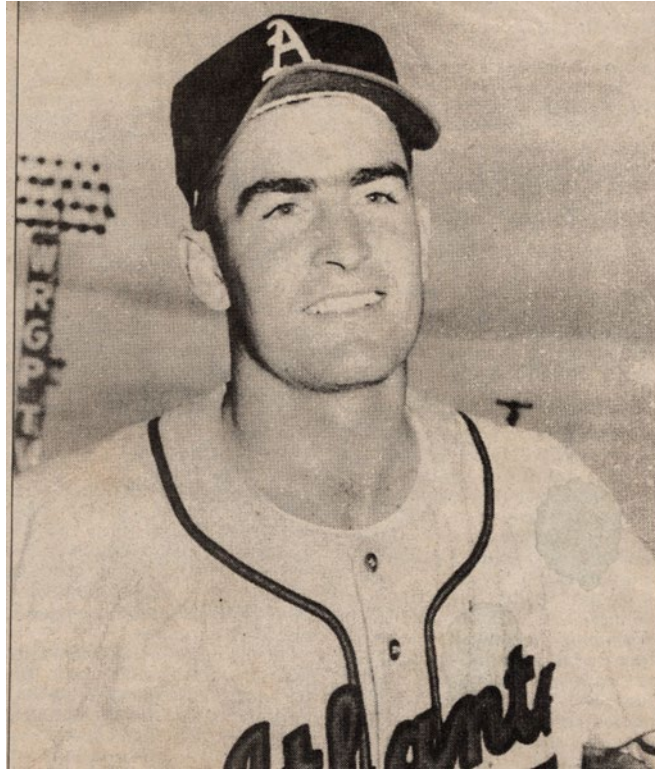


# Jim Callaway

Recounting The Career of a Ringgold Baseball Legend



Four Year Letterman in Baseball, Football and Basketball, two-year letterman in track



Four Year Letterman in Baseball, Letterman in Basketball, MVP of 1954 SEC Championship Team as a freshman, Captain of 1957 SEC East Championship Team, Recipient of 50-Year Athletic Achievement Award



A 5 ½ year professional career with the Braves organization with stints in Panama City, Jacksonville, Atlanta and Austin where he was a two-time member of the Texas League All-Star Team

## Authors Comments

Jim Callaway is one of the most recognizable faces in Ringgold and Catoosa County. His public service includes many years as County Manager for Catoosa County, following years of operating Callaway Brothers with his family. He continues to be involved in managing the family's assets and properties. Jim and his wife and family have been active members of First Baptist Church in Ringgold for many years and with their son Bo, still bring their "family harmony" to the choir there.

I have known Jim Callaway all of my life. I followed his baseball career in "real time" as a kid growing up in Ringgold. As I have worked on this documentation of his baseball career, it became obvious that Jim's early life, his faith and his family had such an impact on his baseball career, and those characteristics have carried him through his post baseball life. Early on in this project, I told his lovely wife Beverly that if I had to use one word to describe Jim, it would be "gentleman." He embodies the definition of the word to me. As I have continued through this project, I have learned some other words that need to be among those added to define the superlatives of the man: faith, husband, father, character, and the one that glued all of those together – grit!

Whatever word you use to describe that drive inside a person that will not allow them to quit, and to always want to be as good as they can be – that defines Jim. When asked to describe his defining trait Jim said, "I never wanted to lose, or be associated with people who were willing to accept anything other than winning, no matter the endeavor." I am convinced that if I challenged Jim Callaway to any competitive endeavor, he would figure out a way to beat me. For a man to embody this drive for always doing the best you can, no matter what you are doing, and throughout it all be the quintessential gentlemen, is indeed rare.

Most of all, I am honored to call Jim by one other name – my friend.

Roger Bowman

## Introduction

James Dunn (Jim) Callaway was born in 1935 to John B. and Ethel Jones Callaway, joining the family with older brothers, J.W. and Richard. In the early days, the family lived in Cherokee Valley, later moving to Ringgold. Some years after moving to Ringgold another brother Ben was born. Jim's father owned and operated the Callaway Gin and Store and Jim grew up working there and as a teenager worked on the various farms owned by the family and focused on vegetable farming on a property just east of Ringgold Gap. By the age of 13 Jim was farming on his own, raising vegetables on a 50-acre tract of land just east of Ringgold Gap. It was on these journeys down Depot Street and around the mountain driving his team of mules that he became acquainted with Cindy Felker (detailed in another paper). He would typically bring home his harvested vegetables, selling what he could to Ringgold grocers. By age 14 he was loading them on a truck and driving to the Chattanooga Farmer's Market ("The Curb Market") where he would stay until they were all sold, many times spending the night there.



The Callaway Cotton Gin in Ringgold

From his experience as a farmer to the long fall days working in the cotton gin, learning how to work and be responsible was the driving force in Jim's early life, traits that would benefit him throughout his life, and specifically in his baseball career. Jim's first baseball experiences were in back-yard baseball followed by American Legion ball from about age 13 on.

### Ringgold High School (1948-1953)

Jim began playing with the high school team while he was in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and was officially on the high school team 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Since Jim was in the first class to go to school for 12 years, 8<sup>th</sup> graders were eligible to play varsity sports. Obviously, a middle school student would not be allowed to play on a high school team now, but that was not the case in that era. As a result of his “early start” he lettered at Ringgold for five years. He played infield for all of his RHS career except his senior year when he was a catcher. After Jim graduated from RHS, his was the first baseball number to be retired.



Jim played football for four years, as a running back on offense and as a rover on defense, since in those days there was no platoon football. Jim was the first All Region player in Ringgold football history and was recruited by legendary University of Georgia Coach Wally Butts as a running back. He was the first all-region football player from Ringgold.

He also played basketball and lettered four years and was named to the All-Region Team as a guard.

Jim also ran track for two years and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state in the 440.

This 1953 article in the Chattanooga Times covers the Boynton team and local stars Jim Callaway and Thomas "Tink" Bowman, both of whom would go on to professional baseball careers. This was the summer after Jim graduated from Ringgold High School and prior to his joining the University of Georgia team.

## BOYNTON TRIUMPHS AS BOWMAN FANS 13

Tink Has 5-Hitter as City  
Titlists Post 13-3 Win  
Over All-Star Club

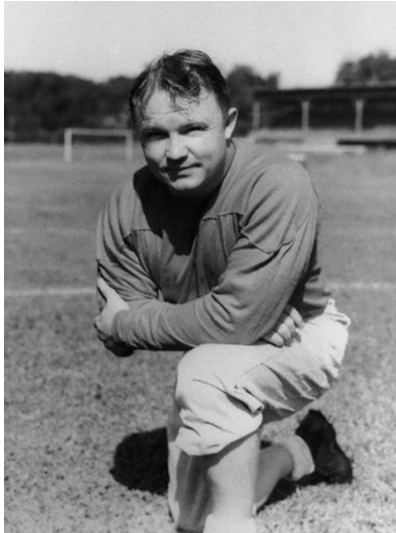
With Tink Bowman hurling a brilliant five-hitter and whiffing 13, Boynton defeated the City Baseball League All-Stars, 13 to 3, Saturday night at Darwin Field. Approximately 700 fans attended the big program.

Jim Callaway, with three for four, including a double, led Boynton's attack. Buster Erwin and Charles Bonine chipped in with two hits each for the first-half winners in the City circuit.

Rudy Simpson, Builders' ace

University of Georgia (1954-1957)

Recruited by Wally Butts as a running back, Jim arrived on campus to see a group of football recruits from Pennsylvania coal country and determined that, in his words “those guys will kill me in practice.” Recognizing these factors, he told Coach Butts that his real passion was for baseball. Jim and Coach Butts remained close friends throughout his stay at Georgia and until Coach Butts passed in 1973.



Coach Wally Butts

Other than one year of basketball at UGA, Jim dedicated himself to baseball under the tutelage of UGA legendary baseball coach Jim Whatley, who was coach of the Bulldogs from 1951-1975. He and Jim were lifelong friends until “Big Jim” passed away in 2001.



