

## Boyd changes Sox as strike opens up jobs in majors

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball has found its first big-name strikebreaker.

Dennis "Oil Can" Boyd, eager to prove he can still pitch at age 35, has agreed to join the Chicago White Sox and play despite the strike.

"Yes, it was a difficult decision," Boyd said Tuesday from his home in Winter Haven, Florida.

"I felt that I didn't want to cross the picket line. I've been through a couple of strikes and I know what those are about. But I wanted another chance to play ball, and if this is what it takes, then I'm going to do it."

Plus, there's the promise of a nice paycheck. If he signs before Jan. 20, Boyd and the White Sox can make any deal they want. After that date, his contract will be between \$115,000 and \$275,000.

Boyd, 78-77 with a 4.04 ERA in a flamboyant, 10-year career with Boston, Montreal and Texas, has not pitched in the majors since 1991. The right-hander played last year in the independent, Class A Northern League with the Sioux City Explorers, and was 4-1 with a 1.89 ERA before his season was cut short by a blood clot in his right shoulder.

Boyd, bothered by a similar blood clot in 1988 while with Boston, underwent surgery to correct the problem. He's been throwing since then and says he has recovered.

## Society needs reality check



KRIS HENRY

I'm not the type of person who typically enjoys change. I like to find a groove and then keep on rolling.

So, with this in mind, I've got to tell you that I'm not completely positive about 1995 so far.

First Gary Larson decides to stop drawing his *Far Side* cartoons, then the post office raises its rates for the fourth time since I started mailing letters. To

top it off, an all-female crew battling to be the United States' representative in the America's Cup is the talk of the sailing world.

Why is it so newsworthy that this group of women is attempting to defend the trophy all sailors vie for?

I guess the answer lies in the question. The key to this burning issue is that the combatants are a group of women. Not just one or two women, but an entire crew of the supposed weaker sex is attempting to qualify for our country.

This idea seems to be setting the sport of sailing on its ear. I may not favor change, but I certainly don't always oppose it.

The thing that particularly interests me about the all-female crew of America's Cup is that, as a society, we are still focusing on

the outer-shell of human beings.

Monday's holiday in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. stimulated my thoughts on this group of individuals and their treatment across the nation.

Shouldn't we concentrate on the abilities of the America's Cup crew instead of their sex? If these women were something other than Caucasian, would that make the story twice as important or newsworthy? It probably would in today's society — and that theory's existence is something we are all responsible for.

It's been said before, but the thought warrants repeating. Why can't we just get beyond the outside and focus on making determinations from what is on

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## Rams migrate east to St. Louis

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Eight years after losing the Cardinals to Arizona, St. Louis became the new home of the Rams Tuesday.

The Los Angeles Rams, wooed by one of the most lucrative deals in sports, are leaving bankrupt Orange County for a city that lost its first NFL franchise because of lack of fan support.

This time around, the city is offering a new domed stadium and incentives that could give the franchise a \$20 million annual profit. The Rams were projected to lose \$6 million playing in Anaheim this past season.

"Today is a great day for this community," St. Louis mayor Freeman Bosley Jr. said at the long-awaited news conference. "For the last nine months we have been working around the clock trying to bring NFL football to St. Louis."

If the league approves, pro football will return to St. Louis for the first time since 1987, when the Cardinals left for Arizona.

"The St. Louis Rams — how sweet it is," Bosley said. "Today is the day that the dream of a team of our own is now a reality."

### TRADING PLACES

■ **What:** The Los Angeles Rams made it official



Tuesday, announcing that the team is moving to St. Louis.

■ **Quotable:** "The St. Louis Rams — how sweet it is."

— Freeman Bosley  
Mayor of St. Louis

Bosley, former Sen. Thomas Eagleton, who headed the FANS Inc. effort to lure the Rams, U.S. Rep. Richard Gephardt, and other officials then signed an oversized "relocation agreement."

"I have waited and wanted this day to happen for a long time," Gephardt said. "Let me tell you, we proved together the naysayers wrong. I am confident professional football is going to

be a huge success in this town."

When Rams owner Georgia Frontiere, who grew

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## Charger star 'Means' business on path to Super Bowl

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Anyone who thinks Natrone Means is in his element when he's stampeding over tacklers should have seen him after the San Diego Chargers won the AFC championship.

Of course, when you're a 245-pound clap of thunder with a lightning bolt on your uniform, you can be the life of the party anytime you want.

As the celebrants around him in the visiting locker room at Three Rivers Stadium danced, screamed, even rapped a little as they mockingly waved towels, the 22-year-old Means summoned up all of his accumulated wisdom, took a long puff on a huge cigar and said, "We're pretty good. Where are we going?"

