Clay Court Tennis

Former Poly star scores national doubles victory

Former Baltimore Poly tennis ace Rodney Young and a Brazilian youth teamed last week to capture the national clay courts doubles championship at Jacksonville, Fla.

The affable Baltimorean and young Gabriel Mattos of Sao Paulo, defeated Nate Bromberg and Chet Alder in three sets, winning the opener, 6 - 0, dropping the second, 4 - 6, and closing out the match by 6 - 3.

Bromberg, a native of Miami, is a junior at Auburn University. Alder, of Los Angeles, is a senior at the University of Southern California.

The tournament was to determine the national, 21 - and - under, clay courts team champion.

Young, 21, is a senior and the No. 1 player on the Hampton Institute tennis squad.

Rodney has been improving steadily since his high school and public parks days in Baltimore, where he won numberous age - bracket titles.

The youngster became interested in tennis when a boyfriend made his older sister the present of a racquet six years ago. He prevailed upon her to let him try it out and he has been bitten by the bug since then.

Following his victory at Jacksonville, Young told the AFRO he plans one more year of collegiate competition at Hampton. "Then next year," he said, "I'll try the pros". . Lacy.

Olympic Games talks stalled

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (UPI) — Negotiations between Los Angeles and the International Olympic Committee over the staging of the 1984 Summer Olympics are deadlocked, IOC director Monique Berlioux said Tuesday.

"We are waiting for them to budge a little bit," Berlioux said. "They want the financial responsibility for the Games to be taken over by a group of private individuals instead of the city. The IOC Rule 4 says the city must accept the responsibility.

"The IOC is not going to change Rule 4, so we must wait and see what Los Angeles does," Berlioux said.

Members of the group of businessmen whose consortium wants to back the 1984 Olympics financially met with Berlioux and the IOC's Candaian member lawyer Jim Worrall, in Montreal, but no agreement was reached.

Berlioux said the only progress since then had been to send a report of that meeting to the nine members of the IOC's executive board.

3-nation duckpin tourney set Tues.

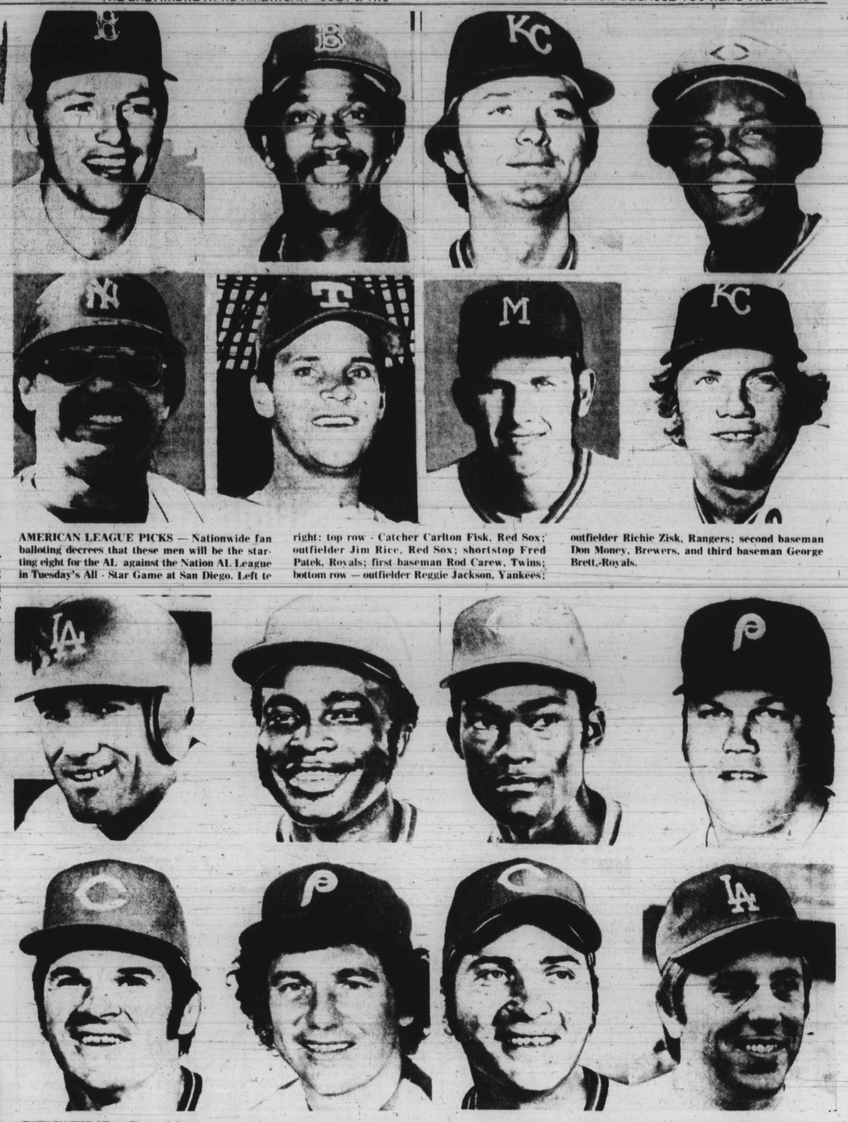
Duckpin bowling will go international with a series of matches to be held Tuesday through Thursday between the top men and women bowlers in the United States, Canada and the Philippines.

