

Sports

Mantle's chest pains may be result of stress

IRVING (AP) — Baseball great Mickey Mantle was cheerful and ready to go home, following tests that showed chest pains he suffered probably stemmed from stress syndrome, a doctor said Tuesday.

"Mr. Mantle has had no previous history of heart problems. He does have evidence of bronchitis and has had physical symptoms suggesting stress syndrome — chest pains, shortness of breath and dizziness," said Dr. Michael Rothkopf, medical director of Irving Heart Institute.

He said Mantle's heart appeared normal and his condition was probably caused by "too many pressing social engagements."

The former New York Yankees star underwent cardiac catheterization, a diagnostic procedure that allows doctors to examine heart chambers for abnormalities. "He's in good spirits

and ready to go home. As far as medical advice, we've recommended he rest and slow down," Rothkopf said.

Mantle, 55, probably will be discharged from Irving Community Hospital on Wednesday, Rothkopf said. Mantle was listed in stable condition in the hospital's intermediate coronary care unit, hospital spokeswoman Ramona Bevir said.

Mantle, who lives in Dallas, experienced chest pain late Sunday while he was flying to Dallas.

The Hall of Fame slugger has released a brief statement saying that he was tired but feeling well.

He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1974. Mantle broke in with the Yankees in 1951, replacing Joe DiMaggio in center field. He won the American League Triple Crown in 1956 with 52 home runs, 130 runs batted in and a .353 batting average.

Booster bill deserves congratulations

By Doug Hall
Senior Sports Writer

Allow me if you will, to offer one congratulation and several observations that concern the befuddled state of affairs around college athletics, and more specifically, the Southwest Conference.

Viewpoint

The congratulation goes out to the Texas Senate, which on Monday approved a bill that would allow Southwest Conference members to sue over-zealous boosters, who are responsible for embroiling their respective schools in NCAA investigations and ensuing violations.

The bill, which is currently in the House for further action, was introduced by Sen. John Montford, D-Lubbock.

At the present time, Southern Methodist, Texas Christian, the University of Houston, Texas A&M and Texas are in one way or another involved with an NCAA investigation. The most publicized case, of course, being the illegal activities at SMU that have eliminated their football program for the next two seasons.

Texas is in the process of appealing some of the 62 allegations that the NCAA enforcement office issued against its football program for recruiting and illegal payment violations.

But enough of that humbug. Let's look at the most common element in all the scandals — Boosters who will pay players to perform at their alma mater.

This is the very element that Montford's bill addresses. Interesting to note that Montford is from Lubbock, home of the penalized Red Raiders.

All I can say is that it's about time somebody did something. The NCAA seems only to issue penalties to the schools and no-comments to the press.

With all the bureaucratic red tape involved in changing the rules to allow payments to players and curbing the tide of infractions, it's only a matter of time until the SEC, the Big Eight and the rest of the major conferences have two-thirds of their members under investigations.

An efficient system? Hardly.

So where do we start. Right now the Texas House of Representatives is as good a place as any. Considering the bill passed through the Senate with no debate or opposition, Texas just might start a positive trend.

If passed, the respective institution could sue the responsible alumnus or booster for financial recourse due to probationary status.

When placed on probation, schools usually lose their television

rights and the ensuing revenue and also suffer a decrease in ticket revenues.

Civil suit lawyers be prepared.

With states finally taking action to help clean up the college ranks, I'd hope the NCAA will take note and see that it too needs to present solutions, not just accusations.

If the boosters are the ones who create the trouble by wining and dining prospective players, and the boosters are going to be subject to legal action, then so should the recipients of all that generosity — the athletes.

Every high school coach in the nation should be forced to explain the ins and outs of recruiting to his high school players. The players should be told what is legal, what is illegal, what can be accepted and what should be reported.

Even though this policy is not currently implemented, I'd wager that very few players who accept illegal money or benefits from boosters do not know exactly what they are doing.

Consider the case of David Stanley, the NCAA's key source in its investigation into the SMU football scandal. Stanley reportedly received \$750 a month beginning in 1983, and payments continued until August 1985 when the NCAA placed SMU on three years probation.

When things turned bad and his

football days were over, however, Stanley felt compelled to turn over his evidence to the NCAA. When the gravy pulled to a stop, Stanley went to the police.

Another example of an athlete turning his back on the university that gave him a free education and the chance to play college football is former University of Houston star David Roberson.

Roberson went public with many Houston infractions in the winter of 1986 after he was refused help by the Cougar coaching staff, several years after his playing days were over. Roberson told the *Houston Post* in a copyright story that coaches had paid money to players, changed grades to keep players eligible and kept a slush fund for player needs.

The reason, he said, for coming forward with his information was to protect future players from being manipulated.

Nice try, but no sale from this buyer.

If the NCAA would introduce a measure that penalizes players for knowingly accepting illegal payments, and the states allow universities to sue boosters for involving them in investigations, the college ranks might begin to straighten themselves out.

Just maybe.

Brewers remain unbeaten

BALTIMORE (AP) — Five Milwaukee players homered as the Brewers remained unbeaten in eight games with a 7-4 victory over the Baltimore Orioles Tuesday night.

