

AUTO RACING

Andretti, Mears wind up dead even on eve of run for the pole

By Cooper Rollow
Chicago Tribune

INDIANAPOLIS—Mario Andretti and Rick Mears, the two big power hitters of the Indy 500 field, ended their week-long tug of war in a dead heat Friday.

Andretti gunned his Lola Chevy to a lap of 221.456 miles an hour early in the afternoon in preparation for Saturday's run for the pole.

Some 2½ hours later, Mears posted an identical lap in his Penske PC-17 Chevy. Both speed merchants declined to participate in the traditional "happy hour" practice derby from 5 to 6 p.m.

"I didn't see any sense in stuffing it into the wall," Mears said.

"I had a couple of close calls dur-

Time trials, Ch. 7, noon

ing happy hour yesterday," Andretti said. "There was too much traffic, and a couple of guys weren't paying attention, so I thought, 'To hell with it.'"

What if Andretti and Mears wind up tied in the pole dash? a reporter asked jokingly.

"Well, we'll go to the 15th hole," Mario quipped.

Andretti, who sat on the Indy pole last year, and Mears, who holds the official Speedway one- and four-lap records, are co-favorites to win the 1988 pole for the May 29 Indy classic.

Andretti will lead off the pole

qualifying at 11 a.m. Saturday. Andretti's owner, Carl Haas, drew the leadoff position at the official draw Friday night and nearly swallowed his cigar as fans cheered.

If Andretti has a good pole run, he won't be able to celebrate immediately. He'll have to wait and sweat out Mears' qualifying attempt later in the day. Owner Roger Penske drew qualifying position No. 61 for Mears.

Pole qualifying ends at 6 p.m. Saturday. Time trials continue Sunday, then resume the following weekend, when the 33-car field will be completed.

"Anybody know the weather forecast for Saturday?" Andretti asked.

"Sunny, a light breeze and 75 de-

grees," a reporter said.

"Anybody for clouds?" Mario said with a chuckle. Andretti set an all-time unofficial Indy lap record under a heavy cloud cover Wednesday with a speed of 221.565 m.p.h.

Mears' official one- and four-lap records, set in 1986 qualifying, are 217.581 m.p.h. and 216.828 m.p.h. Both appear destined to fall Saturday.

Bobby Rahal, who won the 1986 race and followed by capturing the national driving title in 1986 and 1987, said he considers the Indy pole "insignificant." Rahal's best practice time this week in his Lola Judd was 214.489 m.p.h.

"Don't get me wrong. Everybody wants the pole, of course," Bobby

said. "It's a big ego thing, and it's important to sponsors. But we're not going to go out and hit the fence trying to reach 220 if the car won't do it. We're trying to build a car for the race, not the pole."

"I take the pole here very seriously," Andretti said. "There are a few bucks involved, more than ego. I think it's really worth going for."

Danny Sullivan, Penske's second driver, posted a practice speed of 218.446 m.p.h. Friday to finish the week-long prep session as the third quickest driver.

And guess who's No. 4? None other than last year's race winner, Al Unser Sr., who recorded his top speed of 218.128 Wednesday.