Jim Whatley

At the University of Alabama, Jim Whatley earned 10 varsity letters in four sports. He played tackle on the 1934 Rose Bowl team and was voted All-SEC in 1935. In 1934 and 1935, he was an All-SEC basketball center. He played pro football for the Brooklyn Dodgers from 1936-38 before starting a career in coaching. He was hired by the University of Georgia in 1950. He was an assistant football coach for 11

years, head basketball coach for two years, and the head baseball coach for 24 years. Jim Whatley was given sole credit for luring Fran Tarkenton away from Tech to UGA.

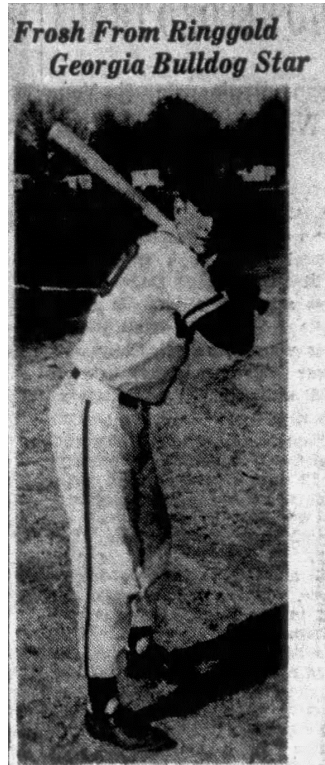
In an AJC article from April of 1954, UGA Coach Jim Whatley stated that Jim Callaway had been moved to second base from the outfield. Whatley was quoted as saying *"He will probably be playing second base for the rest of the season. That is his best spot, and he hasn't made an error since I moved him to second, and he can hit. In fact, he is our only left-handed hitter on the team."*

In no small part to Jim Callaway, Georgia won the SEC Championship in 1954 and Jim Callaway, as a freshman, was voted by his teammates as the Most Valuable Player. This would be the first of many accolades during his UGA baseball career, including being named to the All-SEC team and serving as UGA Team Captain.



**Special Photo**  
**GEORGIA'S LEADING HITTER, MOST VALUABLE, AND TOP PITCHER**  
**L-R, Sonny Saye, Jim Callaway, Doug Foster With Their Trophies**

Shortly after UGA won the SEC Championship in 1954, UGA Athletic Director Wally Butts announced that Georgia would not be sending the true SEC Championship team to the Region 8 NCAA Playoffs because four of the team's starters were freshmen, who, under NCAA rules, are ineligible for the playoffs. Ringgold's Jim Callaway, star Bulldog second baseman was one of the main "freshmen" reasons.



**JIM CALLAWAY**

Jim Callaway, above, freshman from Ringgold, is one of the reasons the University of Georgia won the eastern division of the Southeastern Conference Baseball League. He is also a reason the Bulldogs will not go to the National Collegiate Athletic Assn. regional playoffs despite beating Ole Miss in the best-of-three playoffs for the conference championship.

Callaway, a second baseman, was the team's second best batter, .313 on 26 hits in 83 times at bat. He had three doubles and triples and batted in 12 runs. The agriculture major, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Callaway of Ringgold, was an outstanding halfback with his hometown Tigers.

But, being a freshman, Callaway is not eligible for NCAA meets. And neither is catcher Jim Farris, center fielder Wendell Tarleton and left fielder Duane Grice. All are freshmen, so yesterday athletic director Wally Butts announced the decision not to continue past the conference playoffs.

Butts said further that the NCAA playoffs would conflict with quarterly examinations.





Jim's SEC Championship Ring

Following their SEC Championship season, seven members of the team, including Jim, secured summer jobs at a paper mill in Georgetown, SC where they played on the company's baseball team in the Palmetto League. All but one player on the team were college players. All players had to work at actual jobs during the day and they played baseball 5 nights a week.

Seven members of the Georgia Bulldogs SEC champ baseball team are not loafing on their laurels this summer, but will play with one of the top semi-pro clubs around. All seven secured jobs at a paper mill in Georgetown, S.C., and will play with the mill's baseball team.

The seven include Ringgold's Jim Callaway, who hit .313 during the season; Allen Parrish, Bobby Sherrer, Marvin Satterfield, Sonny Saye, Duane Grice and Jim Farris.

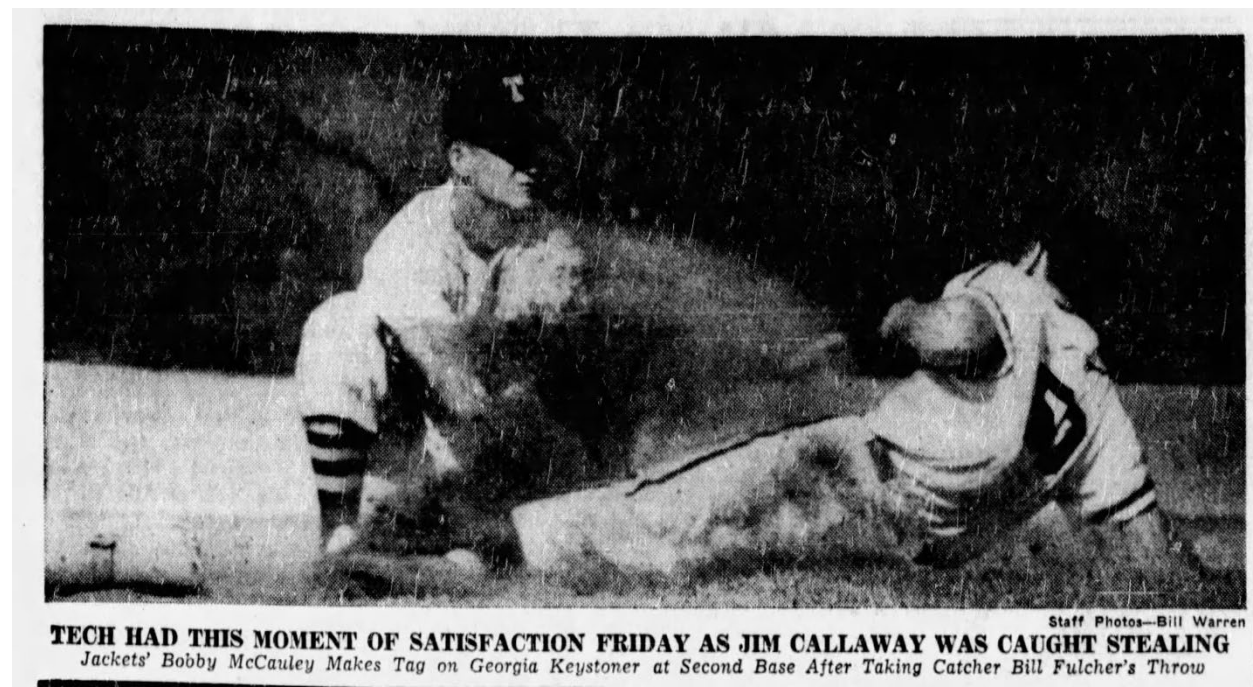
In June of 1954, Cotton Weeks and fellow UGA Supporters hosted a large dinner in Ringgold with the featured speakers being Wally Butts, UGA Athletic Director and "Publicitor" Dan Magill, Jr. An extensive summary of this gathering was detailed in Russ Walker's column "Mawnin" in the Chattanooga Times. While much of the commentary from both speakers focused on the football program, Coach Butts was quick to mention the outstanding baseball players at UGA from Northwest Georgia, including Bob Keyes and Jim Callaway from Ringgold. Butts was especially complimentary of Callaway who had made the All-SEC team as a freshman and was selected by his teammates as "Most Valuable Player".

In speaking about of incident about Callaway, Wally explained about what the boys on the squad call the "iron curtain," his tin fence around the football field where he holds secret practices. He said that after a hard baseball workout, he saw Callaway leave the baseball field, go over to the "iron curtain" and disappear into the field beyond. Interested, Wally followed to see what was going on. Looking through a crack in the "curtain," he saw Callaway alone, practicing 100-yard dashes to build up his speed. "He," said Wally *"is a credit to both his family and to his community."*

By April 2, 1955, UGA had won five straight games by defeating non-league opponent Loyola 5-4. This victory came after falling behind 4-1 at the bottom of the ninth inning. With the bases loaded, Jim Callaway's single drove all three in, and Callaway scored on a wild pitch by Loyola scoring the winning run.

