



playing baseball on the school team, he became best friends with teammate and actor Charlie Sheen, whom Tony believes could have been a pro ball player had he not had the advantage of the "Sheen" last name.

While Tony pursued his baseball passion and played college baseball for three years at the University of New Mexico, Charlie, of course, went on to star in countless movies, including a memorable role in the big screen film *Major League*, as Rick "Wild Thing" Vaughn, keeping his own baseball passion alive. The two remained best friends, and, in fact, Tony served as Best Man at both of Sheen's marriages.

When a career in baseball didn't go as hoped, Tony found himself bitten by the acting bug, too. Later, while film-

ing a commercial for Jack In The Box restaurants, Tony met Rob Goldenberg, an advertising copywriter. Goldenberg noticed Tony spinning a football on his finger during a break in the shooting and commended him on his ball handling talents. The two began talking, quickly discovered a mutual interest in baseball, and before they knew it, they were the best of friends, too, catching all the Dodgers games that their busy, burgeoning careers would allow.

Meeting Tony Todd for the first time, one can't help but be taken in by his infectious smile and athletic build, especially when he's wearing the throwback jersey of Dodger legend Jackie Robinson, who Tony portrayed on TV's *Cold Case*. In addition to his credits portraying the Dodger icon, you

may have seen Tony in HBO's *Arliss*, commercials for DHL, Ocean Spray juices and Pizza Hut, as well as with Jerry Seinfeld in a recent HP plug. On the big screen, Tony appeared in *Little Big League* after crashing the audition and making quite an impression on director Andy Scheinman.

The Jackie Robinson role remains his favorite, which should come as no surprise, given Tony's baseball-filled past.

While Tony focused on his acting career — and developed connections with several of Hollywood's elite — the LeMans' restoration was an on-again, off-again affair that ultimately turned into a nightmare.

This is where Charlie stepped up to the plate and filled out the *Overhaul-in'* application for his long-time friend's LeMans. "Then Charlie called the show and, through my friend Rob Goldenberg, my car was selected. I had no idea that I had been Overhauled. Actually, I was about to sell the car, which ultimately played into the prank: The 'cops' thought it was part of an insurance scam. Little did I know that my Mom was in on the prank." (A phone call from "Detective Chris Jacobs" was one of the highlights of the show; Chris, with Charlie sitting by his side, really got Tony going. That and a second prank segment at the crime scene, with dialog right out of *My Cousin Vinny*, had Tony convinced the car had been stolen.)