

CALENDAR

Apr.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.
		8 Detroit 7:35 p.m. WBBM-AM (780) (Playoffs)	9 Detroit 7:35 p.m. WBBM-AM (780) (Playoffs)	10	11 Detroit 6:35 p.m. SC WBBM-AM (780) (If necessary)	12	13 Detroit 7:35 p.m. WBBM-AM (780) (If necessary)
	Detroit 7:30 p.m. SC WLUP-AM (1000)		Atlanta 11:30 a.m. WBBM-TV (2) WLUP-AM (1000)				Indiana 7:30 p.m. WFLD-TV (32) WLUP-AM (1000)
	Milwaukee 7:30 p.m. WCBR-FM (92.7)		Milwaukee 12:30 p.m. WCBR-FM (92.7)				
	Pittsburgh 1:20 p.m. WGN-TV (9) WGN-AM (720)	Pittsburgh 2:20 p.m. WMAQ-TV (5) WGN-AM (720)	Pittsburgh 1:20 p.m. WGN-TV (9) WGN-AM (720)		St. Louis 1:20 p.m. WGN-TV (9) WGN-AM (720)	St. Louis 6:35 p.m. WGN-TV (9) WGN-AM (720)	
	Oakland 9:35 p.m. WFLD-TV (32) WMAQ-AM (670)	Oakland 3:05 p.m. WMAQ-AM (670)	Oakland 3:05 p.m. SC WMAQ-AM (670)	Seattle 9:05 p.m. SC WMAQ-AM (670)	Seattle 9:05 p.m. WFLD-TV (32) WMAQ-AM (670)	Seattle 9:05 p.m. SC WMAQ-AM (670)	

Home game Away game Off day SC-SportsChannel

Other local events

- Thoroughbred racing at Sportsman's Park, 1 p.m.
- Harness racing at Maywood Park, 8:30 p.m.

Friday's sports on television

- Baseball**
- Los Angeles Dodgers at Atlanta Braves, 6:35 p.m. TBS.
- Basketball**
- Boston Celtics at Portland Trail Blazers, 9:30 p.m. TBS.
 - CBA: Rapid City Thrillers at Rockford Lightning, 2:30 p.m. ESPN.
 - "Bulls Beat," 7 p.m. (tape). "SEC Weekly," 1:30 a.m. Saturday (tape). SportsChannel.
- Golf**
- The Masters at Augusta, Ga., 3 p.m. Repeat at 8 p.m. USA.
 - Second-round highlights of the Masters, 10:30 p.m. (tape). WBBM-TV (Channel 2).
- Horse racing**
- "Chicago Racing Report," with Gerry Gallitano and Phil Georgeff, 6 p.m. and 2 a.m. Saturday (tape). SportsChannel.
 - "Chicago Harness Racing," with Mike Paradise and Eleanor Flavin, 5:30 p.m. and 2:30 a.m. Saturday (tape). SportsChannel.
- Soccer**
- Portugal vs. Nigeria, 11:30 p.m. (tape). WCIU-TV (Channel 26).
- Tennis**
- Davis Cup quarterfinals at San Diego, 6:30 p.m. ESPN.
- Wrestling**
- "WCW Wrestling," 11 p.m. (tape). "NWF Wrestling," 11:30 p.m. (tape). SportsChannel.
- Miscellany**
- "Scuba World," 5 p.m. (tape). "Tennis Magazine Show," 6:30 p.m. (tape). "The Benkowski Sports Spotlight," 10 p.m. (tape). "Sports Nightly," 12:30 a.m. Saturday (tape). "Pennant Chase," 1 a.m. Saturday (tape). SportsChannel.

Friday's sports on radio

- Baseball**
- Oswego at Aurora Central, 4:15 p.m. WKKD-AM (1580).
- Golf**
- Live reports from the Masters. Every half-hour from 2:16 p.m. to 5:46 p.m. WBBM-AM (780).
- Horse racing**
- "The Thoroughbred Report," with Frank Brabec, 5:05 p.m. WAIT-AM (850).
 - "Harness Racing Wrapup," with Tony Salvaro, 12:15 a.m. WBBM-AM (780).

