

# Player reps claim unity

United Press International  
CHICAGO — Striking baseball player representatives, aware the clock is running out on any chance to salvage the 1981 season, have come away from an old-fashioned union rally determined to present a unified front to major-league owners.

The 26 players representatives — along with about 30 other players — met for nearly 5½ hours Monday night to reaffirm their support of the bargaining committee's efforts on the sensitive compensation issue that has been the major stumbling block in negotiations to end the 47-day-old baseball strike.

The representatives, acknowledging there had been some minor dissension within their ranks, insist the problems were minor and nearly all of the striking players were ready to stand firm in their battle with the owners.

No new negotiations have been scheduled since the talks broke off last Thursday in Washington, although owners reportedly are set to hold their own meeting either today or Wednesday.

The players representatives said the latest owner proposal, which was rejected last week, is the only offer on the table. Marvin Miller, the player's counsel, conceded the outlook for an immediate settlement remained "bleak." But he led the chorus of state-

ments maintaining the players were unified.

"Player representatives unanimously reaffirmed the support of the association's negotiating committee and its determination to secure a contract as soon as possible resolving the free-agent issue," Miller said.

He again leveled a blast at the owners for refusing to compromise, saying the players were ready to sit out the rest of the 1981 season — one-third of which already has been lost to the strike — if necessary.

"I never felt we were close (to an agreement) but in Washington, in the middle of the four-day period, I felt some progress had been made."

Miller said each player representative has voiced support of everything that was being done in the negotiations, adding, each player who reportedly had criticized the direction of the talks have now said they were quoted out of context.

"What you have to understand is that the news blackout last week is a catastrophe for our organization because we have no way to communicate," Miller said.

To help remedy the situation, a series of regional meetings — the first one in Los Angeles Wednesday — will be held to inform players of the progress of the talks.

The representatives told Miller

there was "no way the latest offer by the owners could be accepted."

"Even if the negotiating committee went insane and accepted it, there would be no way the players would ratify it," Miller said.

While there were few signs of any break in the players ranks, New York Yankee player Reggie Jackson voiced frustration at the six-week impasse.

He said he didn't know whether the season should be resumed. In order for baseball to have a "legitimate" season, he said, between 150 and 155 games would need to be played.

But Dan Quisenberry, Kansas City's player representative, was more specific.

"If we don't settle something by the end of the week, the entire season is lost," he said.

While face-to-face negotiations were on hold pending the players' meetings, talk of a new league was escalating.

"There would be players definitely interested in another league," said White Sox pitcher, Dennis Lamp. "I'm sure a man like 'Ohio sports owner (Edward) DeBartolo could do something."

Former Oakland owner Charles Finley has expressed interest in starting a new league and Peter Rose, associate counsel for the Players Association, said the talk "is a fallback position in the event the season is gone."

# Filling the unavoidable lull

## Extra Points

by Ritchie Priddy

What do you do when there's nothing going on in the world of sports? Nothing big — that is.

With the strike still going strong and no end apparently in sight one would think that the smaller sports would get the coverage. Well, looking around, watching all the sports shows on tv and eventually falling asleep from excitement, I've decided that the smaller sports just aren't that exciting to the average fan.

Everywhere you look you see the smaller sports. Everything from a spanish soccer match to pool (the kind you shoot) is on tv nowadays. Now, I don't speak spanish and I really don't consider pool a sport. Tell me, what's a guy to do?

The sports pages of many newspapers are filled with reports of Canadian football, horse racing, and, agh! — minor league baseball.

I can't pronounce half the names of the Canadian players, and although more and more of them are American, I just can't get motivated to watch a "weird" version of American football. Now, I like the color

and excitement of horse racing. I even like to watch the people at horse races. You know the ones I mean, they have just lost their last dollar and are on the verge of suicide. But still, something is missing.

I'll tell you one thing, that something that is missing sure isn't provided by minor league baseball. I don't care if I ever see another baseball game as long as I live. Besides, I still haven't found anything quite as boring as baseball. Maybe — now, not even that would be as boring.

Now here I go again, I don't mean to come down on the smaller sports. They are just as competitive, and in some cases even more competitive than the bigger sports. But, they just don't have the drawing power of

the major sports — there's no question about that.

What do I define as "major" sports you ask? I define a "major" sport as one of the following: football, basketball and, heaven forbid, baseball. Of course I mean the professional level of each sport. Those are the sports that are going to attract the average fan. When there is an unavoidable lull (i.e. a period of time without one of the major sports) in the world of sports the attention of the fan almost entirely turns to yard-work or something worse — like making up with the wife for all of the time spent in front of the tube.

Just what does the average fan want? I don't know, but I would think that most fans want the excitement of professional

team sports. The major sports apparently have what it takes to draw the attention of the fan. That's good. But what about the lull? Most of the time, that's bad. But, I have some suggestions that just might work to void.

They are really quite simple. One of my "original" suggestions calls for reruns of big league games. I've already played the previous year's game, the fan may even realize the game he is watching is not live. (It's probably Memorax either). Anyway, it may work for a day or two.

