

sports

The Daily Collegian Friday, July 29 8

MacPhail overrules umpires; restores Brett's homer

By JOHN NELSON AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — George Brett and the Kansas City Royals won baseball's version of "Tar Wars" yesterday when American League President Lee MacPhail overruled the umpires and restored Brett's homer against the New York Yankees.

MacPhail's ruling upheld a protest by the Royals, who said the two-run, ninth-inning homer at Yankee Stadium last Sunday should not have been nullified just because Brett had used too much pine tar on his bat.

"The important thing is something should be done before the bat is used," MacPhail said. "The pine tar was excessive, but the fact that it was beyond the 18-inch limit is not sufficient reason to call him out."

Under MacPhail's ruling, the game now must be treated as though it had been suspended with the Royals batting with two out in the top of the ninth and leading 5-4. The game originally was ended by the umpires with Brett's homer nullified and the Yankees winning 4-3.

The game could be resumed on Aug. 18, an open date for each club, or played after the season ends, if it has a bearing on the "first-place position in either division," MacPhail said at a news conference.

If, for any reason, the game is not resumed, all players' statistics will be counted, including Brett's homer, but there will be no winning or losing pitchers and no result.

MacPhail admitted the umpires' judgment in nullifying the homer runs Yankees with a bat coated with too much pine tar. "I was technically defensible," he said, "but not in accord with the intent or spirit of the rules."

MacPhail said the umpiring crew, headed by Joe Brinkman, may have applied one

"Hopefully, this will provide incentive for our guys, and by the end of the season this will be of no consequence at all."

MacPhail said the Yankees have no right to appeal, and Cook said the club was not contemplating dragging out the matter any further.

"I don't think there's anything in the rules that provides for legal action," Cook said. "We feel we can police our own league. That's why we have a league president."

Cook said he could understand MacPhail's decision and "appreciate his views. We just don't agree with him."

Steinbrenner, interviewed at his office in Tampa, Fla., said the decision really had not surprised him: "As much as I hate to admit it, I figured he would do just what he did."

Steinbrenner: 'very poor ruling'

By FRED GOODALL AP Sports Writer

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — New York Yankees owner George M. Steinbrenner III said yesterday that American League President Lee MacPhail's decision in the George Brett bat controversy "undermined" the umpires.

Major league baseball will have to live with the consequences of the ruling, Steinbrenner asserted. "This thing will come back to haunt us," Steinbrenner said in an interview.

Earlier in the day, MacPhail reversed the umpires' letting count a two-run homer that Brett hit against the Yankees with a bat coated with too much pine tar. MacPhail said the "intent or spirit" of the rules "do not provide that a hitter be called out for excessive use of pine tar."

Steinbrenner said he felt MacPhail was "caught in a box" because of a 1975 ruling in which the AL president turned down a protest by the California Angels in a similar situation.

the rule if it's (written) there in black and white," said Steinbrenner.

The Yankees were declared the winners of last Sunday's game, 4-3, when the umpires disallowed Brett's two-out, ninth-inning home run because his bat was coated with pine tar more than 18 inches from its handle.

Now the game must be picked up in the top of the ninth with Kansas City leading 5-4. The contest was ordered completed before the close of the season or after the season if it has a bearing on division races.

"The rule on this instance is clear and the umpires interpreted it as it reads and made the proper call," said Steinbrenner. "I feel sorry for them. This is where I think baseball is in serious trouble."

Steinbrenner said several umpires have told him in the past that they don't like to make controversial calls on illegal pitches, bats and delays of games because they know they won't get the backing of the league office.

"I have been a pretty harsh critic of umpires in the past, but here is a place where I really feel for them," said Steinbrenner. "I noticed in Leo's decision, he was praising their actions, while at the same time overruling them."

Pirates continue winning ways

Schmidt's homer gives Phillies win over Astros

By KEN RAPPOPORT AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Mike Easter's two-run double highlighted a three-run first inning as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the New York Mets 6-2 last night for their 18th victory in the past 23 games.

Larry McWilliams, 10-5, struck out seven and walked one before Kent Tekulve and Rod Scurry put down a New York threat in the ninth inning. Scurry getting his sixth save. The Pirates chased Craig Swan, 1-5, during a two-run second inning. Swan was making his first start since July 3.

Marvell Wynne opened the game with a walk, took third on a single by Johnny Ray and scored when Bill Madlock homered into a double play. Jason Thompson then singled and Dave Parker doubled before Easter drove them home with his double to right.

In the second inning, McWilliams singled, took third on Wynne's double to right and continued home when first baseman Keith Hernandez dropped the relay throw. Carlos Diaz replaced Swan and gave up Madlock's RBI in the seventh on a home run by Steve Carlton.

