

Texas A&M

The Battalion Sports

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Hall of Fame may not induct Cannon ...

United Press International
BATON ROUGE, La. — A final decision on whether to induct former Heisman Trophy winner Billy Cannon into the College Football Hall of Fame will await the outcome of his arrest on counterfeiting charges.

Cannon, a 45-year-old orthodontist and former pro player, was arrested Saturday on charges he conspired to distribute \$5 million in counterfeit \$100 bills.

The ex-Louisiana State running back — brother of Texas A&M football and baseball player Billy Cannon Jr. — pleaded guilty in a court hearing Saturday, but U.S. District Judge Frank Polozola refused to accept the plea until Cannon gave his legal situation more thought.

Another hearing was scheduled Friday.

"He's innocent until proved guilty. We are waiting for more facts on the matter," said Jimmy McDowell, director of the National Football Foundation. "We've never had anything like this to happen before."

Cannon, a two-time All America during his years at Louisiana State University, had been elected by the foundation's Honors Court in January for induction in the Hall of Fame and was to be inducted at a ceremony Dec. 6 in New York.

But McDowell said the induction was on hold pending further developments in the

counterfeiting case.

U.S. Attorney Stanford Bardwell said about \$3 million worth of bogus money was found packed in ice chests and buried on a lot owned by Cannon and adjacent to his orthodontics office.

Bardwell said Cannon was cooperating with an ongoing investigation and had provided prosecutors with the name of a man they already suspected was printing the high-quality \$100 bills.

"Billy Cannon is one of the most honored football players in recent times in college football history," McDowell said. "I've known Billy since he was in high school. I just couldn't believe it. We were just stunned to hear it."

Paul Manassah, director of information for the LSU Athletic Department, nominated Cannon for the Hall of Fame honor.

McDowell said Cannon was eligible for induction because he was an All-America player and been out of college ball for at least 10 years and retired from professional football for at least three years.

Cannon had been on the Hall of Fame ballot for several years prior to being selected by the Honors Court in January.

"This is a very unusual situation," McDowell said. "The foundation's Awards Committee will take all this in consideration."

... as investigation widens

United Press International
BATON ROUGE, La. — Federal agents have arrested a Florida oilman and an accused Texas gold smuggler in a widening investigation of \$7.5 million in counterfeit money that led to charges against former Heisman Trophy-winner Billy Cannon.

Bill Glasscock, president of Magnum Oil in Pensacola, Fla., was accused late Monday of conspiring to manufacture, possess and conceal \$2.5 million in bogus bills.

Investigators told UPI they had been informed the printer of the money would turn himself in. The arrests brought the number of men taken into custody to five.

"There are a lot of spinoff investigations from this," said assistant U.S. Attorney Randall Miller. "We've got smuggling, we've got drugs. But Cannon's involvement is strictly counterfeiting."

Miller described Glasscock, who was arrested in Pensacola, as "no small-town player." Bail was set at \$2.5 million.

Secret Service agents in New Orleans also confirmed the arrest in Brownsville, Texas, of a man identified as Eric Kramer, accused of being an accomplice in the counterfeiting ring as well as smuggling gold from Mexico.

Court records revealed Cannon was more than \$1 million in debt and had been sued for hundreds of thousands of dollars in bad debts

since 1980.

The records showed the latest suit against Cannon was filed in the spring claiming non-payment of \$122,000 on a condominium valued at \$150,000 near Jefferson Downs in Kenner, La.

The former Louisiana State University football hero was also ordered to pay more than \$245,000 in a March judgment on notes held by First Progressive Bank of Jefferson Parish.

Federal authorities seeking a motive for his alleged involvement in a bogus money plot said Cannon had been sued more than 12 times since 1980. The first phony \$100 bills appeared in May 1982, they said.

In 1982 Cannon was sued for failure to pay \$85,000 to the Harvest Time Assembly of God church in payment for the rural property where federal agents dug up more than \$2 million in bogus bills.

The lawsuit was settled out of court.

In a related report, Gannett News Service said the failure of a T-shirt business, coupled with a severe cash shortage, convinced Cannon he should ask a convicted counterfeiter to help him out of the financial hole.

The report identified the printer as John Stiglets, who was indicted in 1971 on three counterfeiting charges by a federal grand jury in Baton Rouge.



No. 14!

photo by C. Michel Chang

The Sporting News announced its Top 20 preseason football picks Monday, with Texas A&M Longhorns, the only other Southwest Conference school to make the list, were chosen second.

End four-game losing streak

Rangers go 15 to win, 5-4

United Press International
ARLINGTON — Rangers catcher Bobby Johnson said he was happy to end 4 hours, 42 minutes of baseball with one swing of the bat.

Johnson's two-out solo homer over the center-field wall in the bottom of the 15th inning gave the Texas Rangers a 5-4 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers early Tuesday morning.

"When I hit it I thought it would hit the wall because a lot of balls that were well hit tonight did not leave the park," he said. "I was happy when it went out

because I wanted to go home and sleep good.

"I was just trying to meet the ball because I haven't been swinging the bat well lately," he said.

The win ended the Rangers' four-game losing streak and enabled them to move back into first place in the American League West, one game ahead of the California Angels.

"He got a fast ball up and tried to take a little off of it," said Johnson, in reference to the pitch from Milwaukee reliever Jerry Augustine.

Rangers manager Doug Rader said the win restored his faith in the work ethic.

"To win a game like that is more than just a win," he said. "It reinforces everything you work for."

"It shows that effort pays off and that if you work hard things will fall your way," he said. "When you go out and play well day after day and don't win it's a very draining experience."

Texas outfielder Billy Sample said he was not too happy that 13 men were left on base, mostly in extra innings.

"We had some situations that

didn't work out as well as they could have," he said. "I guess if you believe in poetic justice, it came out in the end."

The marathon game was the second in a row for Milwaukee. The Brewers Sunday set an American League record for the longest nine inning game in a 12-9 victory over the White Sox which lasted 4 hours 11 minutes in Chicago.

"It doesn't matter how long you play when you win," said Milwaukee manager Harvey Kuenn, "but it's when you lose that the length of a game makes you sad."

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