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uco

It makes sense, then, to hand out scholarships to proven juco players, instead of paying for a player's school for two years while he sits on the bench, then watching him run to the pros the minute they come calling.

Still, Chandler says he and assistant coach Mark Johnson urned to the "juco connection" as a matter of last resort. "We would much rather sign a high school player," Chandler

aid, "so he can go through our program. With a high school player, you get him for at least three years, if he signs a pro contract. But we needed players who could play right away.

Not to mention pitchers who can pitch right away. Using Johnson's west coast contacts, the Aggies signed juco players Beje Mahue, Tom Arrington and Wayne Jackson in an attempt to bolster the pitching staff. Chandler says those three, along with returning pitchers Phillip Taylor and Sherman Corbett and another juco transfer, Chris Hutchengson from Wharton Junior College, will be in charge of putting things back in order on the mound in Olsen Field.

"We can only go up," says Chandler, referring to the Aggies' 4-17 SWC record last season. "But there's no question we'll be greatly improved. By adding these pitchers, we think we'll be a contende

If it works, and the Aggies crawl back into respectability, you have to give credit to Chandler's juco connection — that, and having pitchers who can pitch.

NL old-timers use power hitters to slip past AL, 6-5

United Press International CHICAGO — By now, the

National League has such a monopoly over the All-Star game that even the American League's legendary old-timers have fallen victim to the curse. A total of 88 ex-major league

players and officials - 44 of them Hall of Famers — took the field at Comiskey Park Tuesday in an Old Timers' preliminary to tonight's Golden Anniversary All-Star game. Predictably, the National

League won, as it has in the last 11 "other" All-Star games.

Unpredictably, it was power hitting from a couple of former Chicago Cubs that made the difference in the 6-5 NL victory.

Former Cub outfielder Billy Williams, now 45, smashed a towering two-run homer in the second inning of the three-inning contest. Another onetime Cub, 41-year-old Don Kes-singer, got credit for the win-ning RBI, breaking a 5-5 third inning tie with a double to left that scored 59-year-old ex-Giant

Bobby Thomson. Old for the ball "It felt real good to hit the ball that far and get a chance to walk around the bases," said Williams, who was elected Old-timers' MVP for smashing one out against renowned knuckle-baller Hoyt Wilhelm.

"I just find it kind of ironic that I had to wait until I was 45 years old to get an MVP award," he joked. The play was far from artistic,

but the memories were heavenly for fans treated to the sight of an Al Kaline double driving in Min-nie Minoso and Mickey Vernon; Warren Spahn, Robin Roberts, Don Drysdale and Juan Marichal taking the mound; and Lefty Gomez — who started the

tonight — humming it to a cou-

manager Joe Torre, who hit an RBI single for the National League. "It was incredible. It gave me goosebumps, sitting in the same dugout with the likes of Kiner, Durocher, Spahn and Mathews

"The best thing about these games is the reminiscing," said Bob Feller, 64, an ex-Cleveland pitcher.

Ernie Banks had so much to talk about he didn't want to quit. Mr. Cub — whose trademark in his playing days was the line "Let's play two" — could have gone on and on.

first All-Star game 50 years ago ple of batters again. "It was amazing," said Atlanta

believe NL players rarely, if ever, think about their All-Star dominance, and whenever anyone else brings it up, the players in the NL don't seem to think it's particularly significant.

The only person I know of who gets worked up at all about the outcome of these All-Star Games is Chub Feeney, the president of the National League, and more often than not, I get the distinct feeling he's merely

following tradition. His predecessor, the late Warren Ĝiles, was a National Leaguer through and through, first serving in several frontoffice capacities with the Cincinnati Reds and later as league president. He honestly thought the National League was better than the American, even in

Milton Richman

CHICAGO — They had it

I'm talking about baseball's

ÚPI Sports Editor

All-Star game, which originated

as a figment of one man's imagi-

nation and now is equated by

some in the same general terms

as the latest running crisis in the

Originally, the game was con-ceived by the late Arch Ward,

sports editor for the Chicago

Tribune, as a baseball fan's

dream, a fantasy in the form of

purely an exhibition game that would count for absolutely no-

thing. That's what it still counts

for — nothing. Not even with the National

League, which proudly adver-

tises the fact it has beaten the

American League in the last 11 consecutive All-Star Games and

single National League player broach the subject of his circuit's supremacy in All-Star competi-

tion, and you are free to specu-

late as to the reason for that. I

Never once have I heard a

19 of the last 20.

right the first time.

