

Now it's fact: Mets mathematically eliminated — Page B 4

Staten Island Advance

Sports

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1993

Thursday SCORECARD

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL Jays stay out there



Woe is Rickey Henderson after being caught stealing, but Blue Jay teammates Paul Molitor and John Olerud had four hits each in a 10-7 win over Cleveland. Toronto remained one game ahead of the Yankees in the AL East.

Tigers 7	Mariners 4
Angels 2	Orioles 1
Brewers 12	A's 2
Rangers 10	Red Sox 2
Twins 4	Royals 2
Phillies 8	Rockies 5
Braves 9	Giants 1
Padres 2	Cards 1
Astros 3	Marlins 2
Expos 7	Cubs 3
Pirates 2	Dodgers 1

B 2

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Wagner signings

Seahawk coach Rich Vitellano, with a solid crop of freshmen already in the fold, bolstered two immediate areas of need with the announcement that he'd signed two first-rate freshman hurlers and two outfielders.

B 5

NFL

Giants take shape



Jumbo Elliott, above right, is in the Giant fold, much to the relief of the team's quarterbacks. It's unknown, however, how long veteran linebacker-special teamer Steve DeCuse will be around.

B 7

Jet counts blessings

Jet rookie tight end Fred Baxter is a pretty lucky guy, but not because he's stuck around this deep in the preseason. The fifth-round pick from Auburn thought he could make an impression. No. Baxter's good fortune is that he could be with the baseball franchise that drafted him, the Mets.

B 7

INDEX

Card Corner	B 3
Sports Flashes	B 4
Scoreboard	B 4
Bulletin Board	B 5
Name Game	B 5
Soccer	B 5
Softball	B 6
Roundup	B 6
Horse racing	B 6

Wilkinson resigns as Green's GM

Rab to remain a partner at bowling center

By JOE D'AMODIO
ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

Rab Wilkinson confirmed yesterday he has resigned as general manager of Rab's Bowling on the Green.

Wilkinson, however, said he will remain a partner in the business and four others — Ray Pirello and the Montalbano brothers, Charlie, Lou and Joe — began leasing from Marion Coppotelli in June of 1989. Later, Pirello was replaced by Tom Spinelli.

Coppotelli and Wilkinson's four current partners were unavailable for comment yesterday.

"It was too many hours away from my family. I was working 60-70 hours a week. It started getting to me. I love my job, but my family comes first."

— Rab Wilkinson



Employees at the New Dorp center didn't want to comment on the situation, but did confirm that Pat Schur, a day desk manager at the center for four years under Wilkinson, has been named the bowling center manager and that the center's name will remain unchanged since Rab is still a partner.

Wilkinson, though, had reasons for the departure.

"It was too many hours away from my family," admitted Wilkinson, 49-year-old Grant City resident and father of three. "I was working 60-70 hours a week. It started getting to me. I love my job, but my family comes first."

Wilkinson said Coppotelli told

him she would like to see him return to work, but Wilkinson said he didn't think it would happen.

Wilkinson hinted that he might have other business opportunities in the works.

"I have a couple of urns on the fire," said Wilkinson, who had a short stint on the PBA Pro Tour. "But we'll see."

Rumors of Wilkinson's retirement have been stirring since Friday night, but it didn't become official until yesterday.

The news spread quickly across the island and was met with surprise and disappointment.

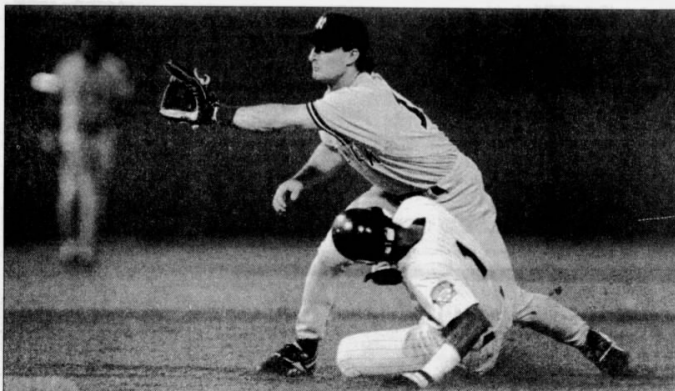
"I can't believe it," said Gary Seale, a longtime bowler at the 45-lane center. "I think it's going to be a devastating blow to the Green. Rab was one of the few workers that was for the bowlers. He had a one-to-one relationship

with the bowlers. If you had any problems he would help you and he knew the business — the little intangibles that make the bowlers happy — that maybe another manager wouldn't be conscious of."

"He was one of the most likable guys around. Everyone that knew him, I think, would say the same. He also did a lot of things outside the bowling world like helping with charities and things like that."

