

Haiti

Major league players need to grow up

CONSTANCE PARTEN



Sportswriter

With the possibility of a baseball strike growing closer daily, it seems these men "play" for a living because they are too immature to work.

Granted, baseball players do work very hard. With as many games as they play, they certainly deserve the minimum \$109,000 salary they receive. After all, baseball is big business, and all the money can't go to the owners.

However, you don't see orchestras striking for pay increases, and the American Actors Guild hasn't had a strike in decades. And orchestras and movies both make phenomenal amounts of money. And music, movies and sports all fall under the same heading: entertainment.

But baseball has had eight strikes interrupting the season for the last 22 years.

This record shows not only the players' inability to maturely accept their positions as jobs, but also shows the greed running rampant in today's sports world. And this is not limited to players. Owners and managers are caught up in the money game as well.

In fact, if baseball owners have their way, an estimated \$1.5 million dollars will be transferred to owners under a new salary cap proposal.

Salary arbitration for players will also be abolished. Although arbitration has been misused in recent years, it's dissolve will leave players at the mercy of the owners.

So how can all of this be resolved in a capitalistic society where someone has to get rich? Here are some suggestions:

Go to a pure free agent system. If the players aren't happy, they can leave. Owners will also be freed from a minimum salary requirement.

Dissolve the unions. This will do
Please see **Strike**/Page 4

A&M joins conference with numerous sports titles

Big Eight schools rich in tradition

By Brian Coats
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M is joining one of the most respected and successful conferences in the country.

The Big Eight has a history of national success and is steeped in tradition.

The Big Eight was founded on January 12, 1907, when Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and Washington University of St. Louis met to form what was then known as the Missouri Valley Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

There were many changes throughout the next 50 years, as various schools left the fold, including Washington and Iowa. With the addition of Oklahoma, Kansas State and Iowa State, six state schools formed the Big Six in 1928. In 1947, Colorado joined, upping the conference to the Big Seven. In 1957 Oklahoma State was added to form the Big Eight.

Texas A&M, Texas, Texas Tech and



"The geographic differences in the Big Eight adds to the interest. Schools play each other that have fans from totally different backgrounds."

- R.C. Slocum, A&M head football coach

tional titles.

A&M Football Coach R.C. Slocum, who formerly coached in the Big Eight at Kansas State, said the Big Eight is an old league with much tradition.

"The league has been playing for a long time," he said. "There are some outstanding academic schools up there."

Slocum said the Big Eight is more diverse than the Southwest Conference.

"The geographic differences in the Big Eight add to the interest," he said. "Schools play each other that have fans from totally different backgrounds."

Oklahoma is the school students at Texas A&M probably know the most

Please see **Big Eight**/Page 4

Campers get a kick out of soccer camp

A&M coach Guerrieri 'happy' with turn-out

By Mark Smith
THE BATTALION

Even though the World Cup is over, soccer is still alive with the in Aggieland with the Texas A&M Soccer Camp.

The second session of the camp got underway on Sunday, as the Brazilians and Italians fought for the Cup in Pasadena, Calif.

Camp director and A&M head coach Gerald "G" Guerrieri said he was pleased with the camp turn-out after A&M's inaugural soccer season.

"We're real happy with the camp," he said. "This is a good size for it."

By the end of July, A&M will have been visited by over 400 soccer campers.

During their week here they are exposed to A&M's style of play.

"It's good for the kids to come in and see our style of training and utilize our facilities," Guerrieri said.

The campers are not the only ones to take away something new from the camp.

Some of the coaches that act as counselors benefit from the drills Guerrieri uses.

"We have speed and agility training

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Stew Milne/The BATTALION

Texas A&M midfielder Kimery Duda (left) looks to cross the ball to a camp member, while Nathan Donnelly, age 12, tries to prevent her from scoring.