Each team will be composed of four men and four women who will compete in a series of team matches at Fair Lanes Liberty Plaza and Greenway Bowl East bowling centers.

Both the Canadian and Filipino Teams have accepted an invitation to participate July 14 - 16 in the regularly scheduled men's and ladies' Duckpin Pro tours to be held at Fair Lanes Liberty Plaza (men's) and Greenway Bowl East (ladie's).

The Canadian bowlers normally roll rubberband duckpins which is a two ball per frame version of the regular three - ball. American duckpin game.

In the Philipines over 100,000 duckpin bowlers have been participating since the game started in 1937 in 200 duckpin centers on the islands.



AMERICAN LEAGUE PICKS — Nationwide fan balloting decrees that these men will be the starting eight for the AL against the Nation AL League in Tuesday's All - Star Game at San Diego. Left to right: top row - Catcher Carlton Fisk, Red Sox; outfielder Jim Rice, Red Sox; shortstop Fred Patek, Royals; first baseman Rod Carew, Twins; bottom row — outfielder Reggie Jackson, Yankees; outfielder Richie Zisk, Rangers; second baseman Don Money, Brewers, and third baseman George Brett, Royals.

Sox players receptive

Reaction among player of the Chicago White Sox was generally favorable when Larry Doby replaced Bob Lemon as the team's manager Friday.

"You can't change 25 men," said Lerrin LaGrow, "So if you want to try something new, you change the manager. Can Doby change 25 men? I guess we'll have to wait and see."

"We weren't doing too well so I guess it had to be done," said Ron Schukler.

Eric Soderholm said "dissention" caused the change in managers.

"This is going to be a surprise to some people," Soderholm said, "but I think the change, on a whole, was welcome by most of the players."

Under Lemon, "Some of the players were confused about their role," Soderholm said.

REPRIEVE — The many fans of vertan slugger Willie Horton may be relieved to know he isn't finished in the majors. Horton was picked up by Oakland within hours after he was let go by Cleveland.

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TOPS IN THE NL — These eight men were picked to represent the National League in the All - Star Game Tuesday at San Diego. Top row, left to right: First baseman Steve Garvey, Dodgers; second baseman Joe Morgan, Reds; outfielder George Foster, Reds; outfielder Greg Luzinski, Phillies; bottom row, l to r: third baseman Pete Rose, Red; shortstop Larry Bowa, Phillies; catcher Johnny Bench, Reds, and outfielder Rick Monday, Dodgers. Starters were selected in in annual nationwide fan balloting.

Carew 3 million votes ahead of nearest rival

NEW YORK (UPI) — Rod Carew captured 4,010,136 votes to lead the American League All - Star ballotting for the second consecutive year and will start at first base in Tuesday's game at San Diego for the 12th straight year.

Carew outdistanced his nearest competitor — Milwaukee's Cecil Cooper — by almost three million votes. Carew's first nine starts were at second base, while the past three have been at first.

Joining Carew are repeaters from last year's starting team, including Boston catcher Carlton Fisk, Kansas City third baseman George Brett and outfielders Richie Zisk of Chicago and Reggie Jackson of New York.

The remainder of the starting lineup consists of Milwaukee's Don Money at second base, Kansas City's Fred Patek at shortstop and Boston's Jim Rice in the other outfield slot.

The closest vote battle was for the catcher's spot, where Fisk's 2,805,493 count was some 35,000 better than Texas' Jim Sundberg. Thurman Munson of the Yankees ran a poor third, almost a million votes off the pace.

Jackson beat Red Sox veteran Carl Yastrzemski by 43,000 votes for the final outfield slot.

