

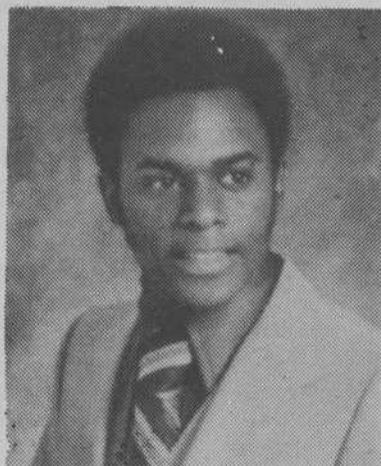
SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

SEPTEMBER 20, 1984



KEN'S COMMENTS



By Ken Wilson

As fall begins to make its presence felt, the boys of summer watch their days in the current season dwindle away, and the pennant races in the major leagues are beginning to heat up.

For baseball fans, the playoffs are on the doorstep with just one out of the four divisional races going down to the wire.

While the Padres, Tigers, and soon the Cubs, have already reached the point of a division - clinching magic number, the American League West will witness the tightest contest as three teams remained in the hunt through the past weekend.

As this week began, possibly three teams could win the Western title as one-half game separates Kansas City, California, and Minnesota, with the Twins holding the edge due to their home schedule in the remaining games.

Spectators watched the Detroit tigers get off to a blazing start early in the season and never really looking back while now needing just a few victories to capture the American League's Eastern title.

Another runaway division features the San Diego Padres who have

utilized a strong pitching staff plus timely hitting to take a commanding lead, and should wrap things up shortly.

Observers are in agreement that the surprise club in the major leagues is the Chicago Cubs while battling another surprise team in the New York Mets, who now need just a few wins to grab the National League's Eastern crown.

While Detroit, San Diego, and Chicago all appear to have locks on playoff berths, in addition to the hot pennant race in the American League West, fans are assured of some new blood in the drive toward the World Series.

Locally, this week the community will host the Second Annual Panasonic Las Vegas Invitational golf tournament that will feature play on four different

Reggie Jackson Reached 500 Homer Milestone

Reggie Jackson of the California Angels celebrated the 17th anniversary of his first major-league home run and became the 13th player in history to record 500 home runs Monday night by connecting off Kansas City left-hander Bud Black in the seventh inning.

The showdown had become a slowdown. The Kansas City Royals owned a 7-0 lead over the Angels when Reggie

Jackson grabbed a bat to open the seventh inning last night at Anaheim Stadium.

No matter. When the time's right, Jackson can make any moment his.

And so he devoured left-hander Bud Black's first pitch — fastball, up and in — and launched it halfway to Newport Beach and all the way to Cooperstown.

The slugger stood at home plate in his fami-

liar pose and watched as the ball sailed out of the park. He took a slow trot around the bases then was greeted by his teammates after No. 500 became reality.

And for 28,862 fans, it became a memory.

He came out of the dugout and waved to the dugout while the fans chanted "Reggie, Reggie."

The game was stopped following the seventh inning for Jackson

and Angel owner Gene Autry to speak to the crowd.

"First of all, I'd like to thank God for sticking with me and keeping me healthy," Jackson said. "Even when things were darkest, he kept me going and got me through."

Jackson thanked his father, mother, Angel president Buzzie Bavasi, and manager John McNamara, and "my second father" Autry.

courses around the area.

Billed as one of the richest tournaments on the PGA circuit, the courses include the Desert Inn Country Club, the Tropicana Country Club, the Showboat Country Club, and the Las Vegas Country Club.

Looking to collect the first prize of \$162,000, some 800 golfers, both professional and amateurs, will clash during the five-day event with total prize money amounting to more than a million dollars.

Top names expected to tee it up include Fuzzy Zoeller, Tom Kite, Lee Trevino, Hal Sutton, Andy Bean, Bruce Lietz, along with other impressive names which feature nearly 25 of the tour's top money winners.



reggie

THE 500 HOME RUN CLUB

Rank	Player	HRs	Rank	Player	HRs
1	Hank Aaron	755	7	Jimmie Foxx	534
2	Babe Ruth	714	8	Willie McCovey	521
3	Willie Mays	660		Ted Williams	521
4	Frank Robinson	586	10	Eddie Matthews	512
5	Harmon Killebrew	573		Ernie Banks	512
6	Mickey Mantle	536	12	Mel Ott	511
			13	Reggie Jackson	500

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