

Drugs found in autopsy of ball player

By Heather Hollingsworth
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Much of Darrell Porter’s life after baseball was filled with delivering antidrug messages.

His death might have been the most powerful — and poignant — of them all.

Porter, who beat alcohol and drug addictions during his major league playing days, had cocaine in his system when he died last week, according to autopsy results released Monday.

“If this drug can kill someone as tough as Darrell Porter, it’s too powerful to mess around with,” said Paul Splittorff, a former teammate of Porter’s with the Kansas City Royals.

“Let’s hope that is how people remember the circumstances of his death, because you don’t want kids questioning what he was trying to tell them,” Splittorff said. “You don’t want that lost, just because it was too powerful for even Darrell to resist. That should be the message: Don’t even start.”

Porter, 50, who caught for four major league teams and was named MVP when the St. Louis Cardinals won the 1982 World Series, was found dead Aug. 5 next to his car in a park.

Jackson County medical examiner Dr. Thomas Young said Porter had a level of cocaine in his system consistent with recreational use. He would not be more specific, and said it was unclear when Porter had taken the drug.

Porter did not die of an overdose, Young said, but of a condition called “excited delirium,” which causes excessive body temperature, “behavior that is agitated, bizarre and potentially violent,” and stopped Porter’s heart.

Young said heat exposure and an enlarged heart, which is common among drug users or those with high cholesterol, contributed to Porter’s death.

In a statement issued Monday night, Porter’s family also called the finding a grim reminder of the damage drugs can do.

“For 22 years, Darrell remained sober,” the statement, read at Kauffman Stadium by friend and former Royals teammate Jerry Terrell, stated in part. “The fact that he failed shows the evil of drugs and the power of the disease.”

Porter worked for Enjoy the Game, a company that promotes sportsmanship.

His boss, Bill Stutz, said Porter had taken the summer off to work out family issues.

“I saw him in July and thought it was taken care of,” Stutz said. “I thought he looked himself again.”

Police said Porter’s car went off a road and got caught on a tree stump in La Benite Park in Sugar Creek, a Kansas City suburb. He got out of the car, walked to the nearby Missouri River and then back to his car.

Sugar Creek police Lt. Glen Newton said Porter had left a note at home that he planned to go to the park to read and listen to music.

Authorities had initially speculated that he overheated while trying to push the car off the stump in high heat and humidity. But there was no evidence to indicate that he tried to move the car, Young said.

Porter broke into the majors in 1971 with the Milwaukee Brewers, who traded him to the Royals after the 1976 season. He was an All-Star twice in his four years with Kansas City.

But Porter began abusing cocaine, Quaaludes, marijuana, and alcohol.

Porter, who lived in the Kansas City suburb of Lee’s Summit, left spring training in 1980 and entered a drug rehabilitation clinic. He later chronicled his fight with addiction and recovery from it in a 1984 book, “Snap Me Perfect! The Darrell Porter Story.”

Sugar Creek police Lt. Glen Newton said the case was closed and there would be no investigation into how Porter obtained the cocaine.



Les Frazier, whose team tied for second in the first flight, tried for the green during the Shriners golf tournament Sunday morning at Sugar Hills Golf Club. There were 66 golfers at the benefit tournament. Photo by Doug Stephens/The Goodland Daily News

Golfers raise money to help Shriners hospitals

By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

The links were filled with 66 people enjoying a morning in the sun and helping the Northwest Kansas Shrine Club care for children Sunday at Sugar Hills Golf Club.

The tournament is an annual affair and helps the club pay to take children to Shriners hospitals. The nearest is in Kansas City.

Money was raised through entry fees and by selling mulligans. For \$5, golfers could buy a “do-over” shot, to be used anytime. Gift certificates and

other types of merchandise were donated by businesses and were given as hole prizes.

The tournament was a three-person scramble, where each player tees off and the teams shoot from their ball closest to the pin.

Closest isn’t always best, as David Coons and his team found out on the sixth hole. Their closest ball was in the rough next to a tree.

None of the three men hit the ball solidly on the soft dirt on their first try and they used one of their \$5 mulligans.

Les Frazier, whose team was playing along with Coons’, said while everyone was doing his best, no one was taking the game too seriously.

“It’s all for a good cause, and it’s all for fun,” Frazier said.

The tournament, organized by Shrine member Randy Topliff, was a success, said member Rich Weigand. There were golfers from Colby and other neighboring cities, he said, and the event got a lot of support from Goodland golfers and businesses.

“A lot of people turned back in their prize money,” Weigand said. “They

won it, and they turned around and gave it right back.”

