

BASEBALL

HEADLINERS

Long 9 Innings for Yanks



The Orioles' Rick Dempsey takes a faint on the bench following Lee Lacy's third home run of the day.

NEW YORK—After Lee Lacy had hit three home runs, powering the Baltimore Orioles to an 18-9 victory over the New York Yankees June 8, he said, "This game is a matter of inches in a lot of respects because the other team can always come back."

For the Orioles and Yankees, the game was a matter of hours. Not counting a 40-minute rain delay which threatened to wash out the game in the fourth inning, the teams played a 4-hour and 16-minute marathon at Yankee Stadium—the longest nine-inning game in American League history.

The old A.L. record for a nine-inning game was 4:11, set by Milwaukee and Chicago on July 10,

1983. The major league record is 4:18, set by Los Angeles and San Francisco on October 2, 1962.

Lacy, 37, became the first major league player this season to hit three homers in one game. He hit a solo shot off Ed Whitson in the first inning, a two-run homer off Bob Shirley in the fourth and a leadoff homer in the sixth off Doug Drabek. He had a two-run single in the seventh.

Lacy's 4-for-6 performance highlighted a 22-hit attack by the Orioles, who completed their first three-game sweep at Yankee Stadium since August 1980.

"The only good thing about this game," concluded Yankees Manager Lou Piniella, "is that it only came out as one loss."

It Was Shifty Business

TWIN CITIES—The Minnesota Twins tried a shift against Boston's Wade Boggs that bordered on the illegal, according to umpire Ken Kaiser.

The Twins had second baseman Steve Lombardozzi and shortstop Greg Gagne moving to tighten up the middle as the Minnesota pitcher made his delivery.

"They can move around all they want until the pitcher releases the ball," Kaiser said. "Then, they'd better be set."

Boggs was 15 for 27 (.556) in six games against Minnesota this season. The Twins came up with the shift after Boggs went 5 for 6 in a 17-7 Boston victory May 20.

"The shift is illegal," Boggs said. "The umpire told me that and said he was going to get them to stop it. Maybe he didn't correct it completely, but he got the Twins to do it within the boundaries of the rules."

In his first eight at-bats against the shift, Boggs had only two hits.



Wade Boggs

Before the May 31 game in the Metrodome, Twins Manager Ray Miller said, "I'm not saying it will work forever, but it's worth continuing until he solves it."

It was discontinued that night. Boggs went 5 for 5, lifting his batting average to .402, as the Red Sox won, 7-2.

PATRICK REUSSE

First-Rounders: An Open Book

NEW YORK—Baseball's attempt at keeping the June free-agent draft a deep, dark secret was thwarted by Commissioner Peter Ueberroth, who realized the publicity value of the selection process and ordered the announcement of first-round picks June 2.

The remaining picks in the three-day session were not disclosed except in cases in which agents were eager to reveal the choices. The most notable example was the Kansas City Royals' selection of Bo Jackson in the fourth round. Jackson, the 1985 Heisman Trophy winner as an Auburn University running back and the No. 1 choice in this spring's 1986 National Football League draft, will have to choose between the Royals and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The first pick in baseball's draft, as most scouts expected, was University of Arkansas third baseman Jeff King. The Pittsburgh Pirates chose King and immediately invited him to Pittsburgh to work out with the Bucs June 6-8 during a weekend series with the New York Mets.

The Pirates plan to bring King along the way they nursed outfielder Barry Bonds, their first-round pick in 1985, to the majors. Bonds started at Prince William (Carolina) last summer and opened the 1986 season with Hawaii (Pacific Coast). He made his Pirates debut May 30.

"The most important thing for a player is to put him in a league he can succeed in," said Syd Thrift, the Pirates' general manager.

King, 21, a righthanded hitter, batted .369 with 17 home runs and 67 runs batted in for Arkansas this spring. He will pass up his senior year to sign with the Bucs. He set school records with his 42 homers and 204 RBIs in three years with the Razorbacks.

Thrift said King drew high praise from Buzzy Keller, who scouts the Southwest for the Pirates, and from Norm DeBrynn, the Arkansas coach. Both likened King to Philadelphia slugger Mike Schmidt.

"I heard other people talking about him (King) that knew," Keller said. "They said he was a pup of Mike Schmidt."

I remember when Schmidt was in the Central Illinois Collegiate League," DeBrynn said. "He had good power and every once in a while he'd hit one out of sight. King can do that."

King's father, Jack King of Col-



Jeff King

orado Springs, Colo., once was a catcher in the Phillies' organization. An older brother, Jim King, was the Phils' first pick in the January 1982 draft, but never signed.

Before negotiating with the Pirates, King said he planned to do some fishing and spend some time with his family and girlfriend, Miss Texas of 1984.

Will the Royals be serious in their negotiations with Jackson, knowing that he will be offered millions to play in the NFL?

"We won't do anything that in our judgment is foolish," said John Schuerholz, the Royals' general manager. "We felt like where we drafted him we could take a calculated gamble, and we did. We feel good about it."

"We didn't draft Bo Jackson in the fourth round to attract attention. We think he has the potential to be an outstanding baseball player and has some interest in playing baseball. How much remains to be seen."

