

Cubs could wrap up NL pennant tonight

SAN DIEGO (UPI) - The San Diego Padres believe they are blessed.

But heaven can't wait for the Chicago Cubs, who are leading in the best-of-five National League series two games to one and have the best pitcher in baseball this season rested and ready to pitch the decisive fifth game if necessary.

Despite the Padres optimism, the Chicago Cubs still hold the trump card.

The Cubs will send righthander Scott Sanderson to the mound tonight in an effort to wrap up the club's first pennant in 39 years. But if he fails and the Padres should somehow even the series Chicago fans

can still relax a bit in knowing that Rick Sutcliffe is available for Game 5.

"To be honest with you, I'm not worried about it," said Sutcliffe, who posted a 16-1 record for the Cubs during the regular season and defeated the Padres, 13-0, in the opening game of the playoffs. "I'm still confident that we're going to win this thing in four games. If not, I'll be ready Sunday. That'll be fine. If we win Game 4, that's even better. Then I'll start the first game of the World Series on Tuesday."

The Padres, though, have thoughts about having the World Series begin at San Diego Stadium

After whipping the Cubs, 7-1, Thursday night, their confidence has been restored and they feel the momentum has definitely shifted their way.

"After last night, if it hasn't completely swung to our side, it's leaning our way," said Tim Lollar, who has been named by Manager Dick Williams to pitch tonight's game.

Possibly, but the Cubs hardly look like a team that is getting upright. During their off-day workout Friday, the Cubs' players laughed and joked around the batting cage and engaged in a friendly home-run hitting contest.

"I'm not sure what to say about the momentum (shif-

ting)," said the Cubs' Bob Dernier. "I do believe that when your backs are to the wall, like San Diego's were, it brings out the best in you more times than not."

The Cubs are counting on Sanderson to be at his best tonight. When he is healthy, he's one of the league's best pitchers, but he has been plagued by a sore back this season which put him on the 21-day disabled list at one point.

During the regular season, Sanderson posted an 8-5 record with a 3.14 ERA. But since the All-Star break his record is only 3-4.

"But he's been throwing well lately," said Cubs catcher Jody

Davis. "He's actually been throwing the ball good all year long. He's got good control of his fastball and he's got a good curve. He's a good pitcher. I think he can come in here and do a good job."

Against the Padres, Sanderson was 0-0 with a 4.15 ERA in two starts.

"We're not going to do anything different. We want to keep their speed off the bases and their power hitters in the park," said Sanderson.

He said he anticipated no problems with his back.

"The back is fine," he said. "I'm ready to go out there."

Lollar, too, had an injuryplagued season. He was

bothered by a sore left shoulder late in the season and struggled through an 11-13 campaign.