Bumbry drops cast

Centerfielder Al Bumbry, out for two months with a leg injury, had the cast removed on Friday.

Bumbry suffered a dislocated left ankle and a broken bone in his left leg in a sliding accident against the Texas Rangers on May 12.

He will begin therapy treatments immediately.

Wha' happen? Lacy picks AL to win Tuesday All-Star tilt

By Sam Lacy

It may come as a surprise to AFRO readers — including at least one writer — that the American League is being picked at this desk to win Tuesday's Major League All - Star Game at San Diego.

After 10 straight years of predicting National League victories, even in 1971 when the AL scored, 6 - 4, tapping the AL gives cause for raised eyebrows and an explanation.

Explantion: pitching and power.

It is the feeling here that, Billy Martin's hurling corps, headed by the Yankees' Ron Guidry, is a complete overmatch of the National League staff. I cannot recall any year in which an All - Star mound staff has come into the game with a .667 winning percentage of 60 wins against 30 defeats, and an earned-run average of 2.53.

One of baseball's oldest axioms declares that good pitching negates good hitting. That hitting advantage has been an NL strength over the years.

It has been enough, in fact to enable the senior circuit to win the last six games, and 18 of the last 21.

Only in 1962 when they took a 9 - 4 decision, and 1971 when they prevailed, 6 - 4, have the Americans been able to break the string.

The 1961 contest at Boston ended in a 1 - 1 tie when torrential rains interrupted play after nine innings.

This mastery by the NL has been even more devastating than the scoreboard shows.

The NL team batting average for the AL's team figures to shame. It was .273 to .229 last year; then .303 to .172, in 1976; at .351 to .278 in '75, and as high as .369 to .133 in 1974.

From the standpoint of slugging percentage, it was .606 to .276 in 1976 and .636 to 167 in 1974.

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Spinks to box So. African

JOHANNESBURG (UPI) — Leon Spinks, recognized by one of the two world boxing associations as the heavyweight champion, has made a tentative agreement to defend his title against white South African heavyweight champion Kallie Knoetze in late November, a spokesman for the South African fighter said Saturday.

The fight, supposedly scheduled for the third week in November at an undisclosed location is Southern Africa, depends on Spinks retaining his share of the title when he defends it against Muhammad Ali on September 15.

Jim Jacobs, Spinks' American agent, arrived from New York Friday with a signed contract for the championship bout. He said the fight would be televised back to the United States.

"You have to appreciate the cost factor in regard to televising big fights. It will be much cheaper to beam a fight from these parts to America, rather than the reverse," Jacobs said. "That's why so many Ali title defenses went out of the states and why we are looking at Southern Africa."

Jacobs said the third week in November was the only time in which a fight could be scheduled into the crowded United States television bill.

Previous fights sites "considered" for matches have been Johannesburg and others outside South Africa in Neighboring Swaziland and Botswana.

Nixon sees whites only in citing baseball heroes

Former President Richard M. Nixon and son - in - law David Eisenhower sat in owner Gene Autry's box at Anaheim (Calif.) Stadium the other night and watched the California Angels as they were shut out, 4 - 0, by the Kansas City Royals.

The former chief executive sat in the third row alongside Autry, owner of the Angels, and was shielded from the crowd's view. A bright yellow tarp was erected between Autry's box and the press box.

When asked to name the players he most admired, Nixon's choices were exclusively white.

"The toughest position," he said, "is the catcher. Bill Dickey of the old Yankees was one of the best over the years. Another who ought to be in the Hall of Fame is Ernie Lombardi." How about 3 - time MVP Roy Campanella who is, Dick?

"The greatest hitter I saw was Ted Williams," Nixon continued (Did he see Hank Aaron?), and Sandy Koufax was the greatest pitcher."

Commenting on his most memorable events during his stay in the White House, the ex - president replied:

"One of the finest occasions we had at the White House, and there were many fine times, was when we had all the participants of the Hall of Fame and the widows," he said.

"The one that impressed me the most was the widow of Lou Gehrig. She saw through great adversity. Eleanor is a great lady."

"If anyone lived in greater "adversity" than Rachel, the widow of Jackie Robinson, it would take an individual with white - only eyes to find her).

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Doby is 3-3

Larry Doby had a .500 mark as manger of the Chicago White Sox after his first week in that role.

Rained out on his first night, Friday, Dobys' Sox were shellacked, 10 - 0, on Saturday.

Then they split a Sunday double header, won Monday and Tuesday, and lost Wednesday night.

