SPORTS

Bell wants Rangers o begin trade talks

CLEVELAND — Veteran Texas Rangers third baseman Buddy Bell aid Wednesday he has asked the ub to trade him and submitted a st of 10 teams he would agree to

"It's just time to go," Bell said be-ore the Rangers played the Cleve-and Indians Wednesday night. "It's pretty mutual agreement between nyself and the club and they said

hey would try to do it."
Published reports in Dallas and fort Worth Wednesday indicated at a deal might be made soon, but he five-time all-star said he was not ertain if a trade would eventually be

"I don't think you can ever be real certain of anything," Bell said. "If it doesn't happen, it doesn't happen. I've requested it and hopefully they an accommodate me.

"(The Rangers) might be going in a different direction toward younger players. There's no earth-shattering reasons. I'm not mad at anybody or itter at anybody.

Sources close to Bell, who has played 6½ seasons with the Rangers, said he was miffed when owner Eddie Chiles reneged on a promise to

"(The Rangers) might be going in a different direction toward younger players. There's no earth-shattering reasons. I'm not mad at anybody or bitter at anybody.'

- Texas third baseman, Buddy Bell

"didn't ever try to do that (renegoiate the contract). The contract has no bearing on this. It's just time for me to go. It's just a mutual

Chiles was out of the state Wednesday and could not be reached for comment, his office in Fort Worth told The Associated

Club President Mike Stone, General Manager Tom Grieve and Manager Bobby Valentine all declined to comment on Bell's status.

Bell, 33, has gone through the Rangers' ups and downs since being traded from Cleveland after the le Chiles reneged on a promise to the enegotiate his contract.

But Bell said Wednesday he 1978 season. He reportedly had been promised by Chiles he would not be traded.

gloves has had several meetings in the past few weeks with Stone and Grieve in an effort to resolve the sit-

uation short of a trade. Grieve reportedly has contacted several teams in an effort to move Bell and may conclude the trade within the next few days.

The Dallas Morning News said the 10 teams believed to be on the list submitted by Bell are Detroit, the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago White Sox, Los Angeles, Cincinnati (his home town), St. Louis, San Diego, Boston, Baltimore and the New York Meis.

The Dodgers, Reds, White Sox and Mets appear to be the most likely prospects, the newspaper said.

There also is talk of a three-way deal with the Dodgers and Pirates in

Pittsburgh pitcher Jose DeLeon. Because he has more than 10 years in the major leagues and has been with the Rangers at least five years, Bell has veto rights on any

which the Rangers would acquire

Bell has struggled through the 1985 season. His average fell to .245 Tuesday night, when he went 0 and 4 in the Rangers' 7-2 loss to Cleve-

Astros deal vet Cabell to Dodgers

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Astros ended Enos Cabell's second tour of duty with the National League club Wednesday by trading the veteran first baseman to the Los Angeles Dodgers for a minor league pitcher and a player to be named later.

Cabell signed as a free agent with the Astros in February, 1984. He was named Astros team captain earlier this year, but had started only 29 games at first base this season and hit .243 in 59

The Astros got Rafael Montalvo, who appeared in 30 games this season for the Dodgers Class AAA affiliate in Albuquerque, N.M. Montalvo recorded nine saves, a 1-5 record and 2.97 ERA.

Montalvo was assigned to the Astros' AAA team at Tucson, Ariz. and the Astros also recalled outfielder Chris Jones from Tuc-

son, where he had posted a .352 batting average in 59 games.

Cabell spent six seasons with the Astros before being traded to the San Francisco Giants following the Astros' 1980 Western Division championship season.

Blue Jays now feed on baseball

In past years, if someone wanted to talk about the Blue Jays, most peo-ple would have opened their window and checked out the old bird feeder. The baseball standings would be the last place they'd look.

Well folks, things are starting to change.

I think I realized the change most when I saw someone walking around impus with a brand spanking new Toronto Blue Jays cap perched on his

I've already retired my first Jays ball cap because I'm a fan from way back. I remember the days when they couldn't buy a win for all the snow in

the Arctic Circle. That has changed as well.

Currently, the Blue Jays (.610 pct.) sit atop the American League East, 3½ games in front of the Detroit Tigers (.570 pct.).