Bucs Owner Hugh Culverhouse said after the Royals picked Jackson. "Our position is really not affected by the baseball draft. We continue to be committed to signing Bo. We are prepared to make him the highest paid rookie to ever enter the NFL. I know Bo is aware of our interest, but the decision is his."

If Culverhouse is true to his word, the Bucs would pay Jackson more than \$5 million for five years—the contract signed by quarterback John Elway of the Denver Broncos.

Schuerholz said that when Jackson visited the Royals three days before the draft, he asked "Bo, do you like baseball as much as football?" According to Schuerholz, Jackson replied, "I've played baseball since I was 9 years old. I have learned to love football as much as baseball."

After the Pirates took King, the Cleveland Indians made Texas pitcher Greg Swindell the No. 2 pick in the draft. Swindell had a

10-2 record and 1.36 earned-run average for the Longhorns this year.

Two sons of ex-major leaguers were selected in the first round. Outfielder Derrick May, son of Dave May, was picked No. 9 by the Chicago Cubs. Lee May Jr., whose father now is Kansas City's batting coach, was the 21st pick, chosen by the Mets. Lee Jr., a first baseman-outfielder, played at Purcell-Marian High School in Cincinnati.

Gary Sheffield, nephew of Mets pitching star Dwight Gooden, was picked by Milwaukee as the No. 6 selection. He was shortstop for Hillsborough High School in Tampa, Gooden's alma mater.

(Information for this story was provided by correspondents Jack Lang, Charley Feeney and Bob Nightengale.)

First-Round Picks

1. Pittsburgh—Jeff King, ss-3b, Colorado Springs, Colo.
2. Cleveland—Greg Swindell, p, Houston.
3. San Francisco—Matt Williams, 3b, Carson City, Nev.
4. Texas—Kevin Brown, p, McIntyre, Ga.
5. Atlanta—Kent Mercker, p, Dublin, O.
6. Milwaukee—Gary Sheffield, ss, Tampa.
7. Philadelphia—Brad Brink, p, Modesto, Calif.
8. Seattle—Patrick Lennon, ss, Whiteville, N.C.
9. Chicago N.L.—Derrick May, of, Newark, Del.
10. Minnesota—Derek Palks, p-c, Upland, Calif.
11. San Diego—Tom Howard, of, Germantown, O.
12. Oakland—Scott Hemond, c, Dunedin, Fla.
13. Houston—Ryan Bowen, p, Hanford, Calif.
14. Boston—Greg McMurtry, of, Brockton, Mass.
15. Montreal—Kevin Dean, of, Vallejo, Calif.
16. California—Roberto Hernandez, p, New York.
17. Cincinnati—Scott Scudder, p, Blossom, Tex.
18. Detroit—Phil Clark, c, Crockett, Tex.
19. Los Angeles—Michael White, of, Loudon, Tenn.
20. Chicago A.L.—Grady Hall, p, Findlay, O.
21. New York N.L.—Lee May Jr., of-1b, Cincinnati.
22. California—Lee Stevens, of, Lawrence, Kan.
23. St. Louis—Luis Alicea, 2b, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.
24. Kansas City—Anthony Clements, ss, Chino, Calif.
25. California—Terence Carr, of, Salisbury, Md.
26. Toronto—Earl Sanders, p, Moss Point, Miss.

Will a Way-Out 'Special Selection'

NEW YORK—After having vetoed the wishes of some owners by making public names of players selected in the first round of the free-agent draft June 2, Commissioner Peter Ueberroth decided to have some fun.

Just before Toronto was about to make the final first-round pick, Ueberroth informed all clubs booked up on the telephonic draft that he was awarding "a special

pick to the New York Yankees."

Immediately, there were protests, but Ueberroth said that anyone who had any questions should call him directly.

The Yankees then announced their choice of G. Frederick Will, a shortstop from University High School in Champaign, Ill.

G. Frederick Will was George Will, nationally syndicated political columnist and TV commenta-

tor. Will, a baseball fan, had written a column chiding Ueberroth about the secrecy of the draft.

Will's last team was the Mitten-dorf Funeral Home Panthers in Champaign. "Our team color was black, naturally," he said.

The pundit had no idea why Ueberroth played the joke. "I suppose he knew it would be the highlight of my life," Will said.

JACK LANG

Baseball Correspondents

A.L.
 Baltimore—Jim Henneman
 Boston—Joe Giulioth
 California—Tom Singer
 Chicago—Joe Goddard
 Cleveland—Sheldon Jocker
 Detroit—Tom Gage
 Kansas City—Bob Nightengale
 Milwaukee—Tom Fisher
 Minnesota—Patrick Reusse
 New York—Bill Madden
 Oakland—Kit Stier
 Seattle—Jim Street
 Texas—Jimm Reeves
 Toronto—Neil MacGar

N.L.
 Atlanta—Gerry Fraley
 Chicago—Dave Van Dyck
 Cincinnati—Hal McCoy
 Houston—Neil Honick
 Los Angeles—Gordon Verre
 Montreal—Brian MacDonald
 New York—Jack Lagg
 Philadelphia—Peter Pascare
 Pittsburgh—Charley Feeney
 St. Louis—Rick Humme
 San Diego—Mark Kriedler
 San Francisco—Nick Peters