For results call 976-8383

BRIEFS

Miscellany: The U.S. District Court jury deciding the fate of agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom will resume deliberations Friday after failing to reach a verdict after more than five hours Thursday in Chicago. The agents face charges of multiple counts of racketeering, mail fraud and conspiracy to commit fraud and racketeering.

Bloom has three felony counts for bad checks awaiting him in California. Deputy District Atty. Robert Dyer of the Van Nuys Municipal Court said Bloom has been charged with three felony counts involving 12 checks totaling \$17,000. Bloom is to appear April 18 in Van Nuys for a preliminary hearing.

College basketball: Dick Hunsaker, associate head coach at Ball State the last two years, has been appointed the Cardinals' new coach. Hunsaker, who turns 35 Tuesday, succeeds Rick Majerus, who resigned Monday to take the Utah job. ... Arizona assistant coach Kevin O'Neill has taken over as the frontrunner to fill the Marquette coaching vacancy, according to the Milwaukee Journal. ... Marshall coach Rick Huckabay has resigned effective April 30. Huckabay was 129-59 in six seasons at Marshall. Huckabay issued a statement saying he couldn't agree with demands being placed on him by the school's president and athletic director. Huckabay has come under fire after allegations were made that he traded tickets for the players' use of cars. The university has reported to the NCAA that it is checking into allegations of wrongdoing.

College football: A Wisconsin state legislator said Thursday that, because Wisconsin has been unable to recruit well against major football powers, it might consider dropping out of the Big 10. Rep. Marlin Schneider (D., Wisconsin Rapids) said a number of University of Wisconsin System schools have won national titles while the Badgers continue to finish at the bottom of the Big 10. Chancellor Donna Shalala, who was questioned about Wisconsin athletic budget woes as well as the slumping football fortunes, told the Joint Legislative Audit Committee the Badger foot-

ball team would improve. "I think we're committed to a Division I competition," Shalala said. "We obviously have not had a competitive football team in years."

The Wisconsin Merchants Federation has filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court challenging whether Wisconsin can license Bucky Badger and other symbols. The federation filed the suit against Intercollegiate Enterprises of Canoga Park, Calif., which the Wisconsin Board of Regents hired to turn Bucky into a money-making badger.

Pro football: The lawsuit brought by former Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Otis Taylor against linebacker Jack Del Rio, kicker Nick Lowery and the National Football League Players Association has been settled out of court. The suit stemmed from an incident during the 1987 players strike when Taylor and Del Rio were involved in an altercation near a gate at Arrowhead Stadium as the players walked a picket line. They grappled before being separated by security personnel and players. No terms of the settlement were revealed.

Backup quarterback Gary Danielson, 37, will not be offered a contract with the Cleveland Browns.

Tennis: Defending champion Martina Navratilova and Soviets Natalia Zvereva and Lella Meskhi advanced to the quarterfinals of the Family Circle Cup in Hilton Head Island, S.C. Navratilova beat 10th-seeded Catarina Lindqvist 6-4, 6-2. Meskhi blitzed fifth-seeded Lori McNeil 6-1, 6-2. No. 4 Zvereva struggled past Amanda Coetzer 6-4, 3-6, 6-0. Eighth-seeded Hana Mandlikova avenged a loss in the 1988 French Open when she outplayed 11th-seeded Bettina Fulco 6-1, 6-2. Radka Zrubakova surprised sixth-seeded Helen Kelesi 6-7, 6-4, 7-6. Linda Ferrando beat No. 9 Sandra Cecchini 6-1, 7-5.

John McEnroe will face Yannick Noah and Andre Agassi plays Henri Leconte when the U.S. takes on France in the Davis Cup quarterfinals Friday in San Diego. Ken Flach and Robert Seguso will play Noah and Leconte in doubles Saturday.

TRACK AND FIELD



Mowatt Thibedeau

Ex-girlfriend: Runner knew of steroids

TORONTO—A sprinter who says he was duped into taking steroids by Ben Johnson's doctor and coach knew exactly what he was doing, his former girlfriend told a Canadian federal inquiry.

Andrew Mowatt had testified Wednesday that coach Charlie Francis and Dr. Jamie Astaphan had given him injections of banned steroids in 1986 while telling him the syringe contained only vitamins.

But sprinter Cheryl Thibedeau, Mowatt's girlfriend at the time, said Thursday she has "not a shred of doubt" about his knowledge of the cheating.

