

Indiana Colts in the NFL?

United Press International
BALTIMORE — Indianapolis businessman Robert Welch, in an apparent attempt to derail the possible move of the Baltimore Colts to Indianapolis, sent a special-delivery letter to NFL owners Thursday and asked the league to immediately award the city a franchise.

Welch wants either an expansion franchise for Indianapolis, or an established one — but wants to become the majority owner. His latest move was seen as an attempt to gain a team for Indianapolis, without having a

majority owner move into the city.

Colts' owner Robert Irsay reportedly had offered earlier this week to sell Welch 49 percent of the team for \$21 million and move the team to Indianapolis. But Welch refused, according to reports in The Sun, saying he would not accept a minority interest in the club.

Jim Saccomano, a spokesman for the Denver Broncos confirmed receipt of the letter, reported in Thursday's editions of the Baltimore News American. But several other league spokesmen either could not

confirm or would not comment.

Baltimore Mayor William Schaefer, amid reports that the city's franchise is a signature away from moving to Indianapolis, said Thursday he doesn't think the move is final — but admitted time is quickly running out.

"When you're losing 40-0, and the other team's got the ball on your 1-yard line with a minute to go in the game, you're running out of time," Schaefer said. "That's the way it feels right now."

The Sun and the News-American reported Thursday

Irsay that has reached an agreement with bank officials and the city of Indianapolis, and now must decide if he wants to move the team.

Sources told both newspapers that Indianapolis officials were able to secure a \$15 million, 8 percent loan for Irsay to replace a current loan that expires this year.

Irsay and Indianapolis officials also worked out details of a "modest" lease for the Hoosier Dome, the new stadium without a tenant. The deal reportedly would also include a practice facility for the Colts.

Chicago ace gets \$1 million per year

United Press International
Imagine how much money Cy Young could make if he pitched in this era. LaMarr Hoyt got an idea Thursday.

Hoyt, the Cy Young Award-winner, became the American League's first million dollar per year pitcher by agreeing to a six-year contract with the Chicago White Sox for just over that amount per season.

Joining the 24-game winner with a six-year deal at an estimated \$950,000 was 22-game winner Richard Dotson.

The Sox also reached three-year deals with Rookie of the Year outfielder Ron Kittle, who will receive about \$175,000 the first year with opportunities for over \$100,000 through incentive clauses.

"It has been our goal all along to retain players of this caliber," said Sox general manager Roland Hemond.

The AL West champion White Sox did not, however, retain reliever Jim Kern, placing the 34-year-old right-hander on waivers for the purpose of his unconditional release. At his home in Arlington, Texas, Kern said he would continue elbow rehabilitation in hopes of being ready by June or July.

Hoyt said he got "chill bumps" when he heard he had surpassed Ron Guidry of the New York Yankees as the highest-paid AL pitcher. Guidry receives a reported \$965,000.

Rich Gossage of San Diego, Steve Carlton of Philadelphia, Fernando Valenzuela and Jerry Reuss of Los Angeles and Mario Soto of Cincinnati are National League millionaire pitchers.

Kittle set a club rookie record of 35 home runs last season while driving in 100 runs. "You should be paid according to the standards set by others. I feel I've met those standards. This is a fair contract," he said.

At St. Petersburg, Fla., Jerry Martin began trying to pick up the pieces of his baseball career. The 33-year-old former Kansas City Royals outfielder, convicted last year of attempting to purchase cocaine, wants to prove he can still play baseball.

Martin, who spent three months in a federal correctional institution, joined the New York Mets for a two-week tryout. Martin is suspended for the season but his case is scheduled for review on May 31.

In Cocoa Beach, Fla., Houston Astros relief pitcher Joe Sambito is throwing again after a two-year absence from the mound because of a major elbow problem.

Sambito underwent three operations to correct a elbow ligament injury and had been inactive since April 1982.



Catching a breather

Tony Hildebrand rests during the Texas A&M Hockey team's 7-1 loss to Texas last weekend. The Aggies, who are 3-5-1, travel to New Orleans this

weekend to play in the Mardi Gras tournament. The tournament which will be at a rink located on Saint George Ave. features teams from five states.

Photo by DONN FRID

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All countries representing Texas A&M are encouraged to participate in the above activities

ISA Council meets on Monday, March 5, 8:30pm
Rudder 401 to discuss International Week.
Please be present.

Bell still Ranger's third baseman

United Press International
POMPANO BEACH, Fla. — Give Buddy Bell another day or so, and he'll be fine. Nobody will ever know he was gone.

Wait a minute. He didn't really leave. Or did he?

It's a little hard to tell because this past winter was no different than the last three for him in that everytime you heard his name, you also heard where the Texas Rangers were about to trade him to the Baltimore Orioles, the Chicago White Sox, the New York Yankees or the

Arizona Wranglers.

Why not? You think he wouldn't make a pretty fair tight end?

The Rangers now say they will not deal him to anyone ... again. They said pretty much the same thing about Jim Sundberg, and you see who he's catching for now, don't cha? The Milwaukee Brewers.

Had the Rangers been willing to settle for a little less, Bell would be the new regular third baseman for the World Champion Orioles today. The two

clubs kept talking about him before, during and after the World Series. But the Rangers demanded too much pitching. So the blond, 32-year-old five-time Gold Glove is still with them. And he's happy about it.

"I'd have been awfully disappointed," he says, had the trade with Baltimore gone through. "I don't want to leave."

Disappointed over an opportunity to be with a winner? Hasn't that been what Bell has been looking for so fervently since he first broke in with Cleveland 12 years ago?

"Well, I do have a tremendous amount of respect for Hank Peters," he says, referring to the Orioles' general manager whom he first got to know when Peters headed all the minor leagues. "But this is my sixth

year in Texas and I want to leave knowing that we accomplished everything I tried to here."

Buddy Bell has started to develop the Ernie Banks drome. He's beginning to season in the big leagues starting to wonder when he's destined to finish up with a winner.

"It's kind of an embarrassing," he says. "There are you feel like cutting throat. That's only in a way of speaking, of course. It does hurt. Last season started off real well. We two games in front on then hit a bad streak and out of 26."

Bell shakes his head.

"What makes me feel that there were a lotta things about the club last he offers. "Just the atmosphere was so much better thought we could win."

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