# Baseball salaries flying out of the ballpar

It is simply out of hand.
Professional baseball has been degraded to the point of one determining factor: "How many digits do you have in your salary?'

Gone are the days of playing a sport just for the love of it. The love of the sport has changed to the love of money.

How can anyone justify paying a player \$6,100,000 to chew, spit and grab his crotch on national television? That is the salary paid to Bobby Bonilla, the New York Mets' center fielder.

Granted, Bonilla can powder the ball and run down the occasional pop fly, but \$6.1 million (including signing bonus) for one year? And \$29 million over five years?

In addition to over-inflated salaries, most good players are given contracts, which ensure that they won't be cut. This allows a certain player to ram his car into his wife's car just because he is mad, and not get fired.

Poor Jose Canseco. Go spend a few thousand and forget about it. You'll feel better. Bonilla's money was tops until March 2,

when a new fortune king was crowned.

Ryne Sandberg, the Chicago Cubs' second baseman, signed a four-year contract worth \$28.4 million

It must feel good to make more money in

one year than a Third-World country.

But hey, Sandberg has talent.

Point your finger anywhere on the map and you will find people starving.

Before I leap into social repercussions, let's look at how salaries have increased.

According to a recent issue of Sports Illustrated, Babe Ruth was paid \$50,000 in 1923. This was a huge chunk of cash for an athlete in

But Ruth was, and still is, considered one of the best to play the game, or at least the bestknown player of all time.



#### **Thomas** Clouse

If you compare Sandberg's \$7.1 million to Ruth's \$50,000, something doesn't add up.

Although it has been almost 70 years since the Babe got his paycheck, it still falls short of Sandberg's bank account. Ruth's salary equals \$390,405 in today's dollars.

Yeah sure, Sandberg will be remembered as

Mr. Baseball for the rest of eternity. He revolutionized the game. He made every child want to grow up and be like him. The world bows down and kisses his feet.

Well, you get my picture. I can't blame Sandberg. Personally, I feel he demands respect for his play and should be paid well for being one of the best second baseman in the game.

I blame the system. The owners have increased salaries so fast that soon they won't be able to pay the players.

"Big Money" has jumped from Nolan Ryan's \$1.13 million in 1979 to Sandberg's \$7.1 million this year — a \$5.97 million jump in 13

Before 1979, salaries increased from Ruth's \$50,000 in 1923, to the Yankees' Catfish Hunter's \$578,200 in 1975.

Over those 53 years, salaries had increased only \$528,000.

Baseball is not the only sport that has sold out. Football, basketball, boxing, golf and even hockey have all started to ruin the "professional sports" image.

This corruption has inevitably spread to the NCAA, where most professional athletes first become commodities

Increasing recruiting violations, TV contracts and fan expectations have all skyrocketed in response to the sports-money revolu-

Currently, college athletes have price tags

put on them before they are even drafted. High-school athletes go to colleges with the best reputation and the biggest TV revenue, not for academics.

Even junior-high athletes choose the best high schools to get a chance to be recruited by college that plays on television often.

Sports are exactly that: sports. It isn't reality. The world does not end when Nebraska loses. Baseball, football, boxing, golf and hockey are all just games.

Although fans have fought, cried, laughed and cheered for their favorite teams since the beginning of time, games were meant to be fun. They should be a learning experience, not a financial battleground.

The "Big Money" syndrome has started a vicious cycle that has turned professional sports into a corporation, and college athletics into a corrupt-pricing game.

Where has the fun gone?

Clouse is a senior news-editorial major and the Daily Nebraskan assistant sports editor.

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Couch/daybed for sale, \$30, obo. Call Cyndi at 895-4954. Dresser, \$15; Twin bed, \$75, obo. Ingreat condition. Must sell by May, 477-5714.

King-size waterbed with new mattress. Complete with heater, padded rails, raised headboard. Best offer. 421-

#### 13 Office Furniture

Typestar 3 portable electric typewriter. Light, with many functions, \$75. Call Steve at 477-1013

#### 18 Stereos/TVs For Sale

CAR STEREO: Kenwood Top of Line Pullout CD/Tuner. Works Perfect! Must sell \$300, 436-9874.

# Andreake dance

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April 3 & 4 at 8pm, April 5 at 2pm tickets \$5 on sale at Howell Box Office, 12 & "R" St.

"mesmerizing dance theatre"-Clive Thomp ipal denoer in the companies of Alvin Alley and Martha Grahan

sity of Nebraska-Lincoln Theatre Arts & Dance Departm



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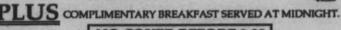
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You've seen it on the Letterman Show... Now DO IT!!!



NO COVER BEFORE 9:00

#### 19 Ticket Exchange

ticket to April 4 Tim Allen Comedy Concert, \$20, Greenstal 436-0748.

Bose - Acoustimass SE-5 Speaker System. \$650. Call Marc at 435-8517.

For Sale: Two Wrestlernania VIII tickets plus hotel reservation. Call 477-0176.

For sale: Two single tickets for Tim Allen, \$22.50 each Two group tickets, \$25 each. April 4, 7pm. 796-2497.

