

Sports

Players peeved at owners

NEW YORK (AP) — Angry player representatives accused management Monday of moving backward in its wage-scale negotiations in the 43-day-old National Football League strike.

The accusation came after the players met with union leadership for a briefing on negotiations. Their anger centered on a provision involving signing bonuses in management's latest contract offer.

Jim Miller, a spokesman for the owners negotiators, called it "a small snag typical of labor negotiations." But that didn't seem to placate the player reps.

"I don't think we'll have a settlement now until January," said Marvin Powell, of the New York Jets.

"We are back to Square One on some of the economic issues," said the Detroit Lions' Stan White, vice president of the union's executive committee.

"There's less money there than meets the eye," said a union source close to the bargaining table.

And Don Hasselbeck, player representative of the New England Patriots, said, "It's really kind of ridiculous. We're not getting any closer we're not going to reach an agreement by

doing something like this."

The major problem seemed to be with the inclusion in management's latest proposal of signing bonuses as part of the owners' proposed \$30,000 minimum wage.

"Under the owners' plan if a player signs for \$20,000 and receives a \$10,000 signing bonus, under their proposal he meets the requirements of the minimum wage," said Dave Sheridan, spokesman for the union.

In another example cited by Sheridan, if a player were to sign a three-year contract with a \$60,000 signing bonus, his team could spread the bonus over the life of the contract applying the payments to the minimum wage.

Miller, the management spokesman, discounted the seriousness of the development, but noted: "This is the same kind of snag the union threw at us last night when they proposed a three-year contract."

The appearance of mediator Sam Kagel and, barely an hour later, the appearance of at least half a dozen players milling about the lobby of the hotel giving interviews was in stark contrast to the news blackout which Kagel had clamped on

these talks the previous two days.

The two sides exchanged monetary proposals Sunday with the owners offering a four-year package averaging \$320 million a year and the union seeking \$1.1 billion or, \$370 million a year, over a three-year period.

"The players and management have exchanged detailed, written proposals on most of the remaining issues," Kagel said. "The representatives of the parties have identified such issues as those in which they are reasonably close and such issues have been assigned to subcommittees. The major issues have also been identified and discussions are proceeding in depth between the parties on such issues and will continue."

"It is clear to me," Kagel continued, "that the parties are continuing to make a real effort to reach agreement on those issues and all the other issues that might be in contention."

"However, in this proceeding it should be clear the mediator is not a magician," Kagel continued. "It is the parties themselves that will have to reach the necessary agreements to end the strike."

Ducks zero in on Beavers in net tilt

Still feeling the high after a sweep over both Washington State and the University of Washington, the Oregon women's volleyball team will invade Gill Coliseum Wednesday night in Corvallis for a match against Oregon State.

"We're excited to play them, we're ready to play them, and we should take them on and beat them," says coach Chris Voelz of her team's outlook heading into the OSU match.

The Beavers are 7-3 in the NorPac, while the Ducks are 4-6, and Voelz admits, "They have beaten some teams that we haven't, so that gives them a little bit of an edge."

"But we're playing at our highest level right now — we're playing soundly and peaking. We may be out of the running for the playoffs, but I don't see why in the world we can't finish with a couple of wins against Oregon State."

OSU is paced by hitters Sandy Sexton and Julie Steding. Sexton is a senior

who lends experience and power to the Beaver lineup. She tallied 13 kills in a win over Washington State Saturday. Steding, a freshman from Lake Oswego who was recruited by the Ducks, is an imposing 6-3, making her one of the tallest players in the NorPac.

Voelz plans to use Sue Harbour's presence to counter Steding. Harbour had five blocks and 13 kills against a tall Washington team.

Oregon is nearly at full strength, with both Ronda Dalthrop and Shauna Koenig recovered from injuries, although Barb Lutz is still sidelined with a sprained ankle. Voelz says that her team is a very self-assured unit now.

"We're coming off two big wins, and we feel real confident," she says. "Our goal at the beginning of the season was to maintain intensity through every play, every point, every game and every match, and we're doing it."

Baseball bosses send Kuhn packing

CHICAGO (AP) — Bowie Kuhn, in his 14th year as commissioner of baseball, was fired Monday in a vote of owners that ended 11 months of wrangling over his fate.

The commissioner was fired in a vote by the National League owners, despite gaining a majority. The vote was 7-5 in favor of Kuhn's re-election, but he needed three quarters of the votes, or nine. The American League vote was 11-3 in favor of retaining Kuhn.

Kuhn's second seven-year term as commissioner expires Aug. 13, 1983, when a new commissioner must be elected. None has been selected yet.

Although the dissenting votes in the

National League were not announced, they reportedly were cast by owners Nelson Doubleday of the New York Mets, August A. Busch of the St. Louis Cardinals, Ted Turner of the Atlanta Braves, John McMullen of the Houston Astros and William Williams of the Cincinnati Reds.

The announcement, made by American League President Lee MacPhail and National League President Chub Feeney, followed a joint session of the owners that lasted only 27 minutes.

"We regret to say the commissioner failed re-election," MacPhail said.

Feeney said the NL vote was taken on a proposed compromise that would have

kept Kuhn in office but would have added a business officer known as COOBA, for "Chief Operating Officer of Business Affairs."

However, five NL owners refused to accept the proposal, apparently because the business officer would have reported to the commissioner, and that was enough to block Kuhn's chances to staying in office.

Kuhn was elected to replace the fired William Eckert in February 1969. Kuhn served a six-month interim term before he was elected to a regular seven-year term on Aug 13, 1969.

Opposition to Kuhn first surfaced at last December's baseball meetings,

when it was discovered that nine owners had signed a letter asking Kuhn to resign. The letter was never sent, but its discovery unearthed the dissatisfaction with Kuhn.

The National League had the votes to oust Kuhn at baseball's summer meetings at San Diego last August, but some parliamentary maneuvers by Kuhn's backers, mainly Peter O'Malley of Los Angeles, postponed the decision.

The two leagues met in separate caucuses Monday morning. The AL finished early, waiting as the NL debated Kuhn's fate until about 3:30 p.m. EST.

This time, there was no postponing the inevitable.

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