



'Select group' of owners sees to Kuhn's removal

by Milton Richman UPI Sports Editor CHICAGO — A newsman, eager to find out how far along the owners had gotten in their blood-letting of Bowie Kuhn, buttonholed Chub Feeney, the National League president, as he was hurrying back into one of the meeting rooms.

Feeney stopped for a mo-ment. His eyes rolled up in their sockets like someone in the process of expiring and a small, low gurgle came from his throat.

Consciously or not, he had presented a perfect portrayal of the sad and diminished state baseball finds itself in today.

Instead of a commissioner it can look to for any direction, it has a lame duck who can only be looked upon as a token figure for nine more months at best.

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resentment over which of them fought to have Kuhn re-elected and those who sought to dismiss him

sports

Monday's action in showing Kuhn the door may have the the league supported him. In the 14-club American League Kuhn made a good showing. The vote was 11-3 in effect of retarding a restructuring of the game.

"All right, now those who wanted him out have had their way," said Ballard Smith, president of the San Diego Padres and a member of baseball's exhim in the National League finished him. ecutive council. "There were eight of them in all who voted and it was obvious Kuhn was out, Peter O'Malley of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Dan Gal-breath of the Pittsburgh Pirates went up to his suite in the Hyatt Parener O'Hoart to give him the against him, but not one of them has been able to suggest any-body to take his place. Not one."

Gene Autry, the California Angels' owner, said he had no idea who the next commissioner would be.

"I don't think this was such a smart thing to do," he said. Buzzie Bavasi, the Angels'

general manager, listened and agreed with his boss. No self-respecting candi-

date would take the job after all abuse Bowie took," Bavasi nati. d. "It was predictable," Kuhn Smith, one of those who told O'Malley and Galbreath, the abuse Bowie took," Bavasi said.

Instead of any real harmony, the worked so hard for Kuhn's who along with Bud Seligate 26 owners are now divided in reelection, made no effort to him to finish his sevenge term, which expires Aug. 12 - Co conceal how badly he felt. Five National League owners cast said he would. their closed ballots against Kuhn and that was enough to keep his contract from being renewed even though the seven others in

"I'll tell you one thing-h got guts," Gabe Paul of Ge land said. Eddie Chiles, the Texas R

gers' owner, identified him as one of the three Amer Leaguers who was age Kuhn's re-election. "I didn't vote agains

Battalion/Page 10 November 2, 1982

man, I voted against the tem," he said. "I think the missioner's system has out its usefulness.

"When we get through structuring in Honolulu," Chi said in talking about the owner rike entered next meeting a month fm h both side now, "there may not be a common a Mond ion in which rent right. missioner per se. This syste we've had for 60 years has be outdated.

Denying he was bitter abo the decision, Kuhn said: "In ement's lat not given to those things. press the told you I was happy, though would be misleading you. I a take some pride that after ointing da vers calling Pete Rozell years I received 70 percent the vote. That's a landslide. s, the Mar wasn't enough here." rd of the

