

La Russa signs deal with St. Louis

■ **BASEBALL:** Long-time Oakland manager starts his second stint in the Cardinal organization

ST. LOUIS (AP) — One of the worst teams in the major leagues got one of the best managers.

Tony La Russa, who led the Oakland Athletics to a championship and three AL pennants in 10 years, signed a two-year contract on Monday worth an estimated \$1.5 million per season to manage the St. Louis Cardinals.

The Cardinals finished fourth in the NL Central at 62-81 under Joe Torre and Mike Jorgensen. La Russa didn't fare much better as the Athletics finished last in the AL West at 67-77, but his track record put him in demand and he took advantage of an opportunity to leave Oakland with two years left on his contract.

Cardinals general manager Walt Jocketty was director of baseball administration for Oakland for 10 years before becoming the Colorado Rockies' assistant general manager in 1993. He joined the Cardinals last season.

"The hiring of Tony La Russa to manage the Cardinals is a huge step in the rebuilding process of this organization," Jocketty said. "He's one of the best managers of this era."

La Russa, has managed for 17 years — all in the AL. He didn't appear too worried about changing leagues and said he wanted to produce a contending team "as early as possible."

"I believe in high goals," La Russa said. "I believe in big dreams."

Cardinals outfielder Bernard Gilkey attended the news conference and endorsed the move.

"He's been to the World Series, he's won the big games," Gilkey said. "He's just a competitive person and that's what we need."

La Russa, 51, brings his long-time pitching coach, Dave Duncan, with him. Duncan replaces Mark Riggins, who was with the Cardinals one season.

"That was a slam dunk," La Russa said. "No contest. We are a team."

The Cardinals also will retain Lou

Brock and Red Schoendienst in capacities that have yet to be determined. La Russa spoke Monday with batting coach Chris Chambliss and said other members of his Oakland staff would be considered for other openings.

Jorgensen returns, at least for now, to his job as director of player development for the Cardinals. He's under consideration for the general manager job in Montreal.

La Russa said he left Oakland, which is under new ownership, without animosity.

"It would have been very easy to get turned on by the challenge they face," La Russa said. "But at some point, you wear out your welcome and it's time to move on."

"We're just grateful Tony chose the National League," Athletics owner Steve Schott said. "That means we'll only have to face him if we both get to the World Series."

Schott declined to speculate on potential replacements.

"Tony left some big shoes to fill, so we're going to be very certain we pick the right guy," Schott said.

This is actually La Russa's second tour with the Cardinals, who had him as a minor league player-coach at the Triple-A level in 1977. La Russa recalled minor league instructor George Kissell giving him some sobering news.

"He said, 'You're just not good enough to play in this system, son,'" La Russa said. "Then he said, 'I suggest you think about managing as soon as possible.'"

La Russa took the advice and managed Knoxville of the Class AA Southern League in 1978 before taking his first major-league managing job the next year with the Chicago White Sox. With 1,320 victories, he's second behind only Tommy Lasorda of Los Angeles among active managers and has won five AL West titles.

Major league baseball issued a non-binding request that teams not announce any personnel moves on World Series game days, but Monday is an off-day and the Cardinals got the go-ahead.

"Certainly we'd have never done it on a game day, but it's all for the good of baseball," team spokesman Brian Bartow said.

Stewart: Student seats are first come, first serve

■ **Continued from Page 9**

five minutes before kickoff and get are now seats that are taken an hour and a half before the game.

There's nothing wrong with the fact that there's more people coming and selling out Autzen Stadium. On the contrary, it's a very positive thing. And there's also nothing wrong with the way the seating in the student section is handled, as long as people show a little common courtesy and get their seats the way they're supposed to.

There is a reason why it's called "first come, first serve," and not "first come and save forty seats for the rest of your friends who are still outside getting hammered."

And this doesn't just apply to the Greek System. These unwritten laws of courtesy should be followed by everyone. It doesn't matter if it's a fraternity or the algebra club.

If having a good seat is important to you, whether it's because you really want to watch the game or you just want to sit by your friends, then there are some really simple solutions.

One way to solve the problem is to start partying earlier and get in the sta-

dium earlier. That seems simple enough.

Another way is to have your friends wait for you. You may not get as good of a seat, but at least you're next to your buddies.

If there is some extreme reason why a person can't make it early enough to get a seat by their friends, then saving one seat may be acceptable.

Also, if you are going to be too intoxicated to remember anything that happens at the game — which most everyone is at least once in their life — then do the sober fans and the serious fans a favor and let them have the good seats.

It's really very easy to go through the hassle of student section seating without having problems. Get there early, get your own seat and don't save massive quantities of seats for anyone. And remember, we are all fans for the same 10th-ranked Oregon Ducks. So let's get along and enjoy the success of our fantastic football team.

Go Ducks!

Chris Stewart is a sports reporter for the Emerald

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Horoscope by Frances Drake

For Tuesday, Oct. 24, 1995

ARIES

(March 21 to April 19)

Couples devise a strategy for dealing with a rebellious child. There's a strong possibility that you will attain financial backing for that project you want to start. Your energy level is high, and you accomplish much.

TAURUS

(April 20 to May 20)

A heart-to-heart chat with a close friend clears the air. You successfully complete a difficult project that was bothering you. All in all, it's a good money-making time for you.

GEMINI

(May 21 to June 20)

You are briskly efficient and at your best on the job, and you make great strides. Some have second thoughts about a proposed investment. In the evening, delve into partnership interests.

CANCER

(June 21 to July 22)

A private talk with a higher-up at work brings key insights. Be sure to fulfill that social obligation you made some time ago. In general, you are the picture of confidence and self-assertion.

LEO

(July 23 to Aug. 22)

You and your partner should address mutual concerns. At work, you encounter extra responsibilities and some minor obstacles. However, you attack everything with renewed drive.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

You and your significant other make important plans for your future together. However, you need to spend some extra time on a career project. What goes on behind the scenes is to your benefit.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

A useful financial tip comes to you from a surprising source. That intellectual project you relished at the

outset is more time-consuming than you'd thought. The evening finds you in a sociable mood.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Interests of a creative nature come to the fore. You are adept at communicating your ideas to others. Later in the day, you tackle a difficult household chore to get it out of the way.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

Whether orally or literally, you are at your communicative best. However, bide your time when it comes to clearing the air with a loved one. It's best to still wait a day or so.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Your judgment is right on the mark concerning your career and domestic concerns. A child comes to you for help with a difficult assignment. A romantic evening is favored.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

Buying and selling are favored. However, on the social scene, it's best to get out of the house as opposed to having friends over. There's an emphasis on leisure activities.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 to March 20)

A friend comes to you for advice but isn't really in the mood to listen. Instead, simply lend a sympathetic ear. You want to socialize in the evening, but it's best to relax.

YOU BORN TODAY are a bundle of energy, constantly flitting from here to there, never really alighting for very long. Your interest is easily captivated but never long held. As a result, your early years are chaotic and full of broken promises. Once you settle down, you excel at innovative fields and are at the forefront of new technology. Personal relationships are fulfilling later in life.

Birthdate of: F. Murray Abraham, actor; Kevin Kline, actor; B.D. Wong, actor.

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