Georgia started the 1955 SEC schedule with a series sweep of Florida. In the final game, the Atlanta Constitution reported that Jim Callaway, Bulldog second baseman, led the assault on three Gator pitchers with two triples and a single.

Everything did not always turn out as Jim wanted as the photo from the Atlanta Constitution reported below in April of 1955. Jim was carrying a .435 batting average after this Tech series.



Atlanta Journal Sportswriter, Curtis Driskell's article in the May 4, 1955, issue featured the headline "**Record or Not? Callaway Asks**. He reported the following: Georgia second baseman Jim Callaway is wondering whether he holds some kind of record as a result of his batting performance in the two-game series with Florida State. The trouble is that – neither Callaway nor anyone else knows just where to check the figures to establish the precedent. The stocky Bulldog infielder drew walks his first times at bat Tuesday. Added to his three consecutive free passes on Monday, it gave Callaway eight bases on balls against the Seminoles and made his batting average for the series .500 on the basis of a single and a pop-up.

By July of 1955, Jim was back in Ringgold playing for Tunnel Hill in the North Georgia League. An article in the Chattanooga Times reported that Tunnel Hill had defeated Calhoun 25-2 led by Jim Callaway's grand slam home run. Another report in August had Callaway hitting two singles, a double and a triple in a 24-8 win over West Lafayette.

The 1955 Tunnel Hill team, sponsored by Paramount Dairies included Jim Callaway (front row, 4<sup>th</sup> from the left) and several other Ringgold players, won the North Georgia League pennant.



—Photo by Ward's Photo Service.  
**PENNANT WINNING TEAM**—Pictured is the Tunnel Hill Paramount Dairies team which won the 1955 pennant in the North Georgia League. They are, front row, from the left, Billy Gowin, J. C. Horne, "Doc" Jay, Jim Callaway, Bob Davis, Jerry Albertson, Harry O'Neal and Larry Davis; back row, Bill Middleton, Jack Jay, Edwin Rann, Jim Middleton, Robert Lofty, Howard Sims and Lamont Nuckolls, manager. Tunnel Hill will play Riceville in the District Series this afternoon at Darwin Field at 3 o'clock.

The pre-season report for the Georgia Bulldogs in March of 1957 listed second baseman Jim Callaway as Team Captain.

### **"Callaway Foxed Minshew and Minshew Foxed Tech"**

In April of 1957 an article by Jim Minter in the Atlanta Constitution covering this interesting story as follows:

Because Georgia baseball captain and second baseman Jim Callaway is a catcher during the summer, the Bulldog pitching staff has been provided with a shot in the arm this spring.

Because of Callaway's catching, Wayne Minshew is a Bulldog hurler. And it was Minshew who beat Georgia Tech, the Jacket's first conference loss, in relief Saturday.

It was Callaway who brought Minshew to Georgia and Callaway who made him a pitcher. The two played ball to gather last summer in a league at Ringgold, Callaway's hometown.

Minshew, a pitcher at West Georgia junior-college last spring, played shortstop in the Ringgold league. But he also did some hurling and his snappy curves impressed catcher Callaway. "Come to Georgia," Callaway told him. "Okay replied to Minshew, but I'm going out for shortstop. Don't you tell them over there about me pitching".

But Callaway informed Georgia coach Jim Whatley of men's shoes curveball. Whatley put him on the mound, saw the curve and pronounced him a pitcher.

So, the fellow who wanted to play shortstop now has beaten powerful Georgia Tech, fanned 42 become the Bulldogs strikeout pace and boasts a fan of earned run average of 1.98.

Callaway could not have made his find at a better time. The Georgia pitching staff, with Billy Herne still not up to 1956 power because of a football injury has not been this staff Whatley expected after the 1956 season.

And as long as Minshew is able to help the cause as he did against Tech, he's not complaining about missing his chance at shortstop.

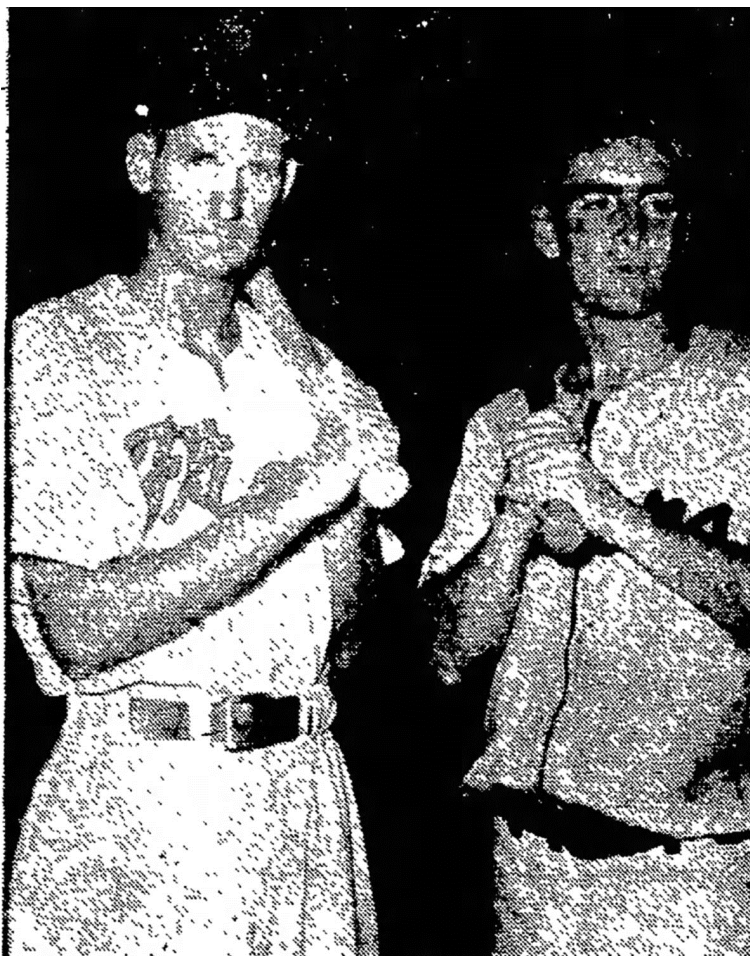
1957 JOURNAL ALL-SEC BASEBALL TEAM						
Pos.	Player, School	Bats	Age	Weight	Class	Avg.
OF	Rex Frederick, Auburn	R	19	185	Sophomore	.367
OF	John Gainey, Ole Miss	R	21	185	Senior	.398
OF	Wendell Tarleton, Georgia	R	21	175	Senior	.311
OF	L. F. Lanier, Auburn	L	21	170	Senior	.372
3B	Johnny Menger, Ga. Tech	R	22	165	Senior	.367
SS	Lane Akers, Ga. Tech	R	21	180	Senior	.358
2B	Don Gardiner, Miss. State	L	21	145	Junior	.298
1B	Fred Frickle, Alabama	L	20	180	Junior	.398
C	Ted Thomas, Ga. Tech	R	20	200	Junior	.304
C	Bob Gregor, Vanderbilt	R	20	200	Junior	.354
Util.	Chuck Bancroft, Alabama	R-L	21	165	Senior	.322
Pos.	Player, School	Throws	Age	Weight	Class	W.-L.
P	Buddy Blemker, Ga. Tech	L	19	180	Sophomore	8-0
P	Burt Touchberry, Florida	R	21	210	Senior	5-1
P	Bobby Ledford, Alabama	L	19	175	Sophomore	6-1
P	Jim Pruett, Miss. State	R	19	190	Sophomore	6-1
P	Frank Roland, Alabama	L	21	130	Senior	5-2

ALL-EASTERN DIVISION		ALL-WESTERN DIVISION	
CF—Rex Frederick, Auburn; L. F. Lanier, Auburn; Wendell Tarleton, Georgia; Earl Moore, Ga. Tech.	OF—John Gainey, Ole Miss; Larry Gore, Miss. State; Dale Rice, Alabama; Joe Boules, Tulane.	3B—Herb Kosten, Alabama.	3B—Johnny Menger, Ga. Tech.
SS—Lane Akers, Ga. Tech.	SS—Jack Kubiszyn, Alabama.	2B—John Gardiner, Miss. State.	SS—Jim Callaway, Georgia.
2B—Jim Callaway, Georgia.	1B—Fred Frickle, Alabama.	C—Bob Gregor, Vanderbilt; Tony Reginaldi, Tulane.	1B—Lloyd Nix, Auburn.
1B—Lloyd Nix, Auburn.	Utility—Joe Gibbon, Ole Miss; Chuck Bancroft, Alabama.	P—Bobby Ledford, Alabama; Jim Pruett, Miss. State; Buddy Wittichen, Ole Miss.; Frank Roland, Alabama.	C—Ted Thomas, Ga. Tech; Pat Duke, Auburn (tie) and Gene Simpson, Tenn. (tie).
Utility—Jack Crouch, Auburn.			
P—Buddy Blemker, Ga. Tech; Burt Touchberry, Florida; Fred McDuffie, Auburn; Phil Grawemeyer, Kentucky.			

