Dooley advocates legislation to deal with sports agents

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

ATHENS - University of Georgia athletic director Vince Dooley plans to push for legislation regulating sports agents in this state, he said Monday.

Dooley said his intentions result from a federal probe into the activities of New

York-based agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom, who have admitted violating NCAA rules by signing college athletes to contracts before their eligibility expired.

"That (the Walters case) is the most recent example of the ugly face of unscrupulous agents sticking their heads above the water," said Dooley.

cussed at the CFA (College Football Association) meetings. We (the head coaches and athletic directors) pledged to go back to our respective states and to look into the possibilities for legislation. I am exploring the possibility of legislation. We are in the very early stages."

The earliest time such legislation could "What I am doing is something we dis- be introduced is the 1988 session of the or enacted laws.

General Assembly. Dooley said he already has had "preliminary discussions" about possible legislation, but he declined to say with whom he has talked.

He added that the exact wording of the legislation he wants is yet to be determined. He is gathering information from states that already have drafted legislation

"We want to see which one would be like something we would like to propose," said Dooley. "Ultimately, we'd have to get a sponsor for it."

Last week, Michigan's House of Representatives passed a four-bill package that would require every professional sports con-

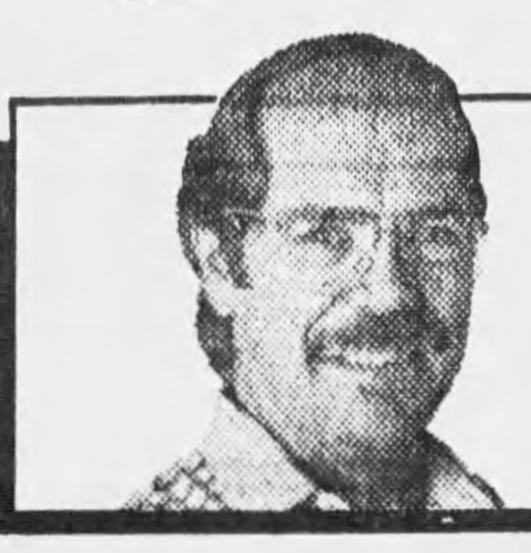
See DOOLEY, Page 7-D

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

SECTION

Tuesday, June 16, 1987

Spinks washes Cooney's hopes up on 'Shore'



Dave Kindred

Spinks proves Cooney's not armed for big-time

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. - So here came Gerry Cooney, strangely confident, walking in his odd lockedknee gait toward Michael Spinks, who greeted the big guy's arrival with a straight right to his considerable nose. Some two minutes later in the fifth round, Spinks had finished the night's work, and perhaps Cooney's career, with a firestorm of punches that rendered Cooney immobile as well as impassive.

Thirty pounds the smaller man, Spinks at 208 landed the only telling punches. What they told us is what we already supposed: Cooney has no weapons with which to defeat a good fighter, let alone a man who claims, as Spinks properly does, to be the heavyweight champion. Cooney's left hook, alleged to be a hammer, never brushed against Spinks' chin. Cooney's defense seemed predicated on the idea he would break Spinks' hands with his face.

Only in the third round did Cooney suggest any ability. He sliced open Spinks' right eye. Though he opened the round with a wild left uppercut in center ring - a sign of early desperation, a sign of a man with no clue, a man hoping to get lucky - Cooney settled down with a series of jabs that moved Spinks against the ropes.

Spinks sentenced to hard time vs. Tyson

It was as if Cooney took the sight of blood as a signal that the night was his. This would be a mistake. Spinks took a rest in the fourth round, moving away from Cooney, who lumbered about in earnest if ungainly pursuit. Cooney should have known the fifth round would be different, for it is Spinks' history that he begins fights slowly, allowing his work to gain a texture that leads him to an inevitable conclusion.

That conclusion, stamped in the fifth round, was that the defenseless, inoffensive Cooney would misread his third-round confidence and walk into a trap set by Spinks. No featherduster himself, Spinks came in undefeated in 30 fights with 20 knockouts.

And here came Cooney walking at him. Spinks, his back on the ropes, snapped a right hand lead onto Cooney's nose. Soon enough, an angry welt rose under Cooney's left eye. No single punch put Cooney on the floor; his skinny legs buckled under the accumulation of punches, the effect too heavy to resist.

Spinks twice knocked Cooney down. Before he could do it a third time, the referee stopped the fight. And if you looked then at Cooney, to see how the 30year-old reacted to the defeat, you saw only a blank face with a twisted half-smile. It was the same blank face and silly Beaver Cleaver smile that Cooney carried to mid-ring for the prefight introductions. "Gentleman Gerry Cooney," it said on his fight robe, and gentlemanly he was.

Too bad it's not a gentleman's game.

In any case, Spinks' victory had no importance of its own, for now the heavyweight division belongs to Mike Tyson, the WBC and WBA champ. To Cooney goes a vacation into obscurity. To Spinks goes a hard time with Tyson next year. Someone named Tony Tucker has the IBF championship, taken from Spinks when Spinks refused to fight Tucker and signed with Cooney instead.

