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'Sports Lords' efforts to curb athletes drug abuse 'hypocritical'

It seems like everytime you pick up a paper you read about another ballplayer of football, baseball, or basketball - trouble for using drugs.



And every time we read about another incident like this, the Lords of Sport throw up their hands in disgust and bewilderment and wonder what has happened to the wonderful sport of (fill in the blank).

Who do these guys think they're fooling? Drugs have been part of sports for years. They didn't just become a problem a couple of years ago. Jim Bouton and Dave Neggesy and Bernie Parrish told us years ago that drug use among athletes was common. The only difference is that back then the jocks were getting high for the team by taking pep pills and pain-killers so they could play every day.

Then athletes discovered the recreational drugs, most notably cocaine, the drug that made Bolivia

So the Lords of Sport, most notably Bowie Kuhn, the Big Cheese of baseball, come down with both feet on players like the Dodgers' Steve Howe and Willie Wilson, Jerry Martin, and Willie Aikens of the Royals.

OK, I won't make excuses for these guys. They screwed up. But they paid for it. The only problem is that Kuhn is making them pay for it all over again. One can easily imagine Kuhn telling Howe to fetch his paper and fix his oatmeal while he mulls over his future.

The fact of the matter is, if Kuhn was going to suspend every player for using drugs there just wouldn't be very many baseball cards out there. As long as the boys were popping pills for the greater glory of the team there wasn't a problem. But let a guy get individualistic and it's all over.

The whole affair just reeks of hypocrisy as do the various attempts by management to provide support programs for the athletes. Where were these programs when the clubs were encouraging, in some cases almost forcing, athletes to take pain-killers?

Given past record, it's hard to take the rehabilitation programs seriously. If they suddenly invented a drug that enabled the user to hit .400 but at the cost of becoming sterile, you can bet the general managers of every major league club would be standing in line to get a bottle. _

Speaking of drugs, a lot of people like to take drugs and drink draft beer. Draft beer, that reminds me of the draft. The NFL draft that is. How did you like that transition, folks?

But I digress. Back to the NFL draft. Why do the NFL moguls insist on holding the draft in May? This year's draft was, in the immortal words of one "Muggsy" Monroe (someone I just made up) "a farce."

There were a lot of first round draft choices who just weren't available to the NFL this year, thanks to those upstarts in the USFL.

The success of the USFL in signing so many quality senior will almost force the league to move up the date of the draft if they want to remain competitive in signing college seniors.

Certainly there are disadvantages to moving up the draft from the NFL's viewpoint. Just the simple fact that they have moved it up shows that the USFL is a legitimate challenger to the NFL, something the senior league is very anxious to avoid.

It is also likely to cost the league a lot of money as bidding wars with USFL teams will become more severe.

The draft also tends to get lost in all of the other sports news at this time of the year. The "news" includes the Stanley Cup playoffs, the NBA playoffs, baseball, the Kentucky Derby and Nebraska spring football. Especially Nebraska spring football. Let's face it guys, those TV ratings aren't what they could be. A lot of people would rather watch Donahue than the NFL draft.

Moving the draft date up would also have an academic advantage for those players who are inclined in that direction. Players wouldn't have to go to all those scouting camps and miss classroom time. This would also enable them to spend more time in the library reading The New Republic.

So, there you have it NFL bigwigs. What are you guys waiting for? Move up the draft! Have a good summer, everybody.



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Big-time basketball lures Logan to U

By Kevin Warneke

Nebraska's men's basketball team may have a new chairman of the boards.

When junior-college transfer Chris Logan plays his first Husker game next season, he said, he plans to dominate the boards in both offensive and defensive rebouding.

The 6-5 forward played two seasons at Antelope Junior College in California. He was recruited by Nebraska to bolster the forward positions, Nebraska Coach Moe Iba said.

Iba said Nebraska recruited Logan because of his excellent leaping ability. Logan is a member of Antelope's track team, he has hit 6'1" as a high jumper.

Antelope Coach Bob Murray said Logan can soar. "He's a 6-5 forward who plays like

he's 6-7 or 6-8," Murray said. Logan's statistics speak for themselves, Murray said. Logan has a 41inch vertical jump and pulled down more than 440 rebounds in 32 games, which ranked him second in California

and broke the school record. Murray said that because Logan was one of the taller players on the Antelope team, Logan's main responsibility was rebounding.

Besides all that, Logan can score, Murray said.

"He's a very unselfish player and only shot 13 to 15 times a game," Murray said. Logan averaged 13.8 points a game in 1983 and 15.9 in 1984.

"My game is centered around passing, but I can be an outside shooter," Logan said. "I'm confident from 15 to

Murray said Logan enrolled at Antelope because he was better at track, and was overlooked by college basketball recruiters.

"I'm looking forward to coming to Nebraska and playing big-time ball," he

But Logan said he must be ready to compete on command because he is on borrowed time. Being a junior, Logan has only two years to compete for Nebraska.

"I plan to come prepared to play mentally and physically he said.

Iba said he thinks Logan will be an asset to the Huskers because of his experience.

"He seems to understand the game and knows how to play," Iba said. "And he's also older."



Intramural forfeit fee refunds must be picked up at the Campus Recrea- - Lambda Chi Alpha (3.8) 3, Sigma Phi Epsilon tion Office, 1740 Vine St., before June 15. Spring softball and soccer forfeit fees will be available May 7.

(Sportsmanship ratings in parentheses) Men's Soccer

Rec Scoreboard

Fraternities A (1.8) 1

Independents Nacional (1.7) 4, Phi Gamma Delta & Company (NA) 3 D.C.'s (4.5) 3, America's Team (4.5) 0 Tigers (4.3) 5, Holysmokers (4.3) 2

Residence Halls A/B Cather Eleven (4.3) 2, Schramm Eight (4.3)

Schramm Eight (3.7) 1, Piper Four (3.0) 0