

Sports

Starters set for All-Star contest Yankees place four members on first squad

NEW YORK (AP) — The selection of Dave Winfield, Don Mattingly, Willie Randolph and Rickey Henderson gave the New York Yankees half of the starting positions picked by the fans for the American League All-Star team in results of balloting announced Wednesday.

No other team in either league had more than two players among the starters.

Ozzie Smith of the St. Louis Cardinals was the top vote-getter, drawing 2,254,409 votes to win the start-

ing position at shortstop for the National League.

The defending world champion Mets, who have been trailing in the NL East race most of the season, will be represented among the starters by catcher Gary Carter and outfielder Darryl Strawberry. The St. Louis Cardinals, with a solid lead in the NL East, also will have two starters — Smith and first baseman Jack Clark.

Picked as the other infield starters in the National League were Chi-

cago Cubs second basemen Ryne Sandberg and third baseman Mike Schmidt of the Philadelphia Phillies. Sandberg, out with an ankle injury, will be unable to play.

Cubs outfielder Andre Dawson, signed by Chicago as a free agent this season, was picked for a starting spot in the outfield along with Strawberry and Eric Davis of the Cincinnati Reds.

Wade Boggs of the Boston Red Sox, the American League's leading hitter at .382, drew the most votes in

the league and beat out George Brett of the Kansas City Royals for the starting third base job. Brett had started the last 11 All-Star games. Boggs drew 1,529,819 to Brett's 699,970.

The struggling Baltimore Orioles placed catcher Terry Kennedy and shortstop Cal Ripken Jr. on the starting team.

In the AL outfield with Winfield and Henderson will be George Bell of the Toronto Blue Jays.

Knicks name Bianchi as general manager

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Knicks, after a 12-week search, named Al Bianchi their general manager Wednesday and said they should have a head coach within two weeks.

The former Phoenix assistant coach replaces Scotty Stirling, who was fired along with Coach Bob Hill on April 20 after the Knicks finished the regular season with a 24-58 record. It was the third year in a row that the Knicks missed the playoffs.

"Sure, we want to make the playoffs," Bianchi said at a news confer-

ence at Madison Square Garden. "But we also want a (championship) ring. We want to win it all."

Bianchi, 55, and Knicks President Richard Evans said a new coach should be named in the next 10 days to two weeks. Evans said the list of candidates has been narrowed to three or four, but he would not reveal any names.

"The only thing I can say is that we will get the best man possible," Evans said.

Former Dallas Coach Dick Motta and North Carolina State Coach Jim Valvano are believed to be two of the remaining candidates. The Knicks recently tried to hire Boston assistant coach Jimmy Rodgers, but negotiations stopped when the Celtics demanded a top draft pick as compensation.

Bianchi, who will play a major role in selecting the new coach, said he would like a coach who emphasizes the fast break.

"If you look around the league today, you see that most successful teams like to run," said Bianchi, who played 10 years in the NBA and coached in Phoenix from 1976 until last month.

Bianchi said the Knicks' biggest weaknesses are rebounding and playmaking. The Knicks had those areas in mind last month when they picked point guard Mark Jackson of St. John's and power forward Ron Moore of West Virginia State as their top two selections in the NBA draft.

One of the Knicks problems last season was the failure of 7-footers Patrick Ewing and Bill Cartwright to form an effective combination in the frontcourt. But Bianchi said he is not anxious to break up the "Twin Towers" by trading Cartwright, a move often suggested by the New York press.

"Big guys are at a premium in the NBA, especially ones who can score," he said. "They're the home run hitters. If you're going to trade one of them, you better get something very good in exchange."

Giamatti: home run upsurge may cause more beanballs

CHICAGO (AP) — The upsurge in home runs is at least partially responsible for an increase in beanballs this season, National League President A. Bartlett Giamatti said Wednesday.

Giamatti said the number of players being hit by pitches "is very worrisome because baseball degenerates when this happens."

The NL president was interviewed by radio station WGN-AM a day after a beanball exchange between the Cubs and the San Diego Padres resulted in a brawl and seven ejections.

"I have not seen a tape of the episode, nor have I gotten a written report from the umpires," Giamatti said in withholding comment on the incident.

