

DRUGS TIED TO EXPOS' FAILURE

NEW YORK (AP) — President John McHale of the Montreal Expos says the use of drugs by players was responsible for the team's third-place finish in 1982 after it had been favored to win baseball's National League East title, a New York Times report suggests.

The Times reports McHale, in discussing the pervasive use of cocaine by baseball players, said the 1982 Expos were a prime example of a team whose chances were ruined by drugs.

"We felt we should have won in '82," The Times quotes McHale as saying. "When we all woke up to what was going on, we found there were at least eight players on our club who were into this thing."

But the Expos were not alone in sub-par performances tied to drug use, the newspaper says. It also cites the St. Louis Cardinals as a team hit especially hard by drugs.

St. Louis manager Whitey Herzog says perhaps 40 per cent of the Cardinals were using drugs when he took over the team in 1980, the newspaper reports.

"We were dead last when I got here," The Times quotes Herzog as saying when asked if he thought use of drugs damaged the performance of the players.

Among those heavily involved in cocaine were Montreal outfielder Tim Lincecum and former Cardinal Lonnie Smith, who has since been traded to the Kansas City Royals.

Raines, who voluntarily underwent treat-

ment for drug use after the 1982 season, agrees with McHale's assessment and takes much of the blame for the team's failure.

"It certainly hurt my performance," Raines told The Times. "A lot of times I'd go up to the plate and the ball was right down the middle and I'd jump back, thinking it was at my head."

Raines told the newspaper he would hide the drug in his uniform and would go into a washroom behind the dugout to use it during the game.

"He probably cost us six, eight, 10 games doing things we couldn't believe he was doing," McHale said of Raines. "He was on first base and he couldn't run; they picked him off."

"He couldn't find balls in the outfield."

The Times quotes Smith as saying that although he batted 14 points higher in 1983 than the previous season, cocaine was making him a bigger liability in the field than he previously had been — dropping an unimpressive .970 fielding average in 1982 to a poor .941 the following season.

"I think it slowed me down, not just running, but my mental thinking," Smith told The Times. "Look at my defence."

"It seemed like I was making two errors a game. I was getting picked off. Everything I swung at was away."

Smith, who said he began using cocaine in 1977, estimated that from 1979 until 1983 — when he underwent treatment — he spent between \$50,000 and \$60,000 on the drug.

DEALER PLEADS GUILTY

Cocaine use revealed

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Pirates' pitcher Rod Scurry had developed such an acute cocaine dependency by 1983 that he was purchasing the drug every day from a man who pleaded guilty Monday to 20 drug trafficking charges, federal prosecutors said.

Dale M. Shiffman, 33, waived his right for a trial before U.S. district judge Barron P. McCune and in return for his guilty plea 91 other drug counts were dropped.

Shiffman faces a maximum sentence of 15 years imprisonment, a \$25,000 fine and three years parole.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Ross said if Shiffman's case had gone to trial, Scurry was prepared to testify he bought cocaine from Shiffman on at least 19 different occasions during the 1982 and 1983 seasons.

Scurry underwent drug rehabilitation last year and publicly acknowledged his drug use. He was briefly suspended by the Pirates this June for failing to follow his rehabilitation program, but rejoined the National League baseball team three weeks later.

Scurry became the first major league player to be publicly implicated after testifying in secret before a federal grand jury investigating cocaine trafficking among major league players. At least 12 current or former players testified before the Pittsburgh-based grand jury.

Scurry could not be reached for comment and Pirates publicist Ed Wade said the team would have no comment on the case. The team's former mascot, Kevin Koch, was also implicated in Monday testimony.

Koch would have testified he made a con-

trolled cocaine purchase from Shiffman on Nov. 8, 1984, at Shiffman's home in a deal electronically monitored by the FBI, Ross said. Koch, 32, resigned as the Parrot in June.

Two other defendants, Kevin Michael Connolly, 27, and Thomas Patrick Balzer, 27, both of Pittsburgh, pleaded guilty last month and received jail terms.

Of the four defendants whose cases have yet to be resolved, the most likely to stand trial is Curtis Strong, 38, a former caterer in Philadelphia Phillies' clubhouse, who has been described by his lawyer, Adam Renfro, as "a baseball groupie."

Renfro said he has discussed a plea bargain with U.S. attorney J. Alan Johnson, but it is likely Strong's case will go to trial the week of Sept. 3.

The lawyers for Shelby Greer, who is accused of 10 cocaine-related charges, said they are negotiating a plea bargain with federal authorities.

