Associated Press

The Baltimore Orioles continue to make things hot for Nolan Ryan, and warm for the Toronto Blue Jays as well.

With a doubleheader sweep over the Texas Rangers by 8-3 and 9-6 scores Thursday night, the Orioles continued their mastery of Ryan and at the same time moved closer to Toronto in the sizzling American League East race.

"That's what we had to do tonight, win both," Orioles manager Frank Robinson said after Baltimore moved within 11/2 games of Toronto. "That was a great achievement with the travel and facing those pitchers here. We've got to think about winning every game we play."

En route to the sweep, the Orioles beat Ryan for the third time in three meetings this year and are 9-0 against baseball's all-time strikeout leader in their last 12 meetings.

"They've had my number," Ryan said. "It's aggravating. For some reason haven't had good command of my pitches against them."

Meanwhile, the Blue Jays pounded the Cleveland Indians 12-4 for their ninth victory in 10 games.

Mike Devereaux and Steve Finley were the big offensive guns for the Orioles Thursday night. Both went 5-for-10 in the doubleheader with Devereaux getting six RBIs and Finley keying a fiverun second in the nightcap with a tworun triple.

Devereaux had a career-high five RBIs to lead Baltimore in the first game.

"This has got to help us out," Devereaux said. "I hope this will put us on the road to a great series."

The first game featured a bizarre twist. The Orioles struck out 16 times, a club record, with Phil Bradley going down five times.

The Orioles have been chasing the Blue Jays since falling out of first place on Sept. 1. Baltimore had held the top spot for 98 consecutive days.

"We have to keep winning," Robinson

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said. "If they don't cool down, there's nothing we can do about it. They're playing outstanding baseball."

Blue Jays 12, Indians 4 George Bell hit a three-run double and Lloyd Moseby had three hits, including a leadoff home run, as Toronto beat Cleveland in a rain-plagued

Toronto won its fourth straight game and ninth in the last 10, moving 15 games above .500 for the first time this year. The Blue Jays are 66-39 since Cito Gaston replaced Jimy Williams as manager

John Cerutti, 11-8, gave up two runs on five hits in five innings. Tom Candiotti, 12-8, lasted only 113 innings, giving up five runs on six hits as the Indians lost for the sixth time in seven outings.

The contest was held up for 1 hour, 33 minutes in the fifth inning with the Blue Jays holding a 9-0

Brewers 7, Angels 1

Tom Filer held California to four hits and an unearned run in eight innings and Glenn Braggs collected three hits, including a homer, as Milwaukee beat California and dealt the Angels' pennant hopes another blow. The third-place Angels fell six games behind Oakland in the AL

The Brewers simplified Filer's job by breaking out for five runs before he had to make his first pitch. Milwaukee jumped Mike Witt, 8-13, for six hits in the first inning.

Filer, 6-3, struck out two and walked one before Tony Fossas pitched the ninth, completing a combined five-hitter.

"The five runs really took the pressure off me." Filer said. "I was able to just throw to the middle of the plate. I think I got away with a lot of bad pitches early, but I threw pretty well after the second inning. Keeping the ball down got me a lot of ground balls."