"There were no question marks in his eyes," Thibedeau said. "He knew what he was getting."

Thibedeau, who has admitted to steroid use, also said she discussed with Mowatt "clearance times," the period needed for the drugs to leave the body in order to beat urine tests at competitions.

David Sookram, Astaphan's lawyer, also had questioned Mowatt's sworn testimony that Astaphan and Francis duped him into taking muscle-building steroids without his knowledge.

Seven witnesses have testified that Astaphan provided the drugs.

In later testimony, Johnson's lawyer and financial adviser painted sharply different portraits of the 100-meter record-holder.

Ross Earl, one of Johnson's closest confidants, challenged the portrait of an uneducated man-child painted by lawyer Edward Futerman.

Futerman has portrayed his 27-year-old client as an impressionable youth who never understood the implications of taking banned drugs, once citing Johnson's inability to place a long-distance phone call as proof.

But Earl, a schoolteacher and former president of Johnson's Toronto track club, described the sprinter as a clever wheeler-dealer whose shrewd bargaining won him his first house and, later, a large lot north of Toronto.

GOLF

Booros up by 1 in Guaranty

From Chicago Tribune wires
Jim Booros shot a 6-under-par 64 Thursday to take a one-stroke lead after the first round of the PGA Deposit Guaranty Classic in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Booros had six birdies and a dozen pars to lead Robert Thompson, Rocco Mediate and Barry Cheesman. David Ogrin, the 1987 winner, was in a group of six at 67. Defending champ Frank Conner shot a 73.

Booros said the key to his round was the ninth hole, where he put

Roundup

Results in Scoreboard

his tee shot into the woods but scrambled to save par. Booros said that "playing with a new putter, a new caddy and a new attitude" also contributed to his round.

Inamori Classic—Dale Egeling, Deedee Lasker and Cindy Rarick each shot a three-under-par 68 in 100-degree temperatures to share the first-round lead in Poway, Calif.

In a big group one stroke behind were Pat Bradley, Laura Davies, Sherri Turner, Sherri Steinhauer, Missie Bertecotti, Nancy Brown, Martha Nause and Kim Williams.

Ayako Okamoto, who has won the tournament the last two years, shot a 75. Juli Inkster, winner of last week's Dinah Shore tournament, shot a 71.

Egeling, who has been battling a cold and was barely able to talk, started fast with three birdies and a bogey on the front nine. However, she missed a 6-foot putt that cost her the bogey and blew three other birdie putts of 8 feet or less on the front nine.

"I had a chance to blow the front nine apart," she said. "It could've been a lot better."

SOCCER

Time for Power to up voltage

By Joseph Knowles

Playoff soccer returns to Chicago when the Power opens its American Indoor Soccer Association semifinal series Friday night at the Horizon against the Milwaukee Wave.

During the regular season, the Power whipped the Wave seven times in eight tries. The only Wave victory came in their last meeting, and you have to wonder if the law of averages might catch up with the Power in this best-of-three series.

"I want my players to have it in their minds that we'll just keep on beating Milwaukee," player-coach Karl-Heinz Granitz said. "They should be thinking, no matter what, Milwaukee is going to keep losing to us."

The Chicago-Milwaukee winner will play the winner of the Canton-Hershey series in a best-of-five championship. Here's how the two semifinal series shape up:

Milwaukee (24-16) vs. Power (22-18)

Based on head-to-head competition, you would think the Power is a cinch to sweep its way to the finals. Not so.

Milwaukee has perhaps the best defense in the league, led by beefy backliners Tim Tyma and Gregg Willin. In goal, Tony "the Tiger" Pierce is one of the AISA's top net-minders. Wave coach John Dolinsky counts on forwards Art Kramer, Zoran Savic and George Pastor to put the ball in the net.



Tribune photo by Bob Langer
Karl-Heinz Granitz

Granitz, the AISA's leading scorer, is the lynchpin of the Power offense. Batata, who surprisingly led the club in assists, is due to start scoring in bunches—if he can stay out of the penalty box. On defense, the Power has suffered from sporadic breakdowns, especially on free kicks. That could spell trouble for goalie Jay McCutcheon, who figures to be in the nets throughout the postseason. McCutcheon finished with the second-best win-loss percentage (19-11) in the league.

