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Most Vikings defy 'cooling-off period'

By Larry Batson
Staff Writer

Minnesota Vikings players, with three known exceptions, decided Sunday to stay out of training camp even though the NFL Players Association has asked its members to report for a 14-day "cooling-off period" in its strike against National Football League clubs.

It was uncertain last night whether players for any other teams would follow the Vikings' example.

Ed Garvey, executive director of the association, announced in Washington that the association would ask its members to report to camp Wednesday in response to a request by W. J. Usery Jr., chief federal mediator. It was a "tough decision and not unanimous among the player representatives," Garvey said.

"That says it," said Alan Page, Vikings player representative. "They asked us to report. We decided not to at this time."

The association's decision was not firm at the time the Vikings voted, Page said, but players were told that it was coming. In effect, Page released the players from their commitment, reviewed negotiating efforts to date and asked for an expression of opinion.

Head Coach Bud Grant attended the meeting. He reportedly told the players that certain veterans would have strong competition for positions. Grant did not attempt to persuade any player to come into camp, Page said.

Of the 38 players at the meeting, three announced that they would report to camp. Two others indicated that they were thinking of doing so, Page said, and perhaps two or three others who were not there may decide to go in. Page would not reveal any names.

Vikings officials, however, reported that kicker Fred Cox, tight end Doug Kingsriter and center Mick Tingelhad reported to camp late last night.

"We know who is going in; we know their reasons and it is not a big team issue," Page said. "It is not a divisive factor. We all understand their reasons.

"But there won't be any more. The others there voted to stay out. I'd like to emphasize that aspect."

The players decided to meet again a week from today — the day the Vikings are scheduled to play an exhibition game at Miami — and review the situation. However, they have been practicing every morning so they will, in effect, be meeting daily.

Page said that several players telephoned him after yesterday's meeting to ask about the wording of the announcement from Washington — whether it affected the Vikings' vote.

"There may be a question of semantics," he said, "but to

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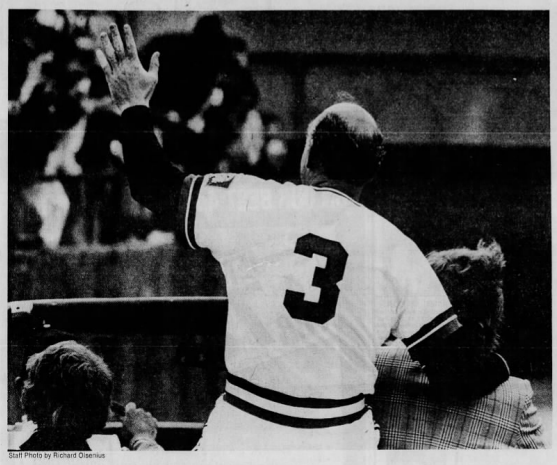

Staff Photo by Richard Olsenius

Harmon Killebrew waved to fans on a ride around Met Stadium during his "day," then helped lead the Twins to a 5-4 win.

Fans applaud Har-mon Kill-e-brew

By Joe Soucheray
Staff Writer

Joe Jezusko said it was a beautiful day. Joe smoothed the wrinkles in his Andy Sims usher suit and checked all the people entering the blue and white Twins clubhouse in the south end of the concrete tunnel under Metropolitan Stadium.

Joe wanted to look just right because Sunday was Harmon Killebrew Day, and Harmon was his man, the man.

"I've seen them all come and go," Joe was saying. "Harmon is the greatest, and I'm talking character now. I mean he looks at me and he makes me feel part of the team. Some guys, they look at you and they don't see you. Harmon leaves an impression on people."

Harmon was in the clubhouse. He has perfected his skill, worked hard, and now on his day, he was going through the ritual for any game day.

He took his batting practice early and then hit to the infielders. He stood around first base for awhile and kidded with Jim Holt and Tony Oliva. Like any day. The men stood there in the late morning scooping up balls effortlessly and laughing. Then he ran his laps, a great bear of a man loping through the outfield.

"Harmon can I have your autograph?" a kid asked. How many times has he heard that?

"Sure," said Harmon. "Go get a pen."

And he waited there.

Harmon walked up the tunnel, this would be his 2,300th game, and as he saw Joe Jezusko, he said, "Hey Joe, what's happening?" Joe tipped his cap.

"This isn't like any other day," Harmon was saying. "It looks like it is, but it isn't. This doesn't happen every day. I'll be glad when it's over."

The rest of the team came in after hitting practice. Rod Carew plugged in The Stylistics . . . "Don't break my heart" . . . the players sat on their chairs, talking. They felt something on this day because Harmon means as much to them as he does to the millions of fans who have watched him and grown up with him and even lived him in that distant way that people have their sports heroes.

It was getting near time for the ceremonies. Harmon came out of the shower and put on his size 46 Wilson doubleknit stretch suit with the red "3" on the back. It will be the first number in the history of the Twins to be retired. He took a new hat from the top of his locker, punched it with his fist. "Can't go out there all smelly," he said.

Harmon said hello to Joe again on the way out and then turned his head as a chef walked by and said, "Today's the day Harmon."

Today's the day. He didn't even want a

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Trevino wins PGA by stroke

Tribune News Services

Clemmons, N.C.
Lee Trevino held off Jack Nicklaus—again—beating Nicklaus by one stroke Sunday to win the PGA national championship at Tanglewood Golf Club.

It was the fifth major title for Trevino since he burst into prominence by winning the 1968 U.S. Open—the same number as Nicklaus has won in that span—and it marked the fourth time Nicklaus was the runner-up in one of Trevino's major victories.

Trevino, who held a one-stroke lead over Nicklaus and South African Bobby Cole at the start of the day, was never in any real difficulty, although he did create a little excitement by three-putting the 71st hole for a bogey, as he shot a 1-under-par 69 for a winning total of 276.

Trevino said afterward that the bogey on 17 made him so nervous he couldn't wait to putt on the 18th green and so putted earlier than he normally would have. "It's customary to wait with what is expected to be the winning putt until last," he said, "but I was so nervous after three-putting the previous hole that I couldn't stand to wait."

Trevino said he first checked with his playing partners, Nicklaus and Hubert Green.

"I said 'Jack, Hubie, if you don't mind, I want to try to scrape this one in somehow. I sure as hell don't want to have to stand around and look at it,'" Trevino said.

Nicklaus, never able to make the big birdie putt he needed, matched the 69 and finished at 277.

There was a four-way tie for third place at 279 among Cole, who was in the chase until the final three holes when he finished bogey-double bogey-par, 62-year-old Sam Snead, Dave Hill and Hubert Green.

Cole, a co-leader as late as the eighth hole yesterday, had a closing 71, Snead a 68, Hill 69 and Green 70. For Snead, this marked the third year in a row he had finished in the top 10 at the PGA championship. Gary Player, turned back in his effort to win three majors this year — he won the Masters and British Open — was next at 280 and Al Geiberger produced the day's best round, a 4-under-par 66, and finished at 281.

Eight players were within three strokes of Trevino's lead when the final day's play began, but it quickly

PGA

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