Foul Shots
Willie Mays gets canned
By Bob Hone
Bowie Kuhn kicked Willie Mays out of baseball last week.
For those of you unfamiliar with the story, Kuhn, the commissioner of the major leagues, decreed that Mays, a Hall-of-Famer and coach of the New York Mets, choose between accepting a $1 million, one-year contract with Bally International, a casino owner, and staying with major league baseball. Kuhn did not state that Mays was forbidden to take the casino job; rather he said that Mays could not have the job while remaining associated with the major leagues.
Kuhn said that Mays should not have been surprised by his decision. Mays, 35, is a stern, eagle-eyed taskmaster who made his intentions clear to them.

Nothing was settled. Bally believed until recently that everything would work out, with Mays' lawyer Steve Lindemann presumably taking care of the matter. Lindemann thought that Bally was handling everything. And Kuhn said recently, "I'm hopeful that he (Mays) will stay with the Mets, but if he takes the Atlantic City job without resigning from the Mets, I would have to order that his Mets' employment be discontinued.

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However, Mays' view on the matter has not been publicly expressed. But why this man has apparently been used as a pawn in a game of fancy lawyers and an authoritarian commissioner after devoting 28 years to a game he loved, notwithstanding the fact that he used his baseball fame in order to nail down a few deals to tell the Mets goodbye and then head down the Garden State Parkway to Atlantic City and start working for Bally.

Whether Kuhn was right or wrong in saying that Mays had to leave baseball because of associating with a gambling firm is not the point. Kuhn has shown the kind of commissioner he is through his actions in the Bill Lee case, as well as a few instances involving Charlie Finley. He might not make the most intelligent decisions, but at least he's a frequent topic of conversation.

The important point, however, is that, with three days to go before Mays was set to sign his contract with Bally, Kuhn made a public announcement that served only to embarrass one of the game's finest all-dailys to . . .

Whether Mays' leaving the Mets would have been even more careful in such a situation. Certainly if Mays was obsessive about holding down both jobs, Kuhn would have a point in forcing him to sail down the job that got him in all this mess, is a mystery. It seems that with a player of Mays' stature, Kuhn would have been more careful in such a situation. Certainly if Mays was obsessive about holding down both jobs, Kuhn would have a point in providing a public forum for his decision. But was that the case? Mays knew enough to realize that if Kuhn had even hinted that he should leave the Mets if he were to go to Bally, something would have to be worked out.

No, the fault in this case seems to clearly be Kuhn's. Telling Mays to leave the sport is his peremptory, no matter how absurd his reasoning. But the manner in which this was done leaves a lot to be desired. The man who made the basket catches should be forced to leave in disgrace the game that he added so much to. He didn't have to. However, Bowie Kuhn once again overreacted. When he talks about compromising the integrity of baseball, instead of looking at Mays, Kuhn should take a good long look in the mirror.

Soccer team loses, record drops to 1-9-1
By Eric R. Fleming
The MIT soccer team (1-9-1) suffered one of its toughest losses of the season, a 3-2 double over-time loss to Colby, Saturday despite a 2-1 lead midway through the second half, and numerous scoring opportunities in the overtime periods.

Colby had control of most of the first half, taking a 1-0 lead at the 17-minute mark. However, MIT got under way with Dave Montague '82 scoring anassist with only 3½ minutes remaining in the first half. The goal not only gave the Engineers the equalizer before halftime, but it also supplied MIT with momentum going into the second half. MIT did not waste time in taking advantage in the second stanza, with several scoring chances before Jay Walsh '82 connected with help from Bill Uhle '81 after an Engineer indirect free kick with only 10:26 gone in the second half. At this point, MIT seemed headed for victory.

However, the spark MIT had so soon, and Colby soon responded by keeping play in the MIT end, and forcing the home team to clear out dangerous corner kicks. Finally, a goal at 25:04 knocked the ball into two apiece, and the pressure to score the next goal began. Neither team, however, could mount a sustained attack as regulation expired, and so began the first of two ten-minute overtime periods. The Engineers came out strong, with a shot by Walsh from Malcolm Duke '83 going just (Please turn to page 15)

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