Greer's name surfaced last weekend in a drug case against a Pittsburgh man and his son. Richard Perroni Sr., 62, and Richard Jr., 32, were arrested Friday by state and local authorities on charges of conspiracy, possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia.

In their report, Pittsburgh police detectives described the men as "above mid-level cocaine dealers."

According to the report, the elder Perroni told police he bought cocaine two weeks ago from Greer, 29, now of Philadelphia, but was told "to hold the drug until the heat is off him."

JAYS, EXPOS BEATEN

Good play didn't save job

by Associated Press

Dave Leeper might be gone, but the Kansas City Royals won't forget him for awhile. Neither will the Detroit Tigers.

Leeper got his first major-league run-batted-in Monday night in the bottom of the 10th inning to give the Royals a 2-1 American League baseball victory over Detroit. Pinch-runner Onix Concepcion raced home from third base on the grounder and slid underneath the tag, prompting an argument from the Tigers.

Moments after the game ended, Leeper was sent down to Class AAA Omaha in a move that had already been planned by the Royals.

"I expected it," Leeper said. "What the heck, I'm just happy I got a chance to contribute while I was here."

The victory kept Kansas City 2½ games behind West Division-leading California, which beat Oakland 5-4.

In other AL games, New York held off Boston 6-5, Cleveland beat Toronto 5-3, Milwaukee stopped Minnesota 4-1 and Baltimore routed Texas 9-2.

In the only National League game, Wally Backman's eighth-inning double over the head of centre fielder Herman Winningham scored Danny Heep from third and gave the New York Mets a 1-0 win against the Montreal Expos.

The Kansas City and Detroit starters both went the distance and allowed only four hits. Bret Saberhagen, 15-5, got the victory and Jack Morris, 13-7, took the hard-luck loss.

Steve Balboni led off the Kansas City 10th inning with a double and took third on a sacrifice. Concepcion then ran for Balboni while Leeper was called on to bat for Buddy Biancalana.

Indians 5 Blue Jays 3

Tom Waddell, who beat New York's Ron Guidry in his first major-league start three weeks ago, beat Toronto ace Dave Stieb in his third career start.

Waddell, who had made 98 relief appearances before being shifted into a starting role, scattered seven hits for his first complete game. Stieb, 11-9, took the loss.

Stieb allowed four runs on eight hits in 6½ innings and saw his league-leading earned-run average increase slightly to 2.34.

"He couldn't throw any better than he did tonight," Blue Jay manager Bobby Cox said. "In the seventh inning, he threw some great breaking balls, but they just got hits on them."

Al Oliver singled in the fifth inning for Toronto for his 7,722nd career hit, moving him past Lou Gehrig into 35th place on the all-time list.

Tony Bernazard homered for Cleveland in the third. The Indians scored twice in the eighth and knocked out Stieb.

Ernie Whitt and George Bell homered for Toronto.

Toronto's lead has dwindled to four games over New York atop the AL East.

"Nobody told us it would be easy," said Toronto second baseman Damaso Garcia. "I expected this to happen."

Yankees 6 Red Sox 5

Dave Winfield homered and drove in four runs for New York, but it was a ninth-inning catch that had the fans buzzing at Yankee Stadium.

With New York clinging to a 6-5 lead with one out in the ninth, Marty Barrett hit a drive to left field, but Ken Griffey climbed the wall and reached far over the fence to catch the ball.

Winfield hit a two-run homer and a two-run single for New York, while Jim Rice and Dwight Evans hit two-run homers for Boston.

Angels 5 A's 4

Reggie Jackson hit a two-run homer in the first inning and then sparked a three-run fourth with a single to lead California over visiting Oakland.

Jackson hit his 20th homer of the season and 523rd of his career off Don Sutton, 12-7. Sutton was trying to win the 289th game of his career.

Brewers 4 Twins 1

Danny Darwin came within six inches of making baseball history. Instead, he earned a victory, which was reason enough to be happy.

Darwin, who had lost a team-record 10 straight decisions, pitched a brilliant one-hitter for his first triumph since June 11.

The only hit off Darwin, 7-14, came in the fifth inning when Roy Smalley homered off the right-field foul pole.

Orioles 9 Rangers 2

Baltimore scored six runs in the fifth inning to knock out Mike Mason, 5-12.

Ken Dixon, 6-3, scattered six hits and struck out a career-high eight batters, all in the first four innings.

The game was a makeup from Sunday's rained out game, which the Orioles led 6-0 in the third inning before it was called.