Brig bows out

WASHINGTN (UPI) — Veteran Washington Redskins defensive back Brig Owens announced his retirement Wednesday.

Owens, 35, played in 154 consecutive games between 1966 and 1976.

GREEK LETTER GROUP — Members of the committee which directed the recent Alpha Phi Alpha tennis tournament at the Druid Hill courts. Left to right are: Dickie Burke, tournament head; Dr. Russell Kelley, chapter president; Charles Robinson, Charles Salters, Dr. Cecil Payton, Paul Reese and George Maxwell. The tourney benefitted inner-city youth programs.

Let Willie do it...

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI — Almost all of Willie McCovey's 19 - year big league career has been spent as a regular.

When McCovey first was brought up from the minors in 1962, the San Francisco Giants didn't have a regular job for him, so he got a lot of pinch - hitting roles that season before eventually winding up in left field.

Ever since, though, he has played almost every day at first base except for an occasional rest here and there the last two or three seasons.

Wednesay, McCovey was give the day off. So he watched from the bench as the Giants built a 3 - 0 lead and seemingly were on the way toward breaking a three - game losing streak.

Then in the eight, the San Diego Padres, playing the best ball of any team in the National League West over the last month, nailed Ed Halicki and Gary Lavelle for three runs — two on a homer by Oscar Gamble — to tie the score.

In the top of the ninth, the Padres moved ahead by a run on a single by Fernado Gonzalez, a forceout, a walk and a singlel by Tucker Ashford.

With ace fireman Rollie Fingers pitching, the first two Giants in the bottom of the ninth went quitely. With one out left, manager Joe Altobelli sent McCovey up to hit for pitcher Charlie Williams.

McCovey, 40, worked the count to two balls and a strike, then nailed a fastball by Fingers well back into the seats in right for his ninth homer of the year, 502nd of his career and 14th as a pinch hitter.

"That was one of the few times when you go up thinking homer all the way," McCovey said later. "With the bases empty and two out I didn't have much choice but to take a full cut. Rollie got a pitch up and over the plat and I saw it alo. I'm sure if he had it to over again he would have thrown me something else."

"I should have thrown him a slider away," Fingers said. "I don't care how old he is, he scares me everytime I see him."

Winfield, Blue cop NL honors

The National League Wednesday named Dave Winfield of the San Diego Padress as its player of the month and San Francisco Giant Vida Blue as pitcher of the month for June.

Winfield, 26, appeared in 29 games in June batted .333, hit eight home runs and picked up 31 RBI.

Blue, 30, the ace of the Giants' pitching staff and the main reason the club is in first place in the NL West, was 5 - 1 last month with an ERA of 1.26. He threw three complete games and two shutouts, and is now tied for the league lead in wins on the season with 11.

Winfield overwhelmed Dave Parker of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Larry Bowa of the Philadelphia Phillies in the voting, conducted by writes and broadcasters covering the league on a regular basis.

Blue took the honors ahead of Tom Seaver of the Cincinnati Reds, Steve Rogers of the Montreal Expos, Pat Zachry of the New York Mets and Bert Blyleven of Pittsburgh.

TO THE VICTOR — George Martin (left) winner of men's singles, is presented the first place trophy at close of recent Alpha Phi Alpha tennis tournament at Druid Hill courts. Making presentation is Charles Robinson, president of the fraternity's Baltimore chapter.

Joe Morgan easy winner for NL second base slot

Cincinnati Reds second baseman Joe Morgan romped in nationwide balloting for starting position on the National League team for Tuesday Night's All - Star game at San Diego.

The diminutive 5 - time repeater, despite a relatively off year, finished with a margin of one - and - a - half- million votes over Ted Sizemore of the Phillies.

Morgan and teammate George Foster are the only black starters for the N. L. in the annual July baseball classic.

Foster, last year's National League MVP, and Morgan, a double winner, have cornered the most valuable player laurels for the last three years.

Morgan is joined in the starting infield by first baseman Steve Garvey of the Dogers, shortstop Larry Bowa of the Phils, and third baseman Pete Rose, also of the Reds.

Foster's outfield mates will be Phillie's Greg Luzinski, the top outfield vote getter, and the Dogers' Rick Monday.

Other black players among the public choices (but not elected to starting positions) were:

Dan Driessen, Willie Stargell, Willie Montanez, Tony Perez, Keith Hernandez and Bob Watson, second through seventh in that order, for first base:

Bill Madlock (4th) and Rennie Stennett (5th) at second base;

Enos Cabell (5th) at third base;

Garry Templeton (4th) and Ivan DeJesus (5th) at shortstop;

And Garry Maddox (4th), Bake McBride (5th), Dave Parker (6th), Ken Griffey (7th), Reggie Smith (8th), Cesar Geronimo (9th) and Lou Brock (10th) among outfielders.