Tom Sneva, whose quickest speed

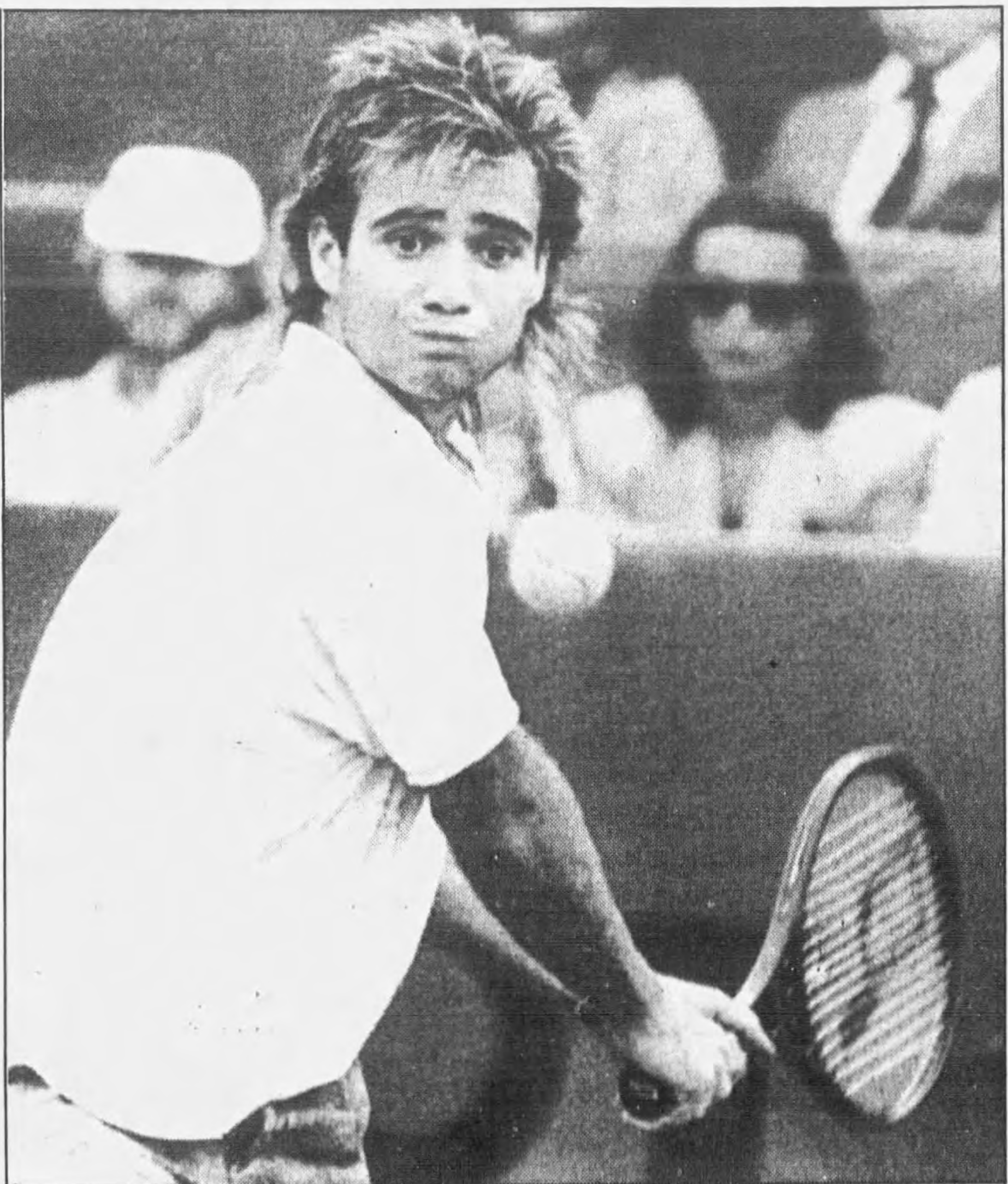
of the week was way down the list at 209.107 m.p.h. in his Lola Judd, charged Friday that many crews are not abiding by the boost reduction from 47 to 45 inches ordered by the rulesmakers.

The boost is the amount of air pressure pushed through the turbo-charger, which produces horsepower.

"People are cheating like mad," Sneva cracked. "When I dropped the boost down to the legal 45, a hot-dog wrapper passed me on the back stretch."

"I think the drivers ought to sue the sanctioning body for breaking their own rules," said Sneva, who is scheduled to follow Andretti in the qualifying order Saturday.

TENNIS



Reuters photo

Andre Agassi of the United States backhands a return during his 6-3, 6-2 loss to Haitian Ronald Agenor in the Italian Open Friday.

Lendl struggles his way into Italian Open semis

From Chicago Tribune wires

Top-seeded Ivan Lendl slipped into the semifinals of the Italian Open with a three-set victory Friday in Rome, but fourth-seeded Yannick Noah of France, sixth-seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador and U.S. hope Andre Agassi were upset.

Lendl, ranked first in the world, defeated Jaime Yzaga of Peru 6-2, 4-6, 6-2. He will play fifth-seeded Kent Carlsson of Sweden, who dumped Noah 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 Saturday.

