

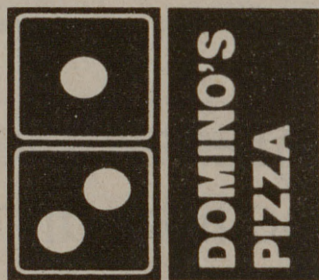
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**Athletics**

(continued from page 9)

that is what the public wants. It's the nature of the business."

Another side to increasing media and public exposure is getting games broadcast on radio and television. A contract was signed with WTAW Radio to broadcast ten basketball games this season.

Home Sports Entertainment also will carry two games this season and if A&M makes it to the conference tournament final, they will be on again. A&M is the only school that will have two games broadcast. All others will have only one.

At least two student groups that attend women's games and are trying to encourage more students to attend.

Robin Bernstein, a freshman business administration major from Bryan, is a member of the Dunn

Hall Bleacher Bums group that attends the volleyball games as a group.

"It's real hard to get students from the dorm to come out," Bernstein said. "The first couple of games we had a pretty large group but after that, it died down because people get too busy. We are trying to get all classifications to come out, especially the lower classes so that they will keep the tradition going."

The Bleacher Bums put out signs around the Commons and have made up T-shirts to try to help advertise.

"I grew up around volleyball because my whole family was constantly playing in leagues. People just don't know how exciting of a sport it is," Bernstein said.

Another group that attends all the games is the women's soccer team.

They have made up towels for themselves that resemble the 12th Man towels of the football team. Their towels are 7th Man towels because there are six players on the court for each team at a time.

They said that the main reason people don't come out is because this is a football school and they don't really know what excitement volleyball has to offer.

With the radio and television contracts and the Maroon Club, there could be an increase in attendance at women's spectator sports at A&M. But the bottom line is winning.

Krauskopf said, "People are beginning to see that we are here. We realize that it takes years and that it will all fall in place eventually. It's just the waiting that seems like forever. But things are happening for us and I hope it continues to do so."

**Baseball winter meetings**

**Leagues' expansion committees merge**

DALLAS (AP) — Baseball moved forward on expansion Wednesday while Kirk Gibson, Bob Welch and Phil Bradley dominated trade talk on the final day of the winter meetings.

After all 26 owners met, Commissioner Peter Ueberroth announced that the American and National League expansion committees had merged.

"Both committees felt there was enough interest and the timing was now to discuss this whole subject and come up with something that's more formative than there has been in the past," American League President Dr. Bobby Brown said.

This is the furthest baseball has advanced on the subject since Toronto and Seattle were added in 1977.

Ueberroth cautioned, however, that expansion was not imminent. He said baseball first had to resolve its labor and television contracts in December 1989, making any new franchises unlikely until the early 1990s at the soonest.

Several teams faced the prospect of leaving the meetings without making any moves.

There were five trades involving 11 major league players through Tuesday, but none Wednesday.

There were some big deals in the works that could be completed in the near future.

The New York Yankees, usually the most busy club at these swap marts, talked about making their first trade. It would have been a big one — they offered Dave Winfield to Detroit for Gibson. The Tigers turned it down.

"I told them we're not going to talk about it anymore," Tigers General Manager Bill Lajoie said.

Detroit recently met with Seattle about a Bradley-for-Gibson deal. Those talks are dead, and Philadelphia is now first in line for Bradley with its offer of outfielder Glenn Wilson and pitcher Mike Jackson.

Pitching remained most in demand and several teams were approaching Los Angeles about Welch. The New York Mets still want him for a package of Jesse Orosco, Mookie Wilson and Rafael Santana.

The Dodgers hoped for something more, maybe Toronto's Lloyd Moseby and others.

The Chicago Cubs, who sent Lee Smith to Boston on Tuesday, had considered sending Keith Moreland to Detroit. Those prospects also seemed remote.

Baltimore and Seattle were still discussing exchanging pitchers Ken Dixon and Mike Morgan, although Mariners owner George Argyros apparently stepped in and vetoed the deal.

There was no movement on free agents.

Bob Horner spent the afternoon sitting in the large atrium of the hotel where the meetings are, waiting for customers. None came, and he was left with the same choice he had when he drove 20 miles from his home to the meetings — Atlanta or Texas.

"If we can't get something done in our own backyard, I don't know what to think," Horner's agent, Bucky Woy, said.

Horner prefers not to return to Japan, even though he has been offered a \$10 million, three-year contract.

The Braves are offering about \$900,000; the Rangers are offering a base salary of around \$700,000 with incentives that could push him to around \$1.1 million.

While Horner informally held court and signed autographs, Ueberroth, Brown and National League President Bart Giamatti held a news conference later on expansion.

Ueberroth dodged questions about when baseball would talk about specifics, and said he had nothing concrete to present in a meeting with congressmen on Dec. 15.

Giamatti said the leagues merged their committees to prevent any scramble for cities if expansion is approved.

**Ueberroth undecided about 2nd term, says he needs more support from owners**

DALLAS (AP) — Baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth, concerned about his chances at being re-elected, said Wednesday that he has not decided whether to seek another five-year term.

"I've said that every year . . . that I don't have enough support," Ueberroth said, calling himself "an activist" commissioner who sometimes offends club owners because he's not afraid to make a decision.

Ueberroth made the comments in response to questions from reporters at the baseball meetings.

Ueberroth, whose term expires Dec. 31, 1989, was quoted Wednesday in the *Dallas Morning News* as saying, "if I needed to get re-elected right now, I wouldn't be able to put that together. Let's say I couldn't get double-digit votes."

Ueberroth needs the votes of 14 of the 26 owners to win re-election. He has often said he intends to be a one-term commissioner, but he has never publicly ruled out seeking another term.

"I might not be able to get

enough votes now if I had to . . . but I have a vote on the matter, too," he said, adding he will reconsider his future in baseball the toward the end of his term.

"I still have my right of choice," he said. "The owners have the right to their choices. We'll probably come to the same conclusions."

Ueberroth said chief among the reasons why he is unpopular among some owners is his willingness to take a stance on controversial issues, such as the umpires' strike preceding the 1984 World Series.

He sided with the umpires in their request for more money "and some of the owners still haven't forgiven me," he said.

"I've made more decisions — good, bad and indifferent — than anyone since the first (commissioner, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis)," he said.

Ueberroth also cost some owners money by pressuring them into remaining in their cities — he opposes the relocation of teams.

"Obviously they could have

gotten a lot more money if they were able to move. I'm not going to have moving vans rolling up in the middle of the night," he told the *Morning News*, referring to the NFL Baltimore Colts' late-night move to Indianapolis.

Ueberroth did not discuss his own status during a half-hour news conference with NL President Bart Giamatti and AL President Bobby Brown following a joint American-National leagues meeting Wednesday.

He has not held an individual news conference in 18 months and reporters had to chase him down a hotel corridor to question him about his future.

Criticism that he was using the commissioner's office to boost his political future led to his cutback in interviews, Ueberroth said. He has long been rumored as a possible future U.S. Senate candidate from California.

"Some people say I'm too accessible. Some say I'm not accessible enough," Ueberroth said. "I think I'm independent and that's the way I want to stay."

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