

Did Braves Get a .300 Bat in Lacy? 'I'm Smarter Now,' Says .314 Hitter

By WAYNE MINSHEW

WEST PALM BEACH—Lee Lacy batted .314 for the Dodgers last season. Fluke? For real? Was that the real Lee Lacy the Braves obtained as part of the big fall transaction which sent Dusty Baker and Ed Goodson packing for the West Coast and also brought Jerry Royster, Jimmy Wynn and Tom Paciorek? Those questions will be answered soon enough, but Lacy doesn't have to wait.

Was that the real Lee Lacy? He smiled at the question, then ticked off the figures—.293 at Ogden, .301 at Bakersfield, .307 at Albuquerque and on and on right up to .282 and .314 seasons the last two years with the Dodgers.

The impression was, indeed, that WAS the Lee Lacy the Braves can expect this season.

HE GOT his chance last season because of injuries.

"We had guys dropping like flies," he said. "So, I got a chance to play and work on my game. I did everything I possibly could do to help the club win. Things went well, I got a chance to stay in the lineup, and I'm a smarter hitter now just from playing."

Lacy also arrives with the reputation of being a versatile defensive player, although his critics claim he doesn't really have a position. However, he can play second base, third base and in the outfield.

He has been working at third most of the spring with the Braves, who shifted Darrell Evans to first base and Earl Williams to catcher in early drills, apparently with the thought in mind to make room for Lacy.

LACY SIGNED as a third baseman in 1969, as the Dodgers' No. 2 draft choice, but was moved to second base as Jim Lefebvre began to show signs of age. He was called up in June of 1972, put together a hit-

ting streak of 15 games and was in the bigs to stay.

He admits it came as something of a surprise and shock when he was dealt to the Braves last November. Not necessarily that he was included, but that the Dodgers gave up so much in the four-for-two transaction.

"Eddie Robinson," said Lacy, meaning the Braves' general manager, "should get some kind of award for that one."

Now, the 28-year-old native Texan is preaching the winning way. He searches for apt ways of putting it, coming up with such statements as, "There's a lot of talent in this camp, so it's just whether or not we're ready to accept the challenge."

"WE'VE GOT to be ready to go out and die for what we believe in. If we're ready to do that, we're

ready to be contenders."

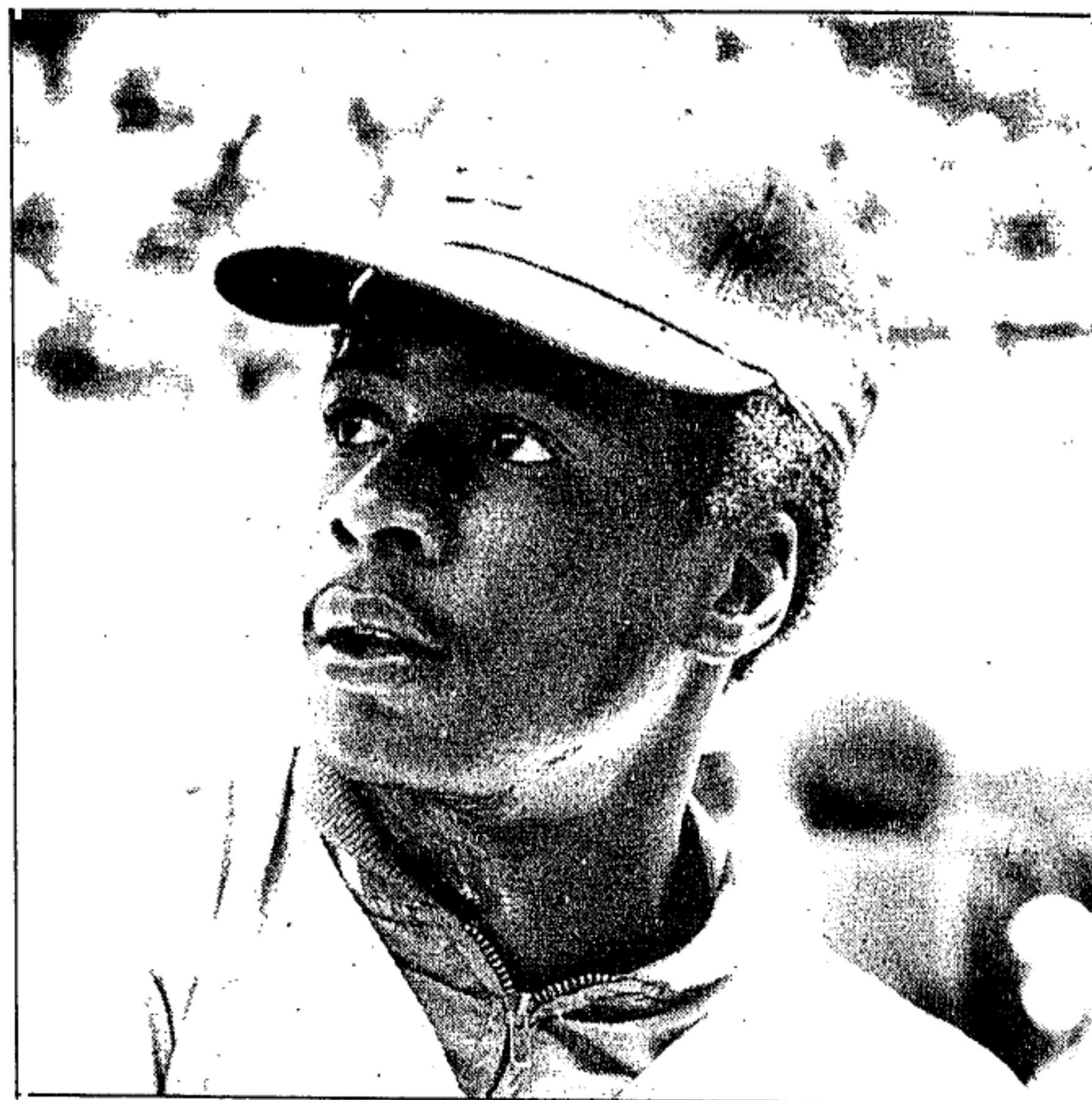
Lacy grinned.

"We gotta play angry," he added. "We can't play happy. You gotta be like a tiger."

One thing appears certain. Lacy has been a winner all his career. He won all-star honors at three different infield positions while in the Dodger farm system, has been in a World Series and displays a commendable attitude in his approach to the game.

"He is," said Braves' Manager Dave Bristol, "the kind of player you like to have on a club."

Wigwam Wisp: Pitcher Roger Moret was tardy for spring drills, but nobody seemed that concerned since the former Red Sox lefty had pitched winter league baseball. . . . Reliever Max Leon was held up for 12 days at Guadalajara, Mex., because of visa problems.



Lee Lacy . . . Eager to Capture Atlanta Fans

Kelleher Surprise at Shortstop for Cubs

By RICHARD DOZER

SCOTTSDALE—It didn't take the Cubs long to learn that more than one man was in the running for the shortstop job left behind by Don Kessinger.

In the very first intrasquad game, wherein the bats of all the Cub regulars were put to an early test, the household names, such as Bill Madlock, Jose Cardenal, Jerry Morales, Pete LaCock and George Mitterwald, came up with a hit apiece.

It should have been just another of those pleasant exercises played in the Arizona sunshine as a benefit to pitchers who need work—and to fans who'll watch anything in a uniform.

BUT IT WAS more than that this time because of a fellow named Michael Dennis Kelleher, better known in the outlands of St. Louis' farm system these last seven years as "Mick."

Kelleher got where he is because of his glove. Four times previously, he has found his way onto a major league roster, three times with the Cardinals who bred him, and once with the Astros, who borrowed him. He had a home run in 1969 at Modesto and another two

years later for the same club. He tripled once for the Cards in '72. He once hit .266 at Cedar Rapids, but more often it was closer to the .238 which he hung up at Tulsa last year.

