

NATIONAL BASEBALL CONGRESS
300 South Sycamore, Wichita, KS 67213

RE: NBC HALL OF FAME
For Your Consideration:

The Alaska Goldpanners of Fairbanks have long appreciated our connection with the National Baseball Congress. In fact, H.A. "Red" Boucher's earliest wish was to present the club on such a prestigious national scale. It has been the Goldpanners' distinct pleasure to have competed so many times at Wichita, and we look forward to the continuation of the long and storied relationship.

Also of particular satisfaction is the number of Goldpanners to have been inducted into the NBC Hall of Fame. From Tom Seaver to current General Manager Don Dennis, we take great pride in the NBC's recognition of our program.

Accordingly, we would like to nominate one Bill Lee for consideration. Bill, known globally as "Spaceman", would be a fine addition to the NBC Hall of Fame roster. In addition to playing in the 1967 tournament with the Goldpanners, he has continued to serve as an ambassador for the team and the tournament. In 2008, he spoke of his time in Wichita before a crowd in Fairbanks, and the reception was overwhelming.

While at USC, Bill compiled a fantastic collegiate career, including being named a College World Series All-American in 1968. Since his playing days at the NBC, Bill has gone on to a Hall of Fame caliber career. In fact, Bill was inducted into the Boston Red Sox Hall of Fame in November of 2008. He has also been included in many of the "greatest of" type lists.

He is widely regarded as one of the most colorful baseball characters to have come out of the 20th century.

Bill continues to pitch to this day. In 2008, Bill started and won the 103rd Midnight Sun Game, starting the game and pitching 6+ innings, despite being 61 years of age. He had lost the 1967 contest to Kumagai-Gumi Japan, and was out to settle that score!

In short, Bill is deserving of consideration for all of his on-field contributions to amateur baseball, as well as his continuing off-field ambassadorship.

The Alaska Goldpanners of Fairbanks respectfully request that the NBC consider Bill "Spaceman" Lee for consideration for inclusion into the tournament Hall of Fame.