Usually, the team with home-field advantage would play host for the first game. But Milwaukee's Bradley Center is not available Friday. The winner of the first game will probably be the winner of the series.

Prediction—Power in three games.

Canton (25-15) vs. Hershey (21-19)

Three of the four previous AISA championships belong to the Canton Invaders, and they're a favorite again. But first Canton has to get past tenacious and talented Hershey.

The Invaders, coached by Timo Liekoski, play an up-tempo game and don't shy away from contact. Forward Rudy Pikuzinski, a two-time AISA MVP, is good for at least a goal (and a penalty) a game. Steve Frick, Alex Tamoczi and Marcello Carrera are also scoring threats. Canton goalie Jamie Swanner, a former member of the U.S. Olympic Team, had a 10-game winning streak during the season.

Hershey enters the playoffs as the league's hottest team, putting together a five-game winning streak near the end of the campaign that boosted them past Ft. Wayne into the fourth and final playoff spot. Led by forwards Franklin McIntosh, Charley Greene and Mark Kerlin, the Hershey offense can make things happen. Goalie Scoop Stanic is susceptible to cold spells, so Impact coach Niki Nikolic may call on backup Larry Tulkis.

Prediction: Canton in three games. Finals: Canton over Chicago in four games.

Chicago —

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The Inside Story

Odds &

INS



By Linda Kay & Mike Conklin

New face: You may see a change next season in the Bulls' coaching lineup. We hear Charley Rosen, head man for Rockford in the Continental Basketball Association, is coming aboard as an assistant. One assignment will be improving center Will Perdue's game. Rosen, at 6 feet 8 inches, is considered a specialist at working with big men—including coaches. He got his start in the CBA as an assistant to Phil (6-11) Jackson, who's in his second year as an assistant to Doug Collins. It'll be interesting. Rosen has a master's degree in medieval studies from Hofstra. His thesis was, "Allegory in the Canon's Yeoman's Prologue and Tale." Fans can check out the new man on ESPN Friday night, when his Lightning plays in the CBA playoff finals. ... Question: If Collins already has a large staff of three assistants—Jackson, Tex Winter and John Bach—does this appointment mean someone is leaving?

Good News Dept.: Kenneth Jennings, the Simeon High School football player who suffered a paralyzing neck injury last fall, goes home Friday. At a press conference in the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, it was obvious Kenneth kept a sharp eye on the Bulls during his stay when he told us: "They can get through the first round of the playoffs as long as Michael Jordan stays at point guard. They'll have trouble in the second round, especially if they have to play Detroit or Cleveland." Hey, we know TV analysts getting six figures for those same observations.

Delay of game: The pace remains fast for Michigan interim coach Steve Fisher. Thursday, Fisher and his wife, Angie, were guests at a black-tie dinner in



Douglass Fisher Navratilova

the White House honoring Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The players stayed home. In the meantime, Chicagoland friends of the former Rich East coach wonder about AD Bo Schembechler's pace at removing the interim tag on his title. It was no surprise to them he knew how to beat Illinois in the NCAA's. Before the Wolverines played the Fighting Illini in Champaign, a distraught Fisher told old pals that he disagreed with then-head coach Bill Frieder's strategy. Michigan lost 96-84, but obviously the Wolverines knew how to win under their interim coach.

Weighing evidence: The Bears' Maurice Douglass was one athlete emerging relatively untainted from the Lloyd Bloom-Norby Walters trial. Douglass was the only player to sign with the agents after his eligibility at Kentucky expired. He also was the only one who made restitution for the money lent him, repaying \$9,000 in two installments.

More evidence: As jurors deliberated the fate of Bloom and Walters, you can bet they thought about the deal the government cut for the athletes who testified against them. U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas acknowledged he gave Iowa's Ronnie Harmon, Michigan State's Mark Ingram, Michigan's Garland Rivers, Notre Dame's Alvin Miller and others immunity, but in closing arguments he explained: "Every one of the athletes participated in fraud, in a scheme to obtain property, but they were not the initiators. They were taken to the top of the mountain by Norby and Lloyd, who put the cash on the table."

