning to ride him to the playoffs then leave him to the highest bidder after the season.

This is fine, if Johnson cooperates. A bad season from the former Cy Young award-winner would not hurt his stock in the free-agent market too much. And Johnson might decide to give the Mariners a taste of their own medicine.

The Johnson situation, along with the bullpen, are really the only things that could

1998 MARINERS

	AVG.	HR	RBI	SB
C-Dan Wilson	.270	15	74	7
1B-David Segui*	.307	21	68	1
2B-Joey Cora	.300	11	54	6
3B-Russ Davis	.271	20	63	6
SS-Alex Rodriguez	.300	23	84	29
LF-Glenallen Hill*	.261	11	64	7
CF-Ken Griffey	.304	56	147	15
RF-Jay Buhner	.243	40	109	0
DH-Edgar Martinez	.330	28	108	2
SUB-Rich Amaral	.284	1	21	12

*Segui with Expos; Hill with Giants	W-L	ERA	IP
LHP Randy Johnson	20-4	2.28	213
LHP Jeff Fassero	16-9	3.61	234.1
LHP Jamie Moyer	17-5	3.86	188.2
RHP Ken Cloude*	4-2	5.12	51
RHP Felipe Lira*	0-4	9.16	18.2

	W-L	SV	ERA
RHP Mike Timlin*	3-2	1	3.26
RHP Heathcliff Slocumb*	0-4	10	4.13

*Cloude in 10 games with Mariners; Lira in 8 games with Mariners; Timlin in 26 games with Mariners; Slocumb in 27 games with Mariners

Kelly; 1B Paul Sorrento.
Projected Record: 90-72; 1st in AL West.



TEXAS RANGERS
77-85; 3rd in AL West

There were no bigger disappointments in the Major Leagues last year than the Rangers. The starting pitching staff that led the Majors in wins and innings pitched for the 1996 Western Division champions suffered a disappointing 1997 that the rest of the team could not recover from.

Two things need to happen for Texas to make the playoffs: Aaron Sele, acquired from Boston, must have a solid year as the third starter behind Darren Oliver and John Burkett, and Tom Goodwin must improve his on-base percentage, which was only .319 with Texas last season, and set the table for the heart of the Ranger lineup.

No one is really giving the Rangers a chance to compete with Seattle this season, and some

say they won't even sniff the playoffs.

1998 RANGERS

	AVG.	HR	RBI	SB
C-Ivan Rodriguez	.313	20	71	1
1B-Will Clark	.326	12	67	1
2B-Mark McLemore	.261	1	22	0
3B-Fernando Tatis*	.256	9	28	0
SS-Kevin Elster*	.225	7	20	0
LF-Rusty Greer	.321	26	81	0
CF-Tom Goodwin*	.237	0	17	0
RF-Juan Gonzalez	.296	42	91	0
DH-Lee Stevens	.300	21	70	0
SUB-Roberto Kelly*	.298	7	22	0

*Tatis in 60 games with Rangers; Stevens games with Pirates; Goodwin in 53 games with Rangers; Kelly in 30 games with Mariners

	W-L	ERA
RHP John Burkett	9-12	4.56
LHP Darren Oliver	13-12	4.20
RHP Bobby Witt	12-12	4.82
RHP Aaron Sele*	13-12	5.38
RHP Rick Helling*	3-3	4.68

RHP John Wetteland 7-2 SV 1.84
LHP Eric Gunderson 2-1 SV 1.50

*Sele with Red Sox; Helling in 10 games with Rangers

PLEASE SEE FURTICK ON

Jobs

Meet people...smile...

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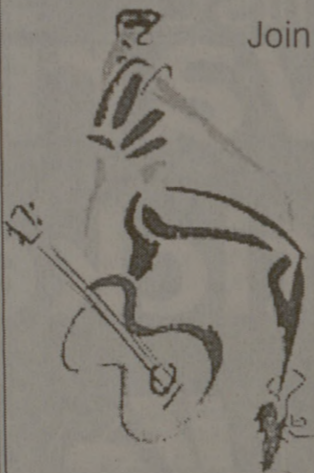
Join the Reed Arena Crew.

Ushers, ticket takers, stagehands needed now.

Call 862-REED for an interview.

MSC OPAS Presents...

ELVIS IS ALIVE!