Results were:
First Flight: First: Brent Linin, Brian Linin, Kenny Davis. **Second (tie):** Les Frazier, Bill Frazier, Chuck Frankenfeld and Randy Topliff, Chase Topliff and Leo Hayden.

Second Flight: First: Mike Short, Albert Rall and Marvin Bishop. **Second:** Brady Stindt, Marty Johnson and Shad Sheldon. **Third (tie):** Scott Showalter, Marvin Selby and Gary Goodheart and Lou Hines, Audrey Hines and Kristy Keirns.

Hole prizes: Hole #2: Closest to pin: Jay Morrow. **Hole #4:** Longest drive: Marvin Bishop. **Hole #8:** Longest putt: Chase Topliff. **Hole #10:** Closest to pin: Jerry Burkett. **Hole #13:** Closest to pin: Bill Frazier. **Hole #14:** Longest putt: John Fixsen. **Hole #16:** Longest drive: Albert Rall.

Cardinals’ offense strong against Pirates

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The St. Louis Cardinals’ offense is starting to show some life.

Scott Rolen hit a three-run homer and Albert Pujols drove in four runs as the Cardinals beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 10-6 Monday night. St. Louis has scored 19 runs in its last two games.

Rolen, who was 6-for-40 (.150) in his first 11 games after being traded July 29 from Philadelphia to the Cardinals, homered and drove in three runs for the second straight day.

“I’m starting to get some hits and that makes you feel a little better,” Rolen said. “I think I’m a little more comfortable at the plate.

“If I had hit three balls real hard and they were all right at the shortstop, I’d probably feel good, too. But when you get results, it helps you relax a little bit,” he said.

Pujols had three hits, including a two-run double and a two-run homer.

“We got something out of everybody who played tonight,” manager Tony La

Russa said, referring to a lineup potent enough to keep J.D. Drew in the eighth spot in the batting order.

Tino Martinez also homered as the Cardinals stretched their NL Central lead to 2 1/2 games over idle Cincinnati with their fourth win in five games. St. Louis had lost five in a row on the road, and prove it.”

Brian Giles hit his 30th home run for Pittsburgh. After losing for the fifth time in six games, the Pirates are a season-low 14 games under .500 at 52-66.

The Sherman County Conservation District will conduct a sign up August 15th through August 29th for both Non-Point and State Water Resources Cost Share Programs.

Some of the State Water Resources Cost Share Program practices eligible for cost share include Contour Buffer Strips, Critical Area Planting, Diversions, Fencing, Grassed Waterways, Pipelines, Terraces and Livestock Wells. The Irrigation Practices will include Subsurface drip, Irrigation Water Conveyance, Irrigation Water Management and Irrigation System, Sprinkler. Cost Share is NOT authorized for nozzle upgrades (example 9 to 2 ft.) Exceptions shall be allowed for spacing modification (example 10 to 7.5 ft or 5 ft or less) if NRCS determines significant efficiency gains will be achieved. Non metered systems and systems with end guns will incur a state cost share limit of 50% or less up to landowner limit of \$1500. All other irrigation practices will be cost shared at 50% not to exceed \$2500. You will need a bid from an irrigation dealer to apply and you will be required to provide water right information. The other non irrigation practices will be cost shared at 60% of average cost or actual cost whichever is less with a \$5000 landowner limit.

The Non Point Source Funds can be used for FAILING on site waste water systems and plugging abandoned wells. We only received \$7000.00. KDHE will have to evaluate and rank the applications and there will be a \$50 fee upfront for these services. Last year we were only able to fund three systems.

For further information call Sandy Rodgers at the Conservation District Office 785-899-3070 extension 35.

Sunflower Contest

RULES

- Write down as many words (at least 3 letters) that you can think of using the word “Observance”
 - Do not use proper names
- Bring your completed list to The Goodland Daily News office at 1205 Main by noon by Saturday, Aug. 17

Winners will be announced in the Monday, Aug. 19 edition

1. _____	26. _____
2. _____	27. _____
3. _____	28. _____
4. _____	29. _____
5. _____	30. _____
6. _____	31. _____
7. _____	32. _____
8. _____	33. _____
9. _____	34. _____
10. _____	35. _____
11. _____	36. _____
12. _____	37. _____
13. _____	38. _____
14. _____	39. _____
15. _____	40. _____
16. _____	41. _____
17. _____	42. _____
18. _____	43. _____
19. _____	44. _____
20. _____	45. _____
21. _____	46. _____
22. _____	47. _____
23. _____	48. _____
24. _____	49. _____
25. _____	50. _____

(If you have more than 50, please attach an additional sheet)

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Address _____

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