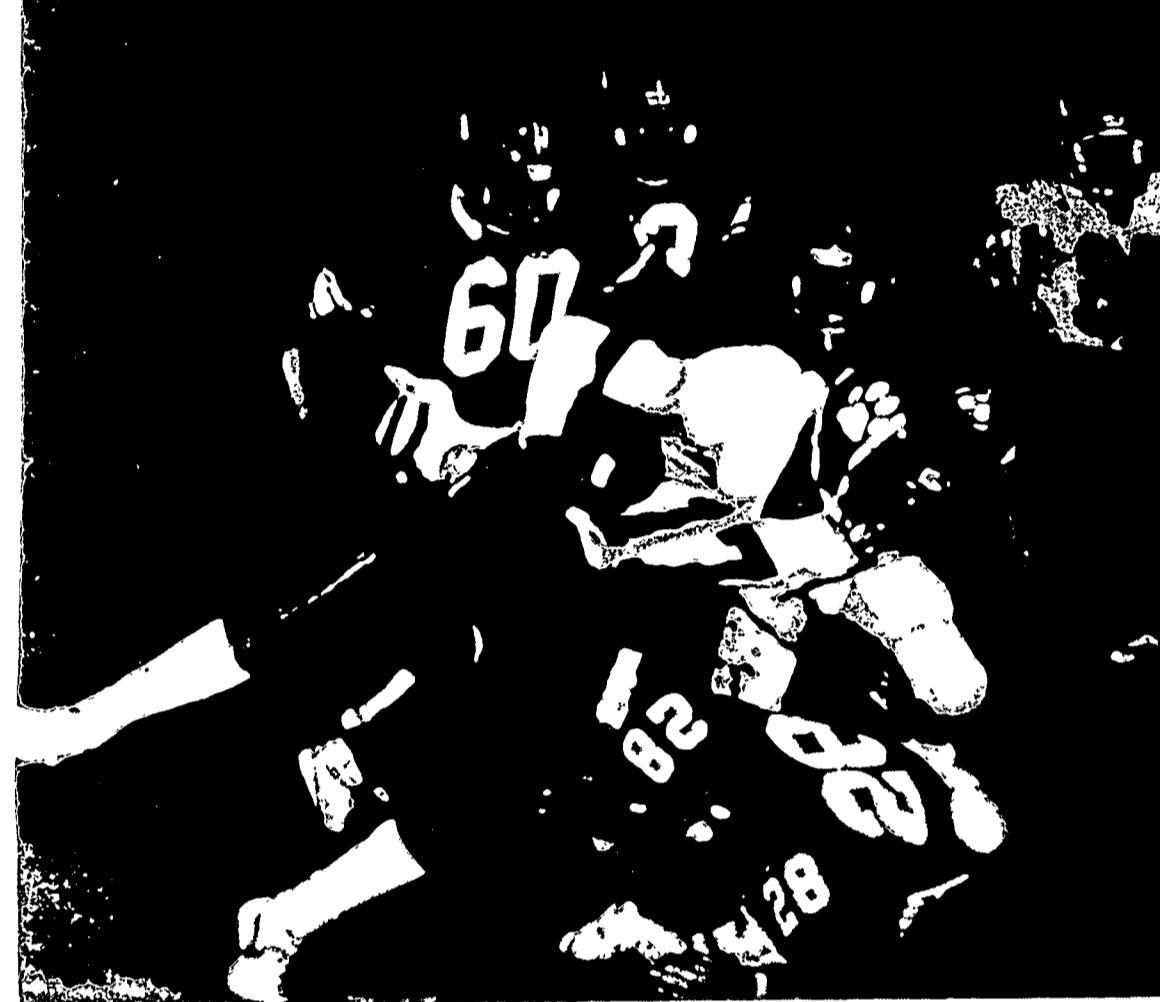
But, he is one of the league's hardest throwers and can be virtually unhittable when he's in command of his pitches. He has usually performed well against the Cubs, holding a 4-3 record and a 2.78 ERA against them during his career.

"He's the type who could come up with the best performance of his life," said Williams, "because nothing ever seems to bother him. It's a helluva challenge for him. If he likes challenges, he's got one."

Lollar can hardly wait to take the mound.

Southern division collision

Crestview wins first at Plymouth's expense



Daily Globe/Chuck Ridenour

Crestview quarterback Mark Hershiser is tripped up by Plymouth defender Jamie Brown (28) for a short gain as a host of Plymouth players sur-

round the action. Plymouth fell to 2-4 on the season after dropping a 14-8 decision to the Cougars.

Payton don't want ceremony for breaking rushing record

By DAVE RAFFO
UPI Sports Writer

If Walter Payton gains 67 yards against the New Orleans Saints Sunday, he'll become the all-time NFL leading rusher and move within a mere 2,687 yards of his career goal.

That's right Payton isn't shooting for Jim Brown's record of 12,312 yards rushing. The Chicago Bears' star wants 15,000 rushing yards. Perhaps then he'll let the Bears hold an on-field ceremony for him.

Payton has gained 621 yards in five games already, so should have little trouble passing Brown at home Sunday. If he does all the Bears will do is make an announcement and send the ball to the Hall of Fame. That's all Payton wants.