The Mets got a run in the third on an RBI single by Hubie Brooks and one in the fifth when Tucker Ashford scored on McWilliams' wild pitch. The Pirates got their final run in the seventh on Thompson's RBI single. After Swan departed, Diaz and two other New York relievers limited the Pirates to four hits the rest of the way.

Phillies 6 Astros 5 HOUSTON (AP) — Mike Schmidt followed Joe Morgan's game-tying triple in the eighth inning with a two-run homer that gave Philadelphia a 6-5 victory over Houston last night as Steve Carlton of the Phillies regained the all-time strikeout record from the Astros' Nolan Ryan.

Pete Rose led off the eighth against Mike LaCoss, 4-7, with a walk and scored on Morgan's triple to right-center field, tying it 4-4, before Schmidt hit his National League-leading 23rd homer over the right-field fence. It extended Houston's losing streak to five games.

Carlton struck out nine batters to regain the career strikeout lead from Ryan, 3,597-3,591, but the Astros keyed him with a three-run seventh inning. Ron Reed, 5-1, was the winner in relief and Al Holland got his 10th save despite giving up Denny Walling's RBI triple in the eighth.

Carnes shot the worst U.S. Open round in her career, a 10-over-par 81 which included three water balls and a four-putt green. "I played like I was pregnant," said Carnes, 44.

Just one shot back were former U.S. Open champion Pat Bradley, U.S. Amateur champion Juli Inkster, Jan Stephenson, Janet Coles, Becky Pearson, Lauren Howe and Debbie Meisterling. Stephenson said, "I want the U.S. Open so bad I started choking two weeks ago. However, this is my best start."



The bat that George Brett used to hit a controversial home run against the New York Yankees on Sunday leans against the podium while American League President Lee MacPhail talks with the media during a press conference yesterday in New York. MacPhail ruled that Brett's homer would count even though the bat was coated with too much pine tar.



Pittsburgh's Marvell Wynne gets back to first base as New York's Keith Hernandez goes into the dirt to get the pickoff throw from catcher Junior Ortiz. The Pirates went on to defeat the Mets 6-2.

Cardinals 3 Expos 2 MONTREAL (AP) — Tom Herr drew a two-out, bases-loaded walk from Jeff Reardon in the top of the 10th inning yesterday, giving the St. Louis Cardinals a 3-2 victory over Montreal in the first game of a two-night doubleheader.

Montreal starter Steve Rogers got the first out of the inning before being forced out of the game by a cramp in the palm of his right hand.

Woodie Fryman, 0-3, took over and got the second out, then went to a full count against pinch-hitter Floyd Rayford before experiencing pain in his left elbow.

Reardon completed the walk to Rayford, who was replaced by pinch-runner Mike Ramsey. Reardon then gave up an infield single to Ozzie Smith and walked Lonnie Smith and Herr to force Ramsey home with the deciding run.

Bruce Sutter, 2-6, got the victory with 1-2-3 innings of hitless relief. "We might bring in another tight end," coach Marion Campbell said. "Sampton turned his ankle last spring while working out on Astro turf at the University of Texas and the ankle kept locking during practice last week. Campbell said, "I can't cut the way I want to," Sampton said Tuesday.

PSU Tennis Championships open today

By STUART FELDMAN Collegian Sports Writer

Some of the best collegiate tennis players on the East Coast will be in State College this weekend to compete in the Penn State University Tennis Championships.

Tournament Director Doug Collins said there were only 98 players registered to compete this year, "but we have our strongest field to date." Collins said this year's competition will be just as excellent and even more competitive than 1980's tournament, which drew 32 players.

In 1980, Charles Parkhurst won the singles and teamed to win the doubles titles playing indoors in 10-degree heat. In his championship effort, Parkhurst won six singles and three doubles matches. The players from this year's tournament come

from the Middle State Tennis Association (MSTA), which is a seven-state area made up of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, New Jersey, New York, Delaware and West Virginia.

"Mainly players from Pennsylvania will compete along with several members of the Penn State tennis team," Collins said.

One of the Penn State tennis players expected to compete in this weekend's tournament is Bill Pilardi, who will compete in the men's singles and doubles events. Pilardi will be playing doubles with teammate Ben Shobaken.

"I believe there's a good chance that someone from Penn State will win the tournament," Pilardi said. "Ben's good in doubles because he is a strong and aggressive player."

Other area competitors include John Setticeze from Oklahoma, who is a former Pennsylvania

MSTA member. Setticeze was formerly ranked No. 1 in the MSTA.

Also attending the tournament will be Tom Mastromirando, who defeated No. 1 ranked David Kraus in a tournament last week.

To round out the field, three players from Bloomsburg State University will also compete. Bloomsburg, known to have a well-structured tennis program, has split matches with Penn State in intercollegiate competition.

In addition, there will be a new 35-year-old men's division. Collins expects about eight to 12 players to compete in that category.

