

SPORTSPEOPLE

Odds & INS



By Skip Myslenski & Linda Kay

When Brian Baschnagel was drafted by the Bears in 1976, he couldn't wait to tell the good news to his coach, Woody Hayes. But Hayes, remembering that Baschnagel had once mentioned going to law school, looked the wide receiver in the eye and said: "What are you going to do, Brian?"

So what?

Hayes grabbed his Ohio State cap off his head and threw it on the desk, and then he picked up a book and slammed it down. He was furious with Baschnagel. "What's going to happen to your law degree?" Hayes wanted to know.

Sure enough...

"He was right" marveled Baschnagel, who was in Columbus, Ohio, this week for a memorial tribute to his former coach. Baschnagel, of course, played a decade for the Bears and retired last year. He is working for North American Paper now. And when he last saw Hayes, over Christmas, the coach had this to say: "I'm still mad at you for not going to law school."

The tributes...

...to Hayes continued Wednesday at a memorial service on campus, where the businesses catering to university personnel spelled out the school's collective sorrow on huge marquees. The one at Conrad's College Gifts said: "Woody—A Great Man in Our Time."

It's not my party

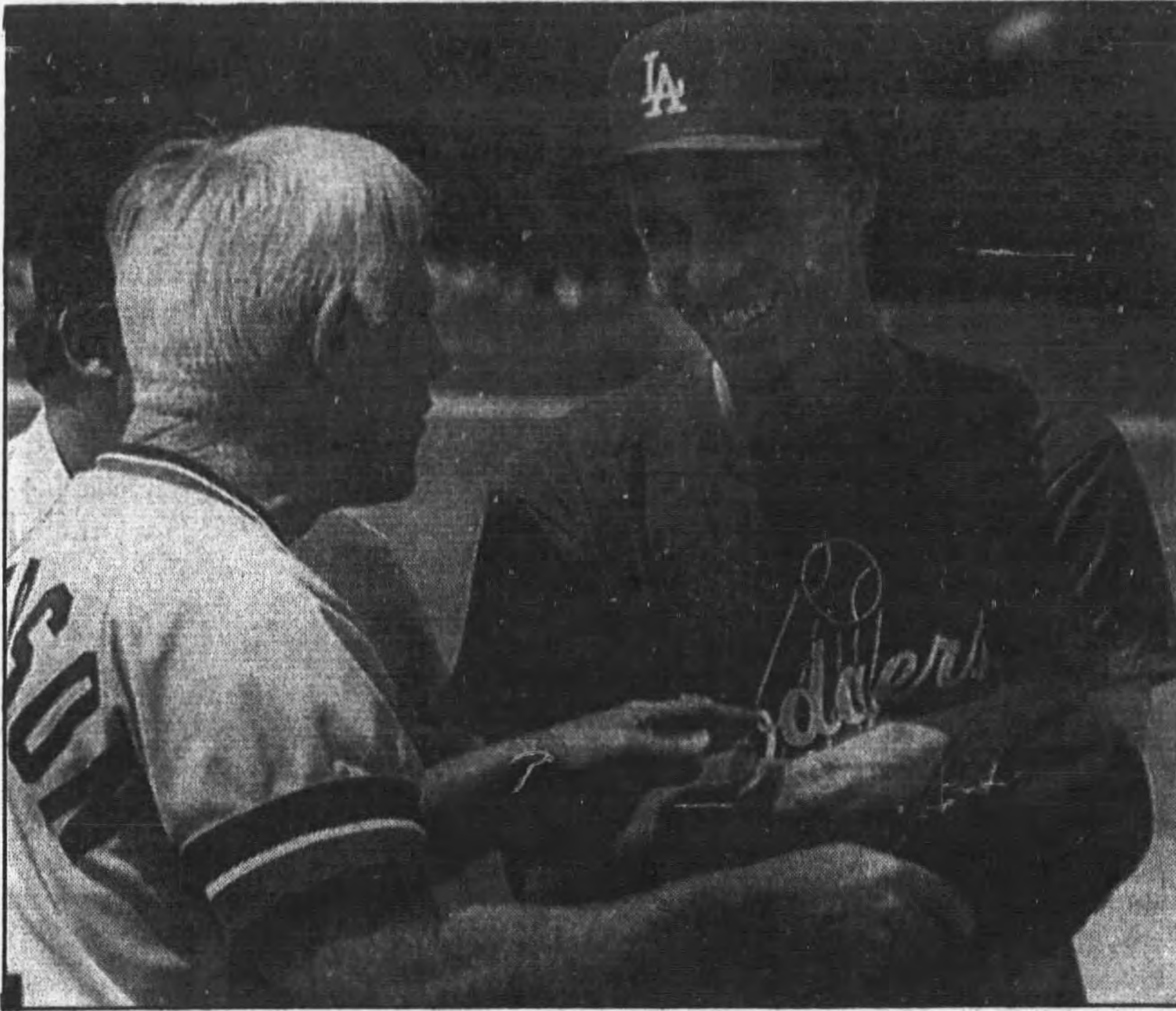
Keith Ortego didn't feel like celebrating during last month's Mardi Gras festivities in Louisiana. "I just wasn't into it," the Bears' wide receiver told us from his home deep in Cajun territory.