The resumption of the stars competition may be some slack. But then, you would see what some of the perstars are really like. It would be enough to make one year for the resumption of baseball.

Let's see, what else can we do to fill the void? How about no, that may not work. Looks as if we could do with nothing to fill the void. Average fans everywhere heed — football season around the corner.

## Oilers trim roster to 72

United Press International  
HOUSTON — The Houston Oilers have trimmed their roster to 72 by cutting five players, including 8-year veteran running back Boobie Clark.

The team said Monday that along with Clark, four rookie free agents failed to make the team. They were Jeremy Mindlin, Florida St., defensive end; Frank Lindsey, Livingstone, running back; Thomas Young, Baylor, defensive back; and George Walker, tight end, University of Houston.

Clark, 30, gained 988 yards in 1973 with the Cincinnati Bengals and was named AFC Rookie of the Year. He was obtained on waivers from the Bengals prior to the start of the 1979 season and saw action on special teams and limited duty as a running back in two seasons with the Oilers.

The Oilers must cut 12 more players before the first roster deadline on Aug. 19.

**TM AGGIES!**  
**ATM Douglas Jewelry**

**10% AGGIE DISCOUNT**  
ON ALL MERCHANDISE  
WITH STUDENT ID  
(Cash Only Please)  
We reserve the right to limit use of this privilege.

**Downtown Bryan (212 N. Main)**  
and  
**Culpepper Plaza**

**THE COWBOY**

- Firewater
- Dancing
- Country Music
- People Watching
- Billiards (By the Hour)
- Electronic Games

**HOURS: Mon-Fri. 5-12 p.m.**  
**Sat. 5 p.m.-1 a.m.**


**COWBOY HAPPY HOUR!**  
Monday-Saturday 5 p.m. 'til 7 p.m.  
**ALL DRINKS ½ PRICE!**

**LADIES!**  
No Cover Charge  
Monday-Thursday  
Plus One Free Bar  
Drink or Beer!

**2820 Finfeather in Bryan • 775-0494**  
(Where Bryan and College Station Come Together)

**"THE MOST FUN YOU CAN HAVE TONIGHT!"**

**!! SNAPPER SUMMER SPECIAL !!**  
**FREE 600 Green Machine Blower**




Purchase any 19" or 21" SNAPPER walk mower at regular price and receive FREE a Model 600 Green Machine Yard Blower. A \$54.95 Value!

Available in 19" push models with 2 or 4 cycle engines and 21" push and self-propelled models with 3½ to 5 HP 4 cycle engines.

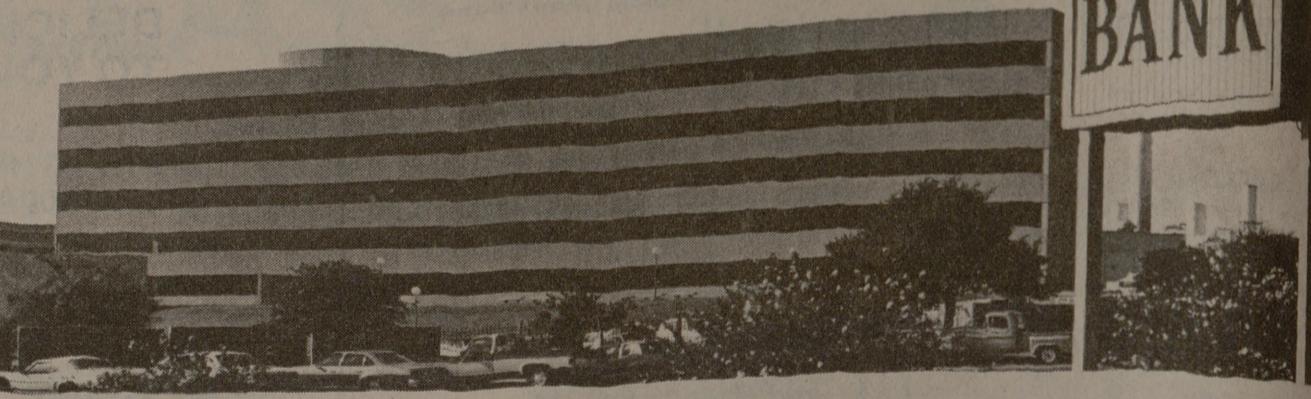
ALL SNAPPER walk mowers, depending on how equipped with options, will mow, blow, bag, vacuum, mulch and shred. Self-propelled models can also de-thatch.

**ALL SNAPPER PRODUCTS ARE FULLY ASSEMBLED SERVICED AND READY TO USE!**




1008 W. 25th
BRYAN
822-0875

**"Howdy, neighbor!"**



Congratulations, Texas A&M, from your next-door neighbor, on opening the new Academic & Agency Building. We're still the most convenient bank to Texas A&M.

**University NATIONAL BANK**  
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

**"On the side of Texas A&M"**

711 University Drive
Member FDIC
846-8751

*for anything...for everything... WANT ADS*