Two Florida decisions pay quick dividends

By SAM LACY

If the evidence continues to build as it began in Memorial Stadium Wednesday, two excellent decisions were made in the Miami camp of the Orioles this spring.

The first was to keep Frank Robinson, a decision made in the front office of personnel director Harry Dalton. And the second was to make a switch hitter of Paul Blair, a decision that originated with and was consummated by, Blair himself.

Frank and Paul contributed two hits apiece to the Oriole attack that floored the Washington Senators, 3-2, and gave the world champions a start on what they hope will be a third consecutive pennant drive.

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Dalton's decision to hold onto Frank is being hailed as the best one he has made since he obtained Robinson in a deal with Cincinnati in 1966. That was the year the spindly star paced the Birds to their first pennant and himself became the first man in history to gain MVP recognition in both major leagues.

Frank Robinson they're glad he stayed

Some dissidents may hold out that Dalton's acquisition of Mike Cuellar, also in a deal with a National League club (Houston), in 1969, ranks with the best he has made, but they are probably outnumbered by the group which adheres more readily to hitting than to pitching.

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The writer is cognizant, too, that it may not have been altogether a Dalton decision to open the season with Robinson in rightfield. At age 35, and at $130,000 a year, Frank may not have attracted the kind of offers from other clubs that would entice the O's to trade; hence Dalton may have had no choice but to keep him.

Whatever the reason, Frank was in uniform Wednesday with the black and orange bird adorning his cap. And Frank delivered a two-base hit in the timely fashion Baltimore fans have come to expect of him. It knocked in the winning run.

And, in the field, it was Robbie's barehanded grab of a shot by the Nats' Elliott Maddox that limited the sophomore centerfielder to a single and prevented a tying Washington run.

• • •

As for Blair, he stroked singles on his first two times at bat for the regular season. And they came at a time when the Senators' Casey Cox wasn't being overly generous with the Birds.

Paul Blair they're glad he switched

The view from here is that Paul's experiment is a noble one. It will serve him well in many respects.

By batting lefty against righthanded pitchers, and righty against lefthanders, Blair reduces the need for challenging the curve ball. He no longer has to hold position until the last split second to avoid being fooled.

• • •

Batting lefthanded, he is able to see the pitch better, and this is a distance lift to someone who has been seriously injured by a pitch as was the Bird centerfielder in California two summers ago.

Although he showed no sgns of flinching from the tight inside pitch following his beaning by the Angels Ken Tatum, Paul had to be wary on each trip to the plate in "knockdown" situations.

The switch hitter also has the advantage that was utilized frequently by Mickey Mantle, formerly of the Yankees. He can perfect a timing technique that turns drag bunts into basehits.

When Blair and Don Buford are together in the lineup, the Birds will have two competent, and fleet, switchers at the top of the batting order to plague the opposition no end.

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Foreman eyes Pan-Am title

SAN FRANCISCO — Former Washington (DC) heavyweight, George Foreman, the World Boxing Association's No. 1 contender, has signed for a 15-round fight May 3 against Greg Peralta of Argentina.

Lorine Cassena, president of K.O., Inc., of Las Vegas, says the match will be held in Oakland and is one of three that will be shown on closed-circuit television in Canada and the Unted States.

Foreman won the heavyweight crown in the 1968 Olympic Games at Mexico City, and has gone undefeated in 27 fights since turning pro. He has 24 knockouts,

Peralta has a pro record of 79 wins, 7 losses and 6 draws.

The fight, which will be held at the Oakland Coliseum Arena, will be for the Pan American championship.

Twins-White Sox is 'Game-of-Week'

The Minnesota Twins will play the White Sox at Chicago, and the action will be seen live and in color on NBC WBAL-TV's "Major League Baseball Game of the Week," tomorrow (Saturday) at 2 p.m.

Commentary for the game as well as the play-by-play will be provided by veteran NBC sportscaster Jim Simpson and Sandy Koufax, former Dodger pitching ace.