"But I think that the general situation is not a good one. I think I'll be having something to say about this to the clubs, then, ultimately, to the media."

Giamatti drew a distinction between the brushback pitch and

pitches thrown with the intent to hit batters.

"The brushback pitch is designed not to hit a batter and is a part of the game. And when you have all the allegations about lively balls and the number of home runs, you have a certain number of pitchers believing they've got to brush people back and own the plate."

"I understand that, but the margin between a pitch that is a brushback and a pitch that hits somebody is slight."

Cubs outfielder Andre Dawson, who was hit in the face by a pitch from Eric Show in Tuesday's game, arrived at Wrigley Field Wednesday with the left side of his face swollen.

Dawson had 24 stitches around the mouth and was not in the lineup for the game against the Padres.

The Cubs won 12-8 for a sweep of the three-game series. There were no further incidents in the third game.

Show, who hit Dawson in the third

inning of the Cubs' 7-5 victory, remained at the team's hotel.

"I told him not to come to the park," Padre Manager Larry Bowa said. "There's no need for him to come out and have to go through all of this."

Both Bowa and Cub Manager Gene Michael were issued a pregame warning by umpire John Kibler, which meant the first pitcher to throw at a batter would be ejected along with his manager.

"All I tell the players under the circumstances is 'A warning has been issued,' and they take it from there," Michael said.

Bowa, in his first year as a manager, said this is the first time he has been warned before the start of the game.

Dawson had homered off Show in the first inning of Tuesday's game. It was his 24th homer of the year and his seventh against the Padres.

Nevertheless, Bowa and Show both insisted the beaning was unintentional.

NBA enters into agreement on minority job positions

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA and NAACP announced a joint agreement Wednesday aimed at increasing minority off-the-court employment in the league.

NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks said similar agreements could follow with baseball and football.

Although the agreement contained no formal guidelines for accomplishing its purpose, NBA Commissioner David Stern said: "This is a mandate that is not being forced on the teams, but one I'm sure they will welcome."

Hooks and Stern said no percentage goals had been set. They said they would begin meetings immediately with as many NBA teams as possible. Hooks said local NAACP branches already had been in touch with 12 NBA teams, 20 major league baseball clubs and 15 NFL teams.

"I know about goals and timetables, believe me," Hooks said, "but we will deal with the individual teams on that. If I say we're going to get two jobs, and

we only get one, then I'll be pilloried."

"We don't want to play a numbers game," Stern said at a news conference with Hooks.

Hooks said he had met with baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth, and they had agreements with about six major league teams. Those agreements have yet to be signed by the NAACP because they have not been reviewed.

"I'll be in touch with Pete Rozelle and we'll work out something in the next few days," Hooks said about the NFL commissioner.

"I'm not sure our agreements with baseball and football will be the same as basketball, but I am sure they are willing to work with us," Hooks said.

While 75 percent of all NBA players are black, Stern said only 30 percent of office positions are occupied by blacks. There are four black NBA coaches and two black general managers.

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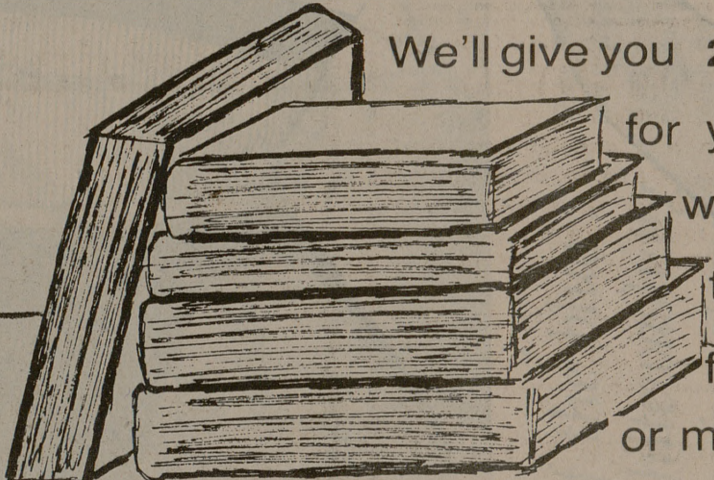
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