I'm not too excited about stopping the game for any

length of time or making a ceremony or whatever," Payton said. "Once it's over, just acknowledge it to the crowd and get on with the game. That's the key thing I hope this record doesn't overshadow the importance of the game. We're in a race."

"Right now, I'll be glad when this is over with, so I can get back to a semi-normal life."

The Saints won't be an easy mark, however. They allowed Houston just 133 total yards and 84 rushing in a 27-10 win last week. Both teams are 3-2 going into the game and battling for their division title.

"They (Saints) have a great defense, probably better than the Cowboys," Payton said. "I just thank the good Lord that he has given me the ability to do what I've done so far. My job is to break the record."

Payton gained 155 yards in a 23-14 loss to Dallas last week. It was his fourth straight 100-yard effort and 10th of his career to tie another Brown record.

"I want 15,000 yards," Payton said. "You set your goals high and that's how you benefit. That 15,000-yard mark is it. Jim Brown's record just happens to fall in the path of it."

In other games Sunday, its Seattle at the Los Angeles Raiders, Miami at Pittsburgh, St. Louis at Dallas, Minnesota at Tampa Bay, Washington at Indianapolis, Atlanta at the Los Angeles Rams, San Diego at Green Bay, Denver at Detroit, the New York Jets at Kansas City, New England at Cleveland, Philadelphia at Buffalo and Houston at Cincinnati.

On Monday night, the New York Giants host San Francisco at Los Angeles, the Super Bowl champion Raiders are coming off their first loss of the

season and Coach Tom Flores is mad. The Raiders' 16-13 loss to Denver dropped them into a three-way tie with the Broncos and Seahawks atop the AFC West with 4-1 records.

Flores is most upset that his team gave up 233 rushing yards to the Broncos.

"I'm concerned as you can be about that," Flores said. "The people we have are going to have to start doing better. It wasn't a total breakdown. Not a breakdown in any certain area either."

"I know the players are a little frustrated because nobody has been able to run like that on them before."

The Seahawks caught fire last weekend when they downed the Minnesota Vikings 20-12 at Minneapolis. Quarterback Dave Krieg, a fifth-year pro, completed 17 of 27 passes for 222 yards and one touchdown. Steve Largent caught eight passes last week and has caught a pass in each of his last 96 games.

At Pittsburgh, league-leading passer Dan Marino makes his first trip back home since the Dolphins drafted him last year. Marino, a former University of Pittsburgh star, threw for a club-record 429 yards and three TDs to keep Miami unbeaten with a 36-28 win over St. Louis last week.

For the season, Marino is 101-for-155 for 1,527 yards, 15 TDs and three interceptions. However, the Steelers are coming off a five-interception performance in a 38-17 win over Cincinnati Monday night. Donnie Shell and Dwayne Woodruff each picked off two passes and returned one for a score against the Bengals.

The Steelers, the AFC's second-best defensive team, also had six sacks last week.

By BRAD METZGER
Globe staff reporter

PLYMOUTH-The Plymouth gridders were devoured by the Crestview Cougars, 14-8, in front of a large homecoming gathering at Bob Lewis Memorial Field in a Firelands Conference battle between southern division foes. The win was the first of the season for Crestview.

"We didn't come prepared and ready to play," said Plymouth coach Dick Roll. "That's a fact."

"We weren't mentally into the game, it was homecoming week and Crestview was 0-5 entering this game," said Roll of some of the facts clouding the Big Red gridders minds.

On the second series for PHS, things went from good to bad as the hosts entered Cougar territory after a 22-yard pitchout from quarterback Troy Keene to Tim Deskins, but their stay was shortened as the Cougar's Jim Coy intercepted a pass on the 45 yard line. Crestview then clawed their way to the opposing 40 yard line where quarterback Mark Hershiser spiraled a scoring pass to Tim Knowlton that covered 40 yards. The PAT run by Coy made it 8-0 at 8:36.

