

Tanner gets chucked by Bucs

By ALAN ROBINSON
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — Chuck Tanner, the ever-optimistic manager who skipped the Pittsburgh Pirates to a world championship and three second-place finishes in nine years, was fired yesterday as part of a shakeup that will put a local public-private partnership in control of the team.

Tanner said the decision was "mutual," but made it clear he was ousted not by current club President Dan Galbreath, but by a new ownership group headed by Malcolm "Mac" Prine.

"They didn't want me and I didn't want them," Tanner said. "I plan to remain in baseball as a manager for another 10 to 15 years. I'll be somewhere and it's going to be good. I want to win more world championships."

Prine, the chairman of Ryan Homes Inc., indicated last week when his group signed a letter of intent to buy the financially ailing Pirates that he favored a "clean sweep" approach that would bring in not only new owners, but also new management.

Tanner, 56, was asked to step down with two years left on his contract after the Pirates' worst season in 32 years. He said he hopes to begin talking to as many as six major league clubs within days.

"All the clubs know now that I'm available. I'm going to be with a club that's going to do well," Tanner said. "I have a lot of alternatives and I'll do what's best for me overall. I want to work for an owner who I can be loyal to, like I was to Dan Galbreath."

"My loyalty is to the Galbreaths. The game has lost a lot by the loss of the Galbreath family. I know the game has to go on."

Tanner, who managed the Chicago White Sox and Oakland A's before taking over a contending Pirates' club in 1977, has been mentioned in connection with vacancies or possible managerial openings with the Houston Astros, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Yankees, Atlanta Braves and San Diego Padres.

One rumor has current Dodgers Manager Tom Lasorda moving up to general manager, with Tanner then taking over as manager.

"Tommy's great," Tanner said. "If he ever became the GM, I'd definitely become the manager."

Galbreath said he has been approached by four major league clubs interested in talking to Tanner.

The announcement that the manager of the Pirates' 1979 "We Are Family" World Series champions would not return was made not by Prine but by Galbreath, because the



Chuck Tanner, right, talking to reporters last night after Pittsburgh Pirates President Dan Galbreath, center, announced that Tanner was fired after managing the team for the past nine years. Team general manager Joe Brown is at left.

owners-to-be are not officially empowered to make policy decisions.

"We've decided that a change in field managers is in the best interests of the Pirates in 1986," Galbreath said. "It is time to move on. There will be new owners, a new general manager, a new manager, essentially a new team. We're going to bring in some top guys."

Galbreath and his father, John, the Pirates' principal owner since 1946, last week agreed to sell the team for \$22 million plus the assumption of about \$7 million in player contract obligations.

The local coalition stepped forward when Galbreath threatened to sell the

team to out-of-town buyers who might move the club from Pittsburgh.

Joe L. Brown, the Pirates' interim general manager, said his replacement will not necessarily be named before Tanner's successor is chosen.

"If we find a good general manager first, we'll hire him," Brown said. "If we find a good manager first, we'll hire him."

Tanner, a native of nearby New Castle, Pa., said he leaves "with great sadness because of my love for the city of Pittsburgh. I consider myself a Pittsburgher. How many people can say they brought a world championship to their hometown? I may be the only one."

Booters prepared for must-win game

By CAROL D. RATH
Collegian Sports Writer

The last stop for Coach Walter Bahr and his soccer team before it starts a five-game home stretch against some of the top teams in the nation, will be Eastern where the 7-4 Lions face a must-win game this afternoon with the 7-2 Leopards of Lafayette.

The Lions are coming off a frustrating 3-2 loss to Long Island in which Lion defenders Paul Moylan and Larry Miller were issued red cards. A red card not only immediately ejects a player but also sidelines him for the following game.

Unlike the Lions' last two games, Lafayette's last game resulted in a 5-0 victory over Towson State on Saturday.

"We just have to try to get our heads together," forward Thomas Greve said. "It's not the end of the season, but we definitely need to go into each game with the same spirit that we had in the second half (of the Long Island game). Lafayette is a team in our region that we just have to beat. It's as simple as that."

But what may not be so simple is juggling the line-up to compensate for the temporary suspensions of Moylan and Miller.

