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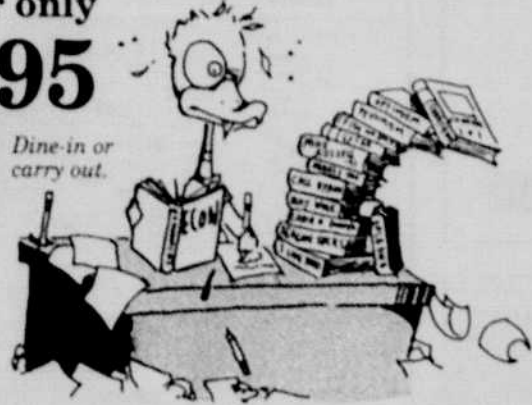
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TUESDAY'S TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

■ SEATTLE MARINERS—Announced a working agreement with Port City of the Southern League. Named Dave Myers manager; Ron Romanick pitching coach; and Paul Harker trainer of Port City.

TEXAS LEAGUE

■ EL PASO DIABLOS—Named Matt Hicks director of broadcasting.

TEXAS-LOUISIANA LEAGUE

■ BEAUMONT BULL FROGS—Sold the contract of Tom Harrison, pitcher, to the Atlanta Braves.

■ CORPUS CHRISTI BARRACUDAS—Sold the contract of Herman Johnson, catcher, to the Milwaukee Brewers.

■ SAN ANTONIO TEJANOS—Sold the contracts of Jason Pfaff, pitcher, and Brian Cornelius, outfielder, to the Pittsburgh Pirates.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

■ NFL—Named W. Buckley Briggs assistant general counsel.

■ LOS ANGELES RAIDERS—Named Floyd Peters defensive line coach.

■ PHILADELPHIA EAGLES—Named Emmitt Thomas defensive coordinator.

■ PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Named Tim Lewis defensive backs coach.

■ SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Named Marc Trestman offensive coordinator. Promoted John McVay to special assistant to the president and Dwight Clark to vice president and director of football operations. Named Vinny Cerrato director of player personnel.

■ TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Named Kippy Brown running backs coach.

ARENA FOOTBALL LEAGUE

■ MILWAUKEE MUSTANGS—Signed Lee Staltz, quarterback, and Kevin Evans, offensive specialist. Waived Lenny Gomes, lineman.

■ ST. LOUIS STAMPEDE—Signed Junior Tagaloa, wide receiver-linebacker.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

■ NHL—Suspended Luc Robitaille, Pittsburgh Penguins left wing, pending review of a high-sticking incident during a game on Feb. 5 against New Jersey.

■ NEW JERSEY DEVILS—Returned Chris McAlpine, defenseman, to Albany of the American Hockey League. Sent David Emma, center, to Albany for conditioning.

■ TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Recalled Chris Lipuma, defenseman, from Atlanta of the International Hockey League.

INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

■ IHL—Suspended Don Jackson, Cincinnati coach, for 10 games and fined him \$1,000 for entering the stands during an altercation in a game on Feb. 4 in Atlanta.

EAST COAST HOCKEY LEAGUE

■ ERIE PANTHERS—Claimed Daniel Berthiaume, goalie, off waivers and traded him to Roanoke for cash.

■ COLONIAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

■ UTICA BLIZZARD—Loaned Mark Green, forward, to Adirondack of the American Hockey League.

COLLEGE

■ CINCINNATI—Named Tim Rose defensive coordinator and Greg Seamon offensive coordinator. Promoted Kyle Lingerfelt, administrative assistant, to assistant coach and recruiting coordinator.

■ STANFORD—Named Bill Harris defensive coordinator.

■ STATEN ISLAND—Named Sonny Grasso softball coach.

HENRY

Continued from Page 5

hold near and dear to their existence — cocaine.

In one hit of the pipe or sniff of the line, Strawberry sent his life spiraling toward what can ultimately be considered a failure.

