

the sports

# Rozelle blasts movie

United Press International  
CHICAGO — "North Dallas 40," a portrayal of football in the big city, is exaggerated and untrue," NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle said today.

Rozelle, however, has not seen the movie, though he did say he will see it in the near future.

"I heard it was well done, the acting was good and it was entertaining," Rozelle conceded.

Rozelle said Sunday at a news conference before the Chicago Bears game that the movie has some isolated anecdotes over the past 20 years and greatly exaggerated them.

The movie, which stars Nick Nolte and Mac Davis, was based on a best-selling novel by former Dallas Cowboy Peter Gent and portrays a widespread use of drugs and sex among professional football players.

Rozelle said if the movie was an accurate portrayal of pro football players, he would not have received the criticism it is now receiving.

Rozelle also appeared piqued by the widespread criticism of the movie he has received since its opening earlier this summer.

"There are people who are saying it is an honest portrayal about pro football but they are about as qualified to say that as it would be for me to comment about a documentary on nuclear fission."

On another topic, Rozelle predicted new rule changes designed to protect the quarterback should reduce the number of injuries during the season. He admitted there may be some problems with the rule changes, which allow referees to blow a quicker whistle to protect the signal caller.

"We felt what we would lose in the new rules on a fast whistle will be more than offset by the benefits from an injury standpoint," he said. "In the past, quarterbacks have been sitting ducks for the bigger linemen and we think the new rules will help make games in the safety factors."

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—Said he doubted the NFL will use full-time officials in the next several years.

—Said the NFL is no longer dependent on its television ratings success by having a strong team in New York. "I dare say we have a lot of people who will be watching games like Seattle versus San Diego."

—Said Robert Irsay would prefer to keep his team in Baltimore rather than moving the Colts to Los Angeles, "provided he gets some improvements in that stadium."

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## Astros still first with 3 victory over Padres

United Press International  
HOUSTON — Reliever John Niekro walked Enos Cabell and two outs and the bases loaded the bottom of the 10th inning Tuesday night, enabling the Houston Astros to score a 4-3 victory over San Diego despite a 6-5 game by the Padres' Bill D'Acquisto, 9-13, walked Joe Mauer, 7-4, and Cesar Cedeno walked him to second. After Craig Reynolds flied to center, Terry Puhl intentionally walked and Jeff Leonard walked on a 3-2 pitch. Puhl then walked on four straight pitches.

Puhl's fourth hit of the night, a double to right with Paul Dade at bat, tied the game at 3-3 in the 10th. Dade had singled and taken third on a wild pitch off Vern Riffe and moved to third on a groundout.

Houston used a three-run fourth inning to lead 3-2. A walk to Cabell off starter Randy Jones started the rally. Jose Cruz followed with a double to center and Rafael Landestrom singled him in. After a sacrifice to Ken Forsch, Cedeno drove him home with a single to center.

San Diego took a 1-0 lead in the 1st when Gene Richards tripled. Tim Flannery singled him home. The Padres made it 2-0 in the 2nd on Gene Tenace's 15th homer.

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