### Callaway Finishes Career at UGA and Moves on to Professional Baseball

After signing a pro contract with the Milwaukee Braves organization Callaway was assigned to the Class D League farm club Panama City Fliers, playing in the Alabama-Florida League.



**BIG STICKS FOR THE FLIERS** are Manager Jim Deery and Jim Callaway, who form the keystone combination for the Panama City entry in the Class D Alabama-Florida League. The Fliers' skipper is one of the strong contenders for the batting crown, with .324 average, one percentage point above the rookie shortstop, according to league records released today.

(Staff Photo)

#### "Let Me Take Him"

In those days in D-ball the manager was also a player. Jim is pictured above with player/manager Jim Deery of the Panama City Fliers. Jim had gone to Panama City to play 2<sup>nd</sup> base, but management kept Deery as the 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman and assigned Jim to play shortstop – which did not please Jim. As such, he and Deery had a rather cool relationship. During a game versus Fort Walton, their player/manager, a large gruff man named Cobb was called out on a double play by the Deery/Callaway combination. As he roared past Jim, he said something like "Callaway, I'll get you next time." Neither Deery nor Callaway were large men and Deery was even the slighter of the two. At a subsequent game, the same situation arose and when Jim made the throw to first, he purposely "clipped" Cobb's ear as he roared down the

baseline. When he passed Callaway, he hit him with his elbow. At this point Jim tackled him, and they began rolling around in the sand. At this point Deery (the smaller of the three) walked up and said "Jim, let me take him." At this point all three began laughing. From that point on Jim and Deery had a great relationship.

In August of 1927, Atlanta Constitution, Sportswriter Mel Derrick reported that "Jim Callaway, Georgia's four-year second baseman is sticking well above .300 for Panama City in the Class D Alabama-Florida League.

#### Panama City Fliers – 1957

The Panama City Fliers were a minor league baseball team based in Panama City, Florida, that operated in the Alabama–Florida League. They were founded in 1951 as an affiliate of the Detroit Tigers . The team won league championships in 1955 and again in 1957 when Callaway played there.



**BASEBALL'S MIRACLE SQUAD** — Thirteen valiant Panama City Fliers accomplished the almost impossible with their limited pitching staff of four men, during the gruelling stretch drive and the playoffs which saw them go to the finals. They are left to right -- First Row -- Manager Jim Deery, 2b; Bobby

Phillips, of; Lou Caputo, 3b; Jim Callaway, ss; Wendell Tarleton, of; Jim Hasson, p. Back Row -- Jim Hay, c; Harry Lowe, cf; Cecil Butler, p; Herb Clay, p; Harold Preston, p; Dave Patterson, 1b; John Stapp, of. (Staff Photo)

### Callaway Joins the Atlanta Crackers in December of 1957

The Atlanta Crackers were a Minor League Baseball between 1901 and 1965. The Crackers were part of the Class AA Southern Association, a period during which they won more games than any other Association team, earning the nickname the "Yankees of the Minors". The Crackers were Atlanta's home team until the Atlanta Braves moved from Milwaukee in 1966. The Crackers were a farm club of the Milwaukee Braves during Callaway's days with the club.



In December of 1957 the Crackers announced their team roster for the upcoming season.



# Here's the Present Cracker Roster

## VETERANS

Pitchers—Ben Johnson, Paul Cave, Ken MacKenzie (will spend spring training with Milwaukee), Jack O'Donnell.

Infielders—Sammy Meeks, Frank DiPrima, Roy Hawes.

Outfielders—Bob Montag, Billy Reynolds.

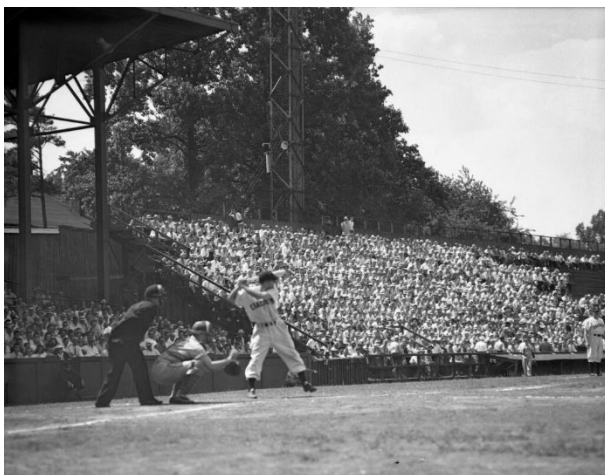
Catcher—Ted Laguna.

## ROOKIES

Name	1957 Club	G	AB	H	HR	RBI	Avg.
Dud Whitley, 2b	Jacksonville (A)	153	589	139	2	39	.236
Maurice Lerner, 3b	Boise (C)	127	482	158	5	74	.328
James Hay, C	Panama City (D)	113	433	115	11	76	.266
Bob Jacoby, OF	Boise (C)	123	468	133	2	43	.289
Bob Uecker, C	Eau Claire (C)	83	275	78	12	54	.284
Jim Callaway, SS	Panama City (D)	75	268	76	0	30	.254
Jim Lowe, OF	Panama City (D)	120	463	102	2	37	.220
Skip Dyer, 3B	Salinas (C)	91	340	98	4	31	.288
Jim Hopkins, OF	Eau Claire (C)	92	312	81	4	44	.260
Ray Holton, C	Wichita (AAA)	62	175	48	2	16	.274
John Grace, C	Evansville (B)	53	306	37	0	10	.255

## PITCHERS

Name	1957 Club	IP	CG	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
Noel Mickelsen	Evansville (B)	191	9	50	148	17	5	2.54
Jim Umbricht	Topeka (A)	178	13	82	94	13	8	3.24
Clair Hickman	Eau Claire (C)	64	0	46	33	3	3	4.51
Bob Botz	Jacksonville (A)	111	4	51	89	4	10	3.57
	Boise (C)	71	5	27	59	6	3	3.42
Gerry Stillings	Waycross (D)	109	—	55	60	6	6	—
John Stokoe	Semi-Pro							
Charlie Duren	Semi-Pro							
Mike Dalton	Evansville (B)	135	5	83	102	8	6	3.13
Dale Henrickson	Evansville (B)	113	6	62	90	8	4	3.11
Fred Hoffman	Eau Claire (C)	70	—	77	78	4	2	2.31
Robert E. Lee	Eau Claire (C)	130	—	89	101	12	6	3.46
Mickey Marinko	Inactive—Sore arm.							
Cecil Butler	Panama City (D)	205	15	70	187	12	12	2.81
Herb Clay	Panama City (D)	166	11	98	101	10	11	3.25



PONCE DE LEÓN PARK • ATLANTA, GEORGIA

The Crackers played at Ponce de Leon Ballpark.

This article from the Atlanta Constitution in March of 1958 is focused on Jim Callaway and also mentions Roy Hawes, a player who would have future connections with Callaway's hometown.

## CRACKER DIARY

# UMBRICHT TO CALLAWAY: 'I WISH I WAS SHORTSTOP'

By CHARLIE ROBERTS

Constitution Sports Writer

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 9—Captains of two recent University of Georgia baseball teams were introduced for the first time here Sunday.



