

Recreation of All-Star game a hit

NL streak alive via computer

United Press International
ST. LOUIS — The American League can't even win an All-Star Game played by a computer.

In what was billed as the "Greatest Game Never Played," an all-time All-Star Game matching the greatest players in the history of the American and National Leagues, the NL won Wednesday night, 5-4.

Hank Aaron homered leading off the ninth inning off Walter Johnson to give the NL the victory in the recreated game, just as has been the case in most recent All-Star Games.

The National League's 4-1 victory in the All-Star game

Tuesday night in Montreal was the league's 11th straight and 19th out of the last 20 games.

Editors of The Sporting News played the roles of National League Manager John McGraw and American League Manager Casey Stengel for the recreated game, which was broadcast by more than 200 radio stations in the United States and Canada.

Lowell Reidenbaugh, a senior editor at The Sporting News, made two key managerial decisions in place of McGraw that helped the National League to the victory.

He allowed Aaron, who was

hides in his four previous at-

bats, to remain in the game in the ninth and that confidence was restored when Aaron, the major league's all-time home run leader with 755, blasted a 2-2 pitch into the upper deck in left field at Shibe Park in Philadelphia, where the mythical game was played.

"You never take the home run champ out of the lineup," said Reidenbaugh, who had inserted substitutes at every other position. "He's going to connect eventually."

Reidenbaugh's other key move was ordering an intentional walk to Eddie Collins in the eighth, loading the bases with

two outs, after the American League had taken a 4-3 lead.

"McGraw had seen him in several World Series and I think I showed him the proper respect," Reidenbaugh said.

The move paid off when Tom Seaver, the sixth of seven NL pitchers, retired pinch-hitter Mickey Cochrane on a fly to center to end the inning. Grover Cleveland Alexander pitched the ninth for the NL and got the win.

One of Reidenbaugh's other moves was inserting Bill Terry at first base in the fifth inning in place of Pete Rose. Terry went 3-for-3, including hitting a two-run homer in the seventh off

Lefty Grove that tied the 3-3.

"He was a personal hero of mine and I had him in there as soon as Reidenbaugh said, 'I justified his presence.'"

The game, organized by BFV&L Promotions of St. Louis, was recreated by Jack Lindsey Nelson after a players' lifetime statistics were fed into a computer.

"I was very much impressed with the realism of the Reidenbaugh said. "It's incredible. There was an interest in it and it seems growing the last few days."

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A&M get baseball assistant

Mark Johnson, a former assistant baseball coach at the University of Arizona and Mississippi State, has been named the new coach at Texas A&M.

Johnson, 37, served as an assistant for two years to 1976, helping the team win a 232-71 record and the NCAA title. At MSU, he was in charge of the Baseball Camp each summer.

Johnson, whose name was announced Wednesday, replaced Jim Simpson.

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