

from entering an agreement or accepting cash or discussing monetary arrangements before their eligibility has expired. Players found to have violated rules can be declared ineligible by the NCAA, and their teams can be penalized at the discretion of the individual conference for games in which the player participated. In sports other than football, the NCAA can strip teams of championships and of revenue received from those tournaments. Among the players Walters says he has given money during their college playing career is Auburn running back Brent Fullwood, who completed his eligibility last fall. Auburn coach Pat Dye said he has launched his own investigation into Fullwood's dealings with Walters. "I just became aware of it last week. ... We don't know to what extent he's been involved with our kids," Dye said. "I do know this: We have tried everything to keep this type off our campus and away from our kids." Fullwood's is one of many prominent names in college athletics linked to Walters. The NCAA will investigate whether two of the nation's top football underclassmen - Ohio State

bamians are applauding. "The 'death threats' received a lot of publicity, and it is true they were made," Dr. Thomas said, "just as it is true that I have said my job is at risk if Bill Curry doesn't win and win by Alabama standards.

"What has been overlooked is the overwhelmingly positive response Bill and I have received all over the state. Thousands of people have turned out at alumni functions and said they welcome Bill and wish him well."

Curry: "When I read about the 'death threats,' I told Dr. Thomas it reminded me of something an old teammate, Dick Le-Beau, used to say. He'd say, 'Bill, when the going gets its toughest ... that's about where you and I like it.'"

Joab Thomas calls himself "a sports nut." In the 1950s every SEC school wanted Joab Thomas, a little halfback at Russellville (Ala.) High School. When Harvard offered Thomas an academic scholarship, the unlikely score became: Harvard 1, Alabama

### Very similar to Parseghian hiring

Thomas has evened things up now. President of Alabama for five years, he has orchestrated a march to excellence. The hiring of Curry is, by faculty standards, a peripheral addition. In a real sense, Curry's hiring may have changed perceptions of Alabama more than any chair of literature ever could.

"Probably I raised the stakes by saying my job is at risk," Thomas said. "But that doesn't matter. If Curry should have a few years of bad records - and I don't expect that - and should the reaction be as negative as many say it will be, I wouldn't want to stay. "I wouldn't want to spend my time in office dealing with that kind of problem. My interest is in building a strong university, a major research university, and I want to devote my major energies to that." Thomas likened Curry's hiring to Notre Dame's hiring 23 years ago of a bright, young coach from a proud university which had only mediocre football: "Ara Parseghian's overall record wasn't so good, but he had done exceptionally well by Northwestern standards, as Curry did at Tech once he got the program back on its feet." Curry's rescue of the Tech program impressed Thomas. So did Tech's victory over Alabama in Ray Perkins' second season, 1984. "Georgia Tech whipped us physically," Thomas said. "At halftime, I went to (the late Tech president) Joe Pettit's box and walked in waving a white handkerchief. Someone said Tech had a poor scrimmage on Tuesday, so Curry continued the scrimmage at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning. They had a good scrimmage that day. "That's the toughness people are missing in Bill Curry. They miss, too, the bowl game where he dropped his very best players for missing curfew. He told them he was going to do that, and he did it, and he won the game anyway. These are the characteristics of a winner. These are Bryant characteristics.

#### **CALVIN CRUCE/Staff**

Georgia guard Dennis Williams and coach day in preparation for Thursday's NCAA Hugh Durham go through drills Wednes-

**Tournament** game with Kansas State.

# Bulldogs try to keep minds focused on Kansas State

#### Georgia notebook, Page 2-E By Thomas O'Toole Staff Writer

SALT LAKE CITY - The cliche is a coaching staple: Never look past the next game.

"It's on the third page of the handbook, second chapter," said Georgia coach Hugh Durham with a laugh.

When a team is in as tenuous a position as Georgia has been this year, even the players take it seriously.

"The whole season has been played for the next game and then the next game and the next game," said freshman forward Alec Kessler. "It neeps building up."