"He was a positive profile for the Green and no doubt irreplaceable."

"I'm sorry to hear that," said Mike Moella, a league knicker. "The place was moving in the right direction. Things changed for the better since Rab took over. I just hope it continues to move in the right direction, although I think that might be tough without Rab."



Chicago's Lonc-Johnson is forced out as Yankee second baseman Pat Kelly gets set to take Wade Boggs' throw.

Another wet-and-wild win

Sox 'throw' game to Yankees again

By DON BURKE
ADVANCE SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

CHICAGO — Wet weather makes for some strange happenings. And the Chicago White Sox know that better than most teams.

For the second time in three nights the Yankees took advantage of some sloppy grounds and even sloppier fielding to escape with a 7-5 victory over the AL West leaders at soggy Comiskey Park.

In Monday night's rain-plagued, 10-inning boxscore Page B 2 victory, a throwing error by reliever Scott Radinsky helped the Yankees to a 6-5 victory.

Last night, a similar throwing error —

this one by reliever Don Pall on a ball bunted by Bernie Williams — helped the Yankees snap a 5-5 tie in the top of the eighth.

The game had been delayed 33 minutes by rain before the start of the fifth inning. Although the infield was covered both managers said they thought the play was affected, if not by a wet field, then by a wet baseball.

Radinsky began the inning by yielding a lead-off infield single to Paul O'Neill. Pall replaced Radinsky and Williams dropped a bunt in front of the mound. The reliever got to the ball in plenty of time, but his throw to first was well wide of first baseman Frank Thomas and rolled into foul territory down the right-field line as O'Neill went to third and Williams to second.

Mike Stanley drove in what proved to be the winner with a single to center as Williams took third.

"This lets me leave here with something positive," said Stanley, who was hitless in 13 at-bats and had just two hits in 21 prior trips to the plate. "Until that hit I didn't have much positive to think about."

Mike Gallego struck out, but after fouling off several pitchers, including one off his already tender left shin, Pat Kelly hit a liner right back at Pall.

The pitcher dropped to one knee and smothered the ball, but he couldn't catch it. Then he couldn't find it. When he finally

recovered the baseball, he threw home to try to get Williams. Catcher Ron Karkovice had the ball knocked out of his glove while making a sweep tag on Williams.

"It was tough inning for us," said Chicago manager Gene Lamont, whose team still has a four-game lead over the Royals. "Don came in and threw it away. If it wasn't for that, I don't think they score. I think the ball was wet, he panicked and rushed his throw."

Rich Monteleone got the victory with 1½ innings of relief. Radinsky took the loss. Bob Wickman picked up his third save by getting Thomas to fly to right for the game's final out.

Steve Howe, who pitched the eighth inning, was pulled after one inning.

(See YANKS, Page B 3)

No surprises left for Turner

If "The Turk" comes knocking on Vernon Turner's door during the next few days, asking him to report to Wayne Pontes' office and to bring his playbook, the executor of bad news for the Detroit Lions might be in for a surprise.

Every team in the National Football League dispatches such an employee, certainly never a volunteer, for the ghastly task of rounding up the players who haven't quite made the grade or, worse yet, the opening-day roster.

It wouldn't be unreasonable to imagine Turner lashing out in anger and frustration should the mean trick be pulled on him before Monday's final cutdown to 47 players, especially after he's made it this far through training camp.

But it's more likely that Turner would handle the personal setback with composure and an inner strength, maybe even with a smile. He's been



Jim Waggoner

THE GYM BAG

there before, remember, first with the Denver Broncos, then the Buffalo Bills, and finally last December after spending most of the '92 season with the Los Angeles Rams.

Take his word for it: He knows what it feels like.

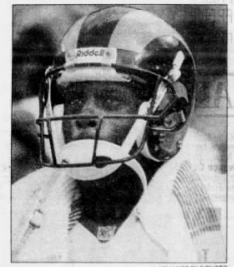
"There's no fright anymore, none of that crap," said the 26-year-old

Turner, a Sunnyside resident. "There really aren't anymore surprises left for me... no more emotional roller-coasters."

From Turner's perspective, the Lions are darn lucky to have a guy who enjoys playing football as much as he does. A guy who still talks about how much he owes his coaches back at Curtis High School for giving him a solid foundation to meet life's challenges. A guy who sometimes has to shake his head in wonderment that he entered the NFL as a free-agent running back out of NAIA Carson-Newman College and has drawn paychecks for three seasons.

"I'm a guy who came into this league as a wide receiver and return man," he said, "without ever catching a pass or returning a kick in college. I don't know too many players who can

(See GYM BAG, Page B 7)



Vernon Turner is wearing the helmet of the Detroit Lions today and he's hoping he still is next week after the final cutdown.