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Sports

Star Tribune

Gophers vs. Northwestern
 11 A.M. TODAY • EVANSTON, ILL. • PREVIEW, PAGE C4
 Saturday, October 13, 2001 • Section C

TWO WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIPS • 1,140 WINS • 1,244 LOSSES

INTENTIONAL WALK

Kelly calls it quits after 15-plus seasons, two Series titles

By La Vela E. Neal III
Star Tribune Staff Writer


Tom Kelly, who presided over the glory of two World Series championships and the disappointments of eight consecutive losing seasons, retired Friday after 15-plus seasons as manager.

Kelly, 51, was the longest-tenured manager or head coach in American professional sports. He led the Twins this summer to their first winning season since 1992, but has opted to leave the final steps of the franchise's rebuilding project to a new manager.

Kelly, who said he made the decision about two weeks ago, will remain with the organization in a role that has yet to be determined. The team will immediately seek a replacement, with coaches like Gaudin and Paul Molitor among potential candidates. Kelly's replacement inherits a team that was 85-77 this season and will be expected to contend for the playoffs in 2002.

But the expectations will be tempered after a second-half collapse that ranks as the second-worst in major league history. The Twins had a five-game lead at the All-Star break, but finished 30-43 and six games behind Cleveland.

Kelly's surprise announcement came Friday afternoon in a packed Halyard Hall room at the Metrodome.



Star Tribune photo by Amy McElroy

Tom Kelly retires after managing the Twins for 15-plus seasons, finishing with a 1,140-1,244 career record and two World Series titles.

Baseball

2001 PLAYOFFS

N.L. DIVISIONAL SERIES

Atlanta 6
Houston 2

Atlanta wins series 3-0

► **Reese:** John Burkett pitched six shutout innings. Paul Reuss homered and drove in three runs and Chipper Jones hit a two-run homer in the eighth on Mattie Stairs' sacrifice fly.

► **Series hero:** Chipper Jones, Atlanta, hit just off the balance of the series. Paul Reuss, hitting a three-run homer in the eighth inning of Game 1 to help Atlanta lead Houston 4-1. He added another homer in Game 3 and hit .444 for the series.

N.L. DIVISIONAL SERIES

St. Louis 6
Arizona 2

St. Louis wins series 3-0

► **Reese:** Arizona used a four-run seventh inning, powered by Craig Counsell's three-run homer, to defeat St. Louis 5-3. The Cardinals' run came on a two-run homer hit by Tim Lincecum and a solo homer by Edgar Renteria. Lincecum also hit a solo homer for the Diamondbacks.

► **Game 4:** Today at St. Louis, 12:12 p.m. TV: Fox Family

A.L. DIVISIONAL SERIES TODAY'S GAMES

► Seattle (5-0) at Cleveland (2-2), 3:20 p.m. TV: FOX29 (Best of five series tied 1-1)

► New York (Musial) at Oakland (2-1), 6:05 p.m. TV: FOX29 (Game one best of five series 2-0)

KELLY CONTINUES ON C12
Has one year contract expiring at the end of the season.

Who's next?
The Twins haven't had a new manager since Tom Kelly took over on Sept. 12, 1986. Here's a look at four possible candidates to replace Kelly. Story, Page C10

RON GARDENHISE
Qualifications: Has interviewed for managing jobs with Rockies, Royals and Cubs. He has been on the Twins' staff since 1993.
Prospect: If he's going to get the job, it should happen quickly. Has the support of Tom Kelly.

PAUL MOLITOR
Qualifications: Future Hall of Famer as player and has been on the Twins' coaching staff the past two seasons.
Prospect: The fans' favorite. Molitor is a Detroit alum and former star at the 'U.

FELIPE ALU
Qualifications: Former Expos manager who gained well-deserved reputation for getting the most out of his talent.
Prospect: If the club looks outside, he could be the strongest hand to guide the young players.

WILLIE RANDOLPH
Qualifications: Former All-Star who has been Yankees' base coach the past eight seasons.
Prospect: Is frequently mentioned as a candidate for managerial openings, and has a solid baseball reputation.

Patrick Reusse
for length and dollars. There was also a young player waiting on the field. This led to problems. The ball flew off Caddy's bat when he made contact. But there was some extra movement in his hitting approach that, if not corrected, could inhibit his chance to compete for a place in the lineup next spring.

REUSSE CONTINUES ON C12
— early was a different kind of player's manager

Wild remains unbeaten with power surge

Franchise records tumble as team continues surprising start

WILD 6, CHICAGO 4

By Tom Jones
Star Tribune Staff Writer

Sometime on Friday night, it snowed on the equator. Then the planets aligned, the tides shifted and jigs fell.

How else can you explain the Wild discovering it owned a power play?

There again, the way the Wild is going these days, why should anything be a surprise with this team?

Wild bows out — on his terms

Carl Pohlad, the owner of the Twins, was at the Metrodome last weekend, before the start of a three-game series with the Chicago White Sox. Pohlad encountered manager Tom Kelly and said, "I have to stop in the trainer's room, and then I'll talk."

Kelly told his boss that would not work — that he was due on the field in a moment. Later, Kelly was standing near the third base line as the Twins' full squad was taking batting practice.

"Carl was here today, but we didn't talk because there was some early work we had scheduled with (Michael) Cuddyer," Kelly said. "We're trying to give that young man a few things to work with when he gets to Arizona (Fall League)."

Kelly was true to himself in his final hours as manager. There was a possibility Pohlad wanted to clear the door to the manager's office and hand over a contract that had blank both

Inside

Lions in early slump

Detroit remains optimistic about its chances Sunday despite scoring only 20 total points in an 0-3 start. CA
LIONS AT WINGS • NOON SUNDAY • FOX29

Burnsville tops Egan

Burnsville edged Fargo 20-13 Friday in high school football to take over second place in the Lake Conference behind unbeaten Eden Prairie. The Blaze rallied to win on fourth-quarter touchdowns by Matt Heron (7 yards) and Derek Smith (2 yards). C15

Up next

► **What:** Wild vs. Edmonton

► **When:** 8 a.m. Sunday

► **Where:** Xcel Energy Center

► **TV:** FOX

► **Radio:** WCCO (830 AM)

Inside

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