The recovery

Ortego has been working with a physical therapist since the surgery and last week began working out with weights for the first time since January. In the meantime, he has been doing public relations part time for the First Acadian Bank, where he worked before coming to the Bears.

News, notes and nonsense

Normally, Ortego parties in Mamou, La., which is eight miles from his home in Eunice and is one of the towns where Mardi Gras originated. There, traditions are carried on minus the commercialization found in New Orleans.



Tennis star Ivan Lendl, sporting his Los Angeles cap, receives a friendly reception from Detroit Tiger manager Sparky Anderson in Vero Beach, Fla.

NBA ups the ante for expansion franchises

The National Basketball Association has increased from \$25 million to \$32.5 million the price for each new franchise to be awarded next month, The Orlando Sentinel reported in Wednesday editions.

The NBA projected the \$25 million franchise fee last year. Groups have been seeking franchises for Orlando, Miami, St. Petersburg, Minneapolis, Toronto, Charlotte, N.C., and Anaheim, Calif.

Bad News Bees —Part II?

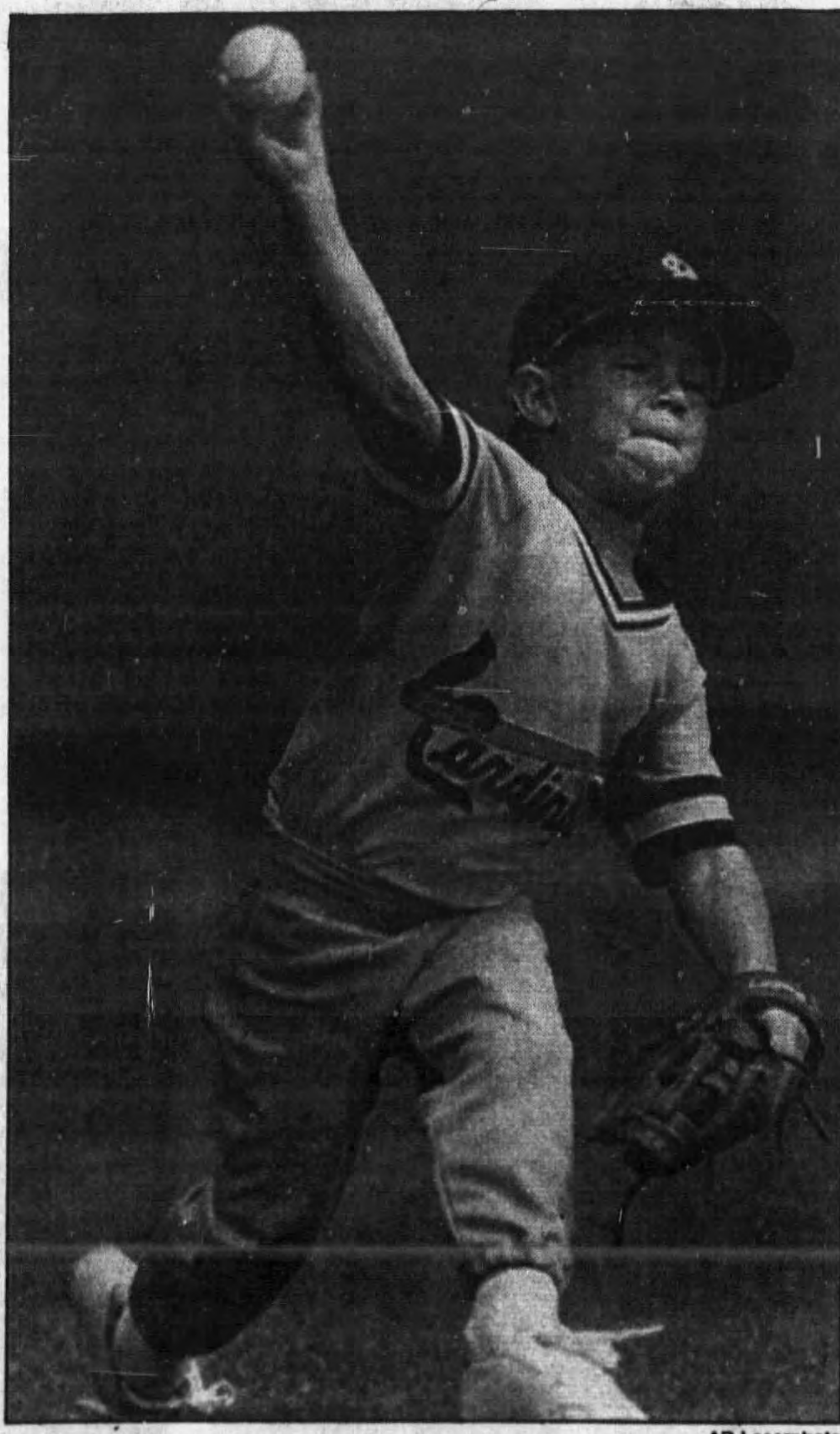
There may be a sequel to the "Bad News Bees."

