

WEDNESDAY'S TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

NL

■ **FLORIDA MARLINS**—Purchased the contract of Miguel Batista, pitcher, from Charlotte of the International League.

■ **PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES**—Claimed Willie Banks, pitcher, off waivers from the Florida Marlins. Announced they will not offer a contract to Mike Quade, manager of Scranton-Wilkes-Barre of the International League.

■ **SAN DIEGO PADRES**—Agreed to terms with Steve Finley, outfielder, on a two-year contract.

■ **SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS**—Agreed to terms with Mark Leiter, pitcher, on a one-year contract.

BASKETBALL

NBA

■ **BOSTON CELTICS**—Signed Eric Williams, guard, to a three-year contract and Doug Smith, forward.

■ **DALLAS MAVERICKS**—Signed Loren Meyer, center, to a three-year contract.

■ **GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS**—Signed Joe Smith, forward, to a three-year contract.

■ **INDIANA PACERS**—Signed Fred Hoiberg, guard; Kevin Salvadori, center; and Adrian Caldwell, forward.

■ **SACRAMENTO KINGS**—Agreed to terms with Corliss Williamson, forward, on a three-year contract.

■ **UTAH JAZZ**—Signed Antoine Carr, forward, to a two-year contract.

Released Alex Austin, Craig Johnson, Dirk Sures and Marcus Timmons, guards; Ron Huery, Ivano Newbill and Melvin Robinson, forwards; and Rich King, center.

FOOTBALL

NFL

■ **PHILADELPHIA EAGLES**—Signed Joe Rudolph, guard, to a one-year contract. Added Alai Kalaniurvalu, guard, to the practice squad.

HOCKEY

■ **HOCKEY HALL OF FAME**—Announced the resignation of David Taylor, president.

NHL

■ **NEW YORK ISLANDERS**—Agreed to terms with Wendel Clark, left wing.

■ **NEW YORK RANGERS**—Assigned Jamie Ram, goalie, and Lee Sorochnan and Barry Richter, defensemen, to Binghamton of the AHL.

■ **ST. LOUIS BLUES**—Assigned Bruce Racine, goalie, to Peoria of the IHL.

COLONIAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

■ **BRANTFORD SMOKE**—Signed Herb Raglan, forward.

LACROSSE

MAJOR INDOOR LEAGUE

■ **BUFFALO BANDITS**—Named Ted Sawicki assistant coach.

COLLEGE

■ **HARTWICK**—Named Brian Brecht men's assistant lacrosse coach.

■ **MISSOURI**—Named Derrick Gragg director of compliance-operations.

Kersey waived by expansion team

BASKETBALL: Jerome

Kersey's contract too much for Raptors

TORONTO (AP) — Jerome Kersey was waived Wednesday by the Toronto Raptors to save \$4.1 million in salary obligations for the upcoming season.

Meanwhile, guard Damon Stoudamire, the seventh pick overall in June's NBA draft, is expected to sign on Thursday.

Kersey, a veteran forward chosen from the Portland Trail Blazers in June's expansion draft, was the most expensive player on the Raptors roster.

Kersey is now free to make a deal with any other NBA team.

Under their expansion agreement, the Raptors are only allowed 66 percent of the \$23 million salary cap available to the rest of the league, just more than \$15 million.

Under a deal Thomas struck with Portland before the expansion draft, the Blazers were obligated to pay Kersey his salary, although it would have counted against Toronto's cap.

Blazers president Bob Whitsitt would not comment Wednesday night on Portland's obligations to Kersey. But he said Kersey would be in a better position now because his salary will not be an obstacle to his signing with another team.

Any team that signs Kersey

would not have to pay the \$4.1 million.

Whitsitt said that money will be paid under the agreement between the Blazers and Toronto and the money will not count against either team's salary cap.

Whatever contract Kersey signs would be in addition to the \$4.1 million.

"Hopefully, someone will develop out of camp," said Thomas, adding the team could move off-guard Willie Anderson or forward Carlos Rogers into Kersey's spot.

"We've got a lot of versatile players. We'd like to play a little more up-tempo but we'll have to see what Brendan can do once we get to camp."

Yankees: New York outlasts Mariners

Continued from Page 11

sixth inning.

He got even by homering on a 3-1 pitch from Tim Lincecum with one out after a walk to Pat Kelly.

Ken Griffey hit his third home run of the series, tying an AL playoff record, for a 5-4 lead in the 12th. Sierra tied it with a two-out double, with the potential winning run thrown out at the plate.

Belcher, who pitched 2 2-3 innings, was expected to start Game 3 at the Kingdome if the Mariners had won. Instead, Johnson will pitch Friday on three days' rest for the second

time this week.

"We're pretty confident, but Randy Johnson is going Friday and he's a tough competitor. But we feel pretty good up 2-0," Leyritz said.

The game lasted 5 hours, 13 minutes, and ended in a light mist — the longest game by time in postseason history.

The previous longest AL playoff game — both in time and innings — came Tuesday night when Cleveland beat Boston 5-4 in 5:01.

Rookie Mariano Rivera

pitched two-hit ball for 3 1-3 scoreless innings for the win, striking out five.

It looked like Seattle would win after Griffey's homer off John Wetteland, but the Yankees tied it in the 12th when Sierra came within a couple of feet of matching Griffey.

With runners on first and second and two outs, Sierra doubled off the top of the wall in left off Belcher. Pinch-runner Jorge Posada scored, but Bernie Williams was thrown out at the plate on a perfect relay throw to send the game into the 13th.

Indians: Hanson not quite good enough

Continued from Page 11

record with seven strikeouts.

Julian Tavarez and Paul Assenmacher each got one out in the eighth inning, and Jose Mesa — who led the majors with 46 saves this year — got the last three outs.

Boston starter Erik Hanson, who had gone 3-0 in his previous four starts against Cleveland this year, was nearly as sharp as Hershiser, limiting the Indians

to four hits.

But Hanson ran into trouble in the fifth inning when Paul Sorrento walked, went to second on Sandy Alomar's sacrifice bunt and to third on a passed ball.

Kenny Lofton then walked, and Vizquel's double to right-center scored both runners.

Hanson then walked Albert Belle before Murray homered with one out in the eighth.

By Hershiser's fourth pitch of the game, the Indians had committed two errors and Hershiser had thrown a wild pitch.

He got out of the first inning without further damage, however, then stranded three runners in the second by getting Dwayne Hosey to ground out.

The Red Sox only got one runner to second base against him after that.

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