"The 35-year-olds are not over the hill — they are seasoned players," Collins said.

The tournament will begin with men's singles at 4 today. The matches will resume at 9 tomorrow with the men's semifinals and finals to be held on Sunday.

Vermeil talks about life after coaching

By BEN WALKER AP Sports Writer

A couple of weeks ago, Dick Vermeil went to visit the training camp of the Philadelphia Eagles.

He went there to watch and stand on the sidelines, no longer the NFL team's leader. He was away from the field, away from football and away from coaching, a job that occupied — many said possessed — half his 46 years.

Now, six months after, he's talking in New York about that particular visit to the Eagles' camp. "I was excited," he says. Then he pauses. "No, I don't think that's exactly what I mean."

Another pause as he grasps for the right words. "I didn't look at it from a football standpoint. I didn't look at it as a football practice," he says. "I looked at it from a people standpoint. Here we were a lot of friends of mine. It was a warm feeling."

He stops again, looking off in the distance, perhaps thinking of what coaching the Dick Vermeil way meant, perhaps about the things that convinced him it was time to get out.

"I mean, I was extremely happy driving there and being there, but I felt good about driving away."

For several months, the word might as well have been part of Vermeil's name.

During his seven years as coach of the Eagles, his practices, preparation and games were almost legendary. There were stories of constant 18-hour days, of sleeping overnight at

the Veterans Stadium office, of ignoring doctor's orders and working while having hepatitis.

He took the Eagles from the dol-drum to the Super Bowl, and when he announced his resignation one week after last season ended, people pointed to him as a classical case of an overachiever who had run himself into the ground.

The way he sees it, the decision to leave coaching was difficult, although not — as some people had thought — a nearly impossible one.

"I really didn't think I had a choice," he says, casually munching some nuts. "The way I was going, something had to change.

A big question, asked by his family and himself, was how well Dick Vermeil, the coach, would adjust to being Dick Vermeil, the person.

"I don't think about doing things differently. It's not a conscious thing. My wife says it took me about four months."

"I find myself doing things that I haven't done in years," he says, smiling. "Odd jobs, working on the cars, things like that. Just plain conversation. People used to talk to me at home all the time and I never heard what they said."

"I'm happy. I used to be happy only if we won. And that wouldn't last very long. There was always another game the next week."

Vermeil admits he will miss some aspects of coaching football, and hopes his new job as a game analyst for CBS-TV will help keep him close enough to the parts he enjoys.

"The thing I'll miss most is not the game, but the people," he says.

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scoreboard

Table with baseball scores for National League, American League, and West Division. Includes teams like Pirates, Phillies, and Yankees with their respective records.

Advertisement for Sunday Sunlight Serenade at The Tarnished Six Country Tavern. Features a musical note graphic and text: 'Singing into Sunday with the Tarnished Six. Their rousing renditions of dixie favorites will take you to Bourbon St. and back!'.

Advertisement for Mr. Charles Summer Merchandise. Text: 'ALL Summer Merchandise 1/2 off - additional \$1.00 mr. charles 228 e. college ave.—open mon.-fri. till 8:30, sat. till 5:30'.

Advertisement for Roses Today. Text: 'ROSES TODAY \$4.71 dozen cash & carry Woodrings 145 S. Allen St. 238-6566'.

Advertisement for Young Mens Shop. Text: 'Announcing the "Your Patience Has Been Rewarded" Sale 50% off MEN'S SUMMER FASHIONS. Like spectacular savings on everything you need for right now. All our remaining MEN'S summer fashions at 50% savings!'.

Advertisement for The Caboose Bar. Text: 'Avoid the run-a-round. Enjoy the modern conveniences in a furnished apartment and the advantages of being close to downtown and campus. See how inexpensive apartment living can be. BE HAPPY HOURS... 2-6 P.M. every Friday. Junction of College Ave. & Garner St. Plenty of parking behind the Station.'.



Patty Sheehan watches her tee shot on the 15th hole yesterday at Cedar Ridge Country Club in Tulsa, Okla. Sheehan's 71 tied her for the U.S. Women's Open lead with Betsy King.

Sheehan tied for Open lead

By DENNE H. FREEMAN AP Sports Writer

TULSA, Okla. — Patty Sheehan, the current LPGA champion, and unheralded Betsy King survived the 108-degree heat and Bermuda rough of Cedar Ridge Country Club yesterday to match par 71 and share the first-round lead of the 31st U.S. Women's Open.

Sheehan, a former LPGA Rookie of the Year, played in the afternoon when the heat was most intense but offset two bogeys with two birdies.

"It's the first time I've ever hit 15 greens in the Open," she said. "I feel very drained. You don't find many tournaments where the lead is even par. I'm just very thankful I survived."

Both Sheehan and King, who had the blessing of an early tee time, had even par nines of 36-35. They owned a one-shot lead over seven other players.