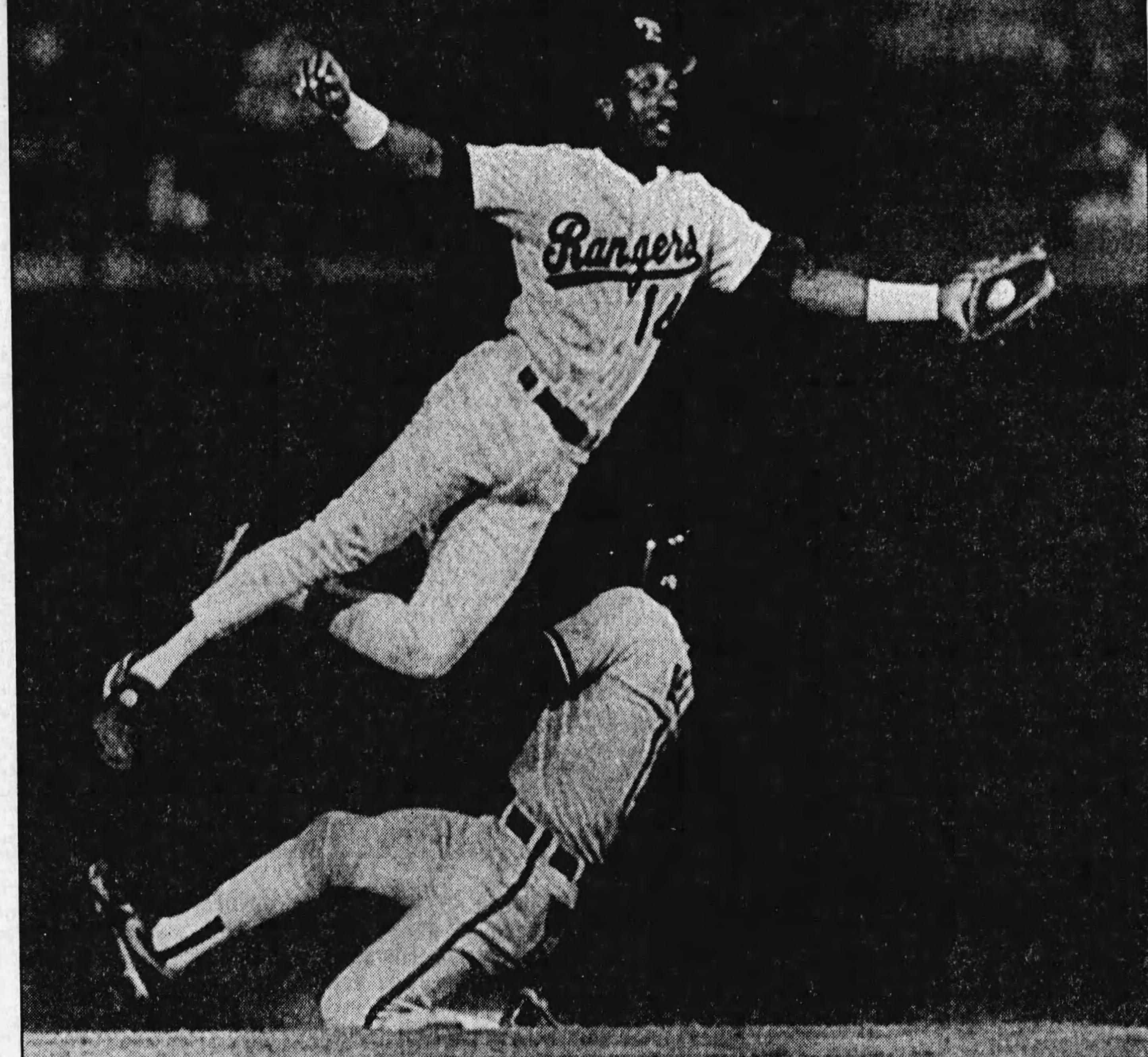
Yankees 6, Mariners 4

Don Mattingly's two-run single keyed a six-run rally in the eighth inning as the Yankees came back to beat Seattle for their eighth-straight vic-

The Mariners held a 3-0 lead before the Yankees rallied in the eighth for their winning runs. Mattingly's hit with two out broke a 3-3 tie and Steve Balboni followed with a sacrifice fly for the Yankees' sixth run.

Rich Gossage, 1-0, pitched one-third of an inning in the seventh to earn his first American League win since Oct. 1, 1983.

Reliever Mike Schooler, 1-6, was the loser.



Associated Press

Texas Ranger Julio Franco performs some acrobatics to retrieve a wild pickoff attempt against Baltimore Thursday in Arlington, Texas.

Oriole Juan Bell, who stole second base on the play,

Pennant knots may get straightened out

Associated Press

Starting today, the National League pennant races might take shape. Then again, they could be more tangled than ever in a few days.

"There will be a full house, that's all I can tell you. It should be a heck of a weekend," Chicago Cubs manager Don Zimmer said.

The Cubs, holding a 11/2-game lead over St. Louis in the NL East, opened a three-game series against the Cardinals at Wrigley Field this afternoon.

Montreal, trailing by three games, faces Philadelphia this weekend. The New York Mets, 31/2 games behind, play Pittsburgh.

"Anything can happen. Any one of four teams can win," Zimmer said.

