



CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY NEWS RELEASE

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Vintage baseball games at Savor U. City Festival *Nostalgia, history, family fun*

Here's your ticket to see baseball like it ought to be at the Savor U. City Festival, part of a year-long Centennial Celebration. See the Perfectos take on the Unions in two games of vintage baseball at 1pm and 2:30pm Sunday, May 28th at Jack Buck Field in Heman Park (off Midland between Olive and Vernon).

First pitch festivities will begin at 12:45pm. Marty Hendin, Vice President of Community Relations for the St. Louis Cardinals and U. City High School (UCHS) Hall of Fame alumni will throw out the first pitch and talk baseball. Hendin will be joined by other UCHS graduates and residents who have played professional baseball.



The Perfectos and Unions will take the field in vintage uniforms and will play under the 1860 rules of baseball. The "hurler," or pitcher, presents and delivers the replica baseball to the "striker," or batter, using a replica bat of the period. All players will play without gloves and the fair-foul rule and first bounce put out rule will make the game even more exciting.

After the games, players from the Perfectos and the Unions will answer questions about vintage baseball. For more information, contact Ed Nickels at: 314.523.4435.

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Team Background:

The St. Louis Unions were originally formed in 1884 by Henry Lucas who was instrumental in forming the Union League. After one year, the League team name was changed to the Maroons. This team joined the National League as the St. Louis entry in 1885.

The Perfectos were originally owned by Chris Von der Ahe under the name of the St. Louis Brown Stockings. In April 1898, a fire broke out in the stands during a game and lawsuits forced Von der Ahe to sell the team at public auction. The enterprise finally became property of the owners of the National League Spiders, the Cleveland club at that time. After taking over the St. Louis franchise, the new owners effectively switched members of the St. Louis and Cleveland clubs. What emerged was the Perfectos – who also changed the color of their stockings from brown to red.

St. Louis Perfectos have their home field at Lafayette Park and the St. Louis Unions' home field is in Florissant, Mo.