As the teams close on the All-Star break and a looming Major League strike, the Blue Jays appear — and I say that cautiously — to be ready to hang their first pennant over horri-ble Exhibition Stadium in Toronto.

Cheeky you say? Maybe. Realistic?

Could be. Down right un-American?

The sheer suspicion these foreigners generate (even though the team is ade up of non-Canadians) can be seen in baseball circles. No one wants to ive the poor Jays credit for having a great ball club.

Sure they play in a country where ice and hockey combine as naturally s rum and Coke, gin and tonic. But a new beverage is being hawked tround Toronto — "The Blue Jay Cooler." It goes nice with ice too.

But let's get down to brass tacks and baseballs.

Statistics are the only things that will truly convince a lover of the Great American Game. So I will quote a few as supporting evidence.

Pitching has probably been the biggest plus for the men in blue, white

Right now the Jays probably have baseball's best starting pitcher in Dave

Since May 17, Stieb has allowed more than two runs only once, he has allowed 10 earned runs in his past 11 outings for a 1.04 ERA through that stretch. Stieb now has a league-leading ERA of 1.84.

Only Dwight Gooden of the New York Mets of the National League has

a lower ERA among starters at 1.74.

The rest of the bullpen, though struggling lately, has given Toronto manager Bobby Cox something to smile about.

Acquiring veteran lefty reliever Gary Lavelle, the improved play of Dennis Lamp, Jim Acker and Jimmy Key promise a strong anchor for the Jays down the stretch. That's something they didn't have last year during a

disasterous slide in the standings late last season.

George Bell has been the best Toronto slugger, hammering in 16 home runs already this season to just nine overall in '84. Bell's RBI production has edged up from 42 in '84 to 49 this year.

With 250 less at bats, Toronto's team hitting average has moved from .251 to .258. RBI production has steadily improved with the Jays collecting 356 ribbies this year to 345 in '84.

Catcher Ernie Whitt is having a much improved year with 10 home runs, 36 RBIs and a .280 batting average, 40 points higher than a year ago.

American baseball fans have to look at the human side of this whole situation, too. Don't you get a little tingle (or shiver depending on how you feel about the situation), when you imagine seeing the World Series played in

In October. In the snow. Um, I think I'll check the bird feeder again just to see if the birds have

Herr wins NL All-Star team starting job

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tommy Herr of ne St. Louis Cardinals overtook Chicago's Ryne Sandberg in the final vote tabulation to win the starting

ional League in hitting, overcame a

WILLOWICK has it for '199!!

WILLOWICK has it for '215!!

tightest NL race. He received 1,109,178 votes to 1,050,549 for the Cubs' second baseman and becomes the fourth different NL starter at the position in the last four years,

the position in the last four years, job at second base for the National League All-Star team, Commissioner Peter Ueberroth announced Wednesday.

Herr, leading the major leagues in runs batted in and second in the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League in hit is a second with the National League and League in hit is a second with the National League and League in hit is a second with the National League All-Star team, Commissioner Peter Ueberroth announced Wednesday.

"I was in that position last year so I know what it's like coming from behind," Sandberg said Wednesday.

"Tommy Herr is definitely having with the National League and Sandberg." an all-star season and that's what the nearly 32,000-vote deficit to beat game is for. In this case the fans did sandberg by 58,629 ballots in the their job."

Forty-year-old Graig Nettles of the San Diego Padres won the third base assignment and will start for the first time for the NL, breaking a sting of six straight selections for Philadelphia's Mike Schmidt. Nettles, an American League starter in 1975 and a 1980 replacement for injured George Brett, received 1,032,335 votes to 739,793 for Schmidt, who was switched to first base by the Phillies earlier this sea-

by the fans in the balloting spon-sored by Gillette are all repeaters from last year's squad which defeated the Americans 3-1 at San

Center fielder Dale Murphy of the Atlanta Braves, starting for the fourth straight year, led all NL players with 1,425,952 votes. The other starting outfielders will be Tony Gwynn of San Diego, last year's batting champion who landed 968,262

See See All-Star, page 8

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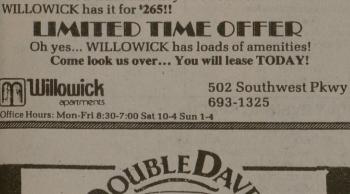
5 day - 3 meals a day Monday through Friday - \$210.00 plus tax

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