Had his teammates heard him, they would have responded as a chorus, "To the Super Bowl." But none of Means' buddies were close enough to know what he said.

They all know what the

"Natrone Bomb" has done for the Chargers this season. He detonated at just the right time, finishing second in the AFC with 1,350 yards rushing, scored 12 touchdowns and made the Pro Bowl in only his second NFL season.

In the playoffs, he led the Chargers back from a 21-6 half-time deficit to a 22-21 win over Miami. Then he helped wear down Pittsburgh's staunch defense, several times laying flat defenders who strayed into his path.

Means is as self-assured as a grizzled veteran. Not necessarily cocky or boastful, but certainly aware of his importance to the Chargers and his ability to live up to the organization's demands.

"Once they made the Butts trade, I knew I was going to be the man," said Means of Chargers general manager Bobby Beathard's decision to deal top running back Marion Butts on draft day to New England.

All Butts had done was lead the team in rushing five straight years as the focal point of a power attack.

"After the draft, coach Ross came to my house in North Carolina — I think it showed a little something that he stopped there — and he was talking to me and my mom. He said I'd have the opportunity, that my role would pick up in the offense and I would have the opportunity to start.

"I knew the chance was there, but he didn't hand me the starting job. I think it kind of boosted my confidence, though, and it showed he would give me the chance to be the back.

"The training was rough, but I knew what it was all for. I could sacrifice for a couple of months to get everything right. It was worth it."

As was worth it for Means, a second-round pick from North Carolina. Neither Beathard nor coach Bobby

Ross worried about Means taking over.

"He's a big strong guy who has breakaway speed and is not afraid to take a hit, because he knows he's usually going to come out of it OK," Ross said. "He's also a pretty good receiver and a smart football player and a pretty good blocker."

And a terrific talker. Means means what he says, and isn't afraid to stir up controversy or give frank answers to tough questions.

Such as on the matter of respect:

"It's time to start giving ourselves some credit, because the way it's been going, nobody else is going to give us credit until we start. It's time we start pumping ourselves up a bit."

Or on his quick NFL success:

"I think other people are more surprised by it. I'm not. I felt if I could get the ball 20-25

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### NBA LEADERS

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA individual scoring, field goal percentage, rebounding and assist leaders through Jan. 16:

Scoring	G	FG	FT	Pts	Avg
O'Neal, Ori.	36	420	219	1059	29.4
Robinson, S.A.	31	299	283	881	28.4
Olajuwon, Hou.	33	362	197	921	27.9
Jackson, Dall.	33	319	210	871	26.4
Malone, Utah	36	348	200	904	25.1
Mashburn, Dall.	33	289	183	808	24.5
Drexler, Port.	30	240	156	702	23.4
Richmond, Sac.	34	274	158	768	22.6
Sprewell, G.S.	33	265	166	743	22.5
Rice, Mia.	35	288	114	777	22.2
Ceballos, LAL	31	278	112	688	22.2
C. Robinson, Port.	33	261	138	723	21.9
Hardaway, Ori.	35	272	179	766	21.9
Wilkins, Bos.	31	241	135	671	21.6
Ewing, N.Y.	33	274	158	708	21.5
Pippen, Chi.	35	273	144	743	21.2
Rider, Minn.	34	257	144	716	21.1
Payton, Sea.	33	268	116	679	20.6
Miller, Ind.	35	224	167	710	20.3
Mourning, Char.	30	215	166	596	19.9

F.O.%	FG	FGA	Pct
O'Neal, Ori.	420	703	59.7
D. Davis, Ind.	183	311	58.8
Grant, Ori.	179	305	58.7
Polynice, Sac.	159	276	57.6
Hornacek, Utah	230	407	56.5
Hill, Clev.	172	305	56.4
Perry, Pho.	143	255	56.1
Thorpe, Hou.	139	249	55.8
Robinson, S.A.	299	545	54.9
Manning, Pho.	262	478	54.8

### Duck women receive vote

After Friday's Civil War upset over Oregon State, the Oregon women received 14 votes in the latest Associated Press women's basketball poll. The Ducks are now ranked 34th in the nation after their impressive 9-3 start to the season.

As a result, the Beavers fell out of this week's top 25, slipping from 21st to 26th in the nation and dropped to 9-3 on the season as well.

Three Pac-10 schools occupy the top 25. Stanford leads the pack coming in at No. 5, while Washington (13) and USC (24) make up the rest of the conference contingent.

### CHAMPIONS

Since 1927, the Montreal Canadiens have taken home 22 Stanley Cup Trophies. Here's how they stack up with the competition.



MATT GARTON/Emerald