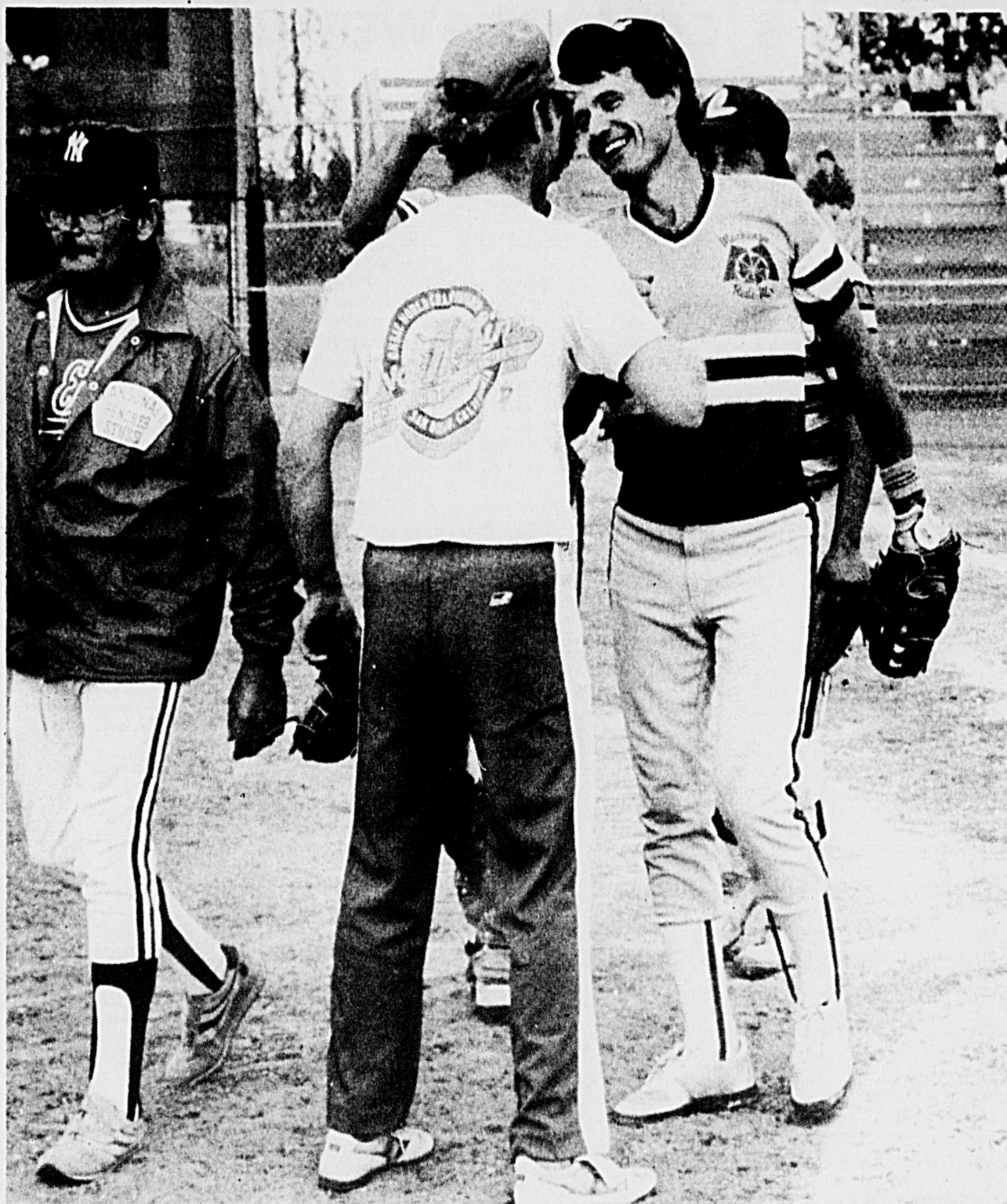
Mets 1 Expos 0

Ron Darling combined with Roger McDowell on a four-hitter as New York grabbed a half-game lead atop the East Division ahead of the idle St. Louis Cardinals.

The loss was suffered by reliever Tim Burke, 8-1, who replaced starter Bryn Smith in the fatal eighth inning.

The loss by Burke ended his bid to set a team record for consecutive victories. He had tied the mark with his eighth triumph on the weekend.

McDowell held the Expos hitless in the final two innings for his 11th save.



Winning pitcher Ed Gelinas (right) is congratulated by teammate Al Hutchinson after the championship game. Winning coach Frank Bencher (left) strolls past. Citizen photo by Lisa Murdoch

SEXES BATTLE FRIDAY

MONTREAL (CP)

— Vitas Gerulaitis says the Battle of the Sexes doubles tennis match Friday in Atlantic City won't disprove his theory that women are out of their league competing with professional male players — even if his team loses.