Nonetheless, when Kelleher surfaced as just another name on the Cubs' infield roster after a December trade for Vic Harris, he saw himself winning something he insists he never had a "fair shot" at—a regular shortstop job.

"Someday I'll hit .300," he said. And after his squad game debut, nobody could argue that with Kelleher, least of all Lew Fonseca, who found a new pupil in the accelerated days of this late-starting spring training.

Kelleher led off by pulling a triple to left center off Geoff Zahn, later beat out a picture bunt when he caught Madlock deep at third and followed with a third hit, a single through the box.

DAVE ROSELLO was supposed to win the Cub shortstop job by matriculation. He has been in the Cub farm system as long as Kelleher had been in that of the Cardinals. They knew each other well, both having been up and down from the

American Association four years running. A cursory glance at the records of each shows Kelleher with the better glove; Rosello the better bat.

Unfortunately, the shortened days of the exhibition season scarcely let this duel unfold to a clear-cut decision. But that didn't matter to Kelleher, who was delighted finally to at least be getting his chance.

"He's a cagey little bugger," remarked Fonseca, who has been spending as much time counseling Kelleher lately as he has with the two who seem to lean hardest on his teaching skills, Steve Swisher and Rick Monday.

THE CUB batting instructor's first tip to Mick was to cut down his footwork in the batter's box. Kelleher is listed at 5-9 and is lighter than he's ever been as a pro: 157 pounds. That's not your basic power-type.

"He was trying to stride like a big gorilla," said Fonseca, who overnight had him staying back on the pitch and going to all fields with it.

Even though Kelleher is 28 and has had a four-year struggle to get less than two seasons toward the pension plan, the Cubs see enough batting potential in the little guy for him to earn his keep at shortstop. Twice he has led the American Association ('72 and '75) in shortstop defense, and regardless of his slim batting average and zero power, he is a man who makes contact. In all his minor league campaigns, the most he ever struck out was 60 times.

"I WAS GLAD they (the Cardi-

nals) traded me here," he said. "I never really had a shot at the shortstop job over there. I outhit (Mike) Tyson three years in a row in the minors, but they moved him from second base to short, and he got the job. With Kessinger there now, and Ted Sizemore traded, Tyson will be back at second where he belongs."

And just maybe, Kelleher has found a place where he belongs as well.

Cub Clouds: Jerry Morales signed his contract March 23, leaving five Cubs still armed with renewal pacts. One of them, Andy Thornton, confirmed that he would play out his option if the Cubs don't meet his asking price, reportedly some \$55,000. "I'm through compromising," he said. His agent, Larry Sazant, continued negotiating with General Manager Salty Saltwell.

Manager Jim Marshall and his pitching coach, Marv Grissom, called pitcher Bill Bonham in for a closed-door session early, and though none revealed the topic of the chat, certain Cubs felt they were trying to get Bill to develop a mean streak. Marshall said only, "He's at a point where he should start being productive." Bonham was 13-15 last year.

Madlock's first intrasquad game hit was a booming double that bounced once and onto the 430-foot sign in center. The N.L. batting champ, who came to camp needing to shed seven pounds, was running with a limp, the result of a knee operation three years ago which, he said, "always bothers me some in the spring."

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Dodger Destiny in Four Hands

By GORDON VERRELL

VERO BEACH—Steve Garvey complained recently that the Dodgers had done precious little over the winter to plug the gaps left by departed Tommy John, Lee Lacy, Bill North and Jerry Grote, saying flatly, "We're not as strong as we were last year."

Dodger Vice-President Al Campanis argued the point, saying that with the addition of Andy Messersmith, Gary Thomasson, Derrel Thomas and Von Joshua, the Dodgers are indeed as good as they were in 1978, when they won a second straight National League pennant, and, maybe, he said, even a little bit better.

That's debatable.

Messersmith, of course, is the key. With Thomas, a versatile athlete who can play at second base or in center field with exceptional skill, the Dodgers certainly have eased the losses of Lacy and North. And Thomasson and Joshua should help balance what has been largely a right-handed-hitting lineup.

But can Messersmith, 0-3 with a 5.37 ERA last year, make up for the loss of John, 17-10 and 3.30?

THE DODGER BRASS seems to think so, giving the 33-year-old righthander a two-year contract after only one 15-minute workout at Dodger Stadium.

If—ugh, that word, if—Messersmith has completely recovered from a series of injuries (surgery and a broken collarbone in the last two years), there's little reason to doubt that he can at least pitch regularly in the rotation. Since winning 20 and 19 games his final two years with the Dodgers (1974-75), Messersmith was only 16-18 the last three summers with the Braves and Yankees.

And by his own admission, it will be some time before he even hopes to regain his touch.

"I'm throwing very well, but I'm not 100 percent yet," said Messersmith. "Don't forget, I haven't even faced a batter since last July."

As for the losses of Lacy and North to free agency and Grote to retirement, the Dodgers must replace 13 home runs—all by Lacy—and 59 RBIs. Lacy batted .261 and hit

five of his 13 homers as a pinch-hitter. North batted .234 and, though he drove in only 10 runs in the five months he was with the club, he drew 65 walks, roughly one every five times to the plate, which was by far the best ratio on the club. Grote batted .271, but went to bat only 70 times.

Thomas certainly will fill the defensive voids left by Lacy and North, but his .227 batting average last year was the lowest in his seven-year big league career. He cited his contract squabbles with the Padres as the major reason for his poor showing in 1978. All of that, he maintained, is a thing of the past now that he has a five-year contract.

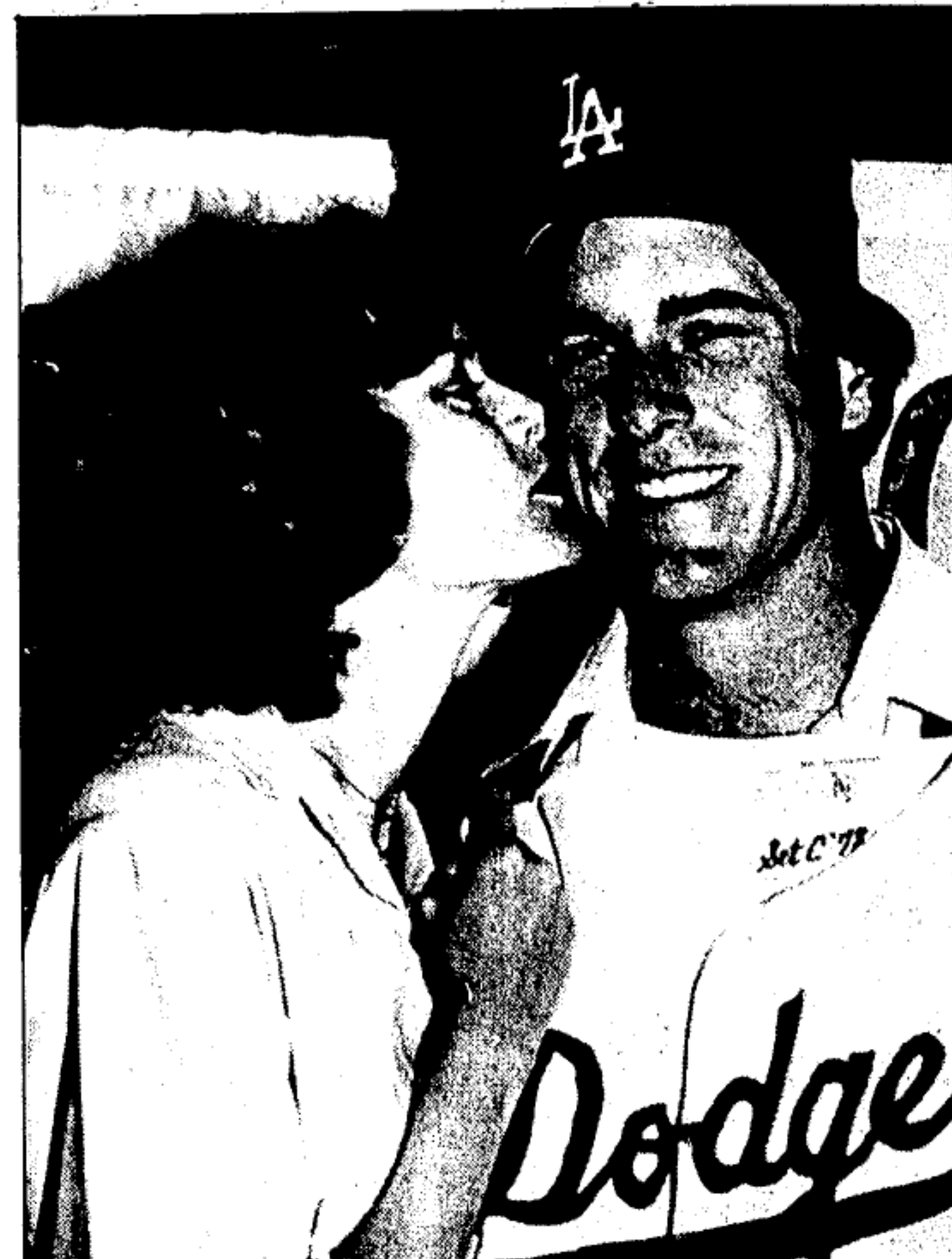
THOMASSON AND JOSHUA, both outfielders, undoubtedly will be utilized as pinch-hitters, at least to begin with.

