

## BASEBALL

## CAUGHT ON THE FLY

By STAN ISLE  
Senior Editor

## NAPBL Honorees

The National Association of Professional Baseball's major postseason awards go to Jimmy Bragan, president of the Southern League; Mike Billoni, vice-president and

general manager of the Buffalo (American Association) Bisons; Pat Hamilton, business manager of the Toledo (International) Mud Hens, and Miles Wolff, president of the Durham (Carolina) Bulls. Bragan will receive the Warren Giles award, Billoni the Larry MacPhail promotional trophy, Hamilton the

Rawlings Sporting Goods trophy as Woman Executive of the Year, and Wolff the John A. Johnson President's Trophy. The awards are to be presented during the winter meetings in Nashville, Tenn. . . . Brewers catcher B.J. Surhoff was acclaimed distinguished athlete of the year at the annual All-Sports Spectacular of the Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. Surhoff was cited for his involvement with Milwaukee area youth. He has been active in the Child Abuse Prevention Fund, Milwaukee Athletes Against Children's Cancer, the Make-a-Wish Foundation and Athletes in Action. Proceeds from the dinner benefit the Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism's youth alcohol and drug abuse programs.

## Poll Supports Rose

Nearly two-thirds of Ohioans participating in a poll conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati say Pete Rose should be elected to the Hall of Fame despite allegations that he bet on baseball games. Forty-seven percent believe Rose deserves to be elected in 1991, his first year of eligibility. Eighteen percent said he should be elected "a few years" after he is eligible. The random telephone survey of 825 adult Ohio residents was sponsored by the Dayton Daily News, the Cincinnati Post, television station WKRC in Cincinnati and the university. Twenty-five percent of respondents said Rose should never be elected to the shrine in Cooperstown, N.Y., and 10 percent expressed no opinion. Rose was banned from baseball for life because of allegations he bet on baseball.

## College Series Bid

"It was a very impressive presentation." The College World Series has been held in Omaha for the last 42 years and attendance last June totaled 186,000. The Twin Cities will be host to the 1990 Olympic Festival, the 1991 U.S. Open golf championship and the 1992 Final Four of NCAA basketball. . . . Righthander Alex Fernandez, a first-round draft choice in 1988, says he will withdraw from the University of Miami at the end of the fall semester to become eligible for the June 1990 free-agent draft. Fernandez was the Brewers' 24th pick in June 1988. Milwaukee, which no longer has draft rights to Fernandez, offered him \$135,000 to sign last year. As a Miami freshman last spring, he had a 15-2 record with a 2.01 earned-run average for the Hurricanes with 177 strikeouts in 147 $\frac{2}{3}$  innings.

## An Orange Monster?

Organizers of the 41st Caribbean Baseball Series, which is moving its financially troubled operation to Miami's Orange Bowl, have unveiled a drawing of the football stadium's proposed baseball alignment. The playing field is likely to include a left-field wall similar to the Green Monster in Boston's Fenway Park. The Caribbean Series is scheduled February 5-12 for winter league champions representing Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Mexico. Since the series started in Havana in 1949, the site has been rotated among the four countries. Baseball was last played in the Orange Bowl in 1956, when 52,000 turned out to see Hall of Famer-to-be Satchel Paige pitch in an exhibition.

## New League on Hold

Organizers of The Baseball League, a proposed third major

league, interested, Denver, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, Portland, Ore., Vancouver, B.C., Washington and northern New Jersey have been mentioned as probable sites for franchises. Moss, a player agent and former general counsel of the Major League Players Association, has been the chief organizer of the new league. He has described his role as that of an adviser. Lefevre is a former minority owner of the Indians and the Astros and is a partner in the New York law firm of Reid and Priest. Nelson is a management consultant.

## New Role for Aaron

Henry Aaron, returning to the city of his glory days in baseball, has opened three Arby's fast-food restaurants in Milwaukee and is contracted to have 12 more in operation by 1991. Hall of Famer Aaron predicted sales at his Arby's outlets would reach \$2 million this year. Aaron said he chose to begin his business in Milwaukee because of low property costs and his attachment for the city, in which he played for 12 seasons. Fred Fiorito manages Aaron's Wisconsin operation and "without Fred, the restaurants couldn't run," Aaron said. Aaron visits Milwaukee four times a year while spending most of his time in Atlanta, where he is vice-president of player development for the Braves. Aaron also is spokesman for Arby's corporate charity, the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program. . . . The Giants are seeking to raise the price of prime tickets by \$1 for the 1990 season, subject to the approval of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission. Ticket prices at Candlestick Park under the proposed structure would be \$11 for lower

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# VANTAGE

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THE VANTAGE SPORTS  
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