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# Chris denies report regarding divorce

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Chris Evert Lloyd denied a published report that she had filed for divorce from husband John Lloyd in February. Speaking at a press conference after winning her opening match at the Virginia Slims of Dallas tournament Tuesday night, Lloyd said it was "pretty upsetting" to read the report, which appeared in a Dallas paper. "Yes, we are separated. Yes, we are discussing (divorce), but nothing has been filed. Whether it's two weeks, a month or a year, we'll make a statement. I don't like reading that stuff." The story quoted unidentified sources as saying that Lloyd, a British tennis player, had been offered a \$2 million settlement but that he was seeking half his wife's personal wealth. There also have been reports she wished to be referred to as Evert, her maiden name.

**PALMER CLAIMS INNOCENCE:** All-America running back Paul Palmer said he never signed a contract or accepted money from an agent before his football eligibility expired at Temple University. Palmer made the remarks at a news conference where Temple athletic director Charles Theokas announced the findings of a two-day review of Palmer's relationship with agent Norby Walters. Palmer, last year's Heisman Trophy runner-up, acknowledged he signed a contract with Walters Jan. 2 and had since been given some cash advances pending an agreement with an NFL team after next month's draft of college players. A story last week said Walters admitted giving cash to some players in violation of NCAA rules. The story said

Palmer was among players whom attorneys and agents identified as having had past or present dealings with **Walters.**

**McLAIN SURPRISED NU ASSISTANT:** Bill Donlon wants to set the record straight. The Northwestern assistant coach who for three years was Gary McLain's high school coach and legal guardian, said he did not support the former Villanova star guard's decision to tell his tale of drug addiction in this week's Sports Illustrated. "If I had known Gary was going to do that, I would have tried to talk him out of it," Donlon said. "But I didn't find out about the whole thing until after the story was written. I hope and pray that he can remain drug-free and become a productive member of society. I still consider him a member of my family."

**SIU WOMEN FACE CHALLENGE:** Coach Cindy Scott has no illusions about her Southern Illinois women's basketball team (29-2) having better players than third-ranked Louisiana Tech at Monroe, La. Asked if her players match up to the Lady Techsters, Scott replied, "No. Not at all. Tech has better athletes." And yet the coach of the No. 16 women's team still believes her players can win tonight when they take on the top-seeded Techsters in the Midwest Regionals of the NCAA Tournament. That's because, she said, her players have confidence in themselves and their ability to play. The Lady Techsters (27-2) wiped out Northwestern 82-60 in the second round of the playoffs and hold a 17-game winning streak.

**TAKING STOCK OF OILERS:** Edmonton Oilers owner Peter Pocklington, following the example of basketball's Boston Celtics, said he hopes to sell shares in his NHL team to the public. The Edmonton businessman, speaking after the NHL's board of governors meeting in Toronto, said he wants to go public to raise capital but would still maintain majority control of the team. "Sport is too much of a business for it to be just a sport," he said. Pocklington, who said he expects the league to approve his plan, declined to detail the value of the club or how much the shares would trade for in the marketplace. The NBA Celtics, like the Oilers, are one of the star attractions of their league. The owners of the NBA team recently placed 40 percent of the club on the public market, with the three principal owners retaining 60 percent control.

**THE HILLS ARE ALIVE:** Schoolchildren scattered through Massachusetts' Berkshire Hills were abuzz Tuesday, the first day back in classes since their Wahconah Regional High School came from 20 points behind with less than five minutes remaining to defeat Boston Tech 58-57 for the Division II state basketball title. Timo Norris, who made a game-winning three-point play with one second left, says he already has relived the winning foul shot "a thousand times. It still hasn't really sunk in. We still can't believe it." Said co-captain Brian Demaris, "They (the Boston Tech players) were yelling things like 'Hicks,' but that wasn't going to bother us. The

kids from Pittsfield call us hicks."

THE LIST: Cincinnati's Pete Rose needs 10 runs to move into second place ahead of Hank Aaron and Babe Ruth (2,174) and 81 to pass Ty Cobb.

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