

50 MEAT OF THE ORDER

Though he's only 23, Prince Fielder's brought a sizzling bat, a sunny smile and a lifetime of experience to the NL Central race. No wonder Milwaukee's got his back. **BY JEFF BRADLEY**

58 ARTHUR AND MIKE: A LOVE STORY

Falcons owner Arthur Blank steadfastly put the fate of his franchise in Mike Vick's arms and legs. Now he's realizing that breaking up is hard to do. **BY DAVE FLEMING**

66 SUBJECT: FANNING THE FIRE

One Arkansas football zealot got all he could handle when he shed his Internet anonymity to go after Houston Nutt. **BY SETH WICKERSHAM**

90 NBA REF CRISIS

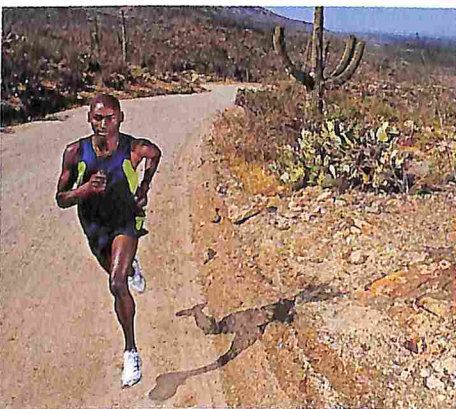
Disgraced ex-NBA ref Tim Donaghy might have given the profession its biggest black eye yet, but insiders say the gambling scandal is only part of the crisis facing league officials. **BY RIC BUCHER**

96 FOR LOVE OF COUNTRY

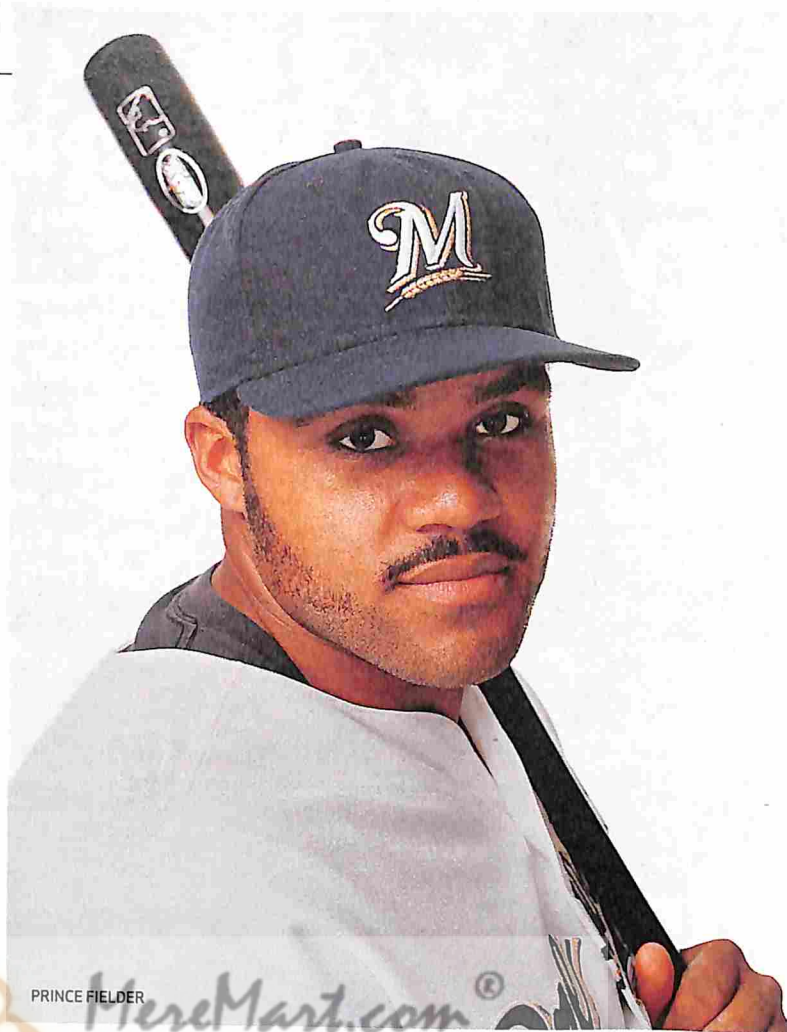
As a Kenyan, Bernard Lagat won Olympic silver and bronze medals. Now an American citizen, he's teaching U.S. runners everything he knows as he trains for another shot at gold. **BY LUKE CYPHERS**

102 TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL

Champ Car driver Graham Rahal is not your everyday recent high school grad. Just ask his parents. Or his auto dealer. **BY CHICO HARLAN**



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DREAM JOBS

74 THIS WAY IN

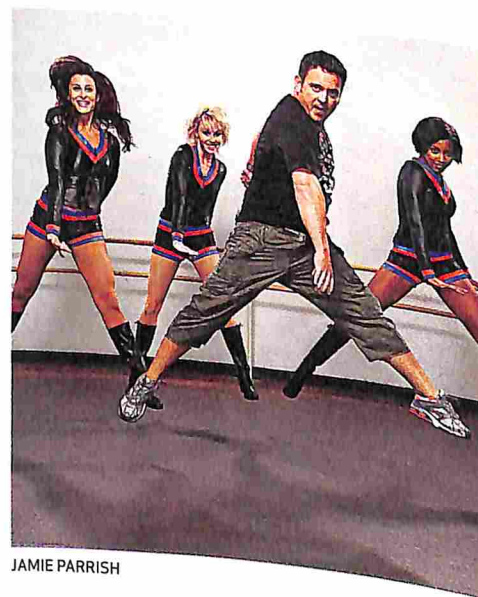
You don't need 90mph heat or 40-inch hops to land a job in pro sports. Choreographer Jamie Parrish and six other average Joes took alternate routes to The Show.