It should be an interesting spring for the outfield. Dusty Baker, Rick Monday and Reggie Smith comprise the outfield. But what about Thomas? And Thomasson and Joshua? And promising rookie Rudy Law? And, of course, the ageless pinch-hitting marvels, Vic Davalillo and Manny Mota? Said Davalillo: "Don't forget, I can pitch, too."

So, whether the Dodgers are better than they were a year ago is certainly a point to be argued. But catcher Steve Yeager recently attempted to temper the loss of John by saying, "The Dodgers lost Sandy Koufax and managed to keep going, so I'm sure we will, too."

What Yeager overlooked, though, is the fact that after Koufax retired following the 1966 season—a year in which the Dodgers won their third pennant in four years—they plummeted to eighth place in 1967 and seventh in 1968, and didn't win another pennant for eight years.

Dodger Dope: Dodger announcer Vin Scully has been selected sportscaster of the year by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association. Scully, 51, has been the voice of the Dodgers for 29 years. . . . Scully, Ross Porter and Jerry Doggett will air Dodger games over a 24-station, four-state network in 1978. The network includes 20 stations in California, two in Arizona, one in Nevada and one in Hawaii. Jaime Jarrin and Rudy Hoyos



GARY THOMASSON and wife Maureen like the cut of their new Dodger Blue.

will broadcast Dodger games in Spanish.

The Dodgers are reporting brisk ticket sales for the Dodger-Angel Freeway Series March 30-April 1, the first two of the games scheduled for Dodger Stadium. The attraction? It'll be Rod Carew's first-ever Los Angeles appearance as an Angel. . . . The Dodgers' season sales have passed 18,000.

Perry Fires Pitch at Padres' Poor Defense

By PHIL COLLIER

YUMA—The Padres were among major league baseball's weakest offensive teams last season, but 21-game winner Gaylord Perry is more concerned about their defense this year.

The 40-year-old Cy Young Award winner urged a greater emphasis on defense and team play as the Padres assembled here in late February for the start of their 11th spring training camp.

"As a pitcher, I want defense," he said. "I'd rather have a defensive player out there than an offensive player. You can always bring an offensive player off the bench."

PERRY SAID he is concerned by what he considers defensive weaknesses among the Padres at second base, third base and center field. He is troubled because the player he rates as best suited for center field, Bill Almon, is being tried at second base, his

third infield position in three years.

He is also concerned because Gene Richards is being projected as the center fielder. Perry feels the Padres are glossing over their defensive problems and are asking the players to do the same.

"I feel it's best to be as honest as possible," Perry said. "They (outfielders) have to play better if we're going to win. They have the ability to improve. But they have to work at it."

"If they don't hustle and catch the ball, and if nobody else tells them about it, you better believe I'm going to."

Perry says it pains him to see talent wasted. As examples of the beneficial results of his criticism, he refers to teammates Mike Hargrove, acquired from Texas, and Almon.

"Mike and I have been friends and enemies," Perry said. "I think we're friends now. When I first started playing for the Rangers, he couldn't catch a cold. I told him about it. I told him he could get better because he's an excellent athlete, and he did. He came in second for a Rawlings Gold Glove the next year."

"Mike was big enough to accept criticism and work to improve himself. He didn't pout."

Perry feels the same way about Almon. "I took ground balls with him," Gaylord recalled. "I showed him I could catch ground balls between my legs that he wasn't catching at all. He accepted the challenge. He worked hard and really improved himself. Unfortunately, they still haven't found Almon's right position—center field."

PERRY WAS miffed last fall because the Padres wouldn't extend his contract, which expires at the end of this season, and because they wouldn't reward him for winning 21 games and the Cy Young Award.

As spring training began, he appeared on the verge of getting a contract extension, but he also has asked for a guaranteed contract in 1980. Owner Ray Kroc reportedly has balked at that point.

"No, I haven't signed; no tractor, no truck," he said before flying to Washington, D. C. for a White House visit with President Carter a few days before spring training began here.

Padre Pickups: The Padres have signed one of their original (1969) players, reserve catcher Fred Kendall, who played out his option with the Red Sox last season. . . . As they headed for Yuma, the Padres' season ticket sale had reached 13,257 (1,659 full-season plans and 11,598 mini-season plans).

Rennie's Report: 'Good as New'

By CHARLEY FEENEY

BRADENTON—If Rennie Stennett had a second chance, he would not have played baseball last season.

"It was a mistake," the Pirates' second baseman said. "But I admit if someone last spring had suggested that I sit out the season, I wouldn't have listened."

Stennett broke his right ankle in August, 1977, and less than six months later, he was working out in preparation for spring training.

He managed to play in 106 games, batting .243 with 35 RBIs. When he was carried off the turf at Three Rivers Stadium in 1977, he had a .336 batting average.

Last August, Stennett stopped playing and sat on the bench watching the Pirates make their heated bid to overtake the Phillies.

"I BECAME a cheerleader because there was nothing else I could do," he said.

Stennett developed a bone spur above the right ankle. The pin that had been placed in the ankle was removed last October. He played in the Dominican Republic during the winter and now, he says, he has it all back, his confidence and agility.

The second base job belongs to him again. He is sure he will prove that he hasn't lost the range he had before the injury.

"I did it all in the Dominican," he said. "If the ankle was going to bother me, it would have happened there. All the stiffness is gone."

Something else is gone, too. That's the paunch he developed last September. He blames it on inactivity.

"I love to eat. And when I don't play, I naturally gain weight," he said.

Manager Chuck Tanner doesn't plan any special spring program for the 27-year-old Panamanian.

"**THERE IS NO** reason for it," Tanner said. "Rennie has tested the ankle and, from all the reports I have received, he's back to normal."

Stennett's improved physical status is just one reason why Tanner thinks the Pirates can overtake the Phillies in 1979.

Tanner points to an improved bench, mentioning, among others, Lee Lacy, signed as a free agent.

Lacy can play infield and outfield positions and Tanner indicates he will work the former Dodger in the outfield in the exhibition games.

"I'd like to get Lacy where he can concentrate in one area," Tanner said. "This way, it will help his throwing. I think it would be detrimental to Lacy to work him 30 minutes out in the outfield and 30 min-

utes on the infield. The throws are so different."

TANNER surprised people when he said that Lacy sometimes will replace Dave Parker in right field.

"I'd like to give Parker a day off every two weeks," Tanner said. "I don't think there are any 162-game players any more. Parker is great and just think how much greater he will be if he can get a rest once in a while."