The other semifinal will pit Argentina's Guillermo Perez-Roldan against Haiti's Ronald Agenor, both unseeded. Perez-Roldan beat Gomez 6-3, 6-1, and Agenor blasted Agassi, the 11th seed, 6-3, 6-1.

Lendl, recovering from the effects of a bad reaction to a hay fever injection this week, said he didn't have much fun playing on one of the slowest clay courts in the game.

"There were definitely holes at one end, and I got a lot of funny bounces," he said.

Lendl needed more than 2½ hours to finally wear down Yzaga,

ROUNDUP

Results in Scoreboard

65th in the computer rankings.

Agassi, an 18-year-old from Las Vegas, suffered his first loss on clay this year after winning 15 matches.

He also has two tournament titles in 1988, including last week's Tournament of Champions in New York.

Agenor, who stunned second-seeded Mats Wilander Thursday, defeated Agassi in 50 minutes.

"I guess you can say I ran out of steam," Agassi said. "It's been too many matches in a row. If I'd run all-out for every ball, they'd have had to carry me off the court in a stretcher."

Berlin tournament—Top-seeded Steffi Graf of West Germany dispatched Australian Nicole Provis 6-0, 6-2 in only 39 minutes to advance to the semifinals.

In other matches, West Germany's Sylvia Hanika beat Czech Radka Zrubakova 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 and Czech Helena Sukova defeated Mary Joe Fernandez of the U.S. 7-6, 6-0.

Crew hopes its number's up as qualifier

By Robert Markus
Chicago Tribune

INDIANAPOLIS—It's show-and-tell time. Teo Fabi will attempt to qualify our Quaker State Porsche car Saturday when time trials open for the May 29 Indy 500.

I was given the assignment of drawing for qualifying position and pulled No. 50 out of the little blue pouch. Not a good number because it means that we'll probably have to make our run during the hottest—and slowest—part of the day.

But who knows? With a fresh engine, Fabi finally managed to turn a lap of better than 208 miles an hour late in the cool of Friday evening.

But head honcho Al Holbert was unimpressed. "It was the weather," he told me. Later, during a strate-

INDY:
Behind closed doors

gy meeting, he told the team's braintrust: "Let's not be fooled by the weather coming to us."

In a way, Holbert said, our position is not a bad one because "we can see what everyone else has done."

Fabi said the car felt better Friday night and there might be a little more speed in it. "One, maybe two miles at the most," he said. "We'll qualify, all right, but we won't be near the front."

Last year 203 was enough to make the race, so I guess we do have a decent chance at that. Getting in the show at all on the first

day would be a big relief.

"We'd all like to be done with it tomorrow," Holbert told the team, "but we shouldn't take anything for granted."

"I think we're all agreed there's not a lot left in it. We've set our sights on 210. I personally think if we can run 208 in the morning, we should go for it. Again, that's comparing it with other cars."

Even if the chassis wizards find another mile or two an hour for Fabi, it doesn't guarantee he'll be able to do four laps at 210 m.p.h. or even 208. Running in the hottest part of the day saps the speed from even the finest race car.

That's why Holbert would still consider his option of passing the first go-around to wait for the track to cool. "It's a risk," he admitted, "but it's only a risk if the weather's risky."

While Holbert and I were standing out by the track wall timing straightaway speeds, Roger Penske came over and offered some advice. Holbert and Penske are old friends, and obviously our team is no threat to Rick Mears and company Saturday.

Penske said we should not be afraid to make frequent tire changes, and Holbert later told the crew: "Let's make sure we have two new sets of tires on hand; that's the quickest way to make an improvement."

My biggest problem Saturday may be in getting my pants hem to stay up. The uniform pants are a good two inches too long, and no one has time to go to the tailor, so someone helped me hem them with racer's tape. By the end of the day, my pants were dragging. So was the rest of me.

BASEBALL

Cubs

Continued from page 1

the two-base error. He scored easily from there on Jim Pankovits' single.