The pair of Jimmys—Umbricht and Callaway—who hope to jimmy their way into the 1958 Atlanta Cracker lineup during spring training, had never seen each other before even though they were captains of strong Georgia teams in 1952 and 1957.

Umbricht, a pitcher who once was a shortstop and fervently wishes he were a shortstop again, grinned and said, "Well, I'll be darned," when introduced to Callaway, a shortstop who once was a second baseman and catcher.

Chicago-born Umbricht, now 6-4 high and 200 heavy and a Houston, Texas, resident, helped coach Charlie Waller and his Decatur, Ga. high team to a 1948 state championship with his shortstopping and occasional pitching.

He pitched only as a freshman at Georgia, where he played under the late Nolen Richardson and Jim Whatley, hitting .388 and "about .325" in his junior and senior years. He finished in 1953 but was ineligible for another season of baseball.

Big Jim was convinced after signing a pro contract and playing two months at Waycross that he couldn't hit well enough to make the pro grade as a shortstop. So, during a two-year Army hitch at Fort Carson, he became a pitcher for the post team under big leaguer Billy Martin, never telling the then New York Yankee favorite that he had ever played shortstop.

Since getting out of the service, the strapping righthander has had a 15-15 won-lost season at New Iberia and Baton Rouge in the Evangeline League and a 13-8 year in 1957 at Topeka



Staff Photo—Ken Patterson

## EX-BULLDOGS TEAM UP FOR DOUBLE PLAY

Jim Umbricht Tosses to Second Baseman Jim Callaway

in the Western League after flunking his spring test with the Crackers.

Told by Callaway that he switched from second base to shortstop while playing his break-in year and batting .284 at Panama City last year, Umbricht grinned, "Man, stay there. Shortstop is the only place to play."

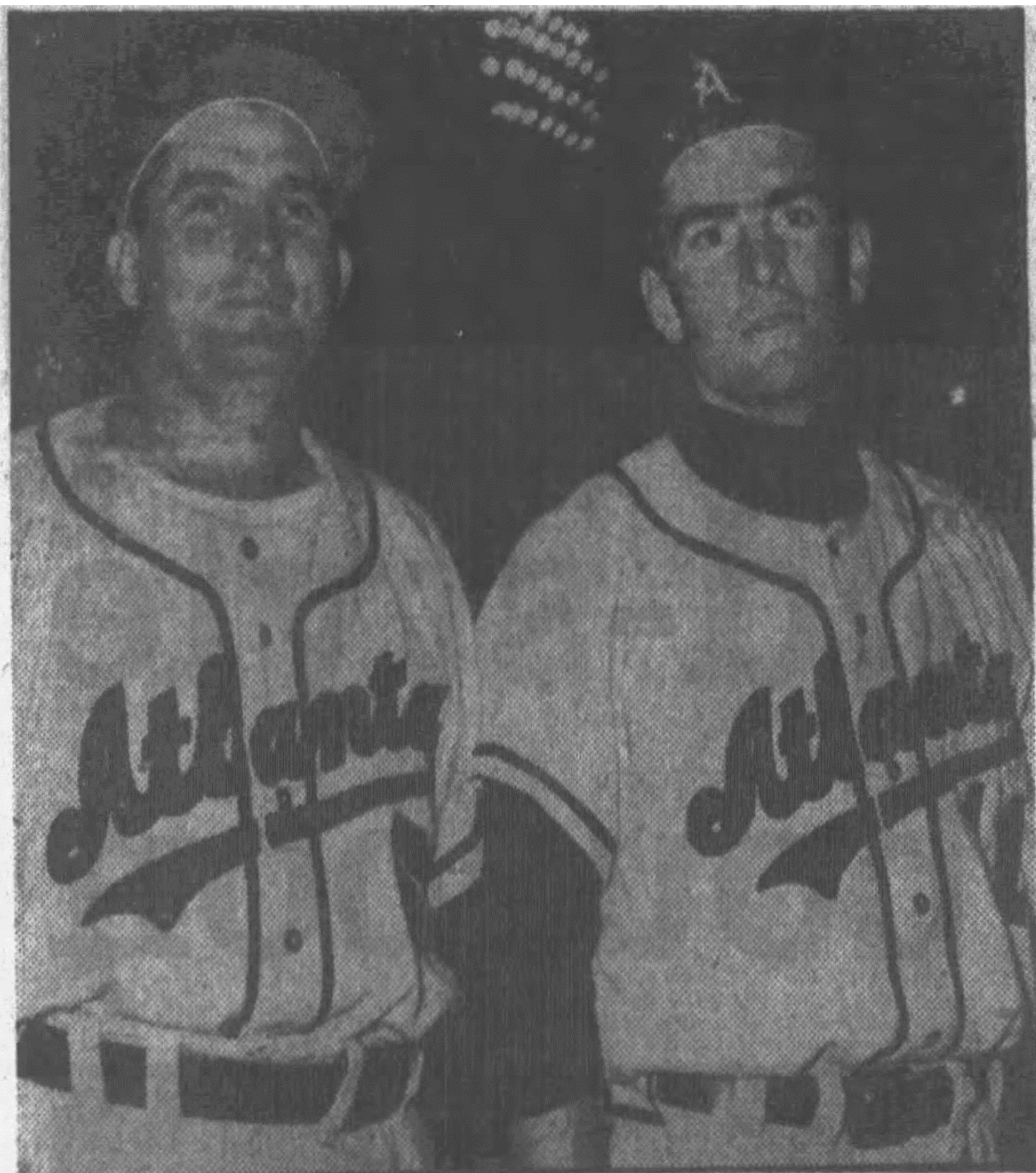
**CRACKER CRUMBS**—President Earl Mann finally winged into Jacksonville in time for the first practice, but he almost didn't make it. Scheduled to fly in Saturday from Washington, D.C., the Jacksonville airport was weathered in, and Mann wound up in Miami. He caught a Sunday a.m. flight here from there. . . . Poochie Hartsfield, the Atlanta West Fulton grad who hit .307, .182 and .301 at Atlanta, Austin and Wichita last year, came over to the Crack-

ers' Hotel Floridan headquarters from Wichita's Mayflower Hotel base to swap yarns with his old buddy of the much-conversation league, Billy Reynolds. Bates is pleased with the report of Wichita pilot Ben Geraghty that Roy Hawes, recent acquisition, can perform with equal ability at first base and in the outfield. . . . Herbert Clay, the pitcher from Powder Springs with homing pigeon instincts, apparently still has them. Signed by Julian Morgan for Panama City last year, the left-hander twice took off for home but finally came back, posted a 10-11 record and won 3 more in the playoffs. Clay, not on the Cracker roster but expected to work out with the AA club, hasn't shown up. . . . There is a chance the Crackers may play their last exhibition here April 3 and return to Atlanta on the 4th.



Staff Photo—Ken Patterson

**SPIKES UP AS JIM CALLAWAY SLIDES TO 3RD**  
**Cracker Rookie Moves Up In First Inning**



—Times Staff Photo by Max Keister.

**IN ATLANTA HARNESS NOW:** Bruce Barmes, left, and Jimmy Callaway have been given prominent roles in Atlanta's future baseball plans. Barmes, former Chattanooga outfielder, slammed a double and a single in Friday night's game. Callaway, infield star for Ringgold High and the University of Georgia, now performs as a catcher for the Cracker outfit.

## MEET THE CRACKERS

# Infielder Callaway Paced '55 Bulldogs

**James Callaway**, 5-10, 170, 21, second baseman and shortstop, throws right, bats left; resident of Ringgold, Ga.; graduate of University of Georgia; signed by Earl Mann, Cracker president, last summer; hit .284 at Panama City, Fla.; All-Southeastern Conference second baseman at Georgia in 1955

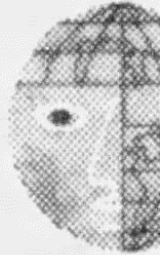
after winning All-Region honors in football and basketball and making All-State baseball team in high school; lists Georgia Coach Jim Whatley as the man who has helped him most in baseball



Jim Callaway

Crackers' spring training roster last year, his first in organized baseball; 12-10 record at Panama City in Class D Alabama-Florida League; won last 10 games in succession; played football, winning All-State honors, and basketball at Dallas High; sheet metal worker, in addition to amateur basketball, during off-season.—CHRISTIAN.