It will be difficult to remove a healthy Parker from the lineup at any time during the season. Maybe Tanner will change his mind. Maybe Parker will decide he doesn't want to rest.

Pittburgers: Tanner said the most difficult area to figure out in the spring is pitching. "We have 14 pitchers in camp with big league experience," he said. "Somehow, there always seems to be some minor injury to a pitcher that forces some changes. If we have any pitcher with a tender arm when we break camp, we can always put him on the disabled list."

Willie Stargell, 38 on March 6, came to camp with the enthusiasm of a rookie. Willie always is one of the happiest players in camp and he makes a point of making every youngster in camp welcome. . . . Tanner says he was fortunate that Harvey Had-dix was available to become pitching coach when Don Osborn was shelved by illness.

'My Guys,' Beams Lacy, Rejoining Dodgers

By GORDON VERRELL

LOS ANGELES—The fact Leondaus Lacy is back with the Dodgers after less than three months in Dixie is strange enough.

But the fact that in only his second game with the Dodgers he was in center field, subbing for Dusty Baker, the man he was traded for in the first place, now that is irony.

After some initial shock over the transactions of June 23, in which the Dodgers purchased the contracts of Lacy and relief pitcher Elias Sosa from Atlanta while the Braves claimed onetime Cy Young Award winner Mike Marshall on

waivers, Lacy said, "It's great to be back.

"These are the guys I want to play with . . . Buckner, Garvey, Cey, Lopes, all of 'em . . . I like 'em all. I just want to do whatever I can do to get us into first place."

IT WAS last winter when Lacy, Jimmy Wynn, Tom Paciorek and Jerry Royster were shipped off to Atlanta for Baker and Ed Goodson. Now Lacy is back with the club that drafted him in 1969.

"I never wanted to leave," Lacy said. "I've been playing with these guys since 1969. These are the guys

I want to win with. You develop feelings for the guys you come up with.

"It's funny. There was a game against the Dodgers when I was with the Braves and Ronny (Cey) gets hit by a pitch and it looks like he's hurt. So I start running in from my position, you know, to see how he is, and then I stopped and said to myself, 'Hey, he's on the other team. He's not my teammate anymore.' "

The first game Lacy played after returning to the Dodgers was at third base, in place of the injured

Cey. The next day, he was in center field.

"I don't care where I play, whether it's third base one day, center field the next, or left field or wherever," he said. "It doesn't matter. All I want to do is be with a winner."

WHEN LACY opened at third base against the Giants on June 26, it marked the first time he'd played there since his first year in professional baseball, in Ogden.

He later became a second baseman, but with the development of Dave Lopes, his playing time de-

creased. Then, last summer, primarily because of injuries, he wound up playing 43 games in the outfield and finished with a .314 batting average, ranking second on the club.

He went to the Arizona Instructional League over the winter to improve his outfield skills with the notion that he would be the Dodgers' center fielder. That idea was curtailed on November 17 when he was traded to the Braves.

He played only two games in center field for Atlanta, the rest (Continued on Page 18, Column 1)

Kingman's Zip-Lip Skit Draws Howls From Press Box

By JACK LANG

NEW YORK—Color Dave Kingman private. The Greta Garbo of the baseball world, he "wants to be alone."

The closer Sky King comes to approaching the home-run heroics of Babe Ruth, Roger Maris and even Hack Wilson, the more of a recluse he becomes.

Even regular writers traveling with the club have their problems. In lighter moments, the big guy will joke, make wisecracks, even try to be chummy.

But let him hit a home run and he goes into a shell. "I don't want to talk about my home runs," says the 6-6 giant as he heads off for the showers or the trainer's room to be by himself.

Joe Torre, whose locker is next to Kingman's at Shea Stadium, is often left to answer reporters' questions and explain the mystique that is Dave Arthur Kingman, age 26, and big news.

"DAVE IS different because he wants to do his job without the notoriety," said the understanding Torre. "He doesn't enjoy the limelight."

But it is difficult for Kingman to avoid it, try as he might. In every town the Mets visit, Sky King is the man sought by the columnists and hordes of young radio interviewers with their inevitable tape recorders. And they don't understand when Kingman studiously avoids them.

Oh, he is not discourteous. It's just that he shies away. He gets restless if he has to spend more than a few minutes discussing his feats. Eventually, he knows, the talk will lead to his home runs and that's when he clams up.

Magazine writers find Dave particularly difficult to interview and they have been following him around with more frequency as his home-run total climbs.

The magazine New Times recently had Lawrence Wright around Shea Stadium and with the Mets for more than a week. Wright finished his assignment shaking his head. He barely managed to get anything out of Kingman. Most of his comments came from other players . . . Torre, Willie Stargell, Steve Yeager. The magazine devoted four full pages of text to a feature on Kingman. There are no more than a half-dozen quotes from David himself. Not Wright's fault. It's just the way Kingman is.

ON A RECENT night when he hit his 26th home run in the Mets' 75th game, Kingman refused to answer questions about the mile-high drive over the 396-foot fence in left center.

When he finally did emerge from the showers 45 minutes after the game, Kingman dressed hurriedly and departed for the quiet of his huge suburban home in Cos Cob, Conn., where he lives a bachelor's life.

"If he ever gets close to Maris' record, he'll be insufferable," commented one young reporter.

No doubt about it. And the media better be prepared because Kingman will make news the rest of the season with his home runs.

Kingman home runs are not just the ordinary blasts over the wall or into the bleachers. They are happenings. When David connects, the immediate reaction of fans and press, alike is: how far will it go?

His home runs so far have become legends. Mickey Mantle said the one he saw in Fort Lauderdale last year was the longest he'd ever seen. They are still talking about the three he hit in Chicago earlier this year . . . one of which hit a roof of a house three houses up on the block across the street from Wrigley Field.

(Continued on Page 44, Column 5)

HOW TO EARN YOUR STRIPES

by Catfish Hunter

You only need one pitch Everybody says you need two, three, four pitches to be in the major leagues. That isn't so. One of the best pitchers I know throws nothing but fastballs. Changes speeds on it. A fast one, then a little off of it, fastball inside, then back away from you...and then he'll throw you a curve ball in the dirt. He keeps you off-stride, looking for that curve ball. But he's not going to throw it for you to hit it. He knows how to set a hitter up.

Now, me, I might mix 'em up and throw everything—fastball, breaking ball, change-up. Or just stay with one pitch because I've got it right on the corner, right within an inch of where I want it.

