

Sport teams setting up corruption in gambling

It comes up again and again.

You read about some player on a college or professional sports team who's out or misses practice because of some "undisclosed injury."

It happened this fall with University of Kansas football players. Though one was widely known to have some bruised ribs, the team would not admit it.

Why?

Sometimes the team even tries to claim that it can't reveal the injury because of the player's "privacy rights" under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, sometimes known as HIPPA.

This is all hogwash.

What sports teams are doing, especially college and high school teams, is setting themselves up for corruption by gambling interests. Some will scoff at this, but remember a pro basketball referee lost his job a few years back in a gambling scandal.

Race tracks, professional sports of all kinds, have been touched now and then by gamblers. Gamblers will go to any length to get information that might give them an edge, especially on injuries.

That is why teams have an obligation to their sport and the public to make information known to everyone when a player is injured. That way, there should be no question about who might or might not play, who might or might not be up to full speed.

Coaches sometimes like to hide this information from an opponent, but honesty and openness are the best policy. That gives gamblers little opening to corrupt insiders. And once someone is corrupted, there's no telling what damage they might do.

Players in college and professional sports become public figures, and as such, give up any privacy interest they might have in their health, at least as far as it affects their ability to play.

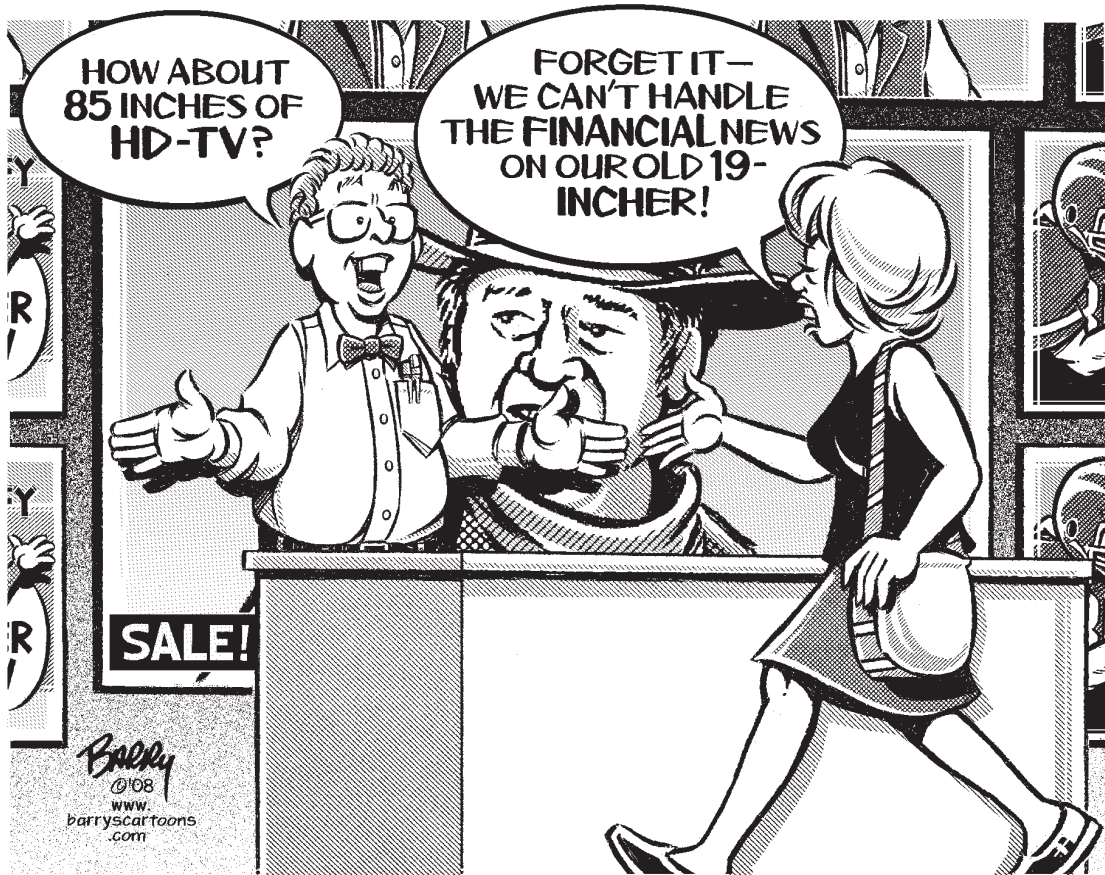
The league or governing body of each major sport needs to make this pretty clear. To play, an athlete needs to agree to waive any privacy right he may claim. Teams need to make public any pertinent information on who will or won't play, so the playing field is level and gamblers have no reason to pry.