Mideast

All-Star game still not life-or-deat those years his league was being beaten regularly in All-Star competition.

Even to the National League

Giles would go into the Na-tional Leaguers' clubhouse before they played the All-Star Game and really stir up the players. He'd wave his arms like some college cheerleader and tell the players things like "You're better than them," or You can't let 'em beat you," or "We got 'em on the run now and we don't wanna let 'em up.

From talking to Warren Giles before he died, I know he realized the All-Star Game wasn't that important, certainly not anywhere near as important as the World Series, but he still preferred his league to win it. Feeney isn't as fervent but

that's what he heard Giles say and what he saw him do, so he more or less goes along. This whole All-Star business

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gets to be a big laugh. So much so, that after Tuesday's 6-5 win by a collection of old-time National League All-Stars over a similar geriatric group of Amer-ican Leaguers, Feeney, already "fretting" about Wednesday night's regular All-Star Game, said, "All I know is that we don't want a split.

To keep this all in its proper context, bear in mind the one victory here he was talking about had to do with a game that went only three innings and included some players in their 50's and 60's

Lee MacPhail, the AL President, wants his league to win too, but with him it isn't nearly that much a case of life or death. He's serving his last year as league president and can joke about what he said when he first took office in 1974.

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one thing — we're gonna do bet-ter in the All-Star," MacPhail recalls with a smile. "Since then we've lost nine and haven't won

MacPhail would like to win as much as Feeney. But actually, what does it all matter — except maybe to someone like Pete Rose, who nearly totaled catcher Ray Fosse when he slid into him with the winning run for the National Leaguers in the 12th in-ning of the 1970 All-Star Game

in Cincinnati. Here's something about all this All-Star fever that may

make you smile: Billy Williams, the Cubs' 45year-old former outfielder who should be in the Hall of Fame but isn't yet, was voted Most Valuable Player in Tuesday's mini old-timers All-Star foolaround for the tremendous two-"I said, 'I can promise you all run homer he hit into the upper

right-field deck at Park, and for a fine bad 1. 76 NO. 170 ing catch he made int

field. He spent all but theh his 18 years in the bigh with the Cubs, so m played for the Nation Tuesday.

But where do you makes his living now In the American Le the Oakland A's batt And that just goes to - the All-Star Gameis

be fun, for those whoa ing or playing.

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George Brett, particip his eighth one, has a go on this All-Star busines "I play 162 games at blood and money," hes this one, though, I come ednesday. The have fun.

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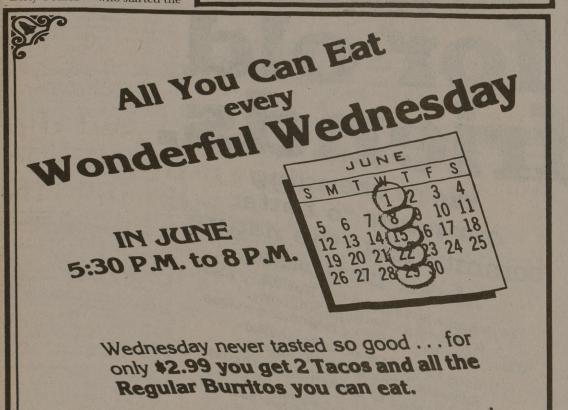
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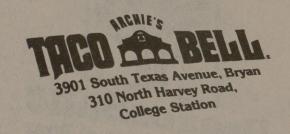


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