

## Sports Slants - continued

millionaire, Jorge Pasquel, lured a handful of stars south of the border for a season or so.

You can imagine the current embarrassment of baseball.

It must feel like an old maid.

Guys are running around throwing shovelful of bucks at clumsy fullbacks, second-string halfbacks and feathery flankers.

How come nobody waves a bunch of blank cheques in front of Hank Aaron? Why can't Willie Mays coax five more years out of some rinky-dink league where all he'll get is minor league curves and handle hits to coach?

Shouldn't Tom Seaver of New York Mets be flying to Canada for midnight meetings with new franchise owners and phantom leagues?

What's the matter? Has baseball got warts?

The baseball putdown must be humiliating. Picture the commissioner sitting by the phone hoping it will ring with news that some Texas billionaire has just bought the Oakland Athletics and the Cincinnati Reds and the last five MVPs is going to start a world baseball league with franchises in Tokyo, Honolulu, New Orleans, Tampa, Paris, Rome or Berlin.

Who wants to run a sport where the biggest problem is whether the Atlanta rightfielder should play in the opening game or not?

It must make baseball feel very old.

Actually, baseball had its day a long time ago.

In 1879, baseball gave all professional sports the seed of the dissension which persists to this day -- the infamous reserve clause, the exclusive bargaining right to a player.

It was the original athletic slave law. From it, all other illegal limitations of personal freedom of athletes, including the exclusive draft bargaining rights, grew like a fungus on a parasite.

Baseball used to label its anti-establishment leagues as 'outlaw' leagues. The American League was originally an 'outlaw' league which was able to hang on long enough to force recognition and acceptance.

And the World Series, baseball's greatest showcase, was the flower of capitulation -- still the greatest argument for, and lesson in, compromise in sports history.

In 1914, World War I and the federal league burst on the public in the same summer. The war lasted longer. After raiding the established league for a number of key players, the federal league went for the armistice by 1916.

The established leagues assumed \$385,000 in contract debts of the 'outlaw' league, and permitted two franchises to be bought by the federal league owners, paid off the investments of others, and decreed amnesty for any jumping players.

So now, baseball sits in the sun and dreams of its warlike past, the long hot summers of its youth, like an old Mafia chief in his rose garden.

## your week ahead BY DR. A.W. DAMIS

### ARIES

Mar. 21 - Apr. 19

Apparently, many members of your sign have been socializing with a "free loader." Stellar patterns warn against anticipating returns or rewards, through, what you believe to be, friendly contacts.

### TAURUS

Apr. 20 - May 20

Yours is a case of "not even your best friend will tell you." Listen closely to bits and pieces of casual conversation — an unexpected discovery is in the offering.

### GEMINI

May 21 - June 20

Moodiness that could parlay into boredom, seems to hover over your chart. You might get the feeling of crawling on your hands and knees, from one event to the other.

### MOONCHILD

June 21 - July 22

There are things and circumstances that cannot be changed. In other words, it's not the time to give advice or counsel, exert every effort toward your own problems.

### LEO

July 23 - Aug. 22

You are not going to be the easiest person to get along with, during this week's cosmic cycle. A member of the opposite sex's attitude might disturb you, considerably.

### VIRGO

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

Try to expand your present circle of friends. You are building your entire outlook around routine associations and chores. Even now, the first signs of painful boredom should be gnawing within you.

### LIBRA

Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Good grooming, in one form or another, will play an important role, in this week's activities. So, it's advisable to review your wardrobe; stress personal appearance.

### SCORPIO

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Fuzzy thinking, too much concentration on a member of the opposite sex, could jeopardize your job, mission or task. Avoid what you know to be a tangent into unreality.

### SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Finally, you will hit on the formula that will please a member of the opposite sex. Pleasantries seem to weave through your chart. It should be a good week — unless you choose otherwise!

### CAPRICORN

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

It seems as though you are going to take someone's difference of opinion as being personal. Actually, you foster the inclination of suppressing an associate's constructive idea.

### AQUARIUS

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Using your head instead of your heart, in a romantic situation, is not one of your stronger points. So, avoid ultimatums that cannot be executed completely.

### PISCES

Feb. 19 - Mar. 20

This week should be one of your better periods. Actually, things look good in most departments of your life, including romance and finance. Don't let a minor reversal upset you.

### PERSONALITY PROFILE

For your Sun Sign Analysis, send the day, month, year and place of birth, plus \$1.00 for postage to Dr. Andrew W. Damis, P. O. Box 12766, St. Petersburg, Florida 33733.