It has built this far: the first round of the NCAA tournament. Georgia tries to take one more step Thursday at 2:07 p.m. EST in the West Regional against Kansas State of the Big

## West Regional

### AT SALT LAKE CITY

Thursday: Georgia (18-11) vs. Kansas State (19-10) 2:07 p.m.; Nevada-Las Vegas (33-1) vs. Idaho State (15-15) 4:37 p.m.; UCLA (24-6) vs. Central Michigan (22-7) 9:07 p.m.; Virginia (21-9) vs. Wyoming (22-9) 11:41 p.m.

Eight.

The Bulldogs, 18-11 and as surprised as anyone to be here after losing three of their best players two months ago, are seeded eighth in the 16-team regional. The Wildcats, 19-10

See GEORGIA, Page 6-E

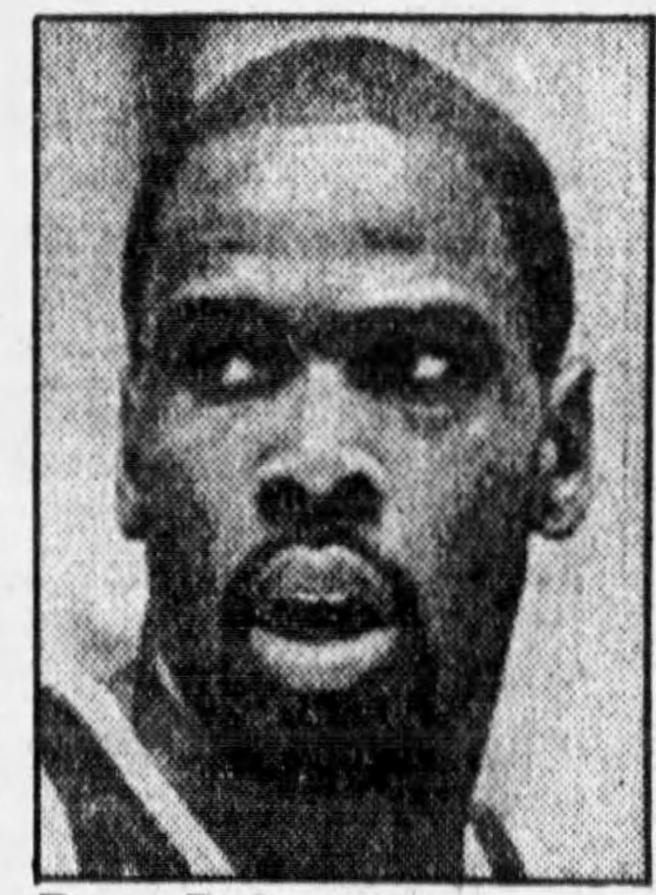
wide receiver Cris Carter and Michigan State running back Lorenzo White - have jeopardized their senior season of eligibility by entering into an agreement with Walters, according to an NFLPA source. Ohio State has begun an investigation of Carter's possible affiliation with Walters, according to athletic director Richard Bay.

Walters threatened to expose college coaches whom he says have "looked the other way" in his dealings with players.

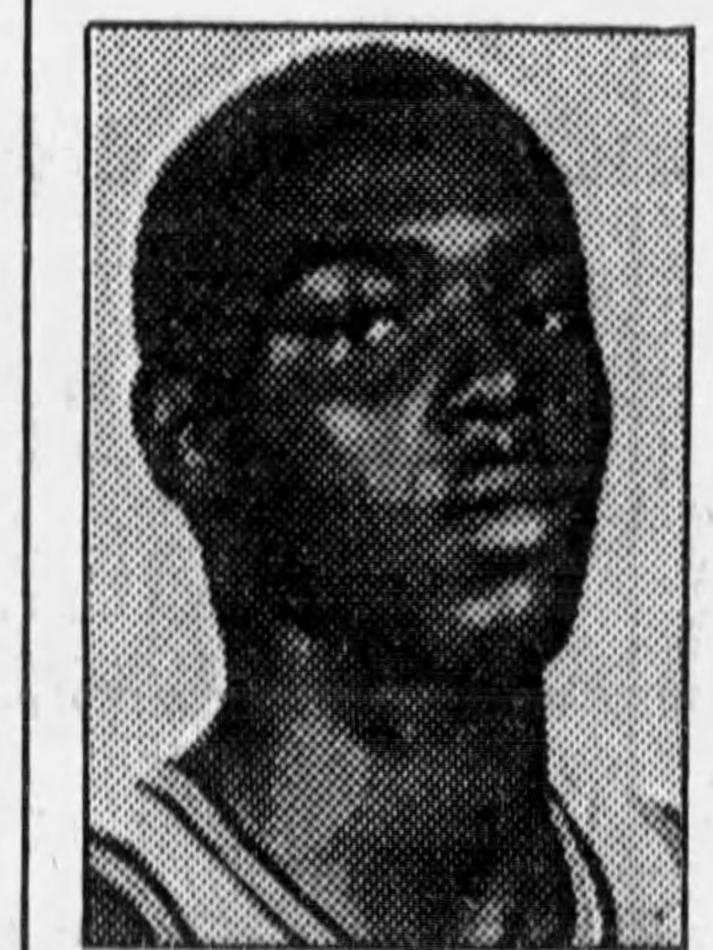
"If I ever blow the whistle on the coaches who have challenged some players who accepted money from me, then did not take it any further, it will be a blockbuster," he said. "I've got hand grenades in my pocket. You ain't seen nothin' yet. I'll drop these hand grenades like a little trail of cookies. This thing will blow high and hard."