MAN'S WORLD



# CALLAWAY AMAZES SILVERA

By **BOB CHRISTIAN**

Atlanta Journal Staff Writer

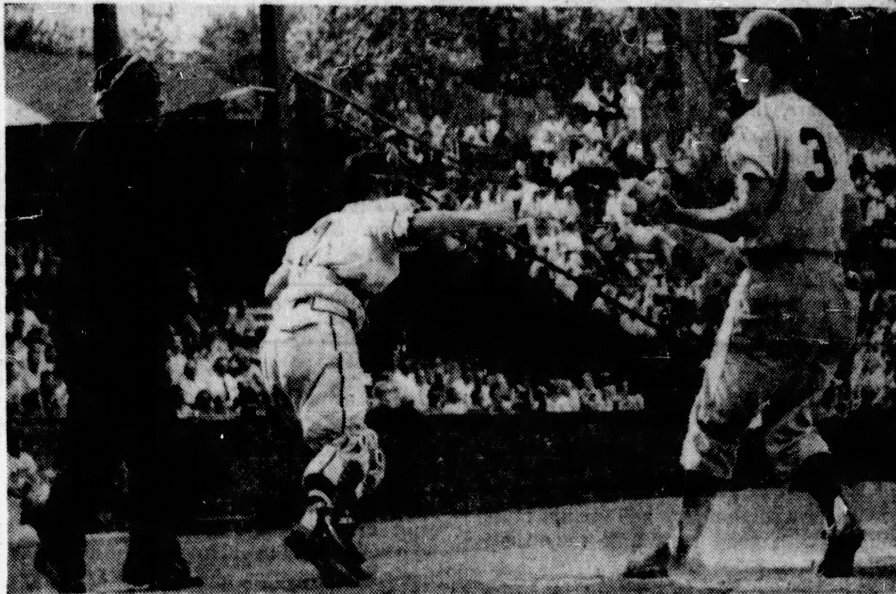
LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 5—Charlie Silvera does not label Atlanta's Jimmy Callaway a top-notch double-A catcher but the New Orleans manager was amazed when he learned that the Cracker rookie was a college second baseman a year ago.

"I didn't believe 'em when they told me Callaway was a college infielder a year ago," Silvera said Sunday in Atlanta.

"I'll say this for the kid. He certainly does all right with a mitt to have been behind the plate such a short time. He's got the hustle and determination and he might do all right as a catcher if he had a little more ability."

If hustle and determination were the only requirements, Callaway could go all the way in baseball. But his ability and experience are limited, which makes catching the one gap that must be plugged before the Crackers can be considered a full-summer contender.

**DOT-DASHING** Minor League Deals: Birmingham recalled pitcher **Jim Raugh** from Augusta and sent pitcher **Jim Brady**, the \$65,000 bonus boy, to Lancaster. . . . Little Rock released pitcher **Bill Bradford**, a 1957 holdover. . . . Austin



Staff Photo—Bill Young

## ONLY THE PELS' BILL DAVIDSON SEEMS SURPRISED BY THIS CALL Ed Ohlinger, Crackers' Jim Callaway Agree It's Strike Three

sent ex-Cracker **Dick Grabowski** to Jacksonville and **Bill Augustoni**, a Cracker spring trainee in 1957, to Topeka.

**JACKSONVILLE** optioned infielder **Johnny Stratton**, a spring Cracker in 1956, to Cedar Rapids, successor to Evansville, as one of Milwau-

kee's Class B farm clubs. . . . **Gene Mauch**, former Atlanta manager who skips Minneapolis this season, benched himself recently after going hitless in 31 times at bat.

. . . Ex-Crackers **Frank DiPrima** and **Jack Parks** figured in an unusual triple play at Louisville last week. . . . The

hitter struck out and Parks fired to DiPrima to nail one runner. And DiPrima returned the ball to Parks, who tagged a runner sliding in from third.

**MUFFLERS**  
**MUFFLER CENTER**  
790 Gordon St.—PL. 5-2224



—Special Times Photo.

**NORTH GEORGIA CATCHERS: Ringgold's Jim Callaway of Crackers, left, New Orleans' Lamar North of Rossville.**

## When AA Is Big League

Jimmy Callaway played some pretty good baseball for the University of Georgia, some of which indicated he might have a future among the professionals. The largest hint of his diamond potential, however, did not come while he wore the Bulldogs flannels. But it did come in Athens.

That was early this spring after Callaway had a season of Class D under his belt and had returned to the university in pursuit of a degree in industrial arts, and also to utilize the Ag Hill facilities in conditioning himself for spring training with the Atlanta Crackers.



Minter

second base for the Crackers.

"I've seen him play, and I know he's an old-timer who could teach a young fellow like me a lot of tricks of the game. I think I'd rather have DiPrima for a teacher than an open shot at this job."

This tagged Callaway as a man going somewhere. Not in a rush, but still going somewhere. If Wallace Butts had been an eavesdropper, he would have wished Callaway for a guard on his football team. He is a fellow willing to pay the price by Butts' earnest definition of the term.

Callaway, it turned out, played second base only briefly for the Crackers. At the call of Manager Buddy Bates he became a catcher, a position familiar to him only by one season of service in high school and sporadic duty behind the plate during summers.

### —Not Deceived by a Lowly .226

"Sure, I'm surprised," admitted Callaway on a July morning after he had seen short service with the host team in the All-Star game. "I'm surprised to be in double A ball at this stage of the season and even more surprised to be in double A as a catcher. But I'm more pleased than surprised."

Most other people who followed the career of the little fellow from Ringgold were surprised also. Some, however, were not.

Among the latter group were his Georgia teammates and his coach, Jim Whatley. They refused to be fooled by a college batting average which dropped to .266 in his junior year and failed to climb higher than .260 in his senior season.

"Do you think Callaway will stick?" That was the question asked weekly last spring when the baseball clan gathered on Ag Hill.

Big Jim Whatley always had an answer. "If they give him a chance," he said, "He'll stick. A fellow like Jimmy fits in."

Buddy Bates furnished the chance and Callaway stuck, hitting .260 plus, better than he managed in his last two seasons with the Bulldogs.

For this, there must be an explanation.

"The reason I hit double A pitching better than I did college pitching," explains Callaway, "is simply because I realized what I was doing wrong. I hit good my first two seasons at Georgia and then I started swinging for the long ball. I don't know why, I just did."

"Now I know I'm no power hitter, so I've gone back to my old way of just trying to meet the ball on the nose. That's the only thing I know wrong with playing college baseball. If you start doing something wrong, the season's over before you can correct it."

### —Ambition, but Tempered Ambition

"I won't say playing college baseball hurt me. I won't say I played for the greatest college baseball man in the country, because I haven't played for all of them. I will say that as far as I'm concerned, Jim Whatley is the greatest."

"I know he teaches things you don't get in Class D—sliding, base running, all those little things—he went over them every day."

"If I had to make a talk to a group of college boys today on how to make a go of it in professional baseball, the first thing I'd tell 'em is something Buddy Bates told us. Something I believe very much.

"It's this: You can't overemphasize the hustle. And you've got to keep your chin up. There are a million things which can come up. A baseball player has got to learn to hold his head up with the good and the bad."

As we said earlier, the strong side of Jim Callaway often shows up more when he hasn't got a bat in hand. Because, you see, this story doesn't have a Horatio Alger ending. Saturday night, Jimmy Callaway was placed on the Cracker inactive list.