Welcome the Sabbath: Northern Illinois product Tim Gullikson held a plum position last year coaching Martina Navratilova. They've since split—amicably, says Gullikson, who recalled his year with her in April's Tennis magazine. He details Martina's devotion to training and says that even in a summer heat wave, she drilled six days a week, sometimes tugging training pal Nancy Lieberman behind her on a rope for middle-distance runs. "At the end of almost every day," Gullikson writes, "we played 90 minutes of two-on-two basketball. I'd been an all-state guard in high school, and Nancy's husband, Tim, was a starting forward on the Continental Basketball Association's championship club, so the games got pretty intense. On the seventh day, we rested."

News, notes and nonsense: In the heat of basketball madness, did you notice that Illinois crept into the national baseball rankings? Augie Garrido's squad is the first from Illinois to crack the Top 25, and the only Big 10 school so highly ranked. Garrido, by the way, tutored Mike Harkey and Tim Wallach at Fullerton State. ... Novel idea: The Chicago Power opens indoor soccer playoff action Friday in the Horizon against Milwaukee, but ticket prices—\$8 and \$5—weren't raised. ... Light reading: The final installment of Margo Adams' revelations (in the May issue of Penthouse) brings noted ladies man Steve Garvey into the fray. Adams said she spent a weekend with Garvey to make Wade Boggs jealous and comments: "As far as a lover, he's much better than Wade." ... Bears player personnel boss Bill Tobin and NBA superscout Marty Blake join host Brian Davis Sunday for a Draft Special on WBBM-AM radio's "Sports Line." The NFL draft is April 23, while the NBA draft is in June. ... Former White Sox superstar Dick Allen signs copies of his book "Crash: The Life and Times of Dick Allen" Tuesday at noon at Kroch's & Brentano's downtown. Tuesday evening, Allen appears on the live cable television sports show "On The Bench" hosted by Sox public relations assistant Paul Reis.

Finally: Question—How many Iowa football players does it take to screw in a lightbulb? Answer—Just one, but he's getting an A.

Energetic King getting better, not older

By Neil Milbert

If horses could talk, Energetic King could identify with Jerry Reuss and Carlton Fisk, the White Sox's battery on Opening Day.

Long of tooth but still fleet of foot at the elderly racing age of 10, Energetic King will make his first start of the year Saturday when he tries to defend his title in the \$75,000-added Doublrab Handicap at Sportsman's Park. "He has been in training in Grand Island, Neb., since the 1st of February," said trainer Larry Donlin.

"He chipped an ankle in his last start, Sept. 25 at Albuquerque, and had surgery over the

winter. Don't ask me which ankle. He has had so much work done, I can't even tell. Considering all he has been through, he really has been doing well."

In 90 lifetime starts, Energetic King has 33 triumphs, 17 of which have come in stakes races.

Opening day of Energetic King's 1989 season figures to be a tough assignment. Foremost of his six challengers is Fortunate Moment, Illinois-bred Horse of the Year in 1987 when he won the Grade 1 American Derby. Overage, Grand Traverse Bay, Tenor Tan, Broadway Chief and Bright Brian complete the field.

SPORTS OF SORTS

Rare ball found in China is sent to Cooperstown

A baseball signed by Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Charlie Gehringer, Connie Mack and others now rests in the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., after being preserved for more than a half-century in China.

The man who owned it, Li Bao-jun, was a catcher on a baseball team that met the American League All-Stars in an exhibition in Shanghai in 1934. Li, who speaks English, showed the players around town and afterward received two signed balls and two miniature bats.

Li eventually lost track of the bats and one of the balls yellowed after he had it shelved. But the other ball remained intact. Li said that after 55 years in China it was right that the baseball "return to its motherland, the proper place, for good."

A new ball signed by Gehringer and Joe Cascarella, the only players still living who signed the ball, will be shipped to the 83-year-old Li.



Lauren Mosher (center), 3, leads friends Holly Graham (left) and Marion Powers, both 2, during warmups for an exercise class at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Scituate, Mass. The church holds daily gymnastics classes for preschool children.

YESTERYEAR

5 years ago: Jack Morris pitches a no-hitter against the White Sox at Comiskey Park, leading the Detroit Tigers to a 4-0 victory.

10 years ago: The Houston Astros' Ken Forsch beats the Atlanta Braves 6-0 with a no-hitter, joining his brother Bob, who pitched a no-hitter in 1978.