A series of grievances and lawsuits - some filed or contemplated by Walters, others filed against him - apparently will bring his dealings farther into the public view.

See AGENT, Page 9-E



Dalrymple determined to go out in style



Horace Grant

### Tech notebook, Page 2-E By Tom Whitfield Staff Writer

Bruce Dalrymple has started 125 games in a Georgia Tech uniform and been a part of more victories, 87, than any player in school history. With his career in the sudden-death stage, he'd like everybody to know:

That he thinks the Yellow Jackets (16-12), who have lost five of their last six games, can advance past the first round of the NCAA tournament. "It's going to be tough, but if we can

win a couple of games, we can win a couple more. That's the way we feel," he said.

That he doesn't mind people picking on his inconsistent jump shot. "You get used to it. They've got to pick on something," he said.

That he isn't thinking about the NBA. "The last home game, that's when I thought the most about it. Now, you can't think emotionally. You have to be level-headed. This is crunch time, when it needs to be done, has to be done," he said.

That he's glad he came to Georgia Tech.

"It's fun to know you made a right decision at a young age. Even if we hadn't made the NCAAs, I would feel that way," he said.

Those things established, Dalrymple goes into Friday's NCAA Midwest Regional game with LSU at Rosemont Horizon in suburban Chicago intent on erasing some memories of a senior season that didn't go as well as expected, either for himself or the team. His scoring and rebounding averages (13.5 and 6.0) are roughly

See TECH, Page 6-E

**Bruce Dalrymple** 

# After 7-year absence, Clemson ready for NCAAs

### By Karen Rosen

Staff Writer

Clemson's first bid to the NCAA basketball tournament wasn't as well-received as its latest invitation. In 1939 — to the utter horror of today's Clemson basketball fans - the Tigers turned down the NCAA's bid.

After Clemson won the Southern Conference, an automatic bid was extended to Jess Neely, the athletic director. Neely was also the Clemson football coach.

"About five of us basketball players were also football players," said Banks McFadden, Clemson's first All-American in both sports. "He

Tella for named and deplote a strategic strate in the state

told us we were through and had to start spring football."

Clemson waited 41 years for another chance to RSVP, then lost to UCLA in the finals of the 1980 West Regional. The Tigers (25-5) will make their second appearance in the NCAA tournament Friday. They take their best record ever into the first round of the Southeast Regional at The Omni.

Clemson, the No. 4 seed, will play No. 13 Southwest Missouri State (27-5) at 12:07 p.m., followed by No. 5 Kansas vs. No. 12 Houston at 2:37 p.m. Georgetown, the Southeast Regional's top seed, will open the evening session against

No. 16 Bucknell at 7:07 p.m., followed by No. 8 Kentucky vs. No. 9 Ohio State at 9:37 p.m.