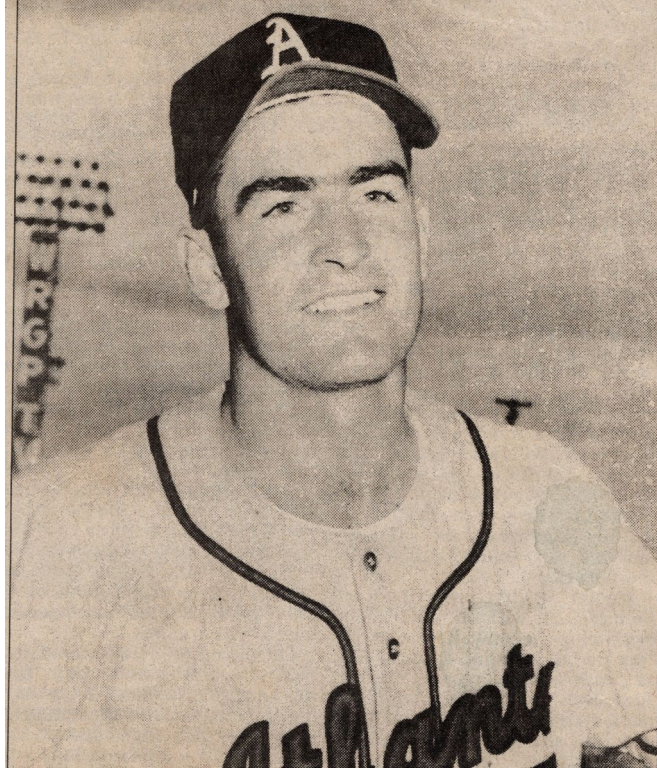
He was removed, however, to make room for Jim Solt, the slugging veteran who helped propel the 1954 Crackers to a pennant. Nor does the story have an especially sad ending. It's somewhat of an honor for an unheralded collegian to live with the league leaders for half a season. He got his chance, and he made something out of it.

"This was big league to me," says Callaway. "I grew up in Ringgold and I came down to see the Crackers and I went to Chatanooga to see the Lookouts. Just being around was my biggest thrill. And I learned a lot, like I wanted to do."

There is room in baseball for a fellow who wants to be there out of pure love for bat, ball and glove. And there is another factor which the bonus merchants perhaps do not always consider. It is called attitude. Jimmy Callaway, no Yogi Berra yet, is a fine exhibit.

This has been a fine season for him.





Jim Callaway-Atlanta Cracker



Jim's Atlanta Crackers Memorabilia Case

## Inside the Shirt Home Run

During his Atlanta Crackers' career Jim was sent down to Jacksonville, another Braves farm team who played in the South Atlantic League (Sally League). During one particular game Jim launched a deep ball to right field and the right fielder made a play for the ball close to the fence. As Jim reached first, he was sent on by the first base coach. As he reached second base, he looked in the outfield and saw some confusion. As he went on to third, he was waved on to home by the third base coach. Having thought he had recorded an "inside the park home run" he found out that in making the play for the fly ball, the ball had slipped inside the right fielder's sleeve and inside the shirt. Instead of reaching inside and retrieving the ball for an out, the outfielder pulled his shirt tail out of his pants and the ball fell to the ground. Though technically it was an inside the park homer, it became known as "the inside the shirt homer."

## Callaway Moves to Texas

In 1959, Jim signed with the Austin Senators, a Milwaukee Braves affiliate of the AA Texas League. This move from the AA Atlanta Crackers to the AA Austin Senators occurred the same year that the Pan-American Association was formed. This short-lived "partnership" between the Texas League and the Mexican League had been encouraged to foster the relationship between Mexico and the United States.



From the Mexican League, the following teams participated:

Poza Rica  
Nuevo Laredo  
Mexico City (Diablos Rojos)  
Mexico City (Tigres)  
Monterrey  
Veracruz

From the Texas League, the following teams participated:

- Victoria
- Austin
- Tulsa
- San Antonio
- Amarillo
- Corpus Christi
- Rio Grande Valley

Inter-league games counted in the standings for each league and Champion of the Pan-American Association was crowned at the end of the season, following a Championship Series.



**INTERNATIONAL PARADE** — Miss Elvira Vallejo, who holds the title of Miss Mexican League, rode Tuesday in the baseball parade following the opening game between the Mexican and Texas Leagues in the Pan American Association. Riding with her are Laredo

Austin American-UPI  
Ballplayer Jose Garcia Jr., left, and Jim Callaway of the Austin Senators. The game Tuesday night at Disch Field was the first one between teams of leagues in two nations. (See Page 26 for sports stories and pictures of the game.)

Pan American Championship Memorabilia





Charlie Gorin, left, and Jim Callaway flash big grins following Gorin's near-perfect no-hitter in the Austin Senators' 2-0 victory over Mexico City Sunday.

Austin American-Jim McLemore

Only one runner reached base on Gorin —on an error—as the Senators captured the Pan American Association championship.



Jim Callaway and Beverly After an Austin Game





Disch Field – Home of the Austin Senators



Jim & Beverly at Disch Field

## Sens' Vet Jim Callaway Joins Signed

Jim Callaway, a do-it-all baseball performer, has joined the list of satisfied Senators, returning his signed contract to the Austin Baseball Club.

Allen Russell, president of the club, announced the transaction late Monday.

"Callaway was one of the players most instrumental in our success during 1959," Russell pointed out. "He did a great job receiving although it was only his second year behind the plate.

"The fact that he was able to stick as a catcher all year is evidence of the versatility which won us the Pan American championship."

Callaway, who batted .279, is a former shortstop-third baseman-outfielder, but he wasn't required to fill any of those positions because Billy Shields and Chuck Buheller were on first call whenever the club had injury problems.

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## Bad News at Home Plate!

(Austin American Statesman - April 1960)



Austin American /Charles McCain

Ready with bad news for San Antonio's Murray Hall (left) is Austin catcher Jim Callaway in this fourth inning play of the first game of Thursday's double-header. Hall was out at the plate when trying to score from second on a single by Ken Hubbs. Umpire Fran Walsh gets set to call the play.

**"WHY SHOULD I BUY  
at BETTIS?"**

# Sens Pound Buds, Claim 3rd Place

VICTORIA — First baseman Dave Roberts crashed his fifth and sixth home runs as the Austin Senators grabbed full possession of third place in the Texas League with a 6-3 win over Victoria's Rosebuds here Saturday night.

The Senators scored once in the second inning and led all the way in the opener of a three-game series. Southpaw Denver Lemaster was the winner although reliever Ted Abernathy had to rescue him from a base-loaded situation in the eighth.

Roberts walloped his homers on consecutive times at bat in the third and fourth frames. Both were off starter and loser Harvey Cohen (5-6).

Roberts with two circuit clouts in three official trips and catcher Jim Callaway with two doubles and two singles in five times up paced Austin's 13-hit assault on four Rosebud Moundsmen.

Home runs did all the damage against Lemaster. He had Victoria shut out on four singles until the fifth when Jim Rice drove his first homer of the season over the left field wall. After a walk to George McCue, Don Miles clouted his 10th, a towering smash high above the right field lights.

Bobby Knoop's sacrifice fly after a leadoff single by Rick Herrscher and Callaway's two-bagger to right provided Austin with a 1-0 lead in the second. Roberts drilled his first homer with one down in the third and Bob Tal-

bot followed with an infield hit. With two out, a single by Callaway moved Talbot to second and Knoop got his second RBI with a single to center.

With one away in the fourth, Cohen hit Roy Menge and then Roberts increased the lead to 5-0 with his second homer. That finished Cohen, victim of eight hits, and brought on Dave Reed, who pitched effectively until the eighth.

After Rice and Miles unloaded their homers in the fifth, Le-

master settled down and retired 10 of the next 12 batters he faced until two were out in the eighth. Then walks to Butch McCord and Jack Caro sandwiched around Jim Fridley's pinch single filled the sacks and Manager Al Monchak waved in the submarining Abernathy.

Facing pinch hitter Kal Segrist, Abernathy threw three straight balls before getting the injured Rosebud infielder to ground weakly to third on a 3-1 pitch.

Pepper Thomas' error on McCue's ground ball in the ninth gave Victoria a base runner with one away. But Abernathy got Al Paschal on a fly ball to right and Miles fouled out to third.

Austin got its final run in the eighth. Thomas opened with a single, was sacrificed to second by Menge and scored on Talbot's hit to left following an intentional pass to Roberts.