"When they try to make the public believe they're equal with the top guys I think there's something wrong," said Gerulaitis, who is teaming with Bobby Riggs to face Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver, rated as the top women's double team in the world.

"Shot for shot, you can't compare."

But the tall, blond American said in an interview that the \$500,000 U.S. best-of-five match spells goods news by renewing public interest in the sport.

"Tennis needed a little bit of something like this to give it a shot in the arm," said Gerulaitis, ranked 25th in the world.

Both teams have said they want to have fun mostly and play well enough to take the winner's \$300,000 share.

Navratilova, the top woman player in the world, said recently her team had better win or "the other women players will never talk to us again." And Gerulaitis suggested male players will bar him from the showers if he loses.

"I've been working out pretty hard, because it's going to be a pretty hard match," said Gerulaitis, 31.

Riggs, 67, won the Wimbledon singles, doubles and mixed doubles titles in 1939. He beat Margaret Court of Australia 12 years ago while she was in her prime, then lost in three straight sets to Billie Jean King in the celebrated Battle of the Sexes at the Houston Astro-dome four months later.

"It's going to be quite interesting," said fourth-ranked Jimmy Connors.

GELINAS LEADS OLDTIMERS

Bencher back to winning

by MARK ALLAN
Sports editor

The arm is still willing, but sometimes the back is weak.

Ed Gelinas and Gord Houston were locked Sunday afternoon in a classic pitching duel at Spruce City Stadium, a confrontation which brought back many memories for the fans in attendance.

However, the popular Houston injured his back while swinging at a fifth-inning Gelinas pitch and had to leave the game with his Williams Lake Oldtimers tied 0-0 with Gelinas and the Bencher Over-The-Hillers.

Bencher scored two runs the next inning off Houston replacement Ken Kelly and hung on for a 2-1 win in the championship game of an eight-team oldtimers fastpitch modified double-knockout tournament.

Bencher, which finished with a 5-1 record, won \$600 and Williams Lake, which ended 3-1, earned \$400. Nothing Left, the Northern Loggers' oldtimers, won \$200 for placing third after losing 2-1 to the Over-The-Hillers in the B final.

Nino Fabbro brought in what proved to be the winning run in the championship game when he drove a double to the fence through the gap in left-centre field. Williams Lake replied with an unearned run in the sixth.

But Gelinas is one of the best Prince George has seen for protecting a lead in the late innings. He finished with a three-hitter and struck out seven, including a strikeout to end the game.

Gelinas, who whiffed 58 during the weekend, was named the all-star pitcher. In Bencher's opening game, a 5-0 win against Quesnel, he struck out 20 of 21 batters and hurled a perfect game.

However, he hasn't thrown much this year and said, "it was probably the worst year I think I've had."

"The highlight had to be this weekend," he added, although the Mackenzie resident pitched with the Comox Merchants of Vancouver Island earlier this month at

the men's twilight Western Canadian championship in Winnipeg, where Comox reached the playoff round.

And yes, the ever-competitive Gelinas still hates to lose — even in a more relaxed oldtimers' game.

"I'll always hate to lose. I try to laugh, but deep down I hate to lose."

The gargantuan Houston, who threw for Columbus Hotel in the Prince George team's glory days of the 1960s, isn't crazy about losing either and didn't want to come out of the game, which he said was "the first good game I've been in (recently)."

But the injury left him no choice.

"My back's bothered me the past couple of years," Houston said. "And I'm not in shape..."

Gary Goyer, who smacked a solo homer for Nothing Left in the B final, tied with Ken Calli of Williams Lake at .461 for the batting title.

Williams Lake infielder Ed Ripplinger was named the top utility player. Ripplinger, who played shortstop and third base, crushed two homers and had five runs-batted-in in the A final, a 12-9 win over Nothing Left.

Bencher placed two other players on the all-star team, first baseman Barry

McDermid and third baseman Tom Carson.

Williams Lake all-stars were catcher Ted Gorden, second baseman Rob McDougall and left fielder Randy Isfield.

All-stars from Nothing Left were Goyer (shortstop), Nels Erickson (centre field) and Ian Bettelstone (right field).

Tonight at Spruce City Stadium, Holiday Inn and Nicholson Chev Olds meet at 7 in the first game of the Spruce City Men's Fastball Association best-of-five playoff final.

Indy live on network

NEW YORK (AP) — For the first time in its 20 years of telecasting the Indianapolis 500, ABC will go live with America's premier auto racing event, the network said Monday.

Roone Arledge, ABC president of news and sports, and Joseph Cloutier Sr., president of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Corp., made the announcement.

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