Federal law?

The HIPPA statute applies only to entities that bill Medicare or Medicaid electronically. It certainly does not apply to schools or professional sports teams. It was never meant to apply to sports, yet some professional leagues allowed themselves to be out maneuvered by players who supposedly refused to waive rights they never had.

A waiver needs to be required before anyone steps onto the field of play. It's that simple and that important.

Sport — a multi-billion-dollar industry in this country — should not be compromised by foolish whims. — *Steve Haynes*



News From the Past

100 years ago - 1908

The Junior League of the Methodist Church had a glorious time picnicking at the Campbell Grove.

At the independent township caucus the following ticket was nominated: Trustee, C. W. Lawless; Treasurer, F.L. Shields; Clerk, G.W. Woodward; Justices of the Peace, John Cunningham and J.L. Lang; Constables, Bennett Anderson Jr. and A.H. Baker.

Homer Follett, the Wheeler merchant, has added a line of excellent quality clothing to their stock of general merchandise, also coal and hardware.

Miss Edna Murphy, who has been employed as assistant prin-

icipal in the county high school, is expected to arrive from Russell this evening. Mr. V.V. Vining, who has been employed to teach the grammar department of the city schools, arrived from Wray Saturday.

The St. Francis Cemetery Association has been making some very substantial and slightly improvements out at the cemetery. A new picket fence has been erected entirely along the north front, a substantial new gate has been put in place and the appearance of the grounds immeasurably improved.

50 years ago - 1958

Mr. Felix Cooper announced this week that he had sold the Cooper Rexall Drug Store in St.

Francis to Mr. Roger Brazier. Mr. Brazier took over management of the store on Sept. 1. Mr. Cooper has been associated with the business in St. Francis for nearly 35 years, coming to work as pharmacist and manager for Mr. Dick Thompson in January of 1925. Mr. Cooper has been an owner of the store for 25 years and has been the sole owner since 1945.

A squad of 41 greeted coach Ray Huffman the first week of football practice at the high school. The squad consists of only six lettermen. They are Glenn Isernhagen, Junior Bandel, Marvin Smull, Eldon Zimbelman, Dave Garrison and Ron Porter.

Family thankful for hospitality

To the editor,

This Thanksgiving, we would like to tell you how thankful we are that our car broke down in St. Francis, Kan.!

It gave us the chance to encounter some very wonderful people in a very special place.

On Saturday, Aug. 2, my husband, Joe, our 15-year-old daughter, Shelby and I were heading to Denver, Colo. Joe had a John Deere convention and had invited Shelby and I along to do some school shopping.

We had just passed through St. Francis, about 5 p.m., when our 2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee lost power steering and got very hot. As it was 108 degrees outside that day, I wasn't terribly concerned. But my husband checked under the hood and then headed us back to St. Francis. We pulled into the Sinclair station and my husband went in and came back out with a bottle of power steering fluid and two policemen, one, Cody Beeson, a deputy for the county sheriff and the other, Kent Allard, a St. Francis police officer.

When my husband attempted to put the steering fluid in - it sprayed all over the motor and he and the police realized that we needed more help!

The police officers immediately pulled out their cell phones and started to dial. They finally reached the owner of the parts store, Andy

Letters to the Editor

Beikman, and he told us that he would come fix us right up.

Shelby and I found the shade on the east side of the building and Joe paced in the heat - soon Andy came, took one look at the problem and realized he couldn't fix it, nor did he have the parts. Andy sat in the heat with Joe for several hours trying to find someone who could help us but finally had to concede defeat. Joe attempted to pay Andy for his time but Andy refused several times, directed us to a motel, The Empire, and told us he would order the parts on Monday and they would be in by Tuesday and we would be on our way.

About 7:30 p.m. we checked into one of the motels and then Joe handled the Jeep down to the Pizza Hut. As we were finishing supper about 9 p.m., a man (Keith Dankenbring) walks into Pizza Hut, looks around, then walks up to our table, sits down and states - "You don't know me but I've been trying to get you to Denver - I work for Andy Beikman selling parts. I haven't had any luck, but I'm not done yet." This kind gentleman even asked the other Pizza Hut patrons if anybody was headed to Denver.