On Plymouth's third possession it was fourth and 30 on the one yard line. Punting from the end zone, PHS got off a 22-yard punt which gave Crestview good field

position. The Cougars failed to take advantage of the opportunity as Plymouth's Jamie Brown intercepted a pass on the one yard line.

As the second quarter ticked away both teams racked up more penalty yards rather than offensive yards as rules infractions killed more drives and opportunities for both teams. The final tally had Crestview penalized 8 times for 110 yards and Plymouth was flagged 5 times for 69 yards during the contest.

In the final seconds of the opening half Crestview's Aaron Davis was lurking in the shadows as he picked off a PHS pass which he returned 38 yards for a touchdown to give the Cougars a 14-0 lead at the half.

The Cougars took the second half kickoff and ate off the first six minutes of the quarter, but failed to even get close to scoring position. The Big Red were fired up and ready to roll as Scott "Spanky" Ryman ripped off a 24-yard run on their first offensive play of the second half, but the Cougars sharpened their claws and four plays later they had exhausted Plymouth's fire. Crestview allowed the Big Red to run only six offensive plays during the third period as PHS fumbled the ball on their second possession of the second half.

With 10 minutes remaining in the ball game Plymouth finally

positioned the Cougars failed to take advantage of the opportunity as Plymouth's Jamie Brown intercepted a pass on the one yard line.

Plymouth was unable to muster any more offense as they fell prey to the Cougars who were just content to sit on the ball and eat up time on the clock.

The Big Red gained 170 yards rushing, the only bright spot that Roll saw in his team's performance. Plymouth was 2 of 10 passing for 36 yards. Crestview rounded up 149 yards rushing and 92 passing.

Plymouth now falls to 2-4 on the year and 1-2 in league play while Crestview is 1-5 and 1-2 in the Firelands Conference.

Plymouth travels to Edison Saturday for a league battle.

VARSITY FOOTBALL At Plymouth High School		
Plymouth	0	0
Crestview	8	6
C. Mark Hershiser	40-yd pass to Tim Knowlton	Jim Coy run
C. Aaron Davis	38-yd interception return(Kick failed)	P-Steve Hall 25-yd run(Hall run)

GAME STATISTICS		
Plymouth	First Downs	11
	By Rushing	8
	By Passing	2
	By Penalty	1
1	Rushing Yards	149
0	Passing Yards	92
170	Penalties-Yards	14-35
36	Passing Yards	92
2-10	Passes(Comp-Acc)	06-18
5-69	Passes(Comp-Acc)	8-110
2-10	Penalties-Yards	3-25
3-1	Punts-Avg	4-30.8
3	Fumbles-Lost	6-2
3	Passes Int	2

VARSITY FOOTBALL At Willard High School		
Willard	0	7
Bellevue	0	0
W-Jason Jump	85-yd pass to Clay Stephens	Curt Storts kick
W-Bill McClendon	36-yd run(Storts kick)	W-Dan Bauman 7-yd run(Kick fail)
W-Bryan Durr	7-yd run(Kick fail)	

VARSITY FOOTBALL At Tiffin Columbian High School		
Tiffin	First Downs	7
	By Rushing	0
	By Passing	0
	By Penalty	0
256	Rushing Yards	87
228	Passing Yards	193
13-18	Passes(Comp-Acc)	14-35
9.95	Penalties-Yards	3-25
3-28	Punts-Avg	3-35.0
3-1	Fumbles-Lost	6-2
1	Passes Int	1

VARSITY FOOTBALL At Upper Sandusky High School		
Galion	First Downs	6
Upper	By Rushing	20
	By Passing	13
	By Penalty	0
2-10	Rushing Yards	64
6-60	Passing Yards	44
5-25.6	Passes(Comp-Acc)	5-15
2-0	Penalties-Yards	5-15
1	Punts-Avg	5-15
1	Fumbles-Lost	6-2
1		