#### 20 Vehicles For Sale

'84 Honda Prelude, 5-speed, moonroof, loaded, \$4,250 offers, Baer's Automotive Sales, 1647 S. 3rd, 477-6442. '80 SAAB EMS 900, dark red, 5-speed, sunroof, stereo, high mileage, fairly new tires. \$1600 obo. Call 477-7138 or 476-0041.

1986 Honda Elite CH80 Motorcycle, white w/ fairing 1,621 miles. \$900 obo. (M-F 8-4:30pm) 467-7733.

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89 MERCEDES... 86 VW.... 87 MERCEDES... 65 MUSTANG... ...\$50 pose from thousands starting \$25, 24 Hour Recording yeals Details 801-379-2929 Copyright #NE11KJC

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Male hunk to entertain your bachelorette B-Day or any occasion. Professionalism and satisfaction guaranteed. Call 421-8851.

### 38 Gift Ideas

nna's Decor featuring Home Interiors and Gifts is fact for ideas, Call 488-8058 for information

#### 40 Hairstlying

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PRIVATE GUITAR INSTRUCTION/RENTAL

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FREE PREGNANCY TESTING LINCOLN CRISIS

#### 76 Travel

Heading for EUROPE this summer? Jet there any \$169 from the East Coast, \$229 from the Midwes available). (Reported in Let's Gol and NY AIRHITCH r 212-864-2000.

#### 80 Typing & Resumes

types of word processing. Laser printing. \$1.25 ble-spaced page. Call Dana. 467-5737

cient word processing—class papers & other nts. Call Mary 483-4010.

Home-based certified typist with ten years word processing experience seeks to type legible handwritten reports/ term papers, S3.00/typed page. Handled with contientiality and professionalism. Indicate document type and deadline. Submit name and address to: P.J.A., Rt. 1, Box 268, Geneva, NE 68361. 1-759-4183

#### **Resumes By Ann**

es, professional writers. Over 10 years wen results. 464-0775.



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#### 110 Announcements

ALASKA SUMMER EMPLOYMENT - fish Earn \$5,000+/month. Free Transportati Room & Boardi Over 8,000 openings Male or Female. For employment progr call 1-206-545-4155 ext. 1676

Are you Pro-Choice? Come to the Students for Choice Meeting 7:30, Thursdays, City Union

Attention Teachers College Grad, Students: DVAE-G50 Spring Symposium, "Diversified Approache to Qualitative Research", Tonight - 7:00-9:30pm, Re gency Suite, NE Union.

#### ATTENTION!

wide minor first aid care
t as Health Center liaison
t as referral and resource person for living unit
her duties as assigned
plicants must live in residence hall, Greek house or
op for the 1992-1993 academic year,
ealth Aides receive a small stipend for services pro-

olications are available at the Community Health Edu-on Dept., Room 12, Lower Level, University Health ster. For more information call 472-7440.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

Congratulations to the following people for being elected to the following Campus Red Cross positions: Fire Safety/

THEOLOGY FOR LUNCH

on equality of women & men? Bahà1 Center (14th & R), Thur., April 2nd, SKYDIVE!

Jump out of a perfectly good airplanel Crete Skydlving Center, Inc. 488-7084

Summer Sessions Early Registration March 16-April 3

#### TCAB

## WANTED: Student Leaders for the 1992-93 Odyssey Program will be a junior or senior next fall and want to endership experiences with a new student til

CAR WASH April 5 Cornhusker Bank 11th & Cornhusker

Cars \$2.00, Pickups \$3.00. Cars washed by Phi Mu Sorority Pledge Class. Proceeds go for Easter Baskets to hospitalized children in Lincoln.

What are insects good for? Honey, silk, pollination, disease, pestilenc or 2 credits in Entomology 108—Insects, Science, and

#### 115 Meetings

Ad Club Officer Elections
Thursday April 2. 6:00pm. 201 Avery.

Ad Club The zoo project meet Saturday April 4. Room 12 Avery. 9:00am. We need your help!

Block & Bridle Meeting ay, April 2, 7:00 initiate meeting, 7:30 business g, East Campus Union.

Gay/Lesbian Student Association rekly meeting Thursday 8:00pm. Room 342 Nebra ion. 472-5644.

PRE-LAW CLUB Thurs., April 2, 7:30, City Union eaker: County Attorney Gary Lacey

SAA Members irsday at 5pm Wick Center. Vote on Execs.

**UNL Students for Life** Meeting at 8:00pm, City Union

#### 120 Greek Affairs

Spring Break Panama City,
Police Report: P.K., P.I., in N.O./S307 Koop's back window looks frosty/S268 Bink's Morm's car fender plus
shotgun / parents real happy, P.C. Cop stop banging on
the walls. P.C. Don't think I won't through by boys out of
here. P.C. I'm not going to check any I.D.'s. P.C. So, you'r
twenty years old on Spring Break and you have had a few
been? Unlawful stersor volume. Son, what are you doing
in this motel room? P.B. Trespassing and breaking and
entering / \$74. Lunger, unlawful passing on strip.
Rest of Break:

in 2 ax, I'm still Alivel? ПКФ

ПКФ ns Dave Smith for a super job on PUSH. Pi Kapr

Alpha Deita Pi Alphasi

Beckie K. on her Disney Internship (Y 2 s

Kelly A. for her pageant win Good luck at Miss Nebraskal