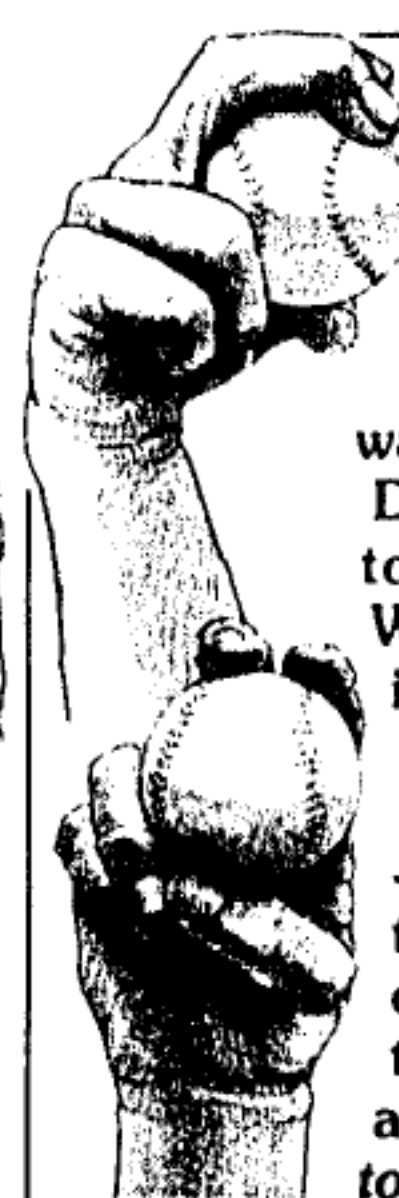
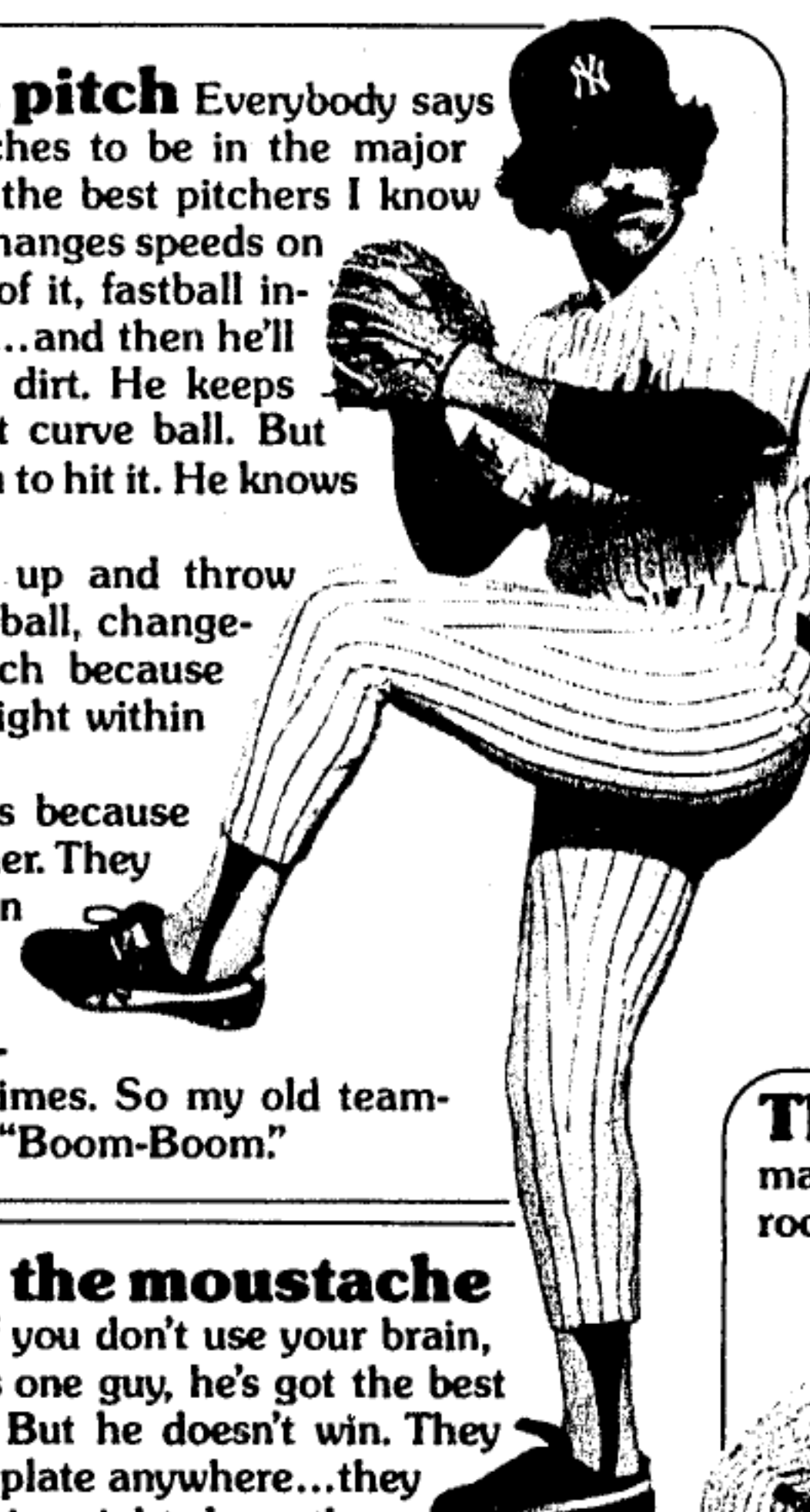
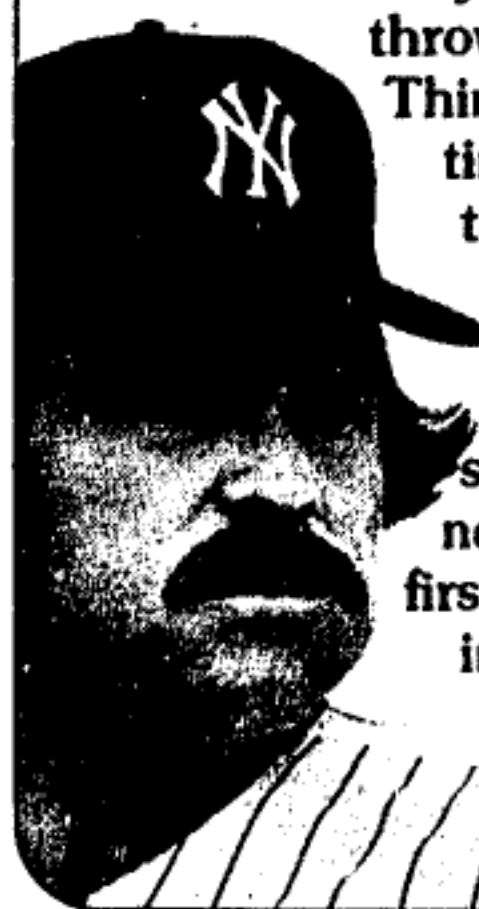
I give up a lot of home runs because batters know I'm a control pitcher. They know I'm not wild. They stand in there, and if you don't make the right pitch, they're gonna hit it. Ballparks shoot off fireworks after home runs most times. So my old teammates, they started calling me "Boom-Boom."

Between the hat & the moustache

You can have good stuff, but if you don't use your brain, you're not going to win. There's one guy, he's got the best stuff of any pitcher anywhere. But he doesn't win. They tell him, "Just get it across the plate anywhere...they can't hit it." You throw it breaking right down the middle and they're going to hit it! He's not thinking for himself.

I look to see how close the batter's standing to home plate...things like that. If he stands away from the plate, most times he doesn't like the ball inside. If he's standing back deep, he's trying to wait on a curve ball till after it breaks. And if he's standing up front, he wants to hit the curve ball before it breaks, so you throw him all fastballs.

Thinking pays off all the time. Like, if he hits the ball, where am I supposed to be? You've got to know when to back-up...some pitchers I know never think to cover first base! A good fielding pitcher can save five games for himself a year.



I tuck my thumb

I've only seen one other pitcher hold the ball like I do. See how my thumb's tucked under? That's the way I picked up throwing.

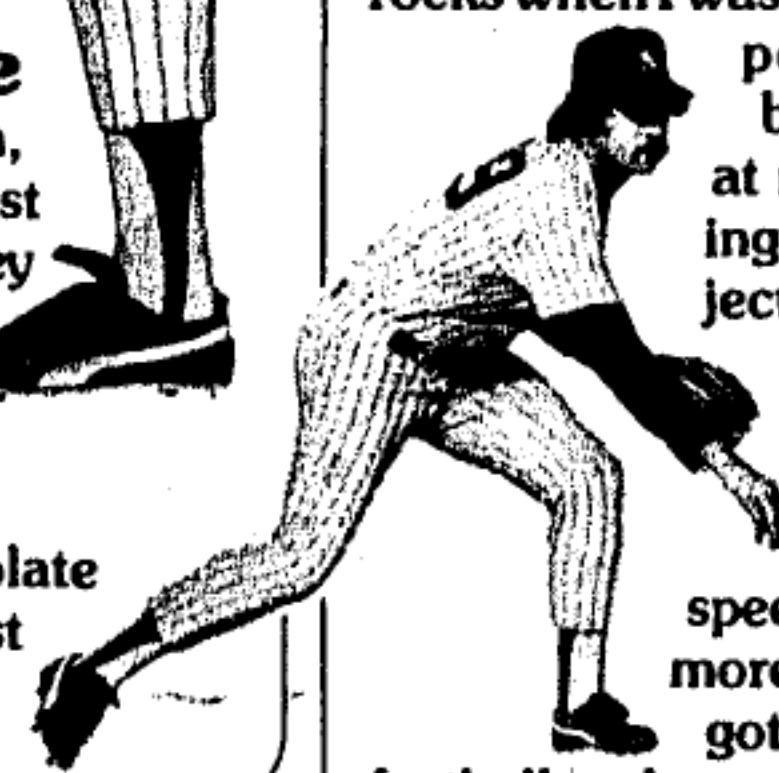
Don't know as I'd tell everyone to hold his thumb that way. What I do tell people, though, is how to handle a curve ball.