San Francisco has more control in the NL West. The Giants lead Houston and San Diego by seven games each, and begin a three-game series tonight at the Astrodome.

Chicago increased its lead by beating Philadelphia 6-2 Wednesday night while the Mets routed St. Louis 13-1.

Zimmer gave outfielders Andre Dawson and Jerome Walton a rest, and their replacements, Doug Dascenzo and Marvell Wynne, each homered.

Wynne hit his first home run since being acquired from San Diego for a 1-0 lead in the second inning.

"I'm a genius," Zimmer said.

Mike Bielecki, 15-6, gave up five hits and two runs in 53/3 innings. Ken Howell, 11-11, allowed four runs on five hits in three innings.

Pirates 7, Expos 4 Pinch hitter Jeff King's checked-swing roller

NATIONAL

went for a tie-breaking triple and he continued home on right fielder Mike Aldrete's error in the eighth inning as Pittsburgh won at Montreal.

Barry Bonds led off with a double against John Candelaria, 0-1, and King ended a 2-for-23 slump with a grounder past first base. The Pirates scored an insurance run in the ninth on Candelaria's throwing error.

Bob Walk, 12-10, got the victory and Bill Landrum pitched two innings for his 23rd save.

Giants 7, Braves 5

At Atlanta, Kevin Mitchell hit his 42nd home run and San Francisco rallied to beat the Braves. Will Clark's two-run triple pulled the Giants into a 4-all tie in the seventh. Pinch hitter Chris Speier doubled home the go-ahead run in the eighth and scored on Brett Butler's single.

Mitchell homered in the ninth. He leads the majors in home runs and with 115 RBIs.

Steve Bedrosian, 3-6, got the victory. Mike Stanton lost his first decision of the season.

Astros 2, Padres 1

At San Diego, Ken Caminiti hit a two-run single in the third inning and Jim Clancy allowed four hits in seven innings as Houston stopped the Padres' six-game winning streak. Clancy, 7-11, beat San Diego for the fourth time

this season. Dave Smith got his 24th save in 28

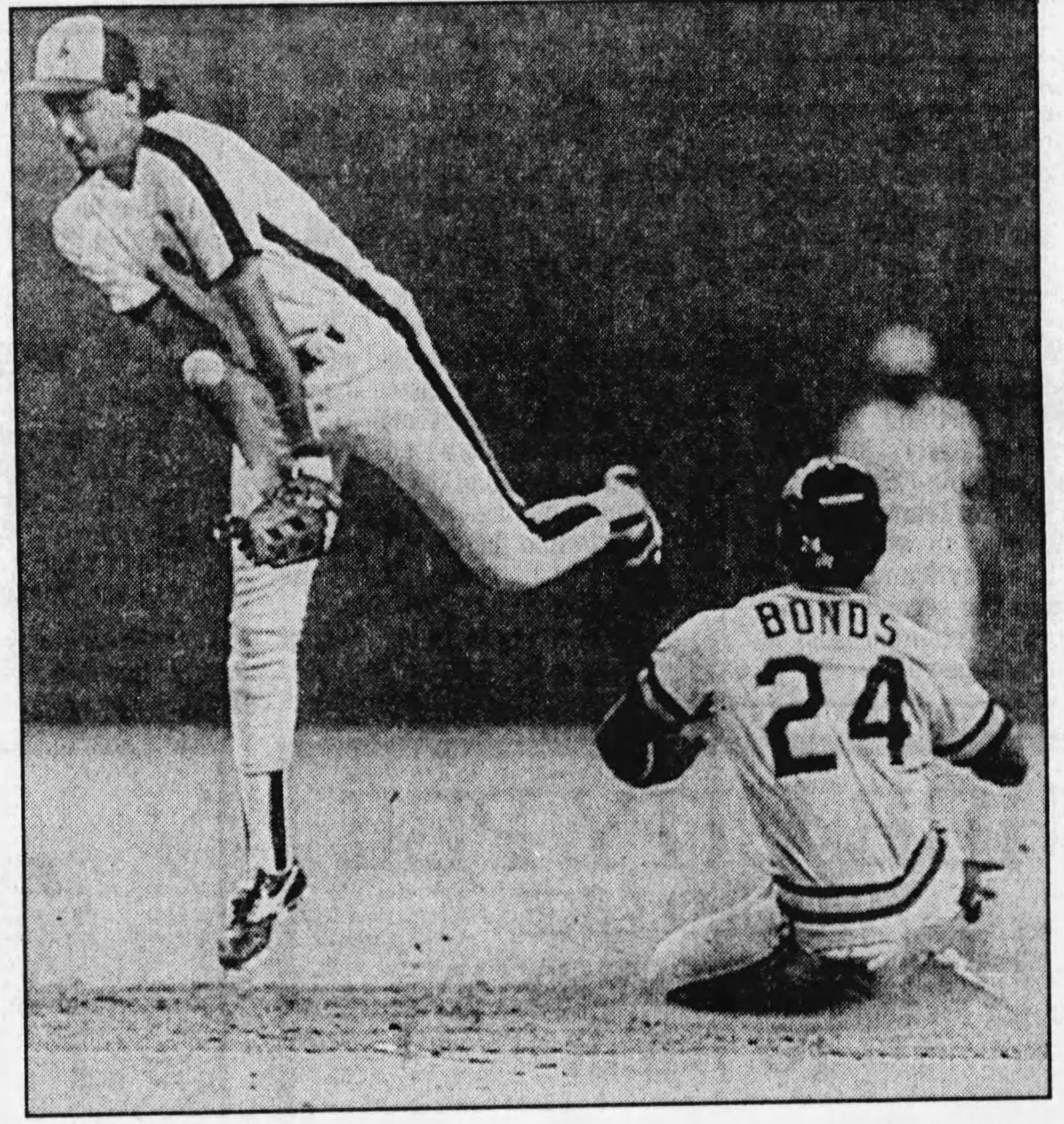
Bruce Hurst, 13-10, lost despite allowing just three hits in six innings.

