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Cubs observe Wrigley Field's 75th year

Players from four eras return to historic park for celebration

CHICAGO (AP) — Four players from four different eras dating back to 1915 helped the Chicago Cubs celebrate the 75th anniversary of Wrigley Field Tuesday night.

Robert Wright, 97, was the most amazing of the group that included Billy Herman, 79; Andy Pafko, 68, and Billy Williams, 50.

Wright, who pitched for the Cubs in 1915 and threw out the ceremonial first pitch prior to the game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, was unbelievably agile and sharp of mind.

Herman played on Cub pennant winners in 1932, 1935 and 1938. He was traded to the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1941 and helped lead them to the National League pennant.

area and works one day a week at the Mount Prospect Country Club as a starter, also was traded by the Cubs to the Dodgers.

"It was in 1951 and we had a three-game series," Pafko said. "The first two games I played for the Cubs and the final game I was traded and played for the Dodgers. I hit a home run against my old teammates."

"We didn't win the pennant that year but we came close," he said. "That was the year Bobby Thomson hit the famous home run" when the New York Giants won the pennant in a playoff.

"I don't know about the lights," Pafko said, "when I think of Wrigley Field, I think of day baseball."

Williams, who like Herman is a member of the Hall of Fame, said "It might be 75 years old but it's still a beautiful park. I've seen a lot of changes from dugout to dugout, from clubhouse to clubhouse and

press box to press box, but the great thing about it is it is still surrounded by Waveland, Addison, Sheffield and Clark streets."

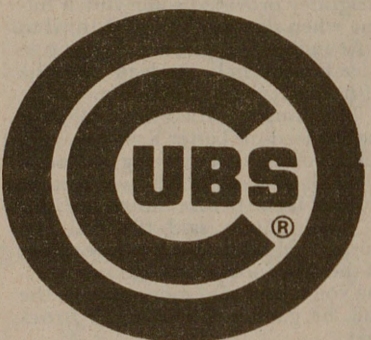
Originally known as Weeghman Park, the ball park was built in 1914 at a cost of \$250,000 and was the home of the Chicago Whales of the newly formed Federal League.

That team was owned by Charles H. Weeghman, a wealthy restaurateur. But the league folded two years later.

Weeghman had a park but no team. So he bought the Cubs from the Taft family of Cincinnati and moved them from the West Side Grounds.

In 1920, the Wrigley family purchased the team from Weeghman and the name was changed from Weeghman Park to Cubs Park. Six years later, it was officially named Wrigley Field in honor of William Wrigley Jr., the club's owner.

The rest is history.



"There've been a lot of changes here," Herman said, "especially the lights. I don't see where they spoil the looks of the park. It's still beautiful like it always was."

The first night game in the ballpark's history was played last season amid a storm of protest from supporters of day-only baseball.

Pafko, who lives in the Chicago

When he was introduced to Herman, who will be 80 July 7, Wright said: "Never met the boy."

Fans were given colored posters of Wrigley Field depicting the Chicago skyline and bands played songs dating from pre-World War I to the present time.

Commemorating the event was a 12-foot cake weighing 200 pounds that took two days to bake by a downtown hotel. The decorations abounded the theme of 75 years.

Wright, a native of Indiana who now lives in Sacramento, Calif., pitched in only two games for the Cubs as a reliever. He spent most of his career in the minor leagues and once was a teammate of the legendary Jim Thorpe.

NFL teams working to sign draft picks

NEW YORK (AP) — For the 28 NFL teams, the easy part was dividing up 335 players in this year's draft. The hard part will be signing 334.

Even before the draft ended Monday evening, several top picks were looking at the \$11.2 million that Dallas gave Troy Aikman, the No. 1

pick — said he would like \$10 million over six years from Atlanta, more than any defensive player in the league.

Sanders has more leverage than most — he's an outfielder for the New York Yankees' AA farm club in Albany, N.Y., although he says he prefers football if all things are equal.

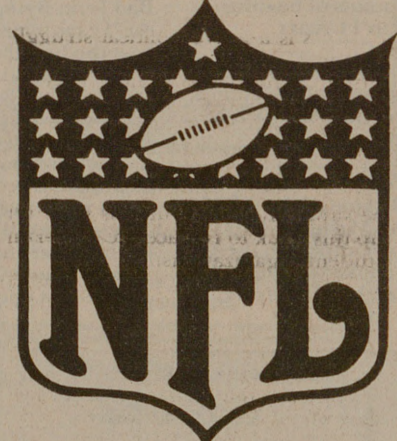
"Everybody says Deion is going to get X amount of dollars," said Sanders, who said he is anxious to begin negotiations with the Falcons. "I just want it to rhyme with my name — Deion, million."