Most people, they throw it from out here to the side so they get a flat-breaking spinner that's easy to hit because it's curving on the same plane that the guy's swinging his bat. My advice is, *always turn your wrist towards your body*, like in the drawing. That way, your curve ball is going to break like it should...downwards.

The secret of pitching

I tell kids, the main thing to go for at first is accuracy. I'd pick up rocks when I was a kid and throw them at telephone poles. I'd throw corncobs at my brothers, and they were throwing at me. I wasn't just throwing at nothing; I was always throwing at an object, trying to hit it.

Once you've got your accuracy, don't throw the same speed all the time. That's the secret of pitching right there. Changing speeds. Take a little off here and a little more there...control, that's all you've got to have. It's not any good if your fastball and your curve ball's the same speed. A guy gets the time on it, he's going to hit it.



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Should you wear Pumas? Well, the way most people play, they can wear any old thing. But if you're good enough—if you've earned your stripes—what you wear on your feet is going to make a difference in how you play. Then you *should* wear Pumas.



PUMA

When you've earned your stripes.

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(Continued From Page 31)

rehabilitation program. . . . Wilson nursed a sore arm most of the spring. . . . Strawberry announced he would contribute \$500 to a New York City high school athletic fund each time he hits a home run at Shea Stadium. He hit 10 there last year. The New York Daily News commended Strawberry for his generosity and offered to match the \$500. The schools now will receive \$1,000 for each homer.

George Foster struggled with the bat through most of the spring but was working to strengthen his arms and appeared unconcerned. . . . Pitcher Scott Holman, out of options, was expected to be sold to some American League club. . . . Craig Swan, who enjoyed a healthy and effective spring, was uncertain of his status. A starter all his career, he could wind up in middle relief or be traded.

JACK LANG



Bucs Unveil a New Weapon—The Bunt

PITTSBURGH—For the Pittsburgh Pirates to compete in the National League East, they must play fundamentally sound baseball. They no longer can be expected to outslug the opposition with any regularity.

During spring training, Manager Chuck Tanner stressed the importance of bunting. He even used the suicide squeeze bunt a few times. Now it remains to be seen if the Pirates will have to scratch and claw for runs during the season.

Team captain Bill Madlock says that shortstop Dale Berra is the key to the club's success. Madlock says that Berra, who made 30 errors last season, must reduce that figure by about 10. "We must cut down on our mental mistakes, too," Madlock said. "We made about 80 or 90 mental mistakes last season and Berra didn't make all of them."

Tanner, who stresses the positive, says he expects Berra to be among several players who will improve. The manager says he has three hitters capable of batting .300—Madlock, who won his fourth batting title in 1983; Tony Pena, a .301 career hitter, and Johnny Ray, who in his second full season in 1983 batted .283.

While Tanner had 10 outfield candidates in camp, it was evident that the best defensive players would work on a daily basis, at least the first few weeks of the season.

Marvell Wynne, who batted .243 after joining the Bucs from the New York Mets' organization last June, was the regular center fielder. Amos Otis, who will be 37 on April 26, was to play left field.

"I'm expecting a productive season from Otis," Tanner said. "I told him in spring training that he would work out at his own pace. I didn't want him rushing his conditioning program. I know enough about him. When I was in the American League, Otis was one of the best players I ever managed against."

Tanner is counting on Otis' rebounding from a .261 batting average last year. "In 1982, Otis was among the leaders in game-winning hits (20)," Tanner said. "He is the type player who will help us. I'm not thinking of platooning him. He'll be out there when we open the season, no matter who is pitching for the other side."

If Otis and Wynne become everyday players, Tanner will have a crowd of potential right fielders, including rookie Doug Frobel, second-year man Brian Harper and veteran Lee Lacy. Meanwhile, the status of veterans Lee Mazzilli and Ruppert

Bucs' Lacy Denies Cocaine Dependency

PITTSBURGH—Although three witnesses in a child custody case in California have filed affidavits that Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder Lee Lacy has used cocaine, Lacy has denied the charges, the Pittsburgh Press reported.

"How could I play baseball (in 1983) at age 34 if I did that?" the Press quoted Lacy as saying. "The Pirates take a blood test twice a year. They would know if I did (use drugs)."

Lacy is challenging Cecelia Trainor Chapman for custody of 1-year-old Jennifer Lee Lacy. Chapman charged that Lacy was not suitable to rear the child because he is "dependent on cocaine."

Jones remained cloudy.

When the Pirates opened spring training for batterymen on February 17, Tanner listed Larry McWilliams, Rick Rhoden and John Candelaria as his first three starters. With four off days scheduled in the first 14 days of the season, there should be no constant need for a fourth starter.

For a while, it appeared the fourth starter would be left-hander John Tudor, who was acquired from Boston for outfielder Mike Easler. Tanner had said that Lee Tunnell, the most effective starter during the last third of the 1983 season, would begin the season in the bullpen. The reasoning was that Tunnell is capable of starting and relieving, while last year's rookie sensation Jose DeLeon also appeared set for relief work.

However, Tudor was very impressive in the Grapefruit League and Candelaria, who is displeased with the management because it won't renegotiate his contract, had some physical problems which reduced the number of innings he could pitch.

Maintaining his anger at club management, Candelaria said he would not go to the bullpen this year. He admitted he might not be ready to start the season in the rotation, but he insisted he wants to be traded. Perhaps he thinks he can get management angry enough to comply.

"When I signed my contract (in the summer of 1982 for four years), I said I didn't want any appearance clause in my contract," said Candelaria. "I wanted a clause about starts."

In 1983, when he had a 15-8 record, Candelaria made 32 starts and relieved once. He said under normal circumstances he would not have agreed to relieve even once. He said that lefty reliever Rod Scurry couldn't pitch one day in San Diego.

"I relieved to help out a teammate," Candelaria said.

As the season opened, the Pirates appeared to have pitching depth. The infield was a holdover from 1983 and there was optimism that first baseman Jason Thompson could bounce back after an off season.

Thompson is the only legitimate 25-homer hitter in the Buc lineup. His HR total was 18 last year, compared to 31 in 1982.

Pena will be given the job of producing RBIs. He will move from seventh to fifth in the order, behind Thompson.

Infielder Jim Morrison, catcher Milt May and catcher-first baseman Gene Tenace know what is expected of them. They must be ready in case of an injury.

How good are the 1984 Pirates?

"We could be better than the 1979 (world championship) team," said Tanner, who is quick to point out that if the Pirates win in 1984, it will not be because of power.

"We're a different club," he said, "but it doesn't mean that we can't be a better club."

Pittsburghers: Ricky Peterson, 29-year-old son of the Pirates' general manager, has been named a sixth coach with the Bucs. However, he won't be in uniform during games. Instead, young Peterson will chart pitches and set up defenses via a walkie talkie from the stands to the Pirates' dugout. Peterson is a

former minor league pitcher who became a pitching coach a few years ago. Tanner says he wanted young Peterson for the specific job because "we're going to do some in-depth things that couldn't be handled by a person who had other chores." In the past, traveling secretary Charlie Muse operated the walkie-talkie from the stands to the dugout and he often was called away during the game to attend to other business.

