

Tuesday, July 25, 1989

Giamatti not planning to seek negotiated settlement with Rose on baseball betting

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. (AP) — Commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti said Monday there are no plans to seek a negotiated settlement with Pete Rose over allegations the Cincinnati manager bet on baseball games.

Rose has sued Giamatti charging the commissioner had prejudged the case and an impartial hearing was impossible.

The case is currently tied up in the Ohio courts and an injunction has temporarily blocked Giamatti from holding his hearing to determine if Rose in fact bet on baseball games, including those of the Reds.

If Rose is found to bet on baseball, he could be suspended for one year. If he bet on the Reds, he could be banned from the game for life.

"The commissioner did not initiate the court action," Giamatti said

when asked why the case has dragged for months.

"Let's have a hearing," Giamatti said. "I believe it's fair and appropriate. I'm going to do my job."

Giamatti said he thought the general public has grown "tired" of the Rose affair but that the game "is doing very well."

The commissioner added that he set out to investigate the allegations and did not consider suspending Rose without the benefit of a hearing.

"I believe in playing by the rules," Giamatti said.

"I never said I wouldn't talk to people. I never said I wouldn't listen, but that's not the way the process is set.

"I'm going to wait for a hearing." That could be a long wait.

Hamilton County Judge Norbert

Nadel granted Rose a temporary restraining order June 25, and lawyers for the commissioner asked the federal court to take the case.

U.S. District Judge John Holschuh is due to make a decision next Monday in Columbus, Ohio, as to whether the case returns to Nadel's court or is moved to federal court.

If Holschuh rules for Giamatti, the case stays in federal court and Rose's attorney's must file there for an injunction.

It's a thorny legal issue whether the jurisdiction decision can be appealed.

In granting the restraining order, Nadel said: "It appears to this court at this point the commissioner of baseball has prejudged Peter Edward Rose."

A letter signed by Giamatti and sent to a district court judge on be-

half of Ron Peters, who was awaiting sentencing on charges of tax evasion and cocaine distribution.

The admitted bookmaker was one of two principal witnesses who had told investigator John Dowd that Rose not only bet heavily on baseball but also on Reds games. In the letter, drafted by Dowd for the commissioner's signature, Peters was called "candid, forthright and truthful."

The annual Hall of Fame game was to be played Monday between Cincinnati and Boston but Rose decided to stay away in order not to draw publicity away from former teammate Johnny Bench, who was inducted into the Hall on Sunday. The game eventually was canceled, because the Reds had trouble getting a charter flight out of Montreal.

Oilers threaten to retract Rozier's contract offer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Oilers' owner said Monday the team will retract its offer to contract holdout Mike Rozier if the veteran running back does not accept the deal and report to training camp Friday.

"I'm fully aware of how the negotiations with Mike Rozier have been progressing. We have a very good offer on the table to Mike," K.S. "Bud" Adams, club owner, said Monday night.

"We have a very good offer on the table to Mike. If he hasn't accepted our current contract offer and reported to training camp with the rest of the veterans on Friday, then we are pulling that offer off the table," Adams said.

Rozier, the team's top running back and a two-time Pro Bowler, reportedly has been offered a deal worth \$5.45 million that

would make him one of the six highest-paid running backs in the NFL with an \$850,000 salary for the 1989 season.

Sources said the contract calls for a \$600,000 base salary and a \$250,000 advance for the first year, with increases each year of the five-year salary to a high of \$1.4 million in 1993. None of the contract is said to be guaranteed.

Adams said he had discussed the contract situation with Oilers general manager Mike Holovak and directed him to make the offer available only until Friday.

Also Monday, the team said top draft picks Scott Kozak from Oregon and Rod Harris from Texas A&M have agreed to contract terms, but first-round pick David Williams still has not reached agreement with the team.

Cowboys begin new era in 1989 training camp doing it Johnson's way

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — "Pads and helmets at 3:30 p.m. Be there on time."

With those orders, a new era began on Monday in the 30th year of Dallas Cowboys' football.

Jimmy Johnson officially replaced Tom Landry in training camp as the leader of the Cowboys.

While Landry eased the players into the long grind with shorts and shirts, Johnson ordered his team to come ready for contact.

In two days, the Cowboys will be scrimmaging the Los Angeles Raiders on back-to-back days.

"We want to find out what we got," Johnson said. "We have some running backs who look good running against air. Now we want to see if they can break some tackles."

From three tough mini-camps, the players already know what awaits them: Call it "Camp Contact."

"It's going to be harder than hell," said offensive guard Nate Newton. "It's going to be rough. We know what to expect because we went through it in mini-camp."

