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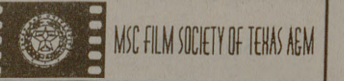
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Two Padres players arrested for 'patronizing a prostitute'

The Associated Press
NEW YORK — Two San Diego Padres players were arrested Tuesday for allegedly propositioning undercover policewomen on a Manhattan street corner often frequented by prostitutes.

Pitcher Scott Sanders and outfielder Derek Bell were arrested around 2 a.m. EDT on a misdemeanor charge of patronizing a prostitute. The arrests came 18 hours before they were due at Shea Stadium to play the New York Mets. Sanders and Bell appeared "shocked and bewildered," Capt. Michael O'Neill of the Public Morals Unit said. "They told me they were baseball players and I told them they were under arrest," O'Neill said. The men pleaded innocent Tuesday evening to soliciting a prostitute. They turned down a deal in which they would have had

to plead guilty to a reduced charge of disorderly conduct, do one day of community service, spend a day in a health seminar and pay \$45 in fees and fines. They were released on their own recognizance and are due back in court June 17.

They had no comment as they left the court. Their lawyer, Arthur Nealon, said, "There was no sex, no money exchanged hands, there's only allegations."

The players were expected in uniform at Tuesday night's game, said Padres spokesman Jim Ferguson. Sanders had been listed as the probable starting pitcher, but the team had decided before the arrest to start Wally Whitehurst instead.

"The ballclub is investigating the situation to see what all is involved," Ferguson said. Padres manager Jim Riggleman said he learned about the arrests when he was called in middle of night by O'Neill.

Pirates take Astros, 7-4; Tigers fall to Rangers, 6-1

The Associated Press

Pirates 7, Astros 4
HOUSTON — Doubles by Brian Hunter and Carlos Garcia capped a four-run rally in the eighth inning Tuesday night and led the Pittsburgh Pirates to a 7-4 victory over the Houston Astros.

Jeff King led off the eighth with a single off Todd Jones (0-2). He took third on Orlando Merced's single. After a walk to Don Slaught loaded the bases, he scored on Al Martin's sacrifice fly to left field.

After a runner was thrown out at home on a grounder, Mitch Williams relieved. Slaught then scored on Scott Servais' second passed ball of the inning before Hunter, a pinch-hitter, and Garcia hit RBI doubles.

Rangers 6, Tigers 1
ARLINGTON — Tuesday night's game between the Detroit Tigers and Texas was delayed in the bottom of the ninth inning because of high winds with the Rangers leading 3-1.

Earlier in the day, a tornado hit the north Texas town of Gainesville. On Monday, a tornado touched down in Lancaster, south of Dallas, and killed three people.

Winds gusting at an estimated 45-50 mph caused dirt to fly up in the faces of the players and spectators at The Ballpark. At one point in the top of the sixth, Rangers pitcher Rich Hill was blown off the mound before starting his windup.

Light rain also was falling when crew chief Rich Garcia suspended play at 9:52 p.m. CST.