Thursday's practice sessions at The Omni are open to the public. Southwest Missouri State will practice at noon, followed by Houston at 1 p.m., Clemson at 2, Kansas at 3, Georgetown at 4, Kentucky at 5, Bucknell at 6 and Ohio State at 7

Clemson has lost its last two games, a staggering blow especially considering three of the Tigers suffered sprained ankles and won't be at full strength Friday. Clemson lost to Duke in the

See CLEMSON, Page 11-E

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION \*\*\* Thursday, March 12, 1987

# 'I don't want to hear about morality. I'm a businessman.'

## Agent From Page 1-E

Walters said he has filed or will file lawsuits against at least eight players whom he claims have broken contracts with him. Walters conceded that some of these contracts were signed while the players still had college eligibility - a violation of NCAA rules. One of Wa ters' attorneys, Lon Trost of the New York law firm Shea and Gould, said "two players have been served, three are in the process of being served, and two more are pending." Walters and Trost refused to name the players.

The case that has gone the farthest involves Buffalo Bills running back Ronnie Harmon, a former client of Walters. Walters filed a breach-of-contract grievance with the NFLPA alleging that Harmon received more than \$54,000 from Walters dating back to Harmon's junior year at Iowa. Harmon's current agent and attorney, Martin Rausch, said he will file a countergrievance that does not dispute the payments but asks that Walters not be allowed to represent NFL players. Walters also has filed a \$500,000 lawsuit against Harmon in New York Supreme Court, Manhattan, charging deliberate and willful breach of contract. In another case, Florida senior defensive back Adrian White filed suit in Dade County, Fla., attempting to void a contract that White admits signing with Walters before completing his senior season. The most recent charge involving Walters was raised last Friday when the NFLPA reported the alleged threats against two players. "Both players' stories were almost identical," said an NFLPA source, who would not name the players. "They said Walters called them and told them, 'I'm going to talk to my people in Las Vegas and get them to break your legs."" Of allegations that he physically threatened two players, Walters said: "Oh, man, this is getting to be too much for me. It's sickening, really sickening. Who knows what these kids will say to break their contracts? It's the limit, man; it's the limit." "They're all shooting at me. ... I'm a pimp, I'm a cocaine dealer, I'm with the Mafioso, I'm being investigated by the FBI, none of which is true," Walters said of the allegations against him.

said Rausch, an attorney based in Venice, Fla. "But under this grievance with the NFLPA, those are illegal payments."

Rausch says the contract is invalid because Harmon was not an adult by New York law (21 years old) at the time the contract was signed. He says the contract was signed and executed in March 1984, when Harmon was 19, and was postdated to Jan. 2, 1986, the day after Harmon played in his final college game for Iowa in the Rose Bowl.

Walters does not deny that Rausch and Harmon could have proof of him delivering a sales talk to enter an agreement in Harmon's junior season at Iowa.

"They could have tapes of me talking like that," said Walters. "I will not deny that in court. When or where a contract is signed or whether it was postdated is not the issue. What's at issue is that the young man accepted cash and signed a legally binding contract."

Harmon declined through his agent to be interviewed.

Adrian White's case is similar. He has filed suit in an attempt to void a contract signed during his senior season and postdated Jan. 3. 1987, according to White's current agent, Mel Levine. Levine said that White on Nov. 30, 1986 produced a signed contract with Walters that was dated Jan. 3, 1987. Prior to accepting White as a client, Levine said he had his attorney study the contract, and he said the attorney told him it was not valid.

college? Come on. Kenneth Davis was on the take at TCU; he missed a whole season, and he still went high (second round, Green Bay) in the draft last year."

Questioned about Walters, Fullwood said: "What are you getting out of it? I don't want my name in this story, period. Unless it's something positive, I don't want to talk."

Sources placed the amount of money Walters advanced to Fullwood at a minimum of \$4,000. Walters declined to be specific about the figures.

"Most of the money I loan out is just a couple of thousand dollars, and it's not in one lump payment," said Walters. "Let's put it this way: In the scheme of my business in the entertainment field, it's small potatoes. A \$100,000 advance to a major attraction in the entertainment field is not unusual."

While Walters does not deny giving cash to college players, he said he's never given a car to players with eligibility remaining. "That's the biggest tipoff in the

lion on the table (from the Bills). see nothing wrong with advancing a car to the client, making the payments and then turning over the lease to him when he signs his big contract. That's taking good care of a client."