At 6 p.m., following "The Kerry Scott Show, "WBAL-TV will televise "Pinbusters," its popular Saturday afternoon bowling program, live and in color.

Waters meet set April 15

The Bureau of Recreation will hold its second annual Edward L. Waters Memorial track meet, Thursday, April 15, at 5th Regiment Armory.

The late Ed Waters developed one of the top age group track teams in the State. He also worked with children at other centers throughout the city. He was the first coach of the Baltimore City United States Youth Games track team.

• • •

The late Edward L. Waters was a track star in his own right. He attended Douglass High School and Morgan State College.

Over 500 children are expected to participate in the meet. Coach Edward P. Hurt, Morgan College, has been invited along with Dr. Delano Meriwether, and Nick Lee, two of the nation's top athletes.

John Carlos bid is nixed

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) — John Carlos, former Olympic sprint champ, has been denied an application for reinstatement as an amateur athlete.

Carlos, currently a member of the Philadelphia Eagles professional football club, was told he must first submit a letter to the Philadelphia office of the Amateur Athletic Union asking for reinstatement.

• • •

Carlos, world record holder in the 100-and 200-yard distances is trying to be reinstated in order to compete in the Martin Luther King Freedom Games here May 16.

He indicated that he would appeal all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and would also go to the International AAU in order to regain his amateur status.

In seeking reinstatement, Carlos has been critical of rules which do not permit a player to be a professional in one sport and compete as an amateur in another.

Opening win convinces Buc ace he can bag 20

By IRA MILLER

PITTSBURGH (UPI) — The Pittsburgh Pirates have not had a 20-game winner since 1960, but Dock Ellis believes this will be the year.

In fact, Ellis goes as far to predict that the Pirates may have two or even three, 20-game winners. And guess who he sees as their leader?

Dock Ellis, that's who.

"I've never set a goal before, but this year, I should be able to win 20 with the team we have," he says. "This team makes me think I'll win 20 games and that's what I want to do. We should have at least two or three pitchers win 20 games."

• • •

Ellis took the first step in that direction Tuesday, pitching an eight-hitter and contributng three key sacrifice bunts to give the Pirates a 4-2 opening day victory over the Philadelphia Phillies.

DOCK ELLIS

"We worked on bunting a lot more than we usualy do this spring," Ellis said. "They kept drilling it into us that you might win three or four or five games yourself if you're able to swing a bat because you stay in a game longer."

Last season, Ellis had only seven hits in 70 at-bats, striking out 37 times, and executed only four sacrifice bunts — just one more than Tuesday. The Pirates were next-to-last in sacrifices in 1970.

"Any time a pitcher lays down three good bunts in a game, it's got to surprise you because it doesn't happen too often," said manager Frank Lucchesi of the Phillies. "You can work on it fre two months and some guys still can't do it."

Ellis, who the Pirates feel is good enough that he might win 20 games even with a bad bat, struck out eight and walked only two despite chilling 39-degree weather that made him a one-pitch pitcher.

"I didn't even break into a sweat," he said. "I couldn't go to the curve ball because it was so cold. I couldn't get the feel of the ball."

It was not the coldest weather in which Ellis has ever pitched, though. Last season, he pitched the second game, a night game against the Mets, and beat them 2-1 in 28-degree cold.

"I led the league in strikeouts for two weeks, too. Had 18."

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Curt Flood 'feels better' but 'not out of woods yet'

Curt Flood admits he's "not out of the woods yet," but says he feels "a lot better now."

What he means by "now" is simply that the long absence is ended, and Curt is once again in the swing of things playing baseball.

His acknowledgment that he has a way to go occurred following the opening game in Washington, in which he was playing with a new team, in a new league.

At 6 p.m., following "The Kerry Scott Show, "WBAL-TV will televise "Pinbusters," its popular Saturday afternoon bowling program, live and in color.

