

Johnson avenges UA loss

By Bob Baum
The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Revenge is sweet, Randy Johnson joked, even after 14 years.

The last time Johnson faced the University of Arizona, he walked six and was shelled for six runs on 13 hits in a 7-3 loss.

That was 1985. He was no Big Unit then, just an extremely tall, extremely wild junior at USC.

Johnson took the mound against the Wildcats again on Wednesday, making his Arizona Diamondback debut by methodically striking out four of the six batters he faced in two perfect innings.

"I'm getting back at U of A after all those beatings I used to take at USC," Johnson said.

Two of the college players, 19-year-old Keoni DeRenne and 21-year-old Dennis Anderson, managed to bounce out to short-stop, the biggest groundouts of their lives.

"He was almost like the Eiffel Tower because I'm only 5-foot-7," DeRenne said. "He's immense. It was just awesome, man. Hopefully they got it on videotape because I'd like to show it to my kids someday."

Johnson, who warned last week not to expect anything overwhelming from him in

spring training, threw 31 pitches. Five were call strikes, seven were swinging strikes, six were fouls, 11 were balls and two were hit in play.

He threw a couple breaking balls and change-ups, but mostly four-seam and two-seam fastballs.

"I'm a little disappointed the breaking ball wasn't there, but I'm always that way in spring training," Johnson said. "I just went out there to work on my mechanics and my arm strength."

Johnson, who signed a four-year, \$52.4 million contract with the Diamondbacks, strolled to the mound at Tucson Electric Park under bright sunshine in 80-degree weather. In the distance beyond left field, the Catalina Mountains provided a scenic backdrop to what amounted to a historic moment for the second-year franchise.

The Diamondback purple was the fourth major-league uniform Johnson has worn. He started his career with Montreal and spent 9 1/2 seasons as a Seattle Mariner. For a half-season last year, he was a Houston Astro. Now he's the marquee addition to a high-priced rotation that could vault Arizona into National League contention.

Men

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ford program.

"I think they play with so much confidence that they've allowed themselves to dominate teams," said Kent, who is 0-3 against the Cardinal with Oregon. "We're just a little bit intimidated by the fact that they've had so much success. Sometimes you go in with a little bit of uncertainty about yourself."

"You've got to be able to defeat that mentally before you can beat them physically."

However, Kent also believes the Ducks, who have won five of six games to get back into postseason contention, are ready to play with a team of Stanford's caliber.

"I just think we're a better basketball team now," Kent said of his team's first encounter with the Cardinal. "I think they've been good all year long. We've had a chance to get better."

Stanford head coach Mike Mont-

gomery agrees that Oregon has improved.

"They're probably a little more confident in what they're doing, knowing what they're trying to do, how it fits and what they need to do to win," Montgomery said. "I think, as much as anything else, winning a few close games has helped them."

Montgomery said he knows the Cardinal cannot afford a let-down at McArthur Court.

"We want to try to continue to improve and build some momentum going into the tournament," Montgomery said.

Stanford point guard Arthur Lee hopes to continue the momentum he gained in outplaying Arizona's Jason Terry last Saturday and earning Pac-10 player of the week honors.

So tonight, without further ado, the Ducks hope their season will not go out like a lamb.

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GO DUCKS!

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Horoscope by Frances Drake

For Thursday, March 4, 1999

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
At long last, all that talk leads to a little action. A good deed comes back to you right when you most need it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
Try to remain as calm as you can in the face of stress. Empathy with a problem may interfere with your good judgment.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Pearls of wisdom drop out of your mouth at the slightest opportunity. Just make sure you're not talking merely to hear the sound of your own voice.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Take some time and space to reflect on your situation. True friends will respect and understand your need for distance.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)
There could be some unresolved issues around the home and family today. Opening up the lines of communication is your best option.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
You are much better at listening than at speaking. Be a shoulder for someone without feeling compelled to impose your judgment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Make the utmost of an abundantly prosperous time. The world is a smorgasbord waiting for you to step up and

sample what it has to offer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Before blaming someone else, take a close look at your own actions. It is likely that this is a simple case of projection.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
You may land in a mess you didn't make and be forced to share the responsibility of cleaning it up. Try to do it with as much good humor as you can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Don't try to make big, important decisions when you are mentally unstable. Do whatever it is that makes you feel most grounded.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Love and magic suddenly become interchangeable forces as you are swept off your feet. Don't run away from the bliss to follow.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
Others are prepared to give you a lot of slack, thanks to your unique creative talents. Make sure that you are not starting to abuse this privilege.

YOU BORN TODAY There is an intense, dynamic energy burning within you that you find hard to tone down for casual occasions. People are by turns drawn to such burning passion. Sometimes your love of melodrama can get tiring, though.

Birthdate of: David Darling, jazz musician; Chris Rea, rock musician; Antonio Vivaldi, classical musician.

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Dilbert By Scott Adams

Panel 1: Dilbert says, "I'D LIKE TO START WITH A CARTOON."
Panel 2: Dilbert says, "IT'S ABOUT A GUY WHO SHOWS A CARTOON BEFORE GIVING A BORING PRESENTATION."
Panel 3: Dilbert says, "BUT IT DOESN'T WORK BECAUSE THE CARTOON HAS NO PUNCHLINE."
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