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Report on Rose Signals Clarified by Magazine

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Sports illustrated has clarified a report that Pete Rose and a friend exchanged hand signals related to baseball betting while the Reds' manager was in the Cincinnati dugout and the friend was in the stands at Riverfront Studium. The magazine published the report, based on an unidentified source last week.

In its April 3 issue, which is being distributed this week, the magazine said two new sources close to major league baseball's investigation into Rose's conduct had told it that the hand signals were not used by Rose to place bets through the friend.

Instead the signals were reportedly used by the friend to keep Rose posted on the progress of other games at a time, early in the 1987 season when the scores were not being displayed at the stadium because the main scoreboard was not working.

'You Can Check'

Rose according to the latest account denied exchanging hand signals for any reason and issued a challenge to the magazine: "You can check The scoreboard has never not worked."

Asked about the scoreboard yester-

day, Jon Braude, the Reds' director of information, said the main score-board, which was replaced early in the 1987 season, was not in operation for 14 games from April 14 to May 23.

Whether there were any hand signais and what they may have meant are presumably among the matters being looked into by John Dowd, the Washington lawyer who is conducting the investigation into possible wrongdoing by Rose at the request of the commissioner's office.

Dowd, who has never verified persistent reports that gambling is the focus of his investigation, said Tuesday the investigation could take several weeks to complete.

The United States Customs Service, meanwhile, verified another of the magazine's reports yesterday, confirming that Rose paid a fine of about \$23,000 for violating currency regulations in 1981 by failing to declare more than \$46,000 in cash he brought into the country from Japan.

According to Sports Illustrated, an official of the Mizuno sporting goods company, which had paid Rose the money as endorsement fees, said that Rose had specifically asked for the payment in cash.

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Rose fined in '86 for failure to declare cash

Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose was fined \$23,098.77 in December 1986 by U.S. Customs for failing to report cash brought to the U.S. from Japan.

"It's a closed case," said Dick Weart, director of the Office of Public Affairs for the customs service.

Rose is being investigated for alleged gambling associa-

tions.

In its March 30 issue, Sports Mustrated reports Rose failed to declare \$46,197.54 when he returned to San Francisco from Japan in November 1981. Rose had been in Japan doing endorsements for Mizuno, a Japanese sportings goods company.

Yoshizawa Tsunao, an off-

cial with Mizuno, told Sports Ilhistrated that Rose was paid in cash only once.

Rose has retained prominent Dayton lawyer and former U.S. attorney Roger J. Makley, according to the Dayton Daily News. In a copyright story, the Daily News quoted an unnamed source close to Makley's Dayton law firm as

saying Makley, of Coolidge, Wall, Womsley & Lombard Co., would represent Rose.

Makiey would neither confirm nor deny Rose has retained him.

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