Batting lefthanded, he is able to see the pitch better, and this is a distance lift to someone who has been seriously injured by a pitch as was the Bird centerfielder in California two summers ago.

Although he showed no sgns of flinching from the tight inside pitch following his beaning by the Angels Ken Tatum, Paul had to be wary on each trip to the plate in "knockdown" situations.

The switch hitter also has the advantage that was utilized frequently by Mickey Mantle, formerly of the Yankees. He can perfect a timing technique that turns drag bunts into basehits.

When Blair and Don Buford are together in the lineup, the Birds will have two competent, and fleet, switchers at the top of the batting order to plague the opposition no end.

He also was playing his first game in 19 months after sitting out a season to challenge baseball's reserve clause in the courts.

• • •

"The first time at bat, I was nervous," Flood said, "but after that, it was like I was never away."

"I knew it would be hard to come back after the layoff and I'm not out of the woods yet," he said. "I need to feel a little more comfortable at the plate and get acclimated in the outfield."

• • •

He declined to speculate on a possible .300 season. "I just want to do the best job I can," the former St. Louis Cardinal star declared.

Flood said that the long layoff has not altered his attitude. "I'm just the same poor little colored boy," he said with a sly smile. "Nothing's changed."

Clippers claim first title, launch playoff with Reds

Having won their first divisional championship in nine years of Amercan Hockey League activity, the Baltimore Clippers now move into what general manager and coach Terry Reardon calls their 'second season' — the battle for the Calder Cup.

The post-season championship playoff series features the four-of-seven confrontation between the winners of the AHL West — Baltimore — against the winners of the AHL East — Providence. The remainder of the series schedule follows:

Sat., April 10 — at Baltimore — 8 p.m., Sun., April 11 — at Providence — 7:30 p.m., Wed., April 14 — at Providence — 7:30 p.m.;

Fri., April 16 — at Baltimore — 8 p.m. (if necessary), Sun., April 18 — at Providence — 7:30 p.m. (if necessary), and Tue., April 20 — at Baltimore — 8 p.m. (if nepesaary).

The survivor of this series will automatically qualify for the Calder Cup's final series.

The winner of the Clippers-Reds setto will play a best of seven championship finale against the survivor of the shorter best of five series playoffs involving the second and third place finishers of the two divisions.

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The Bullets aim to do it all in the N.B.A. this year. And win No. 3 for Baltimore.

We'll have to beat two more great teams to do it. And we'll have to come back from some tough injuries. But, Baltimore has a lot of momentum this year. We're going to keep it going.

And, we'd like to offer you the best way to see it all happen.

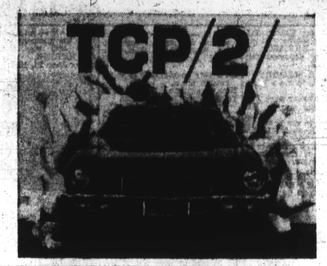
Just sign up for next season. With a full Season Ticket, or one of our Partial Plans, you can get preferential ticket treatment for the rest of this year's playoffs, plus a substantial discount on the full Season Tickets. The minimum deposit is only $10, and you can use N.A.C., MasterCharge or BankAmericard. Just call the Bullets at 837-7444, or visit our ticket office at the Civic Center.

It's been a great year for Baltimore. The Birds stopped the Big Red Machine. And the Colts beat the Doomsday Defense.

Of course we've got Willis Reed *and* Lew Alcindor to worry about. But come to the Civic Center and watch it all happen.

We're going to be No. 3. Because we try harder.

BALTIMORE bullets We try harder.

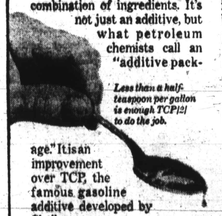


Announcing the latest improvement in Shell gasolines

New TCP/2/ helps keep your car in tune -for fewer exhaust emissions as well as good mileage.