The Cowboys came to an agreement Monday with draft choices fullback Daryl Johnston of Syracuse (second round), guard Mark Stepnoski of Pittsburgh (third

round), defensive end Tony Tolbert, Texas-El Paso (fourth round), and defensive end Rhondy Weston of Florida (third round).

Johnston is expected to make a strong bid for the starting fullback job.

Three free agents were cut on Monday, including wide receiver Jeff James of Stanford, defensive back K.C. Clark of San Jose State, and guard Doug Marrone of Syracuse.

Johnson said Steve Walsh, whom he coached in college at Miami, wouldn't be in camp until he had a contract. Walsh is asking a contract similar to the \$11.037 million which top draft pick Troy Aikman received.

"I would hope that we would be close to signing Steve by the middle of the week," Johnson said. "We've had three solid offers for him. There is still a chance of a trade and we prefer to do something now if something is going to happen."

Johnson said talks with veteran quarterback Steve Pelluer were still at a stalemate.

Pelluer is asking some \$750,000 per year and the Cowboys have offered \$450,000.

Canseco returning to MVP form of 1988

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Jose Canseco's surgery-scarred left hand is bandaged like a boxer's, his shoulder is sore and he says he's only at 80 percent strength. What will he do when he's healthy?

After hitting five home runs and driving in nine runs for the Oakland Athletics since coming back after the All-Star Game from hand surgery, Canseco is picking up where he left off last year when he won the American League's Most Valuable Player Award.

It's tough to be MVP by playing only half a season, but if anyone can do it Canseco can, even if he doesn't come close to matching the 42 homers and 40 stolen bases he had last year as baseball's first 40-40 player. If he made 30-30 in half a season and led the A's to another pennant, he could be in the running.

"Just remember, this guy's a very special talent, one of the most special talents in baseball," Oakland manager Tony La Russa said. "He's capable of doing something every time he goes out there. As his timing and strength improve, he'll get better and better. He's got so much talent that anything is possible."

Kansas City's Bo-Jackson might be the only player who can match Canseco's combination of power and speed, but Canseco is a more dangerous hitter, Oakland's Dave Parker said.

"Bo is a phenomenal athlete in the respect that he's doing two professional sports, playing football and baseball," Parker said. "But Jose is the most devastating offensive pro-

ducer in the game today. He's awesome. He's got bat speed. He's got strength with the bat speed. And when you put those two things together you've got a devastating offensive machine."

Canseco is driving his car less and enjoying life more. He concentrates on the ball and his lawyer handles the legal matters, such as a court appearance Monday to set a pretrial hearing Aug. 18 on a weapons charge for allegedly having a loaded pistol in a car parked on the University of California's San Francisco campus.

Just as the safest place for heavyweight champion Mike Tyson might be the ring, the safest place for Canseco might be the ballpark. His two-run homer Sunday, his third in

three days, helped the A's to their fifth straight victory and a sweep of a four-game series against the AL East-leading Baltimore Orioles.

Now the California Angels, who lead Oakland by .002 in the West, are in town for three games.

"I'm just playing," Canseco said. "I'm glad my hand is well enough to be playing and that it'll get 100 percent some day. I don't try to put a lot of pressure on myself. I don't believe in that. I believe in just going out and doing what your ability enables you to do. I think added pressure just hampers you."

Canseco even allowed that he might not be doing as well if he were at full strength.

"If I was 100 percent, I might have six or seven home runs, but you

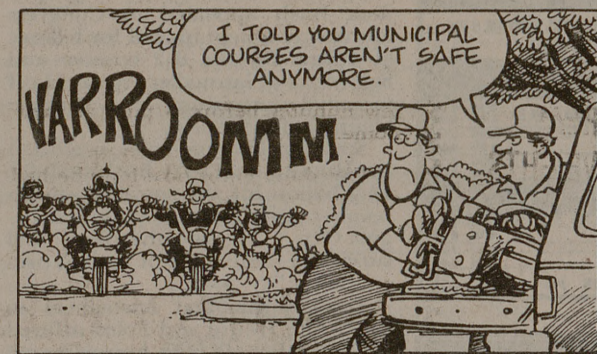
can't tell," he said. "I might not have any. I might be overswinging if I were too strong. What I've been trying to do is get a pitch in the zone which I can hammer. You see me taking a lot of pitches. I'm trying to stay off the high pitches and balls inside. Those bother my hand."

Canseco, batting .290, hasn't tried to blast every ball. Rather, he has concentrated on his technique, a smooth, line-drive swing with good contact. Yet, his homer Sunday was caught by a fan in the fifth row of the second deck at the Oakland Coliseum and was estimated at 460 feet.