Paul Molitor, Robin Yount, Jim Gantner, Rob Deer and Greg Brock each homered as the Brewers continued the best start in the franchise's history.

Red Sox dispose of Rangers

BOSTON (AP) — Don Baylor hit a three-run homer in the first inning and Al Nipper scattered nine hits over eight innings as the Boston Red Sox defeated Texas 4-1 Tuesday.

Nipper, 1-0, lost his bid for his first career shutout on Pete Incaviglia's third homer with one out in the eighth. He struck out five and walked two before giving way to Calvin Schiraldi, who pitched the ninth

for his first save. Molitor led off the game with the first of four home runs allowed by Baltimore's Ken Dixon, 1-1, who pitched into the sixth inning.

Yount and Gantner hit their homers in the second and Deer hit in the sixth. Brock's came in the sixth off reliever Tony Arnold.

Valentine won't leave Texas for L.A.

BOSTON (AP) — Texas Rangers manager Bobby Valentine says he's not interested in moving to the Los Angeles Dodgers, squelching a rumor that was bolstered when Dodgers executive vice-president Al Campanis was fired last week.

Valentine denied the rumors Monday, taking advantage of an unexpected break after the Rangers-Red Sox game was canceled by bad weather.

"For the record, I would not take the job with the Dodgers," Valentine said. "Just as I would not accept a nomination for president from the Republican Party or the job as head

football coach of SMU. I haven't been offered any of them, but there have been a lot of questions (about the Dodgers)."

Ever since Valentine took over as manager of the Rangers many have speculated the job was just a stepping stone.

A new wave of rumors began with last week's firing of Campanis after he said on national television that blacks might not have "the necessities" to hold down high-level baseball positions.

Campanis' dismissal opened up the possibility of Lasorda moving upstairs to run the player personnel department.

Valentine was a first-round draft choice of the Dodgers in June 1968.

Lasorda managed Valentine with the Dodgers' rookie league team at Ogden, Utah, in 1968. Valentine and Lasorda talk regularly about personal matters as well as baseball.

Valentine ruled out the possibility of managing the Dodgers "for as long as I'm under contract with the Rangers." His contract with the Rangers runs through the 1989 season.

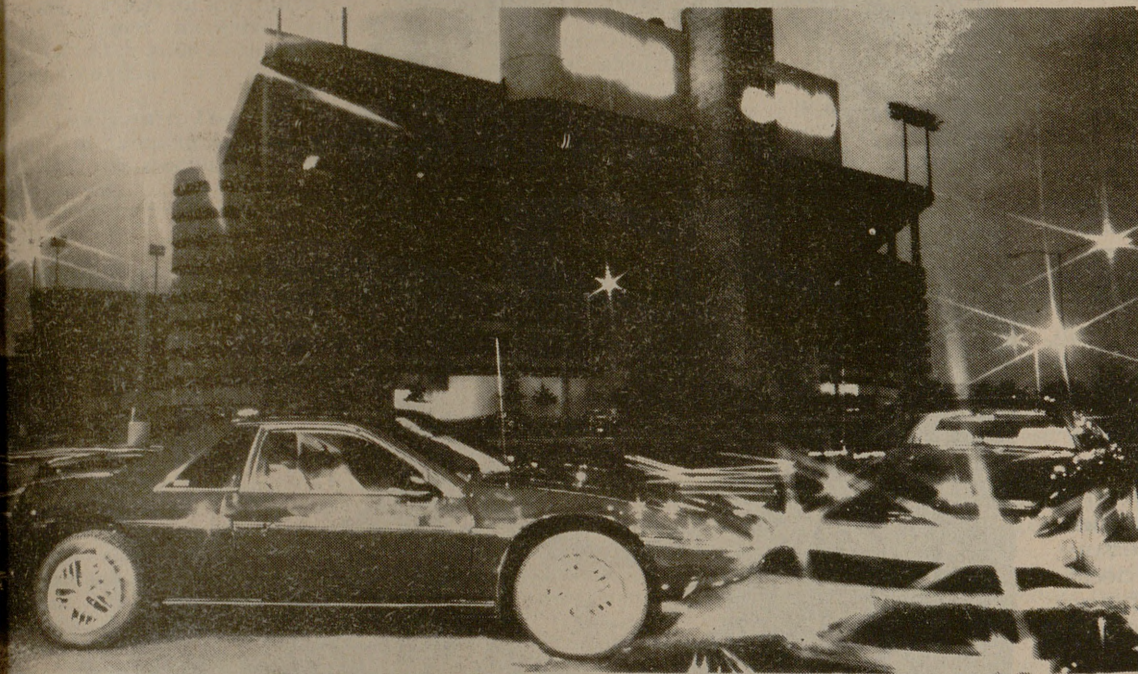
"I'm making a decision to make a comment on this because I feel a comment is needed," Valentine said.

"I don't feel a decision is needed. I'm committed to this organization even more than ever. With some questions being raised and us off to a shaky start (1-5), I think the organization needs me as much as they ever have and will in the future."

Valentine's contract has an escape clause contingent on a franchise change of ownership. Grieve said he would not stand in the way if Valentine wanted to pursue another job.

Grieve said he was confident all along that Valentine had no interest in leaving the Rangers, but said Valentine's proclamation should ease the minds of other people.

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