Ryan, meanwhile, looked like Nolan Ryan, particularly in the fifth, when he struck out the side. The only abnormality in the inning was Manny Trillo stealing a base for the first time since 1985.

He didn't go anywhere, but the Astros went ahead 3-1 against Moyer in the sixth. Doran singled sharply to left-center and scored when Davis doubled over third.

Moyer left for a pinch-hitter in the seventh, and Houston added a run in that inning off Frank DiPino, who hadn't given up an earned run in 10 outings.

When Ryan struck out Mark Grace in the eighth, it was the 176th time he had struck out 10 or more in a game. Dawson celebrated the occasion with his homer.

"It was a fastball," said Ryan. "I gave him a pitch to hit, and he hit it."

Houston batted around for four runs in the eighth against DiPino and Bill Landrum, two coming on Davis' homer off DiPino. It assured a night off for the Astro bullpen and a complete game for Ryan.

"It's nice to get it," he said, "but

it was important tonight from the standpoint of just giving the bullpen a rest."

CUBS	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
DMartinez cf	4	0	0	0	GYoung cf	5	1	4	1
Grace 1b	2	1	1	0	BHatcher lf	5	0	0	0
Dawson rf	4	1	2	2	Doran 2b	3	2	2	0
Palmero if	4	0	0	0	GDavis 1b	4	1	2	4
Berryhill c	4	0	1	0	Bass rf	3	1	2	0
Law 3b	4	0	0	0	RRamirez ss	4	0	0	0
Trillo 2b	4	0	0	0	PPankovits 3b	3	0	2	1
Durston ss	4	0	0	0	CJackson 3b	1	1	1	1
Moyer p	2	0	0	0	TRivino c	3	1	1	0
Murphy ph	1	0	0	0	RRyan p	4	0	0	0
DiPino p	0	0	0	0					
BLandrum p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	33	2	7	2	Totals	35	6	14	7

Game Winning RBI—Pankovits (1).
E—DMartinez. DP—CUBS 1, LOB—CUBS 6, Houston 6, 2B—Dawson, GDavis, Trillo 2, GYoung, Bass, Trevino. SB—CJackson. HR—Dawson (10), GDavis (9), SB—GYoung 2 (22), Doran (9), Bass (8), Trillo (1).

CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Moyer L2-4	6	7	3	2	2	3
DiPino	1	4	4	4	1	2
BLandrum	1	3	1	0	0	1
Houston						
Ryan W3-2	9	7	2	2	2	11

DiPino pitched to 3 batters in the 8th.
WP—BLandrum. BK—DiPino.
Umpires—Home, Rennett; First, Marsh; Second, DeMuth; Third, Wenzelstedt.
T—2:28, A—27:48.

How they scored
CUBS FIRST—With one out, Grace walked. Dawson doubled, scoring Grace. One run.
HOUSTON FIRST—Young singled, then stole second. Hatcher struck out. Doran walked. Young and Doran pulled a double steal. Davis grounded out. Young scoring. One run.

HOUSTON FOURTH—With one out, Bass singled. Ramirez reached second on Martinez two-base error, but Bass was thrown out trying for third. Pankovits singled, scoring Ramirez. One run.

HOUSTON SIXTH—With one out, Doran singled. Davis doubled, scoring Doran. One run.

HOUSTON SEVENTH—With one out, Trevino walked, then went to second on a balk. Ryan struck out. Young doubled, scoring Trevino. One run.

CUBS EIGHTH—With two out, Dawson homered. One run.
HOUSTON EIGHTH—Doran singled. Davis homered, scoring behind Doran. Bass doubled. Landrum pitching. Ramirez flied out. Jackson tripled and scored on a wild pitch. Four runs.

Sox

Continued from page 1

posting five strikeouts and four walks.

"He pitched a good ball game," Fregosi said. "He changed speeds well. He stayed ahead of hitters and used his forkball well."

Perez (3-0) rebounded from his worst outing of the year (seven runs in 3½ innings at Baltimore Saturday) to enjoy his best game of the season. He ran into real trouble only once, when Kelly Gruber doubled and Nelson Liriano reached on Greg Walker's error with one out in the sixth. But he bounced back to strike out Tony Fernandez and then retire Lloyd Moseby on a grounder.