Where in the rule book of fame and fortune does it say that cocaine cures all pain? Where does it say that cocaine can make you more of a man than those who aren't controlled by its allure? It must be somewhere because so many of today's athletes are pulled into the powerful clutches of illegal substances.

To top it off, after two treatment stints in substance abuse programs and other documented incidents, the door has been left open for Strawberry's return.

"Will there be a third chance in baseball for him?" said Giants' general manager Bob Quinn, on Monday. "That depends entirely on Darryl. We wish him well."

That just amazes me. How far does someone get carried before others finally determine that he is dead weight? Cut the leash and cut the loss.

We should wish everyone well, but pampering professional athletes in this way does absolutely no good. Why do athletes attempt such outlandish feats as drug abuse and wife beating and think that

they can get away with it? Because they can. They know that they will get a slap on the wrist and be forced to pay a fine.

Would you be upset if you got away with something nine out of 10 times and the consequence of being caught was losing around 2 percent of your income? It sure wouldn't keep me up late at night. Admittedly, that slot is already filled by the "flamboyant" Jerry Springer show.

I just believe that these athletes who continue to display idiotic choices should not be coddled. There is no room in my world of sympathy for someone who can't handle earning millions of dollars and then has other people make excuses for him.

We are living in a world where people live on the streets to survive, children are left to fend for themselves when parents disappear for days and the majority of us are living from paycheck to paycheck.

There is no higher pressure than the one that hovers and begs the question, "Can I make it through another month?" This financial question only relates to those who bust their butts nine hours a day for minimal pay and credit just to make ends meet.

So don't whine to me about needing cocaine because my sympathy goes out to those struggling in the real world, not in fantasy land.

Kris Henry is a sports reporter for the Emerald.

MAXWELL

Continued from Page 5

fan in his 10 years with the league. In March 1991, Charles Barkley was fined \$10,000 and suspended for a game for spitting on fans. His target was a heckler, but he hit an 8-year-old girl instead.

Maxwell has a history of trouble. Since 1993, he's been arrested twice for altercations in night clubs. Last year, he paid a \$15,000 fine for illegally carrying a gun in his car.

Cameraman Carl Wikman said his tape clearly shows Maxwell going into the crowd and striking George.

The incident occurred during a timeout with 3:33 left in the third period and Portland leading the Rockets 79-52. The section of fans beneath the backboard next to the Houston bench had been riding Maxwell all night, and the temperamental guard had returned the taunts with obscenities, Wikman said.

"He's known as a hothead, and he gets it everywhere he goes," George said. "He blew a gasket. They were down by 30. He wasn't happy. He was having a bad night and he lost it."

When Maxwell headed into the stands, teammate Robert Horry and assistant coach Larry Smith followed him.

"Maxwell does hit the guy first," Wikman said. "At that point, the guy's brother shoves Maxwell back. Then Horry comes between the two and it looks like he gets shoved. ... Maxwell is the only one who threw a punch and it was a definite punch."

Wikman, whose camera position on the floor was just a few feet from the end of the Houston bench, said his videotape also picked up Maxwell shouting obscenities at the crowd during the second quarter and at a teammate who tried to calm him down.

Later, Wikman said, a man with his young son asked

Maxwell to cut down on the cursing because the boy was there, and Maxwell responded with more obscenities and told the man to move to a higher seat if he didn't want to bear it.

Maxwell, Horry and Smith all were ejected by officials.

Wikman said the tape shows a security guard standing nearby made no attempt to stop either Houston player as they climbed the steps.

Before George was advised by his attorney not to talk to reporters, he spoke at length about the incident. He said the heckling was being done by the entire section.

The Rockets' Mario Elie said players have to expect those type of reactions from the crowd.

"You hear hecklers at all arenas," he said. "That's how it is. You deal with it. That's part of the game. They pay their ticket, they get a little drunk, they say something rude, but you've got to go beyond that."

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