Rookie pitchers Jeff Zaske and Chris Green made good impressions in exhibition games, but there didn't appear to be any room on the staff. . . . Veteran righthander Manny Sarmiento, sidelined because of a sore right elbow, didn't pitch until 13 days before opening day. . . . The Pirates had made 20 errors in 11 exhibition games, compared to 10 for the opposition.

CHARLEY FEENEY



Cubs Demonstrate A Fighting Spirit

CHICAGO—The Chicago Cubs may not have shown much in the won-lost column in spring training, but they certainly had plenty of fight. The only trouble is, the fighting was among themselves.

Two fistfights broke out in a five-day span just two weeks before the season opener in San Francisco. Both were in the outfield during batting practice about an hour before games. Jim Frey, the new manager, wasn't sure what it showed about the upcoming season, but it certainly didn't make him happy.

"I'm not standing for any individualistic or selfish attitudes on the ball club or guys more worried about fighting than playing," Frey said after helping break up a Mel Hall-Dick Ruthven tussle just four days before pitchers Reggie Patterson and Bill Johnson squared off.

"Anyone who doesn't want to go along with the program can go play for someone else," Frey said.

The program was progressing slowly in spring training. The biggest concern at the start of camp was pitching, and there were encouraging signs that it would help the Cubs improve from their 71-91, fifth-place finish of a year ago. But Frey called the outfield play "careless," and the Cubs didn't build any confidence by winning only three of their first 14 exhibition games in Arizona.

Although the only real addition to the team since last season ended was former Montreal pitcher Scott Sanderson, Frey was sure of two things: The hitting would be as good or better than last year, and the pitching staff couldn't possibly be any worse.

"I don't think anyone's concerned that we can put a good hitting team on the field," Frey said.

The Cubs' lineup, from top to bottom, is one of the most potent in the National League. But Bill Buckner missed five days with a sore elbow, Leon Durham four because of his stepfather's death, Keith Moreland four with the flu, Jody Davis more than a week after taking a foul ball in the groin area and several other players one or two days with the flu.

But any hopes of rising above fifth place still rested with the pitching staff. Frey had promised the borderline pitchers a good look in spring training, and he gave it to them early, which partly accounted for the poor record.

Some of the regular rotation got their work in "B" games before the others were sent back to the minor-league complex. By the end it had become obvious Frey planned to start the season with Sanderson, Ruthven, Chuck Rainey and Steve Trout in the rotation. Sanderson and Ruthven were with other teams when the season started last year, Rainey was an unknown quantity and Trout was on his way to proving once again he wasn't ready to be a major-league pitcher.




But in his first three starts of the spring, Trout posted a 1.93 earned-run average. Ruthven was just as impressive. After a pair of good showings, Rainey had trouble. Sanderson progressed steadily as he worked on different pitches. At the least, it was encouraging.

Frey had few concerns about the bullpen, although stoppers Lee Smith and Bill Campbell weren't overly impressive in the spring.

But then, neither was the Cubs' boxing record.

Cubbyhole: Calling it "inevitable," Ferguson Jenkins took his release by the Cubs very well. Jenkins said he might stay in baseball if someone would promise him a starting job. That is the only way the veteran pitcher figures he could get 16 more victories to give him 300. But he sounded ready for retirement. Tired of spring training's tolls on his 40-year-old body, Jenkins said, "Maybe it's time to take the easy way out and go home." . . . Trying to make a comeback, Rick Reuschel was set back a second time in spring training because of injury. This one was a strained hamstring, the first a neck muscle spasm. . . . Former No. 1 draft choice Shawn Dunston was sent back to the minor-league complex two weeks before the end of spring training although he hit .385 (5-for-13) with a double, triple and two stolen bases. Dunston probably will start the season in Double A at Midland instead of Triple A. "There's no need to rush him. He's only played a year and a half," said Frey. "He's got to play and get at-bats and learn the game." . . . Smith says his left knee, on which he had arthroscopic surgery over the winter, has "given out a couple of times . . . but I haven't really had any pain. Sometimes it hurts, but I think it's from the brace getting wet."

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Phils Feel Kern Can Help Staff

PHILADELPHIA—One minute, Jim Kern was throwing on a college baseball field in Arlington, Tex., with no illusions about his chances of returning to the majors after being sidelined 14 months following serious elbow surgery.

But a week later, he was wearing No. 37 for the Philadelphia Phillies, ending a bizarre roller-coaster ride.



Kern had been throwing hard for a month when he happened to stop by a tryout camp being conducted by Phillies scout Doug Gassaway at the University of Texas at Arlington. Kern told Gassaway that he was throwing that day if Gassaway cared to watch.

When Gassaway saw what excellent physical shape Kern was in and then clocked his pitches between 87 and 89 mph, he put in a call to his bosses in Philadelphia.

Originally, the Phils thought about Kern as help for their Triple-A club in Portland, which has had pitching problems all year. So they flew Kern in for a look and, as Phils Manager Paul Owens said, "We were amazed at how well he threw."

Kern's situation would change in a hurry. He threw for Owens and Phils scouts and coaches on June 1. The previous day, the Phils had been forced to put 1983 Cy Young Award winner John Denny on the disabled list because of elbow problems, taking Kevin Gross out of the bullpen to replace Denny in the rotation.

Then, on June 1, pitcher Tug McGraw suffered severe shoulder pain and was placed on the 21-day disabled list. Pitcher Dave Wehrmeister was recalled from the minors to replace McGraw. By now, the Phils had adjusted their thinking about Kern and quickly signed him to a major-league contract, optioning infielder Luis Aguayo to the minors to make room on the roster.

Obviously, Kern is a long shot for success. His last quality year was 1979, when he was 13-5 with 29 saves for the Rangers. Since then, he has been plagued with assorted physical problems that preceded his elbow injury. He was dealt from Texas to the Mets to Cincinnati to the White Sox.

But Owens maintained Kern could end up being much more than just temporary pitching insurance.

"His velocity has to be around 90, which amazed us after the kind of surgery he had," said Owens. "And after talking to Jim, I just started thinking more and more about it. I've always been a hunch man and, when I sat down with my coaches and scouts, I told them that funnier things have happened and I've got a feeling about this guy, that he could end up really helping us."

"We're going to go slow with him. We're not going to throw him to the dogs. We can afford to take a long look with him and work with him. But I just have this hunch that we might be looking awfully smart by the end of the season."

Kern had been relegated to the baseball graveyard when his elbow was torn while he was pitching for the Chicago White Sox in Texas on April 5, 1983.

"I had an elbow condition since 1974 and took regular medication for it," said Kern. "A few days before I was injured, I received a cortisone injection and was told everything was fine. But I ended up tearing two tendons completely off the bone and also tore a ligament right in half. When they went into the elbow, they found blood clots all the way down the arm. Dr. (Richard) Corzatt, the White Sox physician, did the surgery, a lot of which hadn't been tried before. And he told me it would either be stronger than it was before or it wouldn't work."

"I was in a cast for 10 weeks and in a brace for 14 more weeks. It took awhile, but all along I've been about six weeks ahead of schedule. I've been throwing hard since May and have been throwing around 88 to 90. I just have to get my arm into pitching shape, but it seems that the surgery is working out and I've been picking up a mile per hour every few times I throw."

Kern was released by the White Sox the day before spring training began, timing that still rankles him. "Their timing stunk," said Kern. "They had a whole year to release me. I had worked hard to get myself ready for spring training, and they knew all along we were talking about June or so before I could really pitch."

Kern nevertheless auditioned for the White Sox a week before the Phillies saw him throw. Both Milwaukee and Pittsburgh also wanted to see Kern.