1 TCP/2/ helps keep your car in tune. This helps hold down exhaust emissions in newer cars, reduce emissions in many older cars — and helps keep your mileage up.

TCP/2/ is Shell's name for a new combination of ingredients. It's not just an additive, but what petroleum chemists call an "additive package." It is an improvement over TCP, the famous gasoline additive developed by Shell years ago.



Today almost all gasolines contain additive packages. They differ somewhat in what they do and how well they do it. TCP/2/ is an effective additive package that provides an improvement in the performance of all of Shell's gasolines.

The effects of TCP/2/ can be summed up as *helping to keep your car in tune.*

Two of the main pollutants in a car's exhaust are unburned hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide. Both are undesirable, and both can go up when your car goes out of tune. In fact, it would not be unusual for these emissions to soar as much as 50 percent before you even suspect it. And by the time your car tells you it needs a tune-up, emissions can be extremely high.

By helping your car stay in tune, TCP/2/ helps stave off that serious increase in emissions.

TCP/2/ can also have a favorable effect on gasoline mileage. When your car goes out of tune your mileage tends to go down. TCP/2/ works to keep that from happening.

TCP/2/ can also actually *reduce* emissions from many cars — and improve their mileage. These are older cars that are, in effect, out of tune as a result of deposits that have built up in their carburetors.

Read on to find out how driving regularly with TCP/2/ helps restore mileage and reduce exhaust emissions from these cars.

3 TCP/2/ in both Shell and Super Shell helps extend spark plug life. This helps hold emissions down and keep your mileage up.

When spark plugs misfire, a lot goes wrong. Emissions go up, mileage goes down, acceleration is reduced – and you have to buy new plugs.

One of the components of TCP/2/ works to prevent spark plug misfire.

Shell pioneered components of this type and Shell gasolines were the first to contain them.

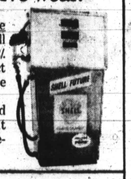
TCP/2/ also helps to smooth out rough running in many worn engines that have lost compression.

Another component in TCP/2/ is a special *anticing ingredient.* It helps prevent stalls caused by carburetor icing before your engine is warmed up on cool, damp days.

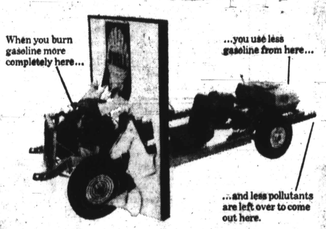
4 TCP/2/ in non-leaded Shell of the Future helps protect against valve wear.

One reason Shell of the Future can be made with no lead at all is a chemical element in TCP/2/. This element works to protect your engine against possible valve wear.

Shell could have left some lead in for the same purpose. But thanks to TCP/2/ Shell could remove all the lead.



Good mileage and fewer emissions — they can go hand in hand.



• **Probably the most important thing you can do is get a tune-up.** Over half of all cars need a tune-up. If they all got one, total exhaust emissions in the U.S. would be reduced significantly (and in most cases the effect on mileage would be favorable).

• **To help your car stay in tune, use a Shell gasoline with new TCP/2/.** This will work to hold emissions down – and to keep mileage up.

2 TCP/2/ keeps new carburetors clean, and helps clean up dirty ones. Works to hold emissions down and mileage up.

When excessive deposits build up on the "throat" of your carburetor, your engine is no longer in tune. Emissions can rise dramatically, and mileage usually goes down.

If your car is several years old or more, deposits may have built up on your carburetor "throat."

Although most of today's gasolines contain a detergent that will *keep* clean carburetors clean, not all of today's detergents can *cut down* on these deposits once they've formed. TCP/2/ does have that ability. It contains a new detergent combination that can start to clean up a dirty carburetor with just a few tankfuls of any Shell gasoline. This can reduce exhaust emissions substantially. And it generally helps mileage, too.

SHELL

New TCP/2/ is now in Shell, Super Shell, and non-leaded Shell of the Future.