Baseball

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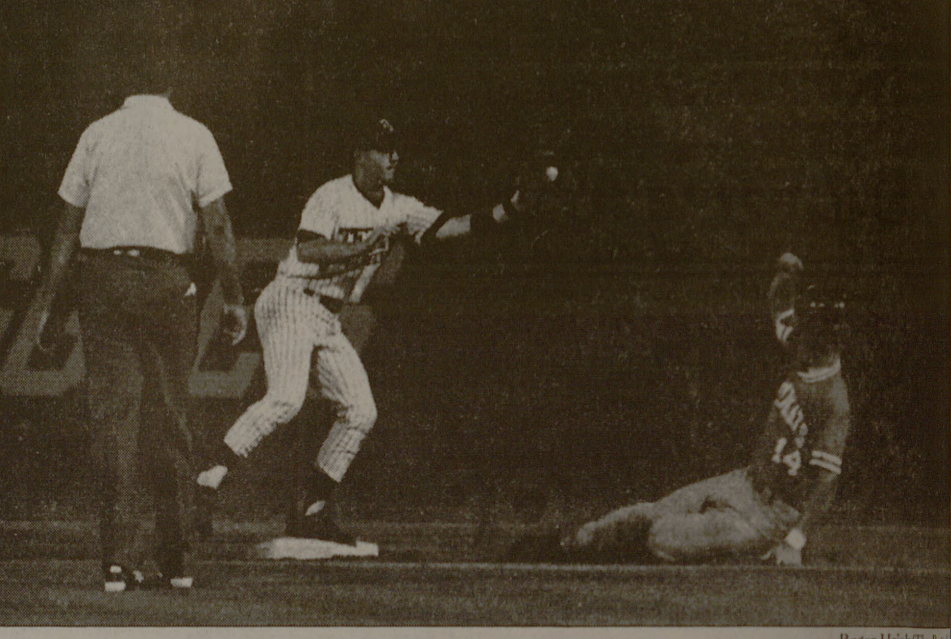
didn't work out that way." Senior Matt Sherwood took the loss to drop to 2-1 on the season. Sherwood was one of five Aggie relief pitchers who struggled to pitch the last three innings.

Johnson said using several pitchers is always a touch-and-go situation, and that the Aggies were burned by it Tuesday night.

"We got ourselves in a bind, but you always have to roll the dice in some of these games where you just have to get pitching in and keep them fresh."

The loss to the Bearkats was A&M's last non-conference game of the season.

Friday, the Aggies will begin hosting a three-game series against Texas Christian University, the current leader in Southwest Conference play.



A&M shortstop Robert Harris stretches for the ball as he steps on the base in time to tag out Jamie Brumham during Tuesday night's game against Sam Houston State.

Tickets

Continued from Page 7

the amount that A&M will lose as a result of the sanctions.

Just for kicks, let's say that 30,000 students buy season football tickets. With the price increase, that adds up to \$300,000 in additional revenue. That's not quite two million. If the purpose of the price increase was to make up for anticipated losses, then the cost should have been raised even more (God forbid).

Whether it is intended or not, the message being sent by the school is that the cost of this probation is being passed along to Joe and Jane Student, none of whom got Texas A&M on probation. That was the result of an overzealous booster paying a few players who didn't work at their summer jobs. Once again, we have a case of the many who pay for the misdeeds of a few.

Now to the question of appropriateness. Was the increase necessary? The cost of at-

tending a football game was already steep enough to begin with and most students would probably agree that this increase is another strain on their already tight budgets.

I speak from experience when I say that the cost of attending sporting events here is much too high. I graduated from Auburn University (another ag school on probation) in 1991. In the four years that I attended, the cost of a football season ticket was \$20. There were no all sports passes, but the equivalent cost would have been \$30. This cost did not change once during those four years.

Why the wide disparity in price? Was the football team lousy? Hardly. Auburn won three SEC championships in my four years there and compiled a 37-8-3 record in the process. The athletic department had to pay for stadium expansion, a new swimming facility and a six million dollar football complex. For four bucks a game, I was getting a pretty good deal.

The point of this was not to slam Texas A&M, but to show that a large athletic department can function without making students

pick up the tab. I thoroughly enjoy going to school here, but it is frustrating to see ticket prices go up from year to year. It's going to be hard enough to sell out Kyle Field this year, considering this year's home games. Raising ticket prices to make up for anticipated loss revenue is akin to cutting off your head because your nose itches.

In a perfect world, the students would end up in protest and boycott the football games. Will this happen? Of course not. Aggies are addicted to the football drug. The administration recognizes a cash cow (or about 40,000 of them) when it sees one and is perfectly willing to milk it until it's dry.

Some would say "hey, it's only ten bucks, but it is the principle more than the money." The athletic department has GOT to be turning a profit. If it isn't, something is desperately wrong. There have to be other sources of money besides captive students. If raising ticket prices was the only option available, then the school should have just done nothing. For once, it would have been the right decision.

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