20 years ago: The New York Yankees defeat the Washington Senators 8-4, spoiling the debut of Ted Williams as a major-league manager.

NEWSMAKERS

Ex-fiance claims Garvey wasn't faithful

A paternity suit filed by Rebecca Mendenhall of Atlanta against former baseball star Steve Garvey claims Garvey ran around with other women and broke their engagement after she told him she was pregnant.

Garvey has admitted it is possible that he impregnated both Mendenhall and a San Diego woman, but he has said that "in both cases, I was led to believe that I wasn't responsible for birth control."

According to the lawsuit, the relationship between Mendenhall and Garvey lasted from August, 1987, until January of this year, when Garvey told her that a woman in San Diego, identified in the lawsuit as Cheri Moulton, claimed she was pregnant by Garvey. The complaint also says that on Jan. 23, after he was told Mendenhall was pregnant, Garvey broke their engagement and told her he was in love with a third woman.

The third woman is identified as Candace Thomas, whom Garvey has since married.

Johnson gets 10-year Cowboy contract

Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Thursday that he has signed coach Jimmy Johnson to a 10-year contract to ensure continuity in the National Football League club.

"There are going to be a lot of changes to get the Cowboys to the playoffs and the Super Bowl, but the people who are making those changes are going to be the same people," said Jones, who wouldn't disclose Johnson's salary.

The 10-year contract for a Cowboys' coach is not without precedent. Clint Murchison, the original owner of the Cowboys, gave Tom Landry such a contract in the mid-'60s.



Johnson

Illinois St. interested in alum Fisher

Illinois State Athletic Director Ron Wellman said the school has a strong interest in interviewing Michigan interim coach Steve Fisher. Illinois State fired coach Bob Donewald last month.

"The tournament's over now, and we'd be very interested in a Steve Fisher," Wellman told the Detroit Free Press. "But the first step would be to talk to [Michigan AD] Bo Schembechler" for permission.

Fisher, 44, played basketball at Illinois State and graduated from the Normal, Ill., school in 1967.

Wellman said he hasn't approached Schembechler yet because "we did not want to disrupt anything." The Wolverines returned Tuesday from Seattle, where they won the NCAA tournament under Fisher, who has not yet received the Michigan job on a permanent basis.

SPORTS FACTS

Players with 500 career home runs

1. Tallest—Willie McCovey, 6-4
2. Shortest—Mel Ott, 5-9
3. Lightest—Ott and Willie Mays, 170 pounds
4. Heaviest—Babe Ruth, 215

Source: MacMillan Baseball Encyclopedia and Sports Features Syndicate

QUOTE OF THE DAY

'My timetable is to get ahold of Mike Tyson before he gets caught and locked up. I've got to get ahold of him before a good district attorney does.'

George Foreman, on his quest for Tyson's heavyweight title belts.

SPORTS FOLLIES

Masters ticket a life, death issue

There is a simple, albeit grim, reality if you would like a ticket to the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga.

"Someone has to die. There's really no other way to put it," said Kathryn Murphy, the tournament's executive secretary.

A Masters ticket could be the toughest to come by in sport. Those who have one of the 40,000 or so renewable badges for the four days of play don't give them up.

Badges are kept within families, but they can be bequeathed only to a spouse.

Daily sales were stopped 23 years ago. A waiting list was cut off at 5,000 in 1978.

"We just couldn't go on," said Murphy. "We figured it would take about 100 years to take care of those already on the list."

Bits & Pieces

Temporary help: Rookie catcher Joe Girardi is off to a terrific start, but the starting job still belongs to Damon Berryhill. "When Berryhill's ready to play, he'll play," said manager Don Zimmer.

He also said that Berryhill's recuperation from tendinitis in his throwing shoulder may extend beyond April 14, when the catcher is eligible come off the disabled list.

Girardi, batting .500, understands his role: "Damon's still the No. 1 catcher. He proved himself day in and day out last year. I have a lot of proving to do."

Hey, it's early: One of those great April stats—the opposition is now batting .533 off Mitch Williams.