And Notre Dame's Andy Heck, an offensive tackle chosen by Seattle with the 15th pick, suggested that offensive linemen, generally at the lower end of the NFL wage scale, get at least as much as the players they block — pass-rushing linemen and linebackers.

But Donlan said all that is old hat. "Each year, you hear the same thing about why this player or that player is unique," Donlan said. "He's a Heisman trophy or Outland Trophy winner. He graded higher. He can participate in another sport. Players and their agent use whatever it is they think will give them negotiating leverage."

Finks, one of the league's most respected club officials, suggested the problem is deeper than the rookie problem.

He noted that many starters are unhappy with their salaries because marginal players got triple figure signing bonuses and huge raises under the "Plan B" free agency system that took effect this winter.



choice, and saying they would demand comparable remuneration.

If they do, it could be a long summer.

"One of these days, somebody's going to have to stand up to these kids and their agents," Jim Finks, president of the New Orleans Saints said Tuesday. "We just have to draw the line at a certain point and tell them 'it's been nice talking to you, have a pleasant year.'"

"Sooner or later," said Jack Donlan, executive director of the NFL Management Council, "the economic reality that the clubs wrestle with all the time will begin to settle in with the players and their agents. That's when meaningful negotiations will take place."

Nonetheless, the draft is barely over and the posturing has begun.

Tony Mandarich, the Michigan State offensive tackle who was rated the best overall player available, said the day he was drafted that he wants to be paid that way — more than Aikman, though both Finks and Aikman's agent, Leigh Steinberg, point out "the scale for quarterbacks has always been different."

Deion Sanders — the cornerback nicknamed "Neon Deion" or "Prime

Scott, Davis lead Astros past Philadelphia, 4-1

HOUSTON (AP) — Mike Scott pitched a four-hitter and Glenn Davis hit a two-run homer as the Houston Astros beat the Philadelphia Phillies 4-1 Tuesday night.

Davis has homered in three straight games and has six for the season.

Scott, 3-1, had a shutout until the seventh inning when Darren Daulton hit his fifth homer of the season. Daulton had one homer last season in 144 at-bats.

Davis' homer came with two outs in the first inning and scored Bill Doran who had singled. Davis also walked in the sixth inning and scored from first base on Kevin Bass' double.

Philadelphia starter Ken Howell, 2-1, struck out a career-high 10 in seven innings. He allowed four hits.

Scott retired the first 10 batters before Tom Herr singled off Davis' glove at first base with one out in the fourth.

Juan Samuel led off the sixth with the third hit off Scott, stole second and went to third on Von Hayes' fly to center. But Herr popped out and Mike Schmidt grounded out to end the threat.

Scott struck out four and walked two.

Alan Ashby hit his first triple since June 4, 1983 in the second inning and scored on Howell's wild pitch to give the Astros a 3-0 lead.

Other Major League Results:
Reds 6, Expos 1

At Cincinnati, Tom Browning pitched a seven-hitter and Paul O'Neill snapped a sixth-inning tie with a three-run homer as the Cincinnati Reds beat the Montreal Expos 6-1.

Padres 1, Pirates 0

At Pittsburgh, Eric Show allowed six hits in eight-plus innings and Roberto Alomar had a run-scoring single in the fifth inning as the San Diego Padres beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 1-0.

Dodgers 4, Cubs 0

At Chicago, Tim Belcher pitched his second straight shutout and doubled in two runs as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Chicago Cubs 4-0 to spoil the 75th anniversary celebration of Wrigley Field.

Mets 2, Braves 1

At New York, David Cone allowed five hits in 8 2-3 innings and Len Dykstra drove in a run and scored another, leading the New York Mets past the Atlanta Braves 2-1.

Tigers 5, Mariners 2

At Detroit, Frank Tanana pitched six-hit ball for eight innings to snap his 11-game winless streak and Matt Nokes broke a tie with a three-run homer, leading the Detroit Tigers past the Seattle Mariners 5-2.

Scott Bankhead, 1-2, gave up six hits in six innings for Seattle.

Brewers 10, Twins 4

At Milwaukee, Glenn Braggs and Paul Molitor both hit two homers and Bryan Clutterbuck earned his first major league victory with a seven-hitter as the Milwaukee Brewers routed the Minnesota Twins 10-4.

Red Sox 11, White Sox 0

At Boston, Roger Clemens pitched a three-hitter, breaking his five-game losing streak against Chicago, and Jim Rice, Ellis Burks and Rich Gedman homered as the Boston Red Sox beat the White Sox 11-0 Tuesday night.

The victory snapped Boston's three-game losing streak and improved Clemens' career record after Red Sox' losses to 36-6.

Clemens, 3-0, struck out 11, walked three and allowed singles in the first inning to Harold Baines and the fourth and seventh to Ivan Calderon.

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