Manuel Montejo relieved Reed after Talbot's run-scoring hit and Herrscher grounded into a double play on Montejo's first pitch. Montejo went out for a pinch hitter in the eighth and Bob Humphreys hurled the ninth.

Lemaster walked four, struck out four and yielded all eight Victoria hits.

Now a game ahead of Victoria in the battle for third place, Austin will call on veteran Charlie Gorin (6-5) to protect that margin in the second game of the series Sunday at 7:45 p.m. Lefty Dick Smallwood (6-3) will hurl for the Rosebuds.



**JIM CALLAWAY**  
Banged 4 hits for Sens.

# Chattanooga Times

June- 1960

## How Area Minor Players Fare

### BATTING

		ab	r	h	2b	3b	hr	rbi	Pct.
Jim Callaway, Ringgold, Ga., catcher	Week	28	2	11	2	0	0	7	.393
Austin, Tex. (Braves) Texas League-AA	Season	150	14	50	5	0	0	20	.333
Boyd Coffie, Athens, infielder	Week	17	2	4	0	0	0	1	.235
Grenaboro, N.C. (Yankees) Carolina-B	Season	105	11	19	3	0	0	12	.181
Brooks Gentle, Huntsville, Ala., outfielder	Week	16	0	5	0	0	0	4	.313
Lakefland, Fla (Indians) State-D	Season	167	25	46	6	3	0	34	.275
Vern Morgan, Chattanooga, outfielder	Week	16	2	8	2	0	1	6	.500
Charlotte, N.C. (Senators) Sally-A	Season	130	28	39	7	1	5	23	.300
Lamar North, Rossville, catcher	Week	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	.333
Amarillo, Tex. (Yanks) Tex. League-AA	Season	76	4	20	4	0	1	8	.263
Don Mincher (I), Huntsville, Ala.	Week	26	1	5	0	0	0	2	.192
Charleston (Nats) Amer. Assn. (AA)	Season	76	6	19	4	3	1	10	.250

### PITCHING

		g	w	l	ip	r	h	bb	so
J. C. Cooper, Chattanooga	Week	No	Action						
Ft. Walton Bch, Fla (Sen.) Ala.-Fla.-D	Season	14	3	2	42	29	44	29	34
Pensacola, Fla. (Gisox) Ala.-Fla.-D	Season	10	4	2	66	42	64	14	42
Charles Kirk, Jasper, pitcher	Week	2	0	0	2	2	2	1	0
Quineth Roberts, Chattanooga, pitcher	Week	1	1	0	8	2	4	0	11
Montgomery, Ala. (Tigers) Ala.-Fla.-D	Season	6	2	2	39	31	41	16	40

## 10th Signee Is Registered By Senators

Signed contracts are beginning to come in every mail to the Austin Senators and they'll probably hit their peak flow next week since Monday, March 13, kicks off spring training.

Club president Allen Russell had 10 signed contracts on file Saturday and another 29 players remain to be heard from.

Latest to return contracts are pitchers Jim Callaway, outfielders Steve Ryder and pitchers Hank Hemmerly and Walt Norley.

Callaway and Hemmerly were '60 Senators while Ryder played for Class B Cedar Rapids and hit .286 and Norley compiled an 8-11 pitching record for Class D Wellsville, N. Y.

Callaway's bat work for Austin last year showed a .296 average. The ever-ready Hemmerly won 14 and lost eight pitching decisions.

Callaway will do his training with Louisville at Bradenton, Fla., and Hemmerly with Vancouver at San Bernardino, Calif. The other two will work under Austin manager Bill Adair at the Braves' minor league camp at Waycross, Ga.

Adair is due to take up school for his pitchers and catchers in another nine days. The rest of his squad reports March 17.



Gritty battery for the Austin Senators is Tuesday's probables, pitcher Hank Hemmerly and catcher Jim Callaway. They teamed together for Austin last

year, Hemmerly compiling a 14-8 pitching record and Callaway a .296 batting average. Both are hustlers extraordinary

## Callaway Appointed Temporary Manager

In May of 1961, with the Austin Senators stuck in Amarillo waiting for the rains to stop, allowing a series with the Gold Sox to begin, Austin Manager Bill Adair was called away due to a family illness. According to an article in the Austin American Statesman *"Jim Callaway, the Senator's spunky backstop, was handed the managerial reins pending Adair's return."*

## Austin American Statesman Reports Another Callaway Born

On June 10, 1961, it was reported that *"Austin catcher Jim Callaway was passing out cigars. A son, James Dunn Callaway II, weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces was born to Jim and his wife Beverly on Friday morning."*

## Retirement from Professional Baseball

In late July of 1961 Jim Callaway made the hard decision to retire and return with his family to his hometown of Ringgold, GA. The Austin newspaper reported, quoting Team President Allen Russell, that *"Callaway had been alternating as a catcher, utility infielder and outfielder this season, once even taking over as temporary manager in Bill Adair's absence. He maintained a .244 batting average here".*

A three-year Austin Senator, Callaway was a member of the 1960 Texas League All-Star team and in two full seasons, batted .279 and .296.

Atlanta Crackers 1962 "Old Timers Game" Features Two Ringgold Stars

## **OLDTIMERS GAME LISTS 36 EX-STARS**

An array of 36 former baseball stars will grace the rosters in the first annual "Old-timers Game" Saturday at Ponce de Leon Park preceeding the Atlanta Cracker-Richmond game.

Scheduled to play in the contest, which will begin at 6 p.m., are Country Brown, Bobby Willis, Poochie Hartsfield, Bob Montag, Jimmy Lynch, J. D. Patterson, Buck Riddle, Paul Mauldin, Bill Webb, John Maher, Perry Glass, Larry Miller, Charlie Glock, Dave Harris, Bob Stokes, Jim Bagby, Bob Boring, Leon Culberson, Roy Hawes, Marshall Mauldin, Dick Grabowski, Buddy Randle, Ted Cieslak, Paul Crane, Jim Callaway, Emi Lochbaum, Lew Carpenter, Abe White, Corky Valentine, Bobby Dews Sr., Johnny Hill, Lew Gary, Jim Greengrass, Dee Stanley, Wimpy Steele and Mike Sertich.

The list is expected to be increased by game time in which Crackers will play ex-minor and major leaguers from other teams.

As a part of an Old-Timer's Event sponsored by the Austin Senators/Round Rock Express at their new stadium in Round Rock, Texas, current players for the team purchased and presented players on the 1959 Pan American League Championship team with Championship Rings.



Jim's Pan-American Championship Ring

## Baseball Legends



Jim Callaway pictured with Mickey Mantle and Hank Aaron. Jim played with Hank's brother Tommy in the minor leagues.



Jim Callaway Presented University of Georgia Athletic Achievement Award in 2013





### Jim With His Favorite Bat

To put a perspective on Jim Callaway's baseball career, we can look at some statistics.

Nationally, of all high school baseball players who earn letters, less than 2% will play at Division I universities. Jim not only did this but was MVP of the University of Georgia Baseball team as a freshman, when Georgia won the SEC Championship. In addition, Jim was Captain of the UGA baseball team later in his UGA career.

Of these small numbers of baseball players who do play in Division I, some 25% will play professional baseball at any level. Again, Jim crossed this hurdle, and his professional career was with some of the best teams in A and AA baseball. In 1960 Jim was named to the Texas League All-Star Team.

## Jim's Family



Jim & Beverly at A Recent Family Celebration

Jim and his lovely wife Beverly Hale Callaway are proud parents of children James D. Callaway II (“Bo”), Todd, and daughter Cayce.

After playing baseball in high school, Bo played at Middle Georgia College where the team won the National Junior College Championship. He finished his baseball career playing at Murray State University where he majored in Communications.

Daughter Cayce graduated from Agnes Scott College and lived in Los Angeles for some 20 years working in the film industry, primarily focused on documentary films. One of these films "Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport" won an Academy Award and premiered at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, where Jim and Beverly met and talked with many of the individuals who were saved by this British rescue operation of Jewish children from Nazi occupied countries.

Todd graduated from Furman University and returned to Ringgold. He worked for 30 years in marketing for a local firm and now has his own business. He purchased the home where his father grew up. Todd is an avid tennis player.