"I felt good," Perez said. "I was using the change-up and fastball. I used everything tonight."

Perez's first complete game would have been more complete if he'd gotten a shutout. But McGriff's homer will force Perez to wait for another day.

"I made a mistake, and he hit it," Perez said. "I'll take a complete game."

Baines and Manrique also had big games. Manrique was the Sox's catalyst. He laid down a perfect suicide squeeze to score Walker in the second.

Then he used another method in the sixth, a two-out triple to score Walker again.

Baines rebounded from going hitless in New York to resume his hot May. He gave the Sox a 3-0 lead with a two-run homer off Todd Stottlemyre (1-4) in the third.

"I didn't think I hit it out," Baines said. "I had two bad games in New York. Give some credit to the pitchers [John Candelaria and Richard Dotson]. Otherwise, I'm feeling pretty good out there."

Toronto	ab	r	h	bi	WHITE SOX	ab	r	h	bi
Fernandez ss	4	0	0	0	Boston cf	4	1	0	0
Moseby cf	4	0	0	0	Gullen ss	4	0	1	0
Mullinix dh	2	0	0	0	Baines dh	3	1	2	2
McGriff 1b	4	1	1	1	Calderson rf	4	0	0	0
Whitt c	3	0	0	0	GWalker 1b	4	2	2	0
Barfield rf	4	0	1	0	Pasqua lf	4	0	0	0
Leach lf	2	0	0	0	LYons 3b	3	0	1	0
Gruber 3b	3	0	1	0	Manrique 2b	3	0	1	2
Liriano 2b	3	0	0	0	Karkovics c	2	0	0	0
Totals	29	1	3	1	Totals	31	4	7	4

WP—Perez, Stottlemyre.
Umpires—Home, Roe; First, Barnett; Second, Cousins; Third, Kosci. T—2:26, A—10:58.

How they scored
SOX SECOND—Walker singled. Lyons singled. Walker advancing to third. Manrique's suicide squeeze scored Walker. One run.
SOX THIRD—Boston singled. With one out, Baines homered. Two runs.
SOX SIXTH—Walker singled. With two outs, Manrique tripled, scoring Walker. One run.
TORONTO NINTH—With one out, McGriff homered. One run.

Cub notes

Chicago Tribune
HOUSTON—Pitcher Calvin Schiraldi was put on the 15-day disabled list Friday. He was on crutches after suffering a deep bruise on the inside of his left knee after getting hit by a Carmelo Martinez liner Thursday against San Diego.
"I wasn't staying in Chicago," said Schiraldi. "Texas is home. I wouldn't miss this trip for anything."
Manager Don Zimmer said a pitcher—he didn't know who, but Bob Tewksbury

Sox notes

Kenny Williams will be staying at third base—for now. Manager Jim Fregosi and GM Larry Himes discussed Williams' status and decided to give him a couple of days off to clear his head. Then they'll run him out to third base again. "He's been struggling a bit," Fregosi said. "Maybe this will help him."
"I'm going to only deal with positive things," Williams said. "I'm not going to think about the outfield."
■ The Sox signed Dave Gallagher, 27,

as a free agent during the off-season. He had a 15-game major-league debut with Cleveland last year.
Jeff Bittiger also signed as a free agent after deciding he had enough with Minnesota. The Sox know all about Bittiger; he beat them last September.
■ By sending down John Pawlowski and Jose Segura, the Sox will only have nine pitchers. "I'm concerned about it," Fregosi said. "We'll see how it goes."

BRIEFS

From Chicago Tribune wires

■ Detroit Red Wings coach Jacques Demers issued a public apology Friday for six players caught drinking long after curfew hours, saying the incident is "a blemish on the entire organization." The six—Bob Probert, Petr Klima, John Chabot, Joe Kocur, Darren Veitch and Darren Eliot—were caught drinking Tuesday night, the night before the Red Wings lost the deciding game to the Edmonton Oilers in their National Hockey League playoff series.

Demers issued a public apology in an open letter to Red Wings fans, which contained only a reference that disciplinary action would be taken.