San Jose Bees president Harry Steve, who grabbed national headlines last year by filling his minor league roster with notorious ex-big leaguers, says he has decided to resign pitchers Steve Howe and Mike Norris.

Cal League president Joe Gagliardi said he was against approving the contracts because "I just don't think we need that problem anymore."

Howe had been trying to gain approval to sign a contract with the Seibu Lions, the club that supplies the Bees with a handful of players each season. But Japanese baseball commissioner Juei Takeuchi decided Howe's drug history made him unacceptable.

Norris' case differs from Howe's in that he wasn't involved in any new drug-related controversies during the '86 season. But in December, after Steve thought he had arranged the sale of Norris' contract to the New York Yankees, the former A's star was arrested on a drunken-driving charge, and a blood test showed traces of cocaine.



Aaron Herr, 6, shows he's been watching while Daddy, Tommy, and the Cardinals drill in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Rather, Reagan lose out to Gators

As if CBS News didn't have enough problems. Florida, playing in its first NCAA basketball tournament, will pre-empt both Dan Rather and President Reagan Thursday during the East Regional semifinals.



CBS affiliates WTVJ in Miami, WJXT in Jacksonville, WTVT in Tampa and WCPX in Orlando will carry the Gators' game against Syracuse live beginning at 6:20 p.m. [local time]. The rest of the nation will see it on a tape-delay basis.

The CBS Evening News" with Rather comes on at 6:30 p.m., and Reagan has scheduled his news conference for 8:30 p.m. For the Jacksonville station, the decision to pre-empt Reagan's news conference came after a long day of negotiations.

Ex-Demon on a roll in Vegas

Former De Paul player Lawrence West is happy that his Nevada-Las Vegas team is ranked No. 1 and among the 16 teams left in the NCAA tournament. But he's still mostly looking forward to next season because that, finally, looks like when he'll get a chance to show what he can do on the basketball court.

West started as a sophomore. He transferred to UNLV after that season, but, before becoming eligible, was arrested in a purse-snatching incident in front of a Strip hotel last March. Because of West's uncertain status, Tarkanian recruited Gerald Paddio, who emerged as a regular and one of UNLV's top three-point shooters—the role West had hoped to assume.

Methodists finally get some good news

Methodists have been getting a black eye with the almost daily revelations about improprieties in Southern Methodist University's athletic department. Finally, here's good news for John Wesley's followers.

Methodists or affiliated with the church are heavily represented. In the university division, Northwestern placed Shon Morris, and American had Patrick Witting on the first team. The college division featured Illinois Wesleyan's Brian Coderre, Denver's Joe Fisher and Cornell of Iowa's Jeff Fleming on the first team.

'We're out of it, and good riddance.'

—Bill Tatham Jr., Arizona Outlaws' president, upon withdrawing from the USFL and its lawsuit against the NFL.

BRIEFS

- A Skins Game for golf's senior players, featuring Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Chi Chi Rodriguez, will be held Jan. 30-31. The three, along with a player to be named, will compete in the two-day, \$360,000 game at a site to be announced.
- Zoran Savic scored three goals and Gary Amlong added two, including the game-winner, as the Louisville Thunder rallied with three unanswered goals late in the third period Wednesday to beat the Shoccers 8-6 at the Pavilion.
- Rumors circulating among North Korean soldiers say "something unusual" might happen to disrupt the 1988 Seoul Olympics, said an army defector from the North.
- John Hoerster, an assistant coach at Gordon Tech for 16 years, has been named the football coach at Loyola, succeeding Jamie Harrington, who quit after the season.
- The Jumbo Elliott Invitational will not be held this year and may have been run for the last time.
- An internal investigation has shown Temple running back Paul Palmer didn't accept money from agent Norby Walters while he still had college eligibility, according to Temple athletic director Charles Theokas.
- The St. Louis Cardinals have traded cornerback Lionel Washington to the Los Angeles Raiders for an undisclosed choice in this year's National Football League draft.
- U.S. Davis Cup players Aaron Krickstein and Robert Seguso, still affected by their team's loss to Paraguay, were upset in first-round play at the Paine Webber Classic in Orlando.
- Kenny Smith of North Carolina, Steve Alford of Indiana, Reggie Williams of Georgetown, Danny Manning of Kansas and David Robinson of Navy have been named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Division I All-America first team.
- Julius Denton scored 17 points as Kankakee [33-5] eliminated Gloucester [N.J.] [22-5] 100-78 in the national junior college basketball tournament in Hutchinson, Kan.

Compiled by Mike Conklin, Bill Hagerman from staff and wire reports.

TANK McNAMARA



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