The standard contract Walters uses includes a 6 percent fee, a 10 percent personal services fee - the NFLPA advises players to pay an agent no more than 3 or 4 percent of their annual salary - and total power of attorney during the lifetime of the contract. Mike Duberstein, a researcher for the NFLPA, calls it "in my opinion the worst ever offered to a college senior."

The NFLPA has some requirements for standard contracts, such as exclusion of roster bonuses and agent's fees for the first \$60,000 (minimum salary), but Duberstein said Walters' contracts do not meet the qualifications. Under NFLPA certification rules that went into effect Sept. 4, 1983, such a contract would have been voided by the un-· ion. College players are not union members until they sign their first NFL contract.

tempts by the NCAA and the NFLPA to circumvent his dealings with college players.

About the NFLPA, he said: "Let's put it this way. The NFLPA has no jurisdiction over anyone unless he is in the union. They have no jurisdiction over college seniors, junior, sophomores or freshmen. That's why (Harmon's) grievance doesn't bother me. He wasn't under the NFLPA jurisdiction when he signed a contract. A college student is not bound to the NFLPA. That's the bottom line."

About the NCAA and its member schools: "This pretentious holier-than-thou attitude is not going to play anymore. The bottom line is there will be a court case of whether or not a contract stands up. It has nothing to do with the NCAA. The NCAA does not regulate the federal courts."

Walters pointed to the recent scandal at SMU and the Southwest Conference, in which Bill Clements, a former member of the SMU Board of Governors and now governor of Texas, says the board was aware of payments to players.

"When a governor in this country is involved in condoning an act that violates the NCAA, I don't want to hear about morality. I'm a businessman. That's all I present myself as. If a kid chooses to take what I have to offer, what does that have to do with my being a businessman? I'm taking care of business, and I'll make the choices on what I have to do. "How about these colleges going after the SMU kids? Do you think any of the coaches are asking the kid, 'Are you the one who took mon-

ey?' Hell no."

Responding to the charges leveled against him by other agents regarding use of drugs and prostitutes to lure players, Walters said: "Anything I have done with one of these people you are talking about was done in the presence and OK of his family, with his father, mother, sisters, brothers and even his girlfriend. I did not do it in the backseat of some car, with a spoon up his nose, or with prostitutes. I did it with the blessing of the family, who in turn asks me if I can pay the rent, fix the roof, fix the furnace. ... Who's getting ripped off here?"

Walters does not deny that he has flown certain prospects to New York, entertained them and displayed cash on a table in great amounts.

"I'm a salesman," said Walters. "Think about that."

Walters said other agents' claims that he has as much as \$600,000 in outstanding advance payments to more than 60 athletes are exaggerated.

Rausch, who represents Harmon, said agents are trying to "clean up our business. This kind of ... situation (with Walters), we have got to get rid of." Walters said he will not be driven from the sports field. "Next year, I might have 20 first-rounders," he said. "I'm depressed, but all I can do is go forward, continue to defend myself and continue to aggressively sign players. I will continue to take care of business. I am not going to be intimidated by anybody. The only force in this world who would intimidate me is God."

Walters, an agent for 30 years

"The problem some of these guys (players) will have with this guy (Walters) is that they fired him after the (date of the) postdated contract," said Levine. "If you fire him prior to it, like White did, you're on legal ground."

Trost said that White had the right to fire Walters, but that Walters is entitled to punitive damages. Walters said he welcomed White's suit.

"Isn't it crazy that this kid White did this (filed suit) showing he entered a contractual agreement while his school is on probation with various sanctions?" asked Walters. "How stupid can you get? Our attorneys were giving each other high-fives when they saw this, because it verified our contention."

About postdated contracts, Walters said: "We're going to prove case law, meaning that if a contract is signed, it's signed. I don't care to get into the fact of whether it was before the player's (eligibility was up) or whether it was postdated. Whether it's Jan. 2 or Nov. 2, it's a contract. People in all walks of life and business sign contracts that don't go into effect until a later date."

world, when a kid arrives on cam-

pus with a shiny, \$17,000 car," said Walters. "Nobody knows if the kid's got just a couple hundred dollars in his pocket. But the car thing, that's too much."

Harmon money for the Mercedes said Walters' name was never menuntil June 1986, six months after Harmon's last college game. He less threatened a defamation of said he paid \$25,000 down on a character suit when one client (Inlease for the Mercedes.