Middle Atlantic golf slated at Columbia courses Aug. 21-23

More than 250 golfers are expected to take part in the ninth annual Middle Atlantic Open Golf championship, August 21 - 23 at Hobbit's Glen and Allview golf clubs.

The field of entries will be split between Hobbit's Glen and Allview in Columbia in 36-hole two-man matches for the first two days. On August 23 the field switches courses for the final 18-holes at Hobbit's Glen.

The Lung Association is co-sponsoring this year's championship and will benefit from tournament proceeds, said Nathan Greene, tournament chairman.

Barry Fuhrman won last year's open. Fuhrman's four under-par, two-stroke win earned a $2,100 check in the $9,955 event. This year's total purse is expected to be between $15,000 to $20,000 for both tournaments, according to Hank Majewski, PGA golf professional at Hobbit's Glen.

Two brothers, Chuck and Jim Thorpe finished at 214, in last year's championship, two strokes off, and tied with 1975 winner Luther Showaker for second place.

The Middle Atlantic Open is limited to players holding a handicap of seven. Both professionals and amateurs are eligible to register for the tournament if they live in the Middle Atlantic region, which represents Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and parts of West Virginia.

Net star exposed as Nazi follower

British police Monday gave England's Buster Mottram a special guard after anti - Nazi League demonstrators threatened to disrupt his first round match in the Wimbledon Tennis Championships.

The top ranked British player is a supporter of Britain's National Front Party, an extreme right - wing fascist group which uses Nazi insignia.

Police escorted Mottram between the locker room and court and stood around the court while he defeated Sweden's Douglas Palm 7 - 5, 6 -2, 6 - 2. The few demonstrators remained silent.

Spartan 9 gets schoolboy phenom

NORFOLK — Norfolk State College baseball coach Marty Miller, seeking to fill the gap left by the departure of four - year mainstay Nimmond Lockhart, announced this week the signing of Raymond Hargrove, a righthanded pitcher.

A two - sport standout at Smithfield (Va.) High School, Hargrove staried seven games, completed six and posted a 1.96 earned run average in his senior year of competition.

He'll join the Norfolk State pitching staff rated as an outstanding hurler with good speed, a sharp curve and excellent control.

Subject: switch

NEW YORK (UPI) — The National Basketball Association's board of governors will meet Friday to consider a request to transfer the Buffalo Braves to San Diego and to permit a trade of team ownership between the San Diego franchise and the Boston Celtics.

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Players urge Cepeda pardon

Baltimore Oriole talent scount Fred Sosa said Friday a group of major league ballplayers are organizing a campaign to convince President Carter to pardon Orlando Cepeda, now serving a five - year prison sentence.

Cepeda, who began serving his term in jail last Monday at Elgin Air Force Base in Florida was convicted of trying to smuggle in 170 pounds of marijuana from Colombia into his native Puerto Rico. The offense is under federal jurisdiction.

Sosa, who is visiting Puerto Rico with Mirian Cruz, an assistant for Hispanic affairs for the mayor of Chicago and Ruben Cruz, her brother and a minister, said that Chicago Cub coach Cookie Rojas began the campaign for the pardon with a letter asking Carter to grant the ballplayer "another turn at the bat."

The 41 - year - old Cepeda played for the Atlanta Braves, Boston Red Sox, and San Francisco Giants, playing first base and averaging .298 for his career.

The letter to Carter said "Cepeda made a mistake and deserves another chance."

Sosa said he expected the campaign to get the pardon for Cepeda to include most of the leaders and ballplayers of the major leagues, and he said he expected Marvin Miller, president of the Major League Baseball Players Association, to join the movement.

He said Miss Cruz and the Rev. Mr. Cruz, who gave Carter the bible used at the invocation of the last Democratic convention, were aiding the campaign.

Larry Doby, did it all

It can't be said that new White Sox manager Larry Doby lacks experience. He has done it all.

Aside from starring with the Newark Eages of the old Negro leagues, playing in two All - Star games there, Doby scouted for Montreal in 1969, was a minor league instructor for the Expos in 1970, then was named a coach for Montreal from 1971-73. Doby coached for Cleveland in 1974, then returned as a coach for Montreal in 1976. In 1977, he joined the White Sox as a coach and batting instructor.

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