"The White Sox offered me \$3,500 a month to pitch in Triple A and never said a word about coming to the majors," said Kern. "But I'm 35, and it doesn't make sense for me to go down

to Triple A for a year or two and hope to get back. So when the major-league chance came with the Phillies, I jumped. I'm just going to keep going out and giving it 100 percent. I can't worry about the elbow blowing up again. I've been a power pitcher all my life. If I couldn't have come back to throw in the high 80s like I am now, I would have hung it up because I wasn't going to spend years developing a new way to pitch."

"But at this point, I don't even think I'm as strong as I'm going to be. I've been throwing every other day without any repercussions. All I need is to see some hitters and get the shoulder strong."

Although Kern may be 35, he remains the free spirit that earned him the nickname "Emu" when he was one of the top relievers in baseball. "I've worked out hard, and my body is in great shape," said Kern. "In fact, my wife says I have a 25-year-old body and a 16-year-old mind."

Phillies: Catcher Bo Diaz was reactivated. However, Diaz's left knee, which was operated on, was still too tender for him to catch right away. The Phils were relieved that tests on McGraw's shoulder showed no damage to the rotator cuff or other tendons. McGraw felt the shoulder go while warming up in the bullpen but still came into the game against the Cubs and pitched two innings. The pitching staff was plagued by balks. Four were called in a four-game stretch (June 1-4), three of which led directly to runs and gave the Phils 14 balks, which led the National League by a substantial margin.

PETER PASCARELLI



Bucs' Lacy Hungry To Prove His Value

PITTSBURGH—Lee Lacy is hungry. The big bucks have eluded him. He is now 36 and in the last season of a six-year contract. His chances of being overwhelmed with big-money offers next winter are slim.

When Lacy played out his option with the Los Angeles Dodgers after the 1978 season, he searched for a team that could use his talents.

The Pittsburgh Pirates told Lacy they'd give him a six-year contract, but his yearly salary was slightly less than \$200,000. It may have seemed like a good deal at the time, but Lacy is now one of the lowest-paid veterans in the big leagues despite batting .300 or higher three of the past four seasons. And when the Pirates struggled early this season, Lacy played almost every day, sometimes in right field, sometimes in left.

But he has a cloud following him. He never has driven in many runs. Last season, he batted 288 times and had 13 runs batted in.

"I've been a get-on-base-type player all of my career," he said. "I have batted leadoff and scored runs, and that's what a leadoff man is supposed to do. I've played the infield and the outfield, and I've played the game hard. I can steal bases."

When the Bucs were loaded with long-ball hitters, Lacy fit in well. He platooned in left with Mike Easler for four seasons. Now Easler is gone, and so are Dave Parker and Willie Stargell. Lacy is just another Pirate trying to keep the club respectable. It hasn't always happened, but it wasn't Lacy's fault.

He became an everyday player recently because rookie Doug Frobel, who opened the season in right field, didn't hit, and Amos Otis, who opened the season in left, didn't hit and suffered a rib injury when he crashed into the left-field wall at Three Rivers Stadium. Otis went on the disabled list.

Lacy started games in right field and, when the Pirates had a lead after the fifth inning, Manager Chuck Tanner would move him to left.

"I know I'm valuable to this ball club," Lacy said. "I can help any club."

Any club?

Lacy isn't saying he will test the free-agent market later this year. He says he isn't sure what he will do.

"They (Pirates management) haven't talked to my agent," Lacy said. "I don't know what their plans are for me. I made a mistake when I signed my last contract. I signed for a lot less money than I should have. I just know that I have some playing years left. I love playing for Chuck Tanner, and I enjoy my teammates."

Pittsburghers: Tony Pena's durability is being tested. The Pirates' catcher, who missed only 11 games last season, has been bothered by injuries during the first nine weeks of the season. His latest ache was a sprained left ankle. He was hurt in a collision at home plate with Montreal baserunner Bobby Ramos. Earlier, Pena played with a bone chip in his thumb, and he has had problems with both knees. "I don't think I ever ached so much in my life," Pena said. Although Don Robinson was winless in 14 mound appearances, his comeback was a success. Robinson, who underwent his fourth shoulder operation in November, pitched eight innings in relief against the Cincinnati Reds and lost in the 14th when Brad Gudden hit a two-out, three-run homer. Five days later, Robinson made his first start since last July and lost, 4-2, to the New York Mets.

Lee Tunnell made his first start a winning one against Montreal. Tanner says he doesn't plan to move Tunnell or Robinson into the starting rotation. He pointed out that they got their chances to start because John Candelaria and Larry McWili-



The big bucks have eluded Lacy.

ams had sore arms. "When all our starters are healthy, Robby's place will be in the pen," Tanner said. "We must think of the team first, and none of our starters has pitched poorly to lose a spot in the rotation." In one stretch of 19 games, the starters had a 1.58 earned-run average. Although center fielder Marvel Wynne's average slipped below .300, he was hitting above .350 with runners in scoring position. Third-base coach Joe Lonnett was hospitalized with bleeding ulcers.

CHARLEY FEENEY



Don't Blame Bullpen For Cards' Troubles

ST. LOUIS—When a team's record in one-run games is 3-9, it is customary to assume that that team has bullpen problems. But in the case of the St. Louis Cardinals, the bullpen probably has been the most solid aspect of the team.

"The bullpen has been outstanding," said Manager Whitey Herzog. "The one-run games have been because we get behind, 3-2, after five innings. The bullpen holds them the rest of the way, but we don't score."

In one five-week stretch of 85 innings, Cardinals relievers gave up just 18 earned runs. Neil Allen, battered early this season, was scored on in just three of 10 outings in that span. Bruce Sutter allowed runs in only four of his first 21 appearances, lefthander Dave Rucker allowed a run in only three of his first 20 games, rookie lefthander Ricky Horton was scored on in only three of 14 appearances and Jeff Lahti put together a streak of six straight scoreless outings.

Rucker and Allen were providing the perfect seventh- and eighth-inning help for Sutter, who had 12 saves in 14 save opportunities.

"It's a situation where I'll get the saves," said Sutter, "but that doesn't mean everybody else didn't do their jobs."

Rucker and Allen said they were content doing what they were doing although Allen was once used to save games for the New York Mets.

"I don't get all the stats," said the 26-year-old Rucker, "but I still feel like I'm an important part of the team. It would be nice to have those stats. You don't get the big applause. But looking at it realistically, there's no sense thinking about it. My job is to come into the game and stop the momentum of the other team. I get satisfaction out of just pitching well."

Allen was going to be a starter for the Cardinals this season, but Herzog had a change of heart at the end of spring training. In a meeting with Sutter and Allen, Herzog outlined a blueprint for Allen to go back to the bullpen, and Allen welcomed it.

"I understand my role, and I'm happy with my role," said Allen. "If I wasn't happy, I wouldn't have consented in spring training to do it. I don't see why I should get upset. I'm playing second fiddle to the best guy in the business. If I was second to some other guy than Bruce Sutter, I'd mouth off a little bit. But he's got four Roloids Fireman hats on his mantel and one Cy Young Award. There's no Cy Young or Fireman hats on Neil Allen's mantel. The only thing I won was CYO player of the week when I was a kid."

Allen reduced his earned-run average from infinity to 3.76. Rucker's ERA was 1.54, Horton's 1.16 and Sutter's 1.30.

"If you had told me in spring training that we wouldn't hit and our pitching would be great, I'd have said you were full of it," Herzog said.

When Herzog said the Cardinals weren't hitting, he meant not at all. In 24 of their first 34 games, they scored two or fewer

(Continued on Page 21, Column 1)



Kern

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 DeBriyn, 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," DeBriyn 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 Flaherty
 Minnesota—Patrick Reusse
 New York—Bill Madden
 Oakland—Kit Stier
 Seattle—Jim Stier
 Texas—Jim 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 MacDona
 New York—Jack Jagg
 Philadelphia—Peter Pascare
 Pittsburgh—Charley Feeney
 St. Louis—Rick Humme
 San Diego—Mark Kriedler
 San Francisco—Nick Peters