"What's the big deal?" said Wal- workouts. ters. "At the time, we had \$1.2 mil-

Duberstein was on the NFLPA staff that counseled 170 of the 321 seniors who attended the National

Scouting Combine workouts in February. They warned the players against signing contracts that do not Walters said he did not give meet union standards. Duberstein tioned, but that Walters neverthegram) dropped him soon after the

Walters is enraged over at-



in the music industry who has represented artists such as Miles Davis, Peabo Bryson, Janet Jackson, Kool and the Gang and Luther Vandross, entered the sports agent field two years ago. He claims to have signed about a dozen potential first-round draft picks, which would give him more than any other agent.

He has a 42-member staff in his agency, World Sports and Entertainment, Inc., a division of Norby Wal ters Associates. His primary partner in the sports end is Lloyd Bloom, who is actively involved in recruiting football players for the agency.

According to several attorneys and agents interviewed for this story, Walters' mode of operation in signing players includes cash advances to seniors and underclassmen. In the cases of Harmon and Adrian White, Walters admits he postdated the contracts to go into postdated contracts are valid.

Harmon had such a contract, which Walters contends Harmon breached. In the grievance filed with the NFLPA, Walters is asking for a return of \$54,172.92 that he Harmon signed with the Bills. The grievance is scheduled to be heard April 22.

Rausch said that in Harmon' counter-grievance to the NFLPA, he will ask that Walters' agency be decertified. The NFLPA recently began certifying agents and, based on the current collective bargaining agreement with NFL management, an agent who is not certified cannot represent a player already in the league in negotiations with an NFL team. The NFLPA intends to seek an extension of the agreement whereby certification also applies to agents representing college seniors. The NFLPA also can void contracts of players already in the league if those contracts do not meet union standards, but it has no jurisdiction over players coming out of college. Rausch said he will produce to an NFLPA arbitrator a tape recording of a conversation that took place in March 1984, Harmon's junior year, in which Walters allegedly urges Harmon to sign a contract. Harmon received \$2,500 then and continued to receive payments - as well as a loan for a Mercedes 650SL paid by Walters - throughout and beyond his college career, according to Rausch.

Walters also has threatened to sue former Tennessee wide receiver Tim McGee of the Cincinnati Bengals. Walters said McGee breached his contract last April 30, one day after the NFL draft.

Responded Walters: "I called Tim McGee immediately when he was drafted (in the first round). The next day, he fires me. I never had another conversation with him. He didn't take any calls. You know, that was after I got this guy a brand new car and I paid his mother's rent for four months."

In addition to Fullwood, Harmon, Carter, Lorenzo White and Adrian White, other players whose current agents and attorneys have identified as having past or present dealings with Walters include Paul effect after the player's eligibility Palmer of Temple, Tommy Powell expired. He says he believes the of Auburn, Kenny Flowers and Terrence Flagler of Clemson, John Clay of Missouri, Ron Woodson of Purdue, Tony Woods of Pittsburgh, Garland Rivers of Michigan, Reggie Rogers of Washington, Mark Ingram of Michigan State, Doug DuBose of advanced to Harmon, plus 10 per- Nebraska and Edwin Simmons of cent of the \$1.4 million contract Texas. All of the players are seniors.

> Of those players identified, all but Clay and Palmer have severed or are attempting to sever relations with Walters, say their current agents or attorneys. Relatives of Clay and Palmer confirmed that Walters still works for those players.

"There's no question that going back to Ronnie's junior year at Iowa that he received that money,"

Walters confirmed that Washington's Rogers, a defensive end, is a former client. Walters said that he contributed financially and helped with funeral arrangements for Rogers' older brother, Don Rogers of the Cleveand Browns, who died of a cocaine overdose last year. "Can you believe what I did for that family?" Walters said.

DuBose, a running back, confirmed that he fired Walters as his agent.

"It was a hard decision," Dubose said. "I wasn't aware. ... got to me before anybody else."

Fullwood ended his agreement with Walters "two or three weeks ago," according to Walters.

"Fullwood actually told somebody that the reason he broke our deal is that he was told he would not be drafted as high if he had Norby Walters as an agent," said Walters. "Do you think the NFL is going to downgrade a kid if he receives a little money when he's in