"Lafayette's a good team and we have our two middle defenders out for the third consecutive day at Exhibition Stadium."

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Netwomen claim Eastern title

By MARY DEWEES
Collegian Sports Writer

The women's tennis team returned from the Eastern Championships in Trenton, N.J., last night celebrating for it had just claimed the Eastern title over 22 teams, broken the record for team points and advanced all six of its participating team members to at least the semi-finals.

Coach Jan Borner was more than pleased with winning the tournament. Prior to the season he had hoped to better last year's fourth-place finish in the tournament, but did not expect a win. He was particularly impressed by the total domination of all six Lady Lions.

"In my four years here at Penn State I can't think of a tournament in which all six players played outstanding tennis for an entire three-day period, and to add to that, we put ourselves in a position where we had wrapped up the team championship by the end of the second day," Borner said.

Penn State, with a total of 38 points, had an 11-point margin of victory over Trenton State, Rutgers (23.5), Columbia (20.5), and Colgate (20) rounded out the top five.

The most outstanding performance in the tournament came from the doubles team of Amy Robinson and Janet Whiteside, who advanced to the finals to defeat the



Penn State's Romi Walker returns a shot earlier this season at the Outdoor Tennis Courts.

No. 1-seeded team at the championships and finished first of 47 doubles teams. In control throughout the match, the duo defeated Rutgers' Donna D'Amico and Kathy Ferron, 7-6, 6-4.

"I think in terms of Amy and Janet's performance in the finals,

they played perfect doubles," Borner said. "They used sharp strategy, they chipped returns, they forced the play, they were tough to beat at the net — overall they were just very impressive in doubles play."

The Lady Lions' other doubles

team of Romi Walker and Kelly Nelson also breezed through most of the competition in the tournament, winning 6-0, 6-2 in the quarterfinals over a tough team from Colgate, before losing in the semifinals to the Rutgers' team that Robinson and Whiteside defeated.

Little discussion went into the expansion process as the players and owners both jumped at larger payoffs from the networks and larger gate receipts that increased the players' pension program.

The umpires' strike, meanwhile, has detracted from the playoffs for the second year in a row. The umpires struck the 1984 playoffs, but Ueberroth signed the umpires to a new contract designed to cover a best-of-five playoff series. When they were not promised compensation for working two more games they called the second strike in as many seasons.

Once again, controversial calls by minor league and college umpires have sparked outrage by fans of the Dodgers and Kansas City Royals.

So while you sit at home drinking hot chocolate and watching hockey on cable television, try to remember that the '85 regular-season has been memorable for something more than drug trials.

A year in which Pete Rose surpassed Ty Cobb to become the reigning hit king, Nolan Ryan broke the 4,000 strikeout barrier, Rod Carew lined his 3,000th hit and Tom Seaver and Phil Niekro became 300 game winners may go down in the record books as the year Frosty the Snowman struck out Peter Ueberroth.

Mark Ashenfelter is a junior majoring in journalism and an assistant sports editor for The Daily Collegian.

Cold dogs, apple pie and snowmobiles

Dateline Toronto, sometime in early November.

The Fall Classic can now officially be called the Winter Classic as Game Seven of the World Series was snowed out for the third consecutive day at Exhibition Stadium.

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Ueberroth has also promised that the major league umpires' strike will be settled before the decisive game is finally played.

Appearing on the World Series pregame show for the game that wasn't, Ueberroth unveiled a few proposals that may end the Series before Christmas. The commissioner also denied allegations that the white-stuff was actually the major league's allocation of cocaine for the 1985 off-season.

Among the proposals offered, Ueberroth said he was considering implementing the orange baseballs that former Oakland A's owner Charley Finley used on a trial basis during exhibition games in the mid-1970's.

He also proposed using blowtorches to thaw out the pitcher's mound and the basepaths as well as painting the chalk lines green so they could be distinguished from the snow that blankets the outfield.

A proposal to give the outfielders sled dogs was voted down because local animal groups protested that it would be inhumane to allow dogs out covering the infield before the postponement was announced by Commissioner Peter Ueberroth.

The game will be made up as soon as possible, according to the commissioner, who made the announcement wearing a pair of shorts and a ski cap.

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