Dodgers 8, Reds 2

Fernando Valenzuela pitched a six-hitter and Los Angeles ended Tom Browning's eight-game winning streak with a victory at Cincinnati.

Valenzuela, 10-12, walked four and struck out five in his third complete game in 28 starts. Browning, 15-11, gave up seven runs on 11 hits in three innings.

Eddie Murray and Willie Randolph each homered and got three hits. Eric Davis hit his 29th home run for the Reds.



Associated Press

Montreal Expo Tom Foley can't hold on to the ball and fails to make the tag as Pittsburg Pirate Barry Bonds steals second base Thursday in Montreal. The Pirates went on to defeat the Expos.

Mitchell accused of assault

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Kevin Mitchell is accused of beating his former girlfriend and threatening her with a gun, according to a civil action seeking unspecified damages from the San Francisco Giants outfielder.

The civil complaint was filed Tuesday in San Diego County Superior Court on behalf of Debra Brice. her attorney, Brian Hochvert, said Thursday. The Giants were playing in Atlan-

ta Thursday night.

The allegations against Mitchell, who leads the major leagues in home runs with 42 and runs batted in with 115, stem from a disturbance on Sept. 11, 1988.

Foster City police spokesman Sgt. Larry Riche confirmed officers from the department responded to Brice's call for help and took three guns away from Mitchell that

Riche said, however, Mitchell was not arrested and no criminal charges have been filed. He said a police report was made and forwarded to the San Mateo County district attorney but as far as he knew no decision had been on whether to proceed with a criminal case.

Washington State turns up offense in 46-41 win

PROVO, Utah (AP) - Coach Mike Price says there is a way to stop Washington State's offense. That should come as news to the Brigham Young defense.

Brigham Young, ranked 24th and playing at home in Cougar Stadium, scored 41 points against Washington State Thursday night. That should be enough points to win any game; on this occasion, it wasn't.

With Washington State riding an offense that Price called "the best in the nation today," the visiting Cougars outlasted the homestanding Cougars 46-41.

"We can score against anybody because of our offense," Price said. "I'm not surprised we scored 46 points tonight against BYU. The only thing that is going to stop our offense

is ourselves." It was a glorious return to Utah for Price, who never had a chance to go against Brigham Young in his eight years as coach at Weber State, 78

miles to the north. "It means a lot to me because I respect him a lot," Price said of BYU coach LaVell Edwards.