As we were all leaving the Pizza Hut - his cell phone rang. Keith told us that he had it all arranged and the person would meet us at the motel in 5 minutes. We went to the motel and soon a man in a 2007 white four-door pickup pulled up. He introduced himself as Farrell McAtee and after talking with my husband for a few minutes - handed him the keys to this white pickup! Joe attempted to negotiate payment and this man also refused stating "just take it and you can just drop it off at Bumper-to-Bumper when you get back!" He even had Keith, the partsman, take him back home to get a second set of keys so that my daughter and I could go shopping if we wanted too!

We did take the pickup and it was wonderful and when we got back to St. Francis our Jeep was washed, fixed, cleaned out and parked on the sidewalk in front of the store!

There really isn't much that we can do for this amazing group of people but thank them and try to "pay it forward."

With deepest gratitude, awe and respect.

Joe, Candy and Shelby Peters
Red Cloud, Neb.

Mail drop box is used

To the editor,

This is in regards to the mail drop at Wheeler. It will be gone on Dec. 1.

To me this makes no sense as a lot of people use this drop. Now they want their patrons to drive 10 miles to town to mail their letters.

Why not get rid of the drop box behind the post office and let the town folk walk inside to mail their letters.

I don't understand the mentality of such a ridiculous move. The driver goes right by the Wheeler

box every day (but Sunday).

I now understand why people are using e-mail and avoiding the post office all together.

I'm not a resident of Wheeler but I do see quite a few people using this drop box.

Someone has come up with a really stupid move.

Does the post office not want the business this box generates or are they going to raise postage again for other hare-brained ideas.

Phyllis Hook
St. Francis

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Pat and Laura Lamb, St. Francis; John Hartman, Loxley, Ala.; Crystal Smith, Highlands Ranch, Colo.; Eric Fiala, St. Francis; Rick Lucas, St. Francis; Jon Waters, Bird City; Jon Zweygardt, Windsor, Colo.; First National Bank, St. Francis; Vicky Hill, Salina; Penny Archibald, St. Francis; A.E. Zimbelman, Battle Creek, Mich.

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By Casey McCormick

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A new tradition. I know those two words don't seem to fit together, but let me explain.

Whether we like it or not, the world around us changes. Someone you love may have to move away to go to school or find work. Or the company you work for might need to move you to a different town. Also we all have to deal with the loss of someone close to us when their time on earth ends.

But we all move forward and adapt to change. We must to survive and deal with it, it's how we're wired.

Our family began a new way of celebrating Thanksgiving this year. Rather than the usual way of the parents preparing the "big meal," we went to Kansas City instead.

The two oldest boys, Travis and

Trey, have relocated to the east. So my wife, the younger three kids and I drove there. Trey and his girl friend, Nichole, hosted the event which featured a big turkey and about 20 side dishes, not including a bounty of desserts.

After the feast we loaded up into two cars and drove in-town to watch the building lighting and fireworks display at The Plaza.

It was exciting to try something

new, but much of the holiday was as it should be. We had plenty of good food with loved ones. So what if it was in a new location.

And looking at the clan that couldn't be separated by many miles, we knew we had much to be grateful for. For this year, new was very good.

GOD SAYS

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11

<p>Church of Christ 332-2380, Pars. 332-3424 502 W. Spencer Norman Morrow - Minister Bible Class 11 a.m. Morning Worship 10 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 625 S. River • 332-2680 Fr. Roger Meitl Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m. Weekday Mass 8 a.m. Confessions Sat. 4-4:30</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 2nd & Scott • 332-3921 J.W. Glidewell, Pastor Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wed. AWANA Club 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>United Methodist Church Office 332-2292, Church 332-2254, 512 S. Scott Pastor Morita Truman Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Salem Lutheran Church 332-3002 Pastor Chris Farmer Sunday School 10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m.</p>	<p>St. Francis Community Church 332-3150 204 N. Quincy Street www.sfccfamily.com Pastor: David Butler Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Potluck & Communion - Every 2nd Sunday Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>
<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church 785-890-5718 • 3rd & Adams Pastor Jerry Nowack Sabbath School 9:30 Morning Worship 10:45</p>	<p>Solid Rock Baptist Church 412 S. Denison Welcomes You! Pastor Allen Coon Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Prayer Meeting, Wed 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC 202 N. College Pastor Ken Hart 332-2928 Pars. 332-2312 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Eve. Bible Study 7 p.m. Communion 1st Sunday of the month</p>



St. Francis Equity

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