Join us as psychology professor Dr. David Rosen presents "Don't Be Cruel to a Heart That's True: The Myth of Elvis Lives On", a tribute to the King of Rock and Roll and his legacy as a cultural icon. Long live the King!

Admission is FREE

Monday March 30
7:00pm Rudder 308

For ticket information on Blue Suede Shoes, call 845-1234

Attention All On-Campus Residents

The deadline to cancel your housing contract 1998 - Spring 1999 academic year and receive a 100% (\$200) deposit refund is:

APRIL 1, 1998 @ 5:00 p.m.
in the Housing Assignments Office

Cancellation forms can be filled out in 101 YMCA

Letters of cancellation can be faxed (409) 845-3122, or mailed to (must be received by 4/1/98 @ 5:00 p.m.):

Housing Assignments Office
101 YMCA Building
College Station, Texas 77843-1258
(409) 845-4744

Deadlines to receive a portion of your deposit:

April 2 - April 15	\$150 (75%)
April 16 - May 1	\$100 (50%)
May 2 - May 15	\$ 50 (25%)
After May 15	Entire deposit forfeited

(This information is also available on the World Wide Web (WWW) @ <http://recsports.tamu.edu>)



Experience
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Aquatics Fitness Feature Programs Sport Clubs Intramurals Golf Course Ultimate Adventures Student Rec Center

INTRAMURALS	REGISTRATION
Swim Meet	March 23-31
Horseshoes	March 23-31
Putt Putt Golf	March 30-April 7
Golf	March 30-April 7

AQUATICS	PROGRAM DATE	REGISTRATION
• Stroke Improvement Clinic	April 4	Mar. 10-Apr. 2
• Adult Learn to Swim	April 6-16	Mar. 11-Apr. 1
• Basic SCUBA Diver Course	April 6-19	Mar. 12-Apr. 1
• Advanced SCUBA Diver Course	April 22-26	Mar. 20-Apr. 2
• Springboard Diving Course	April 18	Mar. 25-Apr. 16
• Rescue SCUBA Diver Course	Apr. 27-May 3	Apr. 1-22

Register at Rec Center Member Services Desk

FITNESS PROGRAMS
• Healthy Living Lecture Series , April 1, Wednesday, 5:30pm, room 281. Men are From Mars, Women are From Venus: What does this mean to your relationship? Dr. Jim Robinson, Professor of Health will give you the secrets to finding and maintaining good relationships.
• AFAA Personal Training Certification , April 3-5 at the Rec Center.
• Unlimited Aerobic Passes on sale now for only \$25!
• Try Rec Cycle Combo , a fun, new twist on Rec Cycle classes!

FEATURE PROGRAMS
• Beginning Jitterbug classes begin March 30, 7:30-8:45pm. Only \$20 per couple for six lessons.
• Tai Chi classes begin March 30, every Mon. and Wed., 6-7pm. Only \$20 for six weeks!

Call DeAnn Woosley at 862-3995 for more information.

ULTIMATE ADVENTURES WITH TAMU OUTDOORS	ACTIVITY DATE	REGISTRATION
Kayak Roll Clinic	March 31	March 2-30
Horseback/Hiking Day Trip	April 4	March 2-31
Intro to Rock Climbing Clinic	April 4	March 2-31
Caving Day Trip	April 4	March 2-31
Kayak Open Practice Session	April 7	March 23-April 7
Kayak Roll Clinic	April 14	March 30-April 7
Solo Canoe Clinic	April 16-18	March 30-April 7
Hiking Day Trip	April 18	March 30-April 7

MAY BREAK TRIPS Priced from \$289.
Backpack the Grand Canyon May 23-31 Feb. 9-May 1

SPORT CLUBS	DATE	TIME	PLACE
• Ultimate	April 4	10am-6pm	Polo Field
• Women's Volleyball	April 4	8am-12am	Rec Center & 1
• Men's Lacrosse	April 5	Noon-2pm	Simpson or Z...

For more information, please call Paula Opal at 845-3076.



Check out our flyers for more details on our programs
For Information call 845-7826 or Visit our Homepage <http://recsports.tamu.edu>

JOB OPENING Graphic Layout Assistant needed to help create and design all advertising publications. Practical experience with Photoshop and PageMaker a plus. Call Angela at 845-1001 for info.