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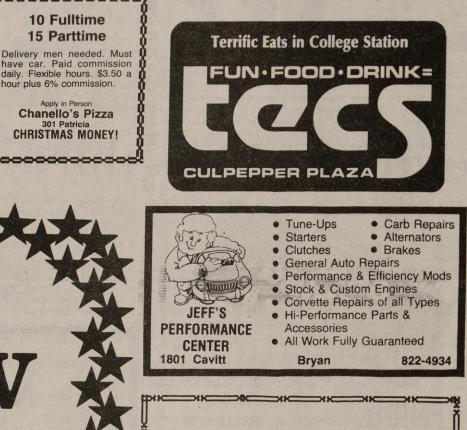
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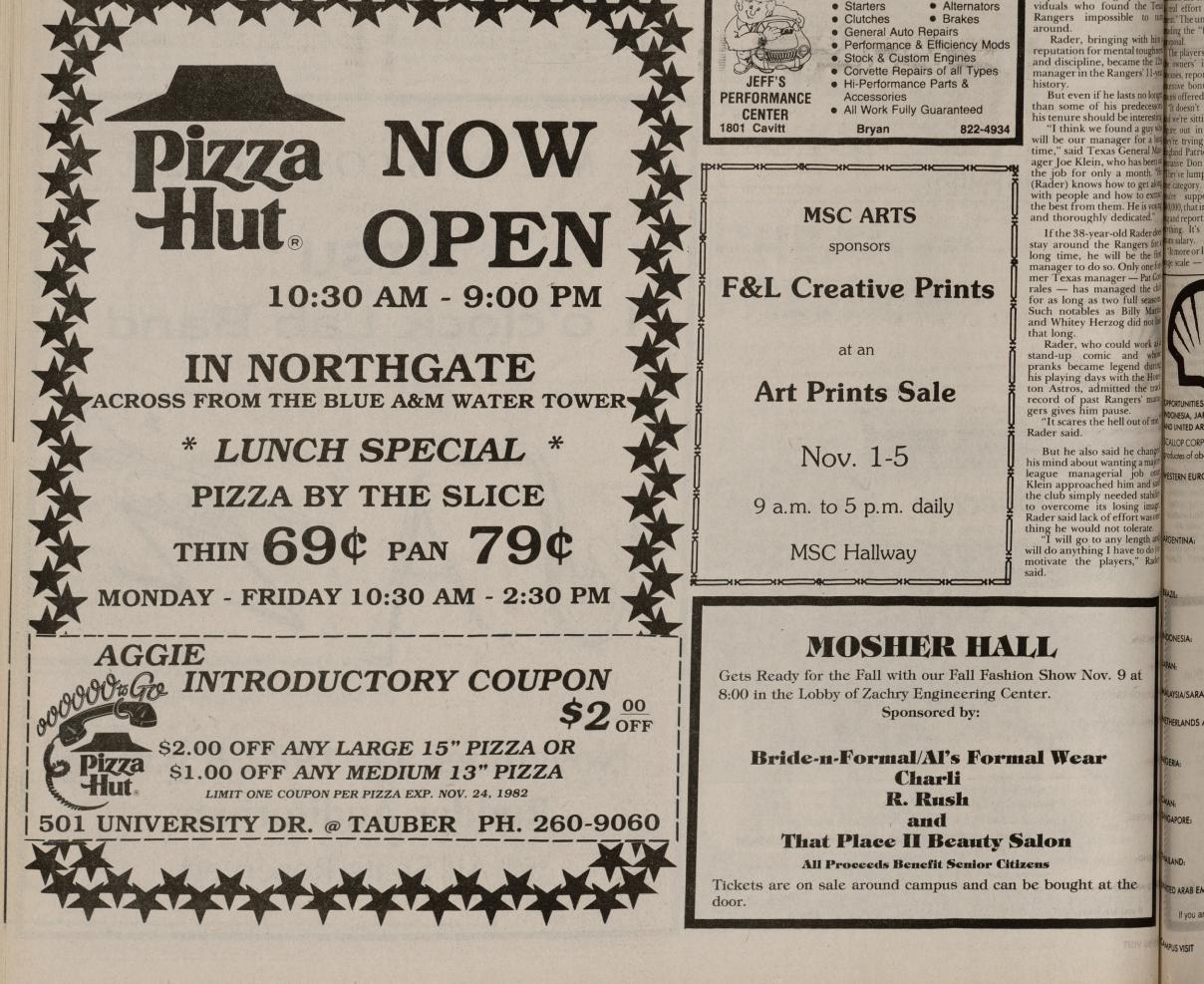
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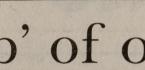
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United Press International ARLINGTON — Doug Rate er took one of the least secure The players ernoon bar jobs in major league baseba Monday, following in the fou-steps of some high profile ind gust, just ar imed the sid viduals who found the Texa Rangers impossible to un

If the 38-year-old Raderdoe







his favor, but that was academic

because the four votes against

After the votes were counted

Regency O'Hare to give him the

He knew it already and also knew who voted against him in

the National League. The five

were Gussie Busch of St. Louis,

Nelson Doubleday of the New York Mets, John McMullen of Houston, Ted Turner of Atlan-

ta and James Williams of Cincin-