Canseco said his left shoulder, which atrophied while he wore a cast on his hand for three months, still is sore and feels weak by the late innings.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



NFL minor league system could benefit everyone involved

One of the most important ingredients to well-rounded success that the National Football League lacks is a minor league system to develop talent and promote the sport in cities that do not have an NFL franchise of their own.

Although the Worldwide American Football League is a noble idea whose time has come, it does not fill the void created by the absence of a minor league in America.

Several American cities would love to support pro football teams, but the NFL cannot have 150 franchises, or even an additional 36.

Cities such as El Paso, Jacksonville, Fla.; Birmingham, Ala.; Memphis, Tenn.; Oakland, Calif.; St. Louis, Mo.; San Antonio, and Baltimore, Md.; are just a few examples of where minor league teams could be supported. The traditional measuring stick for success is — "Will it play in Peoria?" — and this city in Illinois would be another good choice for a minor league franchise.



Jeff Osborne
Assistant Sports Editor

Not only would a minor league benefit fans in these cities and others, but players as well.

Several players with borderline ability or unproven talent would have the opportunity to prove themselves in the minors. This is a chance few players get with the limited rosters and high salaries in the NFL.

The truth is that with only 12 teams in

the new international league, six of which are in Europe, the need for a minor league cannot be satisfied.

The NFL missed out on a golden opportunity when it passed up the chance to absorb the United States Football League a few years ago.

The rival league had the audacity to challenge the NFL in court under national anti-trust laws. The USFL won the case, and was awarded a payment of \$3. This was a deathblow to the league, and put plans for a minor league on the back burner.

Under the experienced and wealthy wing of the NFL, these former USFL clubs would have served as an excellent foundation for a minor league.

One fear of opponents to a minor league is that it would hurt college football. The minor league would exclude college-level players, barring special circumstances.

College is first and foremost a place to get an education, and should not be seen

only as a stepping stone to pro football glory, but a place where serious student athletes can earn degrees.

College baseball is still exciting, despite the existence of three levels of farm clubs and the majors. Just ask any Aggie fan if this detracts from his enjoyment of the game. With this in mind, we know that a minor league would pose no threat to college football.

Another argument is that a minor league would create too much of a glut for football.

Fans of baseball in several cities which support minor league teams have proven the viability of co-existence of major and minor leagues. Too often, players with the talent to play professional football are turned away because of the cold reality that the NFL isn't big enough to support them.

With the start of training camp this week, hundreds of players will be cut from rosters to accommodate limits in team size.

Many of these players could be stars in a minor league, and provide fans of minor league franchises with something to cheer about.

At the same time a minor league is created, an effort could be made to incorporate the Canadian Football League into the NFL fold.

Larger cities could be brought into the NFL, while smaller cities would be added to the minor league. This would provide CFL teams with a substantial increase in the number of teams to compete against, and most likely increase revenue and fan interest as Canadian teams finally get the opportunity to compete against Chicago, Los Angeles, or Tampa Bay.

The NFL and CFL could reach a compromise regarding rules differences by having the minor league follow Canadian rules.

IMPERIAL CHINESE RESTAURANT
SPECIAL COMBINATION DINNER
Includes soup, eggroll and rice starts June 1, 3:00 pm-10 pm Daily
\$3.95-4.55
LUNCH BUFFET SPECIAL/SALAD BAR
Mon-Fri 11:00-2:00
\$4.25 all you can eat
Sunday Buffet/Salad Bar
11:00-2:00
\$4.95 children 3-10 **\$3.50**
1102 Harvey Rd. (Post Oak Square)
College Station, TX 77840 409/764-0466
Mon.-Thur. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Carry Out Orders
We Serve Mixed Drinks-Customer Party Service Available

THE CRIPPLE CREEK LIFESTYLE
•Swimming Pool/Hot Tub
•Tennis Courts
•Convenient Laundry Center
•Large Walk-in Closets
•Next to Sorority Row
•On Shuttle Bus Route
•Leases starting at \$320.00
CRIPPLE CREEK CONDOMINIUMS
Office: 913-F Harvey Road
(in Woodstone Center next to the Wash Haus)
College Station **764-8682**

DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS
TICKET DISMISSAL—INSURANCE DISCOUNT
July 28, 29 (6-10 p.m. & 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
August 4, 5 (6-10 p.m. & 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
University PLUS 845-1631

Briarwood APARTMENTS
•2 Pools
•Tennis Courts
•Hot Tub
•Volleyball Court
•2 Exercise Rooms
•Basketball Court
•2 Shuttle Bus Stops
•Covered Parking
1, 2 and 3 bedrooms available
Briarwood Apartments
1201 Harvey Rd.
(*across from Post Oak Mall)
(409) 693-3014
Welcome Aggies!