"Our inexperience showed up tonight," Edwards said. "Our effort was good in all areas. We almost pulled it off. We have a lot of mis-

takes to clear up. "We are still a very young team,"

Edwards said. "I told them we are still 1-0 in the (Western Athletic Conference)." BYU is 1-1 overall and Washington

State is 2-0.

"There's no one in the country who's 2-0," Price said. "Then how should we be ranked?"

Price said Washington State featured sustained scoring drives in its first victory, 41-7 against Division I-AA member Idaho. "This week, we had big plays."

"Down after down, we did a good job on them," BYU linebacker Chad Robinson, "but those big plays really hurt us."

Washington State's Brad Gossen passed for 317 yards and two scores and Steve Broussard caught a 66-yard scoring pass and ran for three other touchdowns.

Gossen, a junior who took over at quarterback when Timm Rosenbach turned professional last spring, threw first-half scoring passes of 64 yards to Tim Stallworth and 66 yards to Brous-

Down 21-17 at halftime, Washington State bounced back as Broussard scored twice on 1-yard runs in the third quarter and Jason Hanson kicked a school-record 58-yard field goal, surpassing by a yard the record set by Paul Watson in 1977.

Sports agents claim mobster lied at trial

CHICAGO (AP) - Attorneys for two sports agents convicted of fraud asked for a new trial Thursday after learning that a reputed mobster who testified in their clients' case had been released from prison years early and may have lied on the witness stand.

U.S. District Judge George Marovich agreed with the concern and ordered federal prospecutors to submit in writing by Sept. 28 the reasons why Michael Franzese, a reputed member of a New York organized crime family, was freed

from prison. Marovich said he would then decide whether Franzese's testimony had been compromised and whether a new trial was warranted for sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

Bloom, 30, and Walters, 58, former partners in New York-based World Sports and Entertainment, were convicted in April of defrauding universities by signing ahtletes before their NCAA eligibility expired and threatening clients with bodily harm if they ducked out on those contracts.

Walters - sentenced to five years in prison - and Bloom - given three years - were released on bail pending appeal.

In sentencing the agents on June 19, Marovich had said Franzese's involvement was the most sinister aspect of the case. Jurors cited Franzese's testimony as a major factor in the convictions.

At the agents' trial last spring, Franzese - convicted of racketeering crimes in Brooklyn — had testified that he had bankrolled the agents' company and had intimidated clients at Walters' direction.

He said only 28 days would be shaved from his 10-year prison term in return for his testimony against Walters and

But Dan K. Webb, Walters' lawyer, said he learned that Franzese was released three or four years early after serving only about 40 months.

Webb said Franzese lied about his deal with the government and misled the jury that convicted the agents of racketeering and mail fraud.

Team juggling makes Europe, Africa track favorites

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) - The United States men's team and the East German women defend their World Cup track titles in the three-day competition at the renovated Barcelona Olympic Stadium this weekend.

It was an important event for the 60,-000-seat Barcelona Olympic Stadium, redone to host the opening and closing ceremonies and the track events in the 1992 Olympic Games.

Last-minute lineup changes have made the strong European and African teams the heavy favorites for a triumph among the men, whereas the East German women appeared headed for their fourth consecutive triumph in the five editions of Cup competition.

Star distance runner Said Aouita of Morocco was entered on Thursday in the 5,000 meters for Africa, one day after the naming of 1987 world champion Abdi Bile of Somalia for the 1,500. The appointments give the African team consistent strength in the running events. although Aouita's designation came at the expense of 1988 Olympic champion

Paul Ngugi of Kenya. The late naming to the team of the star runners, who have spent most of the season running in the financially rewarding Grand Prix meets and ignoring the qualifications for the World Cup. stirred some controversy in the African

"What we have said all along is

clear," Garag Couligably, secretary general of the African Athletic Federation, said. "We are taking the best athletes at the moment. And at the moment. Aouita is better than Ngugi over 5,000 meters. That's all there is to it."

Kenyan officials said Bile and Aouita, the latter the holder of five world records and winner of the Grand Prix overall title for the third time in four years, should not have been allowed to run and the officials threatened to boycott Cup trials in the future.

But the presence of the two runners added prestige to an event that has lost many significant athletes, mainly from the American men's team.