84 DEAR SIR OR MADAM ...

It took years for Michael Thompson to land his dream gig. Now he works with NBA ballers daily. We spend 9 to 5—and then some—with the Hornets communications director. Plus, how to land *your* first job in sports. **BY EDDIE MATZ**

88 IN THE ROTATION

Sure, you want to work for the love of the game, but you're not averse to a little cash, right? We look at 11 people on Jimmy Rollins' payroll to see just how rewarding a sports job can be. **BY DAN GALVIN**



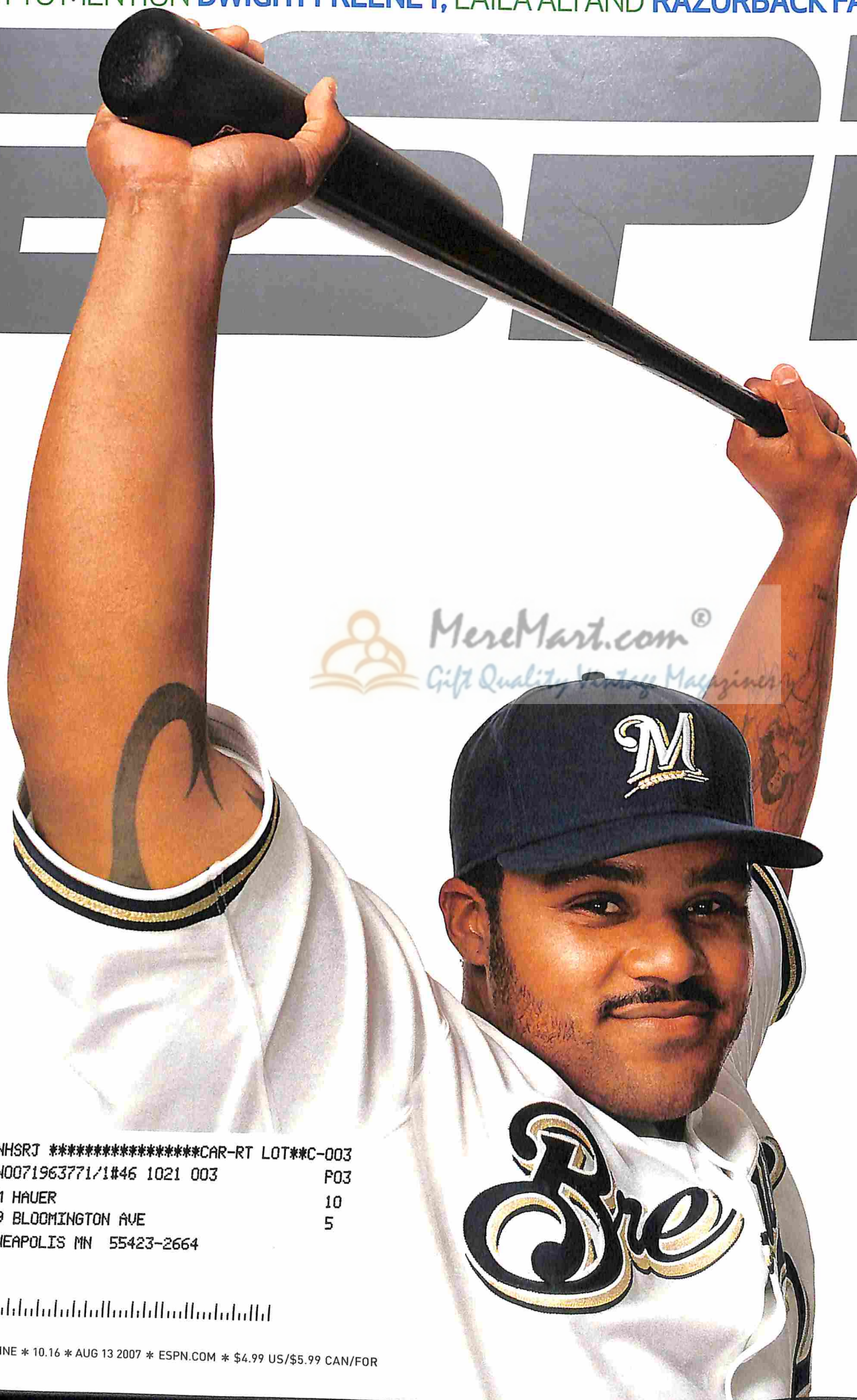
JAMIE PARRISH

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