"As head coach, I take full responsibility for the actions of these players..." Demers said. "Nonetheless, they did hurt the team and its supporters, and appropriate action will be taken to ensure that this sort of thing doesn't happen again."

■ Buffalo Sabres center Doug Smith will undergo surgery at Ottawa (Ontario) Civic Hospital for injuries suffered in an automobile accident. Smith has numerous fractures in his left shoulder area. The most serious is a fractured scapula, a wing bone in the back. The injuries occurred when an all-terrain vehicle Smith was driving collided with an automobile near Renfrew, Ontario. "It's wait and see until after the surgery," Smith said. "But the doctors seem positive about it. The break's clean."

■ In his first outdoor competition this season, world sprint champion Ben Johnson dropped out midway through the 100-meter dash after feeling a leg twinge. The 26-year-old Canadian, holder of the

world 100-meter record of 9.83 seconds, declined to meet with reporters to explain why he suddenly stopped running at the JAL Tokyo International Track and Field Meet. Johnson's coach, Charlie Francis, said that the runner had felt "a slight strain" in his left leg and therefore immediately stopped running.

"Right now he does not feel the pain, but we must wait 24 hours to know the exact reason," Francis said. "If it's a severe sprain, I think we need three weeks, and if it's slight, we need 6 to 10 days to recover."

■ University of Kentucky standout Rex Chapman announced that he would forego his final two years of college and make himself eligible for the June 28 National Basketball Association draft. Chapman, a 6-foot-4-inch guard who led the Wildcats in scoring as a freshman and sophomore, said his immediate goal was to make the U.S. basketball team that will compete in the Summer Olympics in Seoul.

■ The Chicago Express of the new World Basketball League (for players 6 feet 4 inches and under) got down to the roster limit of 10 players by waiving guard Scott Hicks from Notre Dame, guard-forward Antoine Joubert from Michigan and guard-forward Carl Wright from SMU.

■ Greg Louganis of the U.S. won the one-meter springboard title in the McDonald's International meet in Boca Raton, Fla., but withdrew from Saturday's 10-meter platform competition because of a wrist injury. With his wrist taped for protection, Louganis whipped the field with 659.25 points in

the finals. Jose Rocha of Mexico, an Auburn University junior, finished second with 594.12, edging Holland's Edwin Jongejans, who scored 591.66.

■ A mistrial was declared as attorneys tried to work out a settlement in the case against New York sports agent Norby Walters for dealings with University of Alabama basketball stars. Circuit Judge John M. Karrh dismissed the jury as he ordered the mistrial at the request of both Attorney General Don Siegelman's office and Walter's defense team. Walters was indicted by a Tuscaloosa County grand jury on misdemeanor counts of commercial bribery, violation of deceptive trade law and tampering with a sports event, each count carrying a maximum penalty of 1 year in jail and a \$2,000 fine if convicted. Don Valeska, an assistant state attorney general, said the trial will be rescheduled within a month if no settlement is reached.

■ The Denver Broncos traded an undisclosed draft choice to Detroit for the rights to defensive back Kip Corrington, the Lions' ninth-round pick in this year's NFL draft. The 6-foot, 175-pound Corrington played free safety for Texas A&M. The Lions said he failed a physical given to all draft picks prior to their mini-camp last week.

■ John Miech, defensive coordinator for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team the last three seasons, was named to succeed D.J. LeRoy as head coach after LeRoy was fired Thursday. LeRoy, the NAIA's 1987 Coach of the Year, was dismissed in the wake of an eligibility dispute that forced the team to forfeit its national championship.

PRO FOOTBALL

Moss, Valek coaching clash an Illini reunion

Arena Football may be the newest kid on the block, but when the Chicago Bruisers and the New York Knights meet Saturday night at the Horizon, a little history will be walking behind the padded sideboards that line the indoor field.

Bruisers coach Perry Moss and Knights coach Jim Valek were teammates on the Illinois team that shocked heavily favored UCLA 45-14 in the 1947 Rose Bowl. Moss was an All-American quarterback, Valek a substitute.

Indoor football is just about the polar opposite