

Baseball fever on KPTV-12 catch it!!!



Maurey Wills

Maurice Morning Wills...Resides in Playa del Rey, California. Son Bump Wills is the second baseman of the Texas Rangers. After retirement served as commentator for the NBC Game of the Week from 1973-78. In 1979 prior to joining the Mariners, hosted a weekly baseball show for Home Box Office, as well as broadcasting Thursday Night Game of the Week. Serves as a consultant during the off-season for the Hankyu Braves in Japan. Known for his entertaining on the banjo during his career.

How does a 48-year-old Black man redirect the misfortunes of one of the two worst teams in the American League? By stressing fundamentals! What else?

"When I was named manager of the Seattle Mariners last August 4, I said I couldn't promise an immediate turnaround, but I could promise that we'd be a fundamentally sound, aggressive and exciting team. But most of all, we're going to be a team our fans will enjoy watching."

And if they are watching Manager Maury Wills and the Seattle Mariners Saturday at noon on KPTV-12, they'll get a sample of Wills' plans for the fast approaching major league season. The Mariners will be

the previous 104 games (52 stolen bases). They also had a better win-loss percentage -- directly accountable to Wills' fundamental philosophy. But what else?

"Every team in baseball is weak on the fundamentals. That goes for the champion Phillies and Kansas City and everybody else. The winners in both leagues are winning with talent. They make as many fundamental mistakes as the bottom teams, but you don't notice their mistakes when they win. So the best and fastest way for us to compete is to learn the fundamentals. That's the way to close the gap."

"When last season ended, we wanted to add some punch to our offense. Getting Richie Zisk will help produce more runs in 1981. He can combine with first baseman Bruce Bochte and left fielder Dan Meyer to give us punch in the middle of our lineup. Zisk will be my designated hitter. And we have Jeff Burroughs from Atlanta, too. The Kingdome walls are made for both of those two guys."



MAURY WILLS

"Second baseman Juilo Cruz can become one of the most intimidating players in the game. He is capable of stealing 100 bases a year, and will improve his batting average."

"There are two jobs to be won on the left side of our infield. At shortstop, Mario Guerrero, Jim Anderson and Rick Auerbach will be fighting for playing time. Meanwhile, at third base, rookie Dave Elder, who came up and started for us last September, will battle Ted Cox for the position."

"Behind the plate, two young left-handed hitters, Jerry Narron and Brad Gulden will be seeing most of the action. Both were obtained from the Yankees."

"The outfield is crowded right now. We added Willie Norwood and Gary Gray during the off-season. Meyer will be the left fielder, and coming off his 1980 performance, Tom Paciorek is the right fielder. Joe Simpson will see plenty of action. Rod Craig, a rookie in 1980, has the inside track in centerfield. And I want to get a good look at young Dave Henderson in action."

It is Wills' theory about fines and rules that goes against the fundamental tradition of baseball: "I think a manager should have an open, honest relationship with his players. And a long list of rules just gets in the way. You've got to have a good enough relationship to correct your players instantly. I don't believe in waiting a day like most of my managers did. If a player does something wrong, brace him then and there. And if he has to be sent down to the minors or traded to another club, I want to tell him myself. I don't want to hide behind go-betweens."

"When I was playing, what I tried to do was think all those traditions through -- and learn from them -- not just accept them. I was disappointed in every manager I had. I was lucky enough to play for the best of my time --

- Walter Alston, Gene Mauch, Danny Murtaugh -- but I never felt that any of them leveled with their players. I don't mean they were malicious. They just weren't open and honest. They had accepted a tradition that a manager doesn't have to be honest with his players."

It is Wills honesty and integrity that promise to make the Mariners more than an expansion doormat in 1981. As a believer of fundamental baseball, Wills is anxious to keep his players interested.

"Being a good teacher is getting a good rapport with the student. Getting them comfortable. Getting them believing in you. First, of course, you have to know what you're doing. Second, you have to do it with an air of authority. And third, you have to keep explaining. I never assume anything. I never give a person a chance to misunderstand me. On any drill we have, if anything goes wrong, we stop immediately and start all over from the start."

Look for Wills to try a variety of combinations in Saturday's TV game with San Diego on KPTV-12. It's a way to find out what is fundamentally right or wrong with his team.



Cicely Tyson as Miss Jane Pittman

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN is a story of human dignity well worth repeating. On Monday, April 27 at 8 pm, KPTV-12 will again present Cicely Tyson in her highly acclaimed title role: that of a former slave and her struggle for human decency.

Winner of nine Emmy Awards, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN encompasses the life of a 110-year-old woman who was born in slavery and lived to see the birth of the civil rights movement. It tells of her loves and losses. And of the final moment of triumph that climaxes her life.

"There are many things to applaud in this precedental venture. Its uncompromising honesty, for one thing. Its visual artistry for another. The film is a class job from start to finish, and the eloquence of its many faces is reason enough to watch it," noted the *National Observer* when the film was first released in 1974 on CBS television.

Said Rex Reed: "I predict it will make motion picture history. Cicely Tyson makes THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN a personal triumph so that it becomes a tribute to a great woman and a great actress as well. One of the most profound and deeply-moving experiences in the history of film."

Reed's prediction has come unabashedly true. THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN is an epic drama, at once shattering, absorbing, extraordinary.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN builds pride, renews dignity. It is definitely well worth seeing again and again!

Big hits on KPTV-12



TOM PACIOREK



BRUCE BOCHITE

taking the field with the San Diego Padres -- habitual National League losers themselves -- in one of those spring exhibition tuneups before it all begin to count.

Baseball fans who followed Wills sparkling career as a Dodger player will be equally enthused by his attitude and interested in his accomplishments as a manager.

"We played some good baseball in the latter stages of the 1980 season, and in 1981, other ballclubs are going to realize that they can't just show up and expect to beat us." That the Mariners did and will continue to do. They stole more bases in a third of a season under Wills' leadership (64 stolen bases in 58 games) than they had in

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