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Woodson reports to be investigated

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Purdue University and the Big Ten started an investigation yesterday into reports that All-America cornerback Rod Woodson was being sued after reportedly accepting \$21,606 in payments from an agent. Woodson, a projected first-round NFL draft pick, is still in school and is scheduled to compete in a track meet in Florida this weekend. He is a hurdler and sprinter on Purdue's track team. A report in yesterday's New York Daily News said Woodson was named in a lawsuit filed in New York State Supreme Court by **Norby Walters**, a New York-based sports and entertainment agent. **Walters** is suing for \$500,000 in damages, alleging that Woodson broke a representation contract he signed on Jan. 2, 1987. According to court papers filed in New York, Woodson signed a promissory note for \$4,000 issued by **Walters** May 20, 1986, during his junior year at Purdue. Since then, **Walters** and his partner, **Lloyd Bloom**, principals in World Sports and Entertainment, Inc., have loaned Woodson an additional \$17,606. The NCAA allows undergraduate athletes to consult agents, but prohibits them from entering into an agreement or accepting cash or discussing financial arrangements before their eligibility expires. Players violating the rules can be declared ineligible and their teams

penalized by the NCAA. In sports other than football, the NCAA can strip teams of championships and revenues received from those tourneys.

TYSON-HOLMES BOUT OFF: Negotiations have broken off for a proposed heavyweight boxing bout between world champion Mike Tyson and former world titleholder Larry Holmes, says Jimmy Jacobs, Tyson's co-manager. Jacobs said Holmes, 37, wanted too much money for the match. Bill Cayton, who co-manages Tyson, said he had offered Holmes \$3.2 million plus a percentage to meet Tyson. Holmes responded by asking for \$3.5 million, \$500,000 up front and a percentage. "He (Holmes) said if the price was right, they'd have a fight," said Dick Lovell, a spokesman for Holmes. "Evidently they weren't willing to make the price right."

MAGIC MAY MISS PISTONS: Los Angeles Lakers guard Magic Johnson, who was kicked in the left calf Tuesday night against the Phoenix Suns, is questionable for tonight's home game against Detroit. Johnson suffered the injury in a collision with Jay Humphries in the first quarter of a 108-93 Suns victory. Johnson, the Lakers' leading scorer, is averaging 23.8 points and a league-leading 12.3 assists per game. He has missed two games this season because of tendinitis in his left Achilles.

LOFTON TRADE TALK: The Green Bay Packers are trying to trade receiver James Lofton before the April 28 National Football League draft, the team's director of football operations says. Tom Braatz indicated Lofton, who is scheduled to go on trial May 18 on a charge of second-degree sexual assault, will not play for the Packers again.

A Los Angeles Raiders official confirmed discussing a trade for Lofton, but denied the talks had been serious. San Francisco 49ers coach Bill Walsh said last week the 49ers had been interested in obtaining Lofton, but that talks had not been serious. Walsh coached Lofton at Stanford.

THEUS NO KING TO FANS: Point guard Reggie Theus has been the only Sacramento Kings player booed at home for the last seven games.

"Of course it bothers me some that fans are booing me, but I'm a professional so I've got to take it in stride," Theus said. "I don't understand why they're booing. Perhaps it's a lack of knowledge, but I'm going to give them 110 percent every time I'm out on the court. I owe it to

the fans. They've been real supportive through some bad times."

AN HONEST POLITICIAN? Texas Gov. Bill Clements, tangled in the web of corruption involving Southern Methodist University's football program, was asked about his own SMU football career, when he played "guard and No. 2 back."

"Did you play football for SMU?" he was asked.

"Yes."

"Were you ever offered anything in exchange for (playing)?"

"Nothing."

"Were you any good?"

"No," Clements replied before breaking into laughter.

THE LIST: Nine players from the Dominican Republic who played at least 85 games at shortstop in the majors last season: Oakland's Alfredo Griffin, Toronto's Tony Fernandez, Cleveland's Julio Franco, Los Angeles' Mariano Duncan, San Francisco's Jose Uribe, Pittsburgh's Rafael Belliard, New York Mets' Rafael Santana and Atlanta's Andres Thomas and Rafael Ramirez.

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