

Pro Bowl may be boycotted, again

Robin Roberts named to Hall of Fame list

Associated Press
 NEW ORLEANS — No vote on the issue of boycotting the Pro Bowl is scheduled until Thursday afternoon, but three National Football League stars on hand for the game say they want to play it.

to play in the Pro Bowl. I want to play," Emmitt Thomas of the Kansas City Chiefs said Wednesday.

The uncertain status of the annual event is the result of one more battle in the struggle between the NFL Players Association and the league.

"It could easily be resolved if the owners would just make a pension payment," said Ed Garvey, executive director of the Players Association.

The Pro Bowl has been one of three sources for payments to the players' pension fund. No payments

were made last year, and none is expected this year.

"We are taking the position that we are not going to contribute until we have an agreement and know what the rules are that we are operating under," said Sargent Karch, head of the NFL Management Council. The Management Council is the bargaining agent for NFL owners.

The "rules" would ordinarily be contained in a union contract with the league, but there has been no contract for two years. The union finds the owners' proposals unac-

ceptable, and the owners feel the same way about union demands.

"The money for the pension fund is already in escrow," Garvey said. "All the owners would have to do is transfer the funds from one account to another."

Garvey met briefly Tuesday with about 50 of the 80 players here for Monday night's Pro Bowl.

"We went over the status of litigation in which the association is involved, and we brought them up to date on the collective bargaining situation.

"The players suggested we wait until Thursday to give everyone a chance to talk it over. I would think they would make a decision on whether or not they'll play at that meeting."

"I'm pretty sure it's going to be played," said Terry Metcalf of the St. Louis Cardinals. "I think it's a privilege to be invited."

"I think the game will be played, if any more players feel like I do," said Jim Hart, quarterback for the Cardinals.

Associated Press
 NEW YORK — Robin Roberts, former pitching ace of the Philadelphia Phillies, has been elected to baseball's Hall of Fame, The Associated Press learned today.

It was not immediately known if any other players received the necessary 75 per cent vote from ballots cast by more than 400 members of the Baseball Writers Association of America.

The announcement of those

elected was to be made at an 11 a.m. EST new conference here.

Roberts, a right-hander, won 286 games in 19 major league seasons. He fell nine votes short of the requirement in last year's voting.

He and Bob Lemon, another standout pitcher from the 1950s, had been considered the leading candidates to be elected this time. Lemon, a winner of 207 games, missed by 39 votes last year.

Last year's top finishers have been alerted to stand by for possible election by the writers. Besides Roberts and Lemon, those who received more than 100 votes last year were Gil Hodges, Enos Slaughter, Hal Newhouser, Pee Wee Reese, Ed Mathews, Phil Cavarretta, Duke Snider, Johnny Sain, Phil Rizzuto and George Kell.

Of that group, Newhouser, Cavarretta and Sain were in their 15th and final year of eligibility for election by the writers and did not appear on this year's ballot. They now must wait five years, then their names will be turned over to the oldtimers committee for consideration by that group.

Only two new names, Del Crandall and Elroy Face, were added to the ballot this year. To be considered for election, a player must perform in the major leagues for 10 seasons and then, five years after he retires, his name must be passed on to the voters by a screening committee of the BBWA.

With the addition of Crandall and Face, this year's ballot listed 32 names.

Roberts was a 20-game winner for six consecutive seasons beginning in 1950 when he led the Philadelphia Phillies to the National League pennant with a 20-11 record. His best season was 1952 when he compiled a 28-7 record for the Phillies. He won 23 games for three straight seasons from 1953-55 and then just missed a seventh straight 20-game season when he was 19-18 in 1956. He left the Phillies in 1961 and completed his career with the Baltimore Orioles, Houston Astros and Chicago Cubs.

Lemon began his career as an infielder-outfielder and didn't become a fulltime pitcher until 1946 when he returned from service in World War II. Two years later, he had a 20-14 record as the Cleveland Indians won the American League pennant. That started a string of nine years in which Lemon won 20 or more games seven times.

The writers have voted 54 former greats to the baseball shrine since 1936 when the elections began. The first players selected that year were Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Honus Wagner, Walter Johnson and Christy Mathewson.

SMU continues coach search

Associated Press
 DALLAS — Dr. James Zumbarge, president of Southern Methodist University, said Wednesday Nevada-Las Vegas coach Ron Meyer has not been offered a similar post at SMU, but added, "He is a candidate."

The 33-year-old Meyer toured the school's facilities Tuesday.

The Las Vegas school has compiled a 27-8 record under Meyer in three years.

Meyer was a former scout for the Dallas Cowboys of the National Football League.

Gil Brandt, vice president of the Cowboys, said, "If anybody can do the job at SMU he can. His best team is coming up right now, a team that very easily could be undefeated."

SMU has been without a coach since Dave Smith resigned under pressure Dec. 31. SMU has been turned down by Pittsburgh's Johnny Majors, Hank Stram, now coach of New Orleans in the National Football League, and Darryl Rogers of San Jose State.

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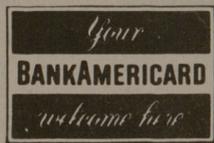
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