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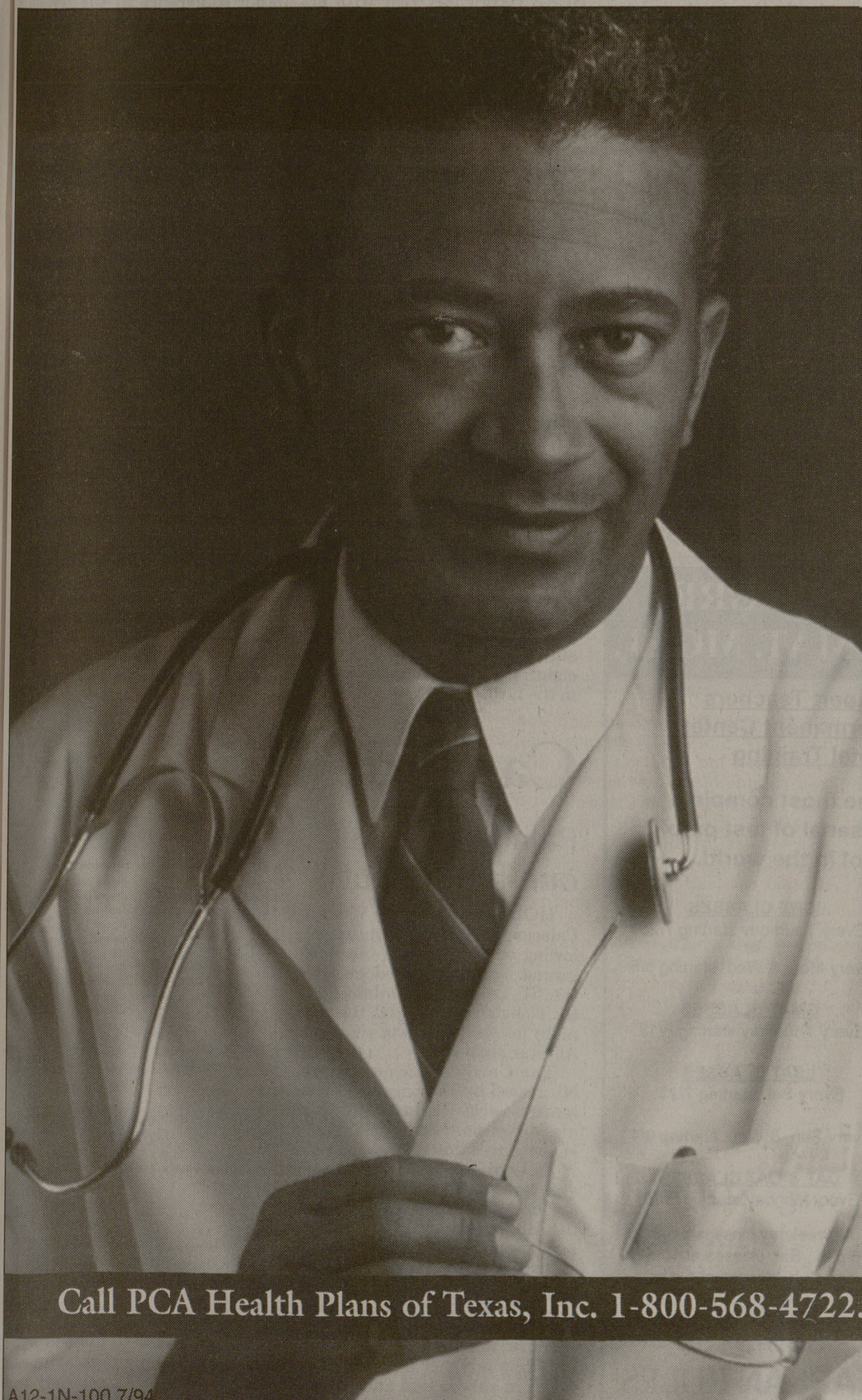
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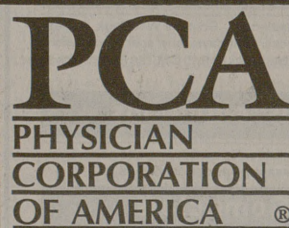
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