

#### **Malcolm's Mandate**

### **Drug Testing** Right or Wrong?

While NFL owners and players fight over what constitutes a fair share of revenue for players, urinalysis testing of players to detect drug abuse are in the minds of the football world.

The NFL players consider the test dehumanizing. The owners want to test the players league-wide. They have the right to do so. The law gives them this right.

Gene Upshaw, All-Pro Offensive Guard for the L.A. Raiders and president of the NFL Players Association, says, "Our players would never agree to urinalysis. Testing would only detect the users, it would not solve the problem." He also considers testing by urinalysis "an invasion of privacy", and most players agree.

NFL clubs have always had the right to conduct such tests under paragraph 8 of the Standard Player Contract. In this particular clause, the player agrees to keep himself in good physical condition and to inform team doctors of any physical problems. The NFL clubs are not sold on the urinalysis test as the primary method in drug detection, but experts say it is the most accurate means of testing.

The most puzzling thing about the rejection of the urine test by the players is that they do not want any detection device. Other sports, such as tennis, swimming and boxing have used urinalysis tests for years. These athletes have never refused the test.

The Players Association has placed a proposal for player counseling and rehabilitation on the bargaining table. However owners will not hear of it.

Obviously, the representatives are trying to protect their players. Many confused drug users have already been exhibited for admitting they had a problem. Players claim they need a comprehensive program to deal with the root of the problem, not a publicity stunt featuring urinalysis. Greg Pruitt, who plays for the L.A. Raiders of the

NFL, says, "If the players have nothing to hide, why worry about urinalysis?"
How many lives and families of the players will be ruined if urinalysis tests are taken? If tests are not taken how can rehabilitation begin for the drug abuser who thinks he uses drugs in moderation, when he has a \$2000 a week habit. Many cigarette smokers, and pot smokers alike, do not admit they have a psychological need until they find themselves actually smoking without wanting to do so.

Action must be taken now before we lose respect for one of America's favorite pastimes, and present day motivators of our youth.

If you have any responses, write them down and send them to Malcolm Pharr, Sports Editor-News Argus. The office is located in the basement of the Alumni Building. The responses will be read, and yours may appear in the next issue of the paper.

#### DIAMOND DOINGS





Pete Rose of the Phillies is the only switch-hitter among the 15 major leaguers who have 3,000 or more hits in their career.

Milwaukee's Rollie Fingers was the first relief pitcher in American League history to win the Most Valuable Player Award. He won it in 1981.





The Dodgers' Fernando Valenzuela is the first pitcher to win the Cy Young award and Rookie of the Year in the same year. He won

them in 1981. According to Figgie International's Rawlings Sporting Goods Company, a total of seven teams had better records than the Dodgers and the Yankees who played in the 1981 World Series.

## Campus Activities

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 ..... "The Influence" A Drama Guild Play Oct. 6 .....Lyceum Program Oct. 7 . . . . . . Mr. Ram Pageant Oct. 8.....Business/Industry **Cluster Meeting** 

# SUPPORT THE RAMS



Crossword

5. Book of maps Esophagus Printing measures Uncooked Native of Asia Male deer Region Neither Club fees Angry Guided Gloomy A spice Coral island Synthetic material Grape refuse Makes lace River (Sp.) Soak garland International