Just family: Greg Maddux and big brother Mike, who pitches for the Phillies, shared dinner the other night but not advice. "We talked about brother stuff and family stuff," said Mike, who pitched well Wednesday night after Greg was kayoed by the Phils. "I asked him how spring training went. He said he threw the ball better late and he was just getting into the swing of it."

Or his head swelled: Phillies rookie manager Nick Leyva, on one after-effect of Wednesday's post-game Gatorade dunking, a Steve Bedrosian production in honor of Leyva's first win as a manager: "My hat shrunk."

Playing through pain: Ryne Sandberg continues to play despite a twinge near his left shoulder, and Vance Law is doing the same despite what he said was a torn muscle in the shoulder-blade area. "I don't feel any pain during a ballgame," Law said.

Dunston hurting, too: Shawn Dunston, who singled in the fifth for his first 1989 hit, then stole second, had to leave the game in the eighth with a strained hamstring. He may play Friday.

Alan Solomon

We'll see: Melido Perez, making a steady recovery from a strained leg muscle, is still scheduled to start Saturday afternoon in Oakland. Manager Jeff Torborg will make up his mind about whether to go with Perez after watching him work out Friday in Oakland. Perez missed his scheduled start Wednesday after straining a muscle while running in the outfield Monday. "The key is how will he feel tomorrow after he works out, after that long plane ride," Torborg said. "We'll see how he responds."

"I feel better," Perez said after working out before the Sox concluded a three-game series with the California Angels. "I think I will be okay for Saturday." He fielded grounders and practiced his move to first base in the outfield three hours before Thursday night's game.

More worries: The Sox are worried about more than the state of their starting rotation. Closer Bobby Thigpen didn't exactly inspire confidence by giving up a homer to Chili Davis on his fifth pitch of the season in Wednesday night's 6-2 loss to the Angels. "It concerns me a little bit," Torborg said. "I know Bobby's background. I know he struggled early in the year last year. ... He's not locating the ball well."

Aches and pains: With two hits in his first two games, including a home run, Carlton Fisk is off to a rousing start. But he's also feeling the strain of catching every day for the last week after missing three weeks with a jammed right index finger. "I got pounded on the hand against [Angel pitcher] Greg Minton," Fisk said. "My hand's sore. That throw I threw to try to get Lance Parrish out, I just didn't feel it." Parrish was one of three Angels to steal second Wednesday night.

Andrew Bagnato



'L' of a difference: In a game much more crisply played Thursday than the one two "L" stops north at Addison street, the De Paul women's softball team beat Valparaiso 3-0. Sharon Coleman yielded just one hit, walked one, struck out three and received fine defensive support. Susan Coleman, Sharon's sister, did the splits fielding one throw at first base. Meg Reuvers made two extraordinary catches in center. De Paul (16-7) scored all three runs in the first, two on a triple by Beth Raspopovich.

Stanley gets respect: Basketball Times named Stanley Brundy, De Paul's leading scorer and rebounder, to its All-Rodney (Dangerfield) Team for underrated players. Brundy also was named All-Midwest by the publication and All-District IV by the U.S. Basketball Writers Association. Two of Meyer's freshmen, David Booth and Stephen Howard, were named to all-freshmen teams by Basketball Times and Basketball Weekly. And Diana Vines, who passed Mark Aguirre, Dave Corzine and George Milkan, as the leading career scorer in school history, was named an All-District IV All-American for the second straight year by Kodak and the Women's Basketball Association.

Bill Jauss

Gearing up: Men's track coach Gordon Thomson will take only "a smattering" of athletes to open outdoor competition in the Chicagoland Invitational this weekend at North Central. Distance man Ed Slowikowski, recovering from a hamstring pull, is expected to run only the 1,500 meters then increase his workload for the Dogwood Relays in Tennessee the following weekend. Jim Westphal, another top Rambler, is likely to miss both events because of similar problems, Thomson said.

Stormy weather: This spring has been rough for the women's softball team, loser of its first 16 games. Coach Terri Laux said: "We are only hitting .136 as a team. The players made costly errors in crucial situations ... and the pitchers have put too many people on base on hits and walks." Otherwise, everything's fine. One pitcher who has been holding her own is No. 2 hurler Terri Sullivan, freshman daughter of former Loyola basketball coach Gene Sullivan.

Mike Conklin

TANK McNAMARA



GIL THORP

