

Angels try to decide what to do with Bonds

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Everywhere the Anaheim Angels go, the question is the same: Pitch to Barry Bonds or walk him?

Listening to the talk Tuesday at Edison Field, it seems the Angels will be playing only against Bonds in the World Series, trying to devise a plan to somehow beat him, 25 on 1.

"The last two seasons, he's had the most incredible seasons in the history of baseball, if you look at all his numbers and all the microstatistics," Anaheim manager Mike Scioscia said.

Of course, San Francisco will have 25 players on the roster when the first all wild-card World Series opens Saturday night. But Bonds is the focus, which puts Scott Schoeneweis in the spotlight. Bonds is 1-for-7 against the left-hander with four strikeouts, no walks and no home runs.

"The best-case scenario is to get the guys out before Barry comes up," Schoeneweis said.

And with no one on base, there's a good chance Bonds will be walked.

Bonds was walked a record 198 times during the season — and scored on just 34 of them, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Following his record 68 intentional walks, he scored just three times.

Of course, 79 of his walks came with two outs.

"The guys that faced the guy every day, all the time, year in, year out, they all seemed to do the same thing," Angels pitching coach Bud Black said. "I don't think that they're all wrong."

Still, his gut feeling was Anaheim would pitch most of the time to Bonds, who has four homers and 10 RBIs in the postseason.

In addition to Schoeneweis — Anaheim's only lefty reliever — Bonds has faced just three other pitchers on Anaheim's roster: He's 4-for-7 with two homers, two walks and a strikeout against Kevin Appier; 0-for-1 against right-handed reliever Ben Weber; and 0-for-1 with three walks and no strikeouts against Troy Percival.

"We'll just be smart. I don't think we'll be scared of him and pitch around him," said Jarrod Washburn, picked Tuesday by Scioscia to start the opener.

"We'll try to not let him beat us. I'll challenge him. I'm looking forward to the challenge. He's a great player. If there's a situation where he can beat us, the smart thing to do is pitch around him."

Washburn isn't a fan of intentional walks when no one is on base.

"I don't see that happening," he said. "I don't think we're going to be intimidated or scared by Barry Bonds. We're going to be smart about it."

As workers cleaned and did some touchup paint work at the ballpark, Washburn already was looking ahead to the opener, where he could face the Giants' Jason Schmidt.

"I'm sure I'll be thinking about it a lot," Washburn said. "It's going to be the biggest game of my life. I'm pretty sure we won't sweep and they won't sweep, so I'll have another start and that will be the biggest game of my life."

It's the first World Series between second-place teams, with the Giants (95-66) finishing 2 1/2 games behind Arizona in the NL West, then beating Atlanta and St. Louis.

Because of interleague play, the Angels and Giants have faced each other in regular-season games — but didn't play this year. San Francisco holds an 11-5 advantage, and Bonds has five homers against Anaheim.

A&M baseball recruiting class Ranked No. 10 by 'Baseball America'

The Texas A&M baseball recruiting class of 2002 was ranked No. 10 nationally according to Baseball America magazine.

Texas A&M will have 18 new members on the baseball squad this season,

including 12 freshmen and six junior college transfers. Of the 18 newcomers, 13 are from Texas.

The Aggies conclude fall workouts this weekend with the annual Fall World Series at Olsen Field in College Station, Texas, and open the spring season against Texas A&M - Corpus Christi on Tuesday, February 11.

The Texas A&M list of recruits includes (OF/RHP) Scott Beerer, (RHP) BJ

Boening, (1B) Brian Bowe, (INF) Parker Dalton, LHP Dan Donaldson, (OF) John Infante, (INF) David Leatherwood, (LHP) Jason Meyer, (OF/LHP) Corey Patton, (INF) Cliff Pennington, (RHP/OF) Robert Ray, (RHP) Robert Rome, OF Justin Ruggiano, (INF/OF) Eric Scheidt, (C) Craig Sinson, (RHP) Ryne Tacker, (INF/RHP) Tyler Tarjick and (C) Kevin Whelan.

Baseball America's Top 10 Recruiting

Classes include:

1. Georgia Tech
2. Cal State Fullerton
3. Stanford
4. Florida State
5. UCLA
6. Arizona State
7. Clemson
8. Texas
9. Southern California
10. Texas A&M

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

There's only one way to go. Up.

As you begin your ascent to the top, remember, it's what you learn along the way that assures your success. At Ernst & Young, we give our recruits total access to the tools they need to gain knowledge and learn more about the marketplace. And because leadership skills are so important, we give them the opportunity to challenge themselves by working with leading companies in leading industries. The result? An atmosphere that's stimulating, innovative and creative. Talk about a place where you can really take off.

FORTUNE
100 BEST
COMPANIES
TO WORK FOR 2002

ey.com/us/careers

ERNST & YOUNG
FROM THOUGHT TO FINISH.™

©2002 ERNST & YOUNG LLP