Cooney's lack of fierce will to win not new

As to why Spinks would give up a share of the title to fight Cooney, there are four million reasons, all one-dollar bills to be deposited in Spinks' name. Beyond the weight of dollars, the scales were tipped Cooney's way when Spinks took one look at tape of Cooney against Larry Holmes five years ago. Spinks said, "I can beat this guy." He saw the same thing observers saw in Cooney this week. Cooney is still big (6-foot-7, 238), still strong with the left, and still a flat-footed fighter without a clue against anyone who

One punch could have changed all that. Cooney with a single left hook put Ken Norton to beddy-bye in less than a minute. Larry Holmes was not yet a burnt-out case, though headed that way, when Cooney gave him all he wanted for 10 rounds in 1982. After the 10th, Cooney was exhausted. Holmes won by a knockout in the 13th.

And once again, we saw no suggestion that Cooney owns the fierce will to win that a fighter needs if he is to sustain the battle for 15 rounds. This insight is not a new one in the fight game. The New York author Damon Runyon once wanted to invest in a heavyweight. In 1934 trainer Harry Lenny brought his prize pupil, Ray Impelitteri, to Runyon's penthouse.

As Runyon came into the room, the young fighter jumped up and rushed to shake Runyon's hand. "Gee, it's great to meet you, Mr. Runyon," the kid said. "It's such an honor for me."

Later, Runyon told Lenny no deal, he wasn't interested in Impelitterri.

"Why?" the trainer said.

"Too polite," said Runyon.



United Press International

Michael Spinks (right) knocks Gerry Cooney backward with a left hook in third round. Spinks floored Cooney twice in fifth round before the fight was stopped.

Heavyweight War' ceases fire in 5th-round TKO win by Spinks

By Bud Shaw Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. - Gerry Cooney's left hook never landed with any impact. Gerry Cooney did.

Michael Spinks ended the "War at help. the Shore" by dropping Cooney twice in a punishing fifth round Monday night at Convention Hall. The bout was stopped at 2:51, and soon after that the ring anhouse to attend to Cooney.

"All the little people out there should halted the bout.

stand up and feel proud," said Spinks. "And they should know now they have a

Cooney, the oddsmakers' choice, seemed bewildered by Spinks' awkward style and often looked into his corner for

In the fifth round, there was none. Just punishment. Dropped twice by right hands, Cooney struggled to his feet but threw just one meaningless punch the nouncer was asking for a doctor in the rest of the way until referee Frank Cappuccino stepped between the fighters and

Surprisingly, judge Harold Lederman gave Cooney three of the first four rounds. Judge Tom Kaczmarek scored it even, and judge Larry Stewart awarded three rounds to Spinks.

Cooney did not appear at the postfight press conference. A spokesman said Cooney was "disgusted and disappointed in his performance." Cooney, who got \$2.5 million for the fight, made no mention of retirement.

Spinks (31-0) is in line to face WBA and WBC heavyweight championship Mike Tyson, who watched from ringside

Monday night. But Tyson has other committments, and such a bout might not take place until early 1988.

"It's up to (promoter) Butch Lewis as far as I'm concerned," said Spinks. "I'm just happy this one's over."

True to his word, Spinks didn't run from Cooney in the opening rounds and got a cut on the inside of the right eye to show for it in the third. He said it made him "more respectful," not that the fifth round was any indication.

See FIGHT, Page 7-D

McEnroe a dropout at Wimbledon

The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England - John McEnroe, saying he didn't want to play if he isn't 100 percent physically, withdrew from Wimbledon Monday because of a persistent back

It was the latest chapter in Mc-Enroe's attempt to come back from a self-imposed sabbatical from tennis, compounded by growing doubts of his ability to bear the pressure imposed on the sport's top players.

A first-round loser in each of his last two Grand Slam appearances, the three-time Wimbledon champion said he was "tired of walking onto the court worried whether I will be able to give it my best effort."

In a telegram to the All-England Club, McEnroe said the back problems that have plagued him in recent months were too much to overcome.

"There is no reason for me to come to Wimbledon unless I'm 100 percent fit," McEnroe said. "L have not been able to train since I returned from Paris."

McEnroe complained of injuries when he walked off the court in the final of the World Team Cup at Dusseldorf, West Germany, last month. Two days later at Paris, he was



John McEnroe

eliminated in the first round of the French Open by unseeded Horacio de la Pena of Argentina.

McEnroe returned to the United States after his Paris defeat and announced last Wednesday that he was skipping a grass court tournament in Scotland, less than 24 hours before he was to have played.

Wimbledon is sold out long in advance of the first match and Mc-Enroe's absence thus will have no major impact on attendance.

McEnroe's temper has caused run-ins with Wimbledon umpires, line judges and other officials, and the Fleet Street tabloids have reveled in reporting his off-the-court relationships, including that with Tatum O'Neil, now his wife and expecting the couple's second child.

Horner-type hassle coming? Murphy's contract time near

Braves notebook, Page 2-D By Gerry Fraley Staff Writer

There are only 100 games remaining. The playoffs begin in just 16 weeks.

After that, the most significant questions for the Atlanta Braves will be answered. Will they re-sign Dale Murphy? Will Murphy try free agency after this

season? "We want Dale Murphy with us," Braves president Stan Kasten said. "We want to keep Dale."

"I'm looking forward to working things out with the Braves," Murphy said. "I feel things will work out."

The harmony from both sides contrasts with the strained relationship between the team and Bob Horner and his high-profile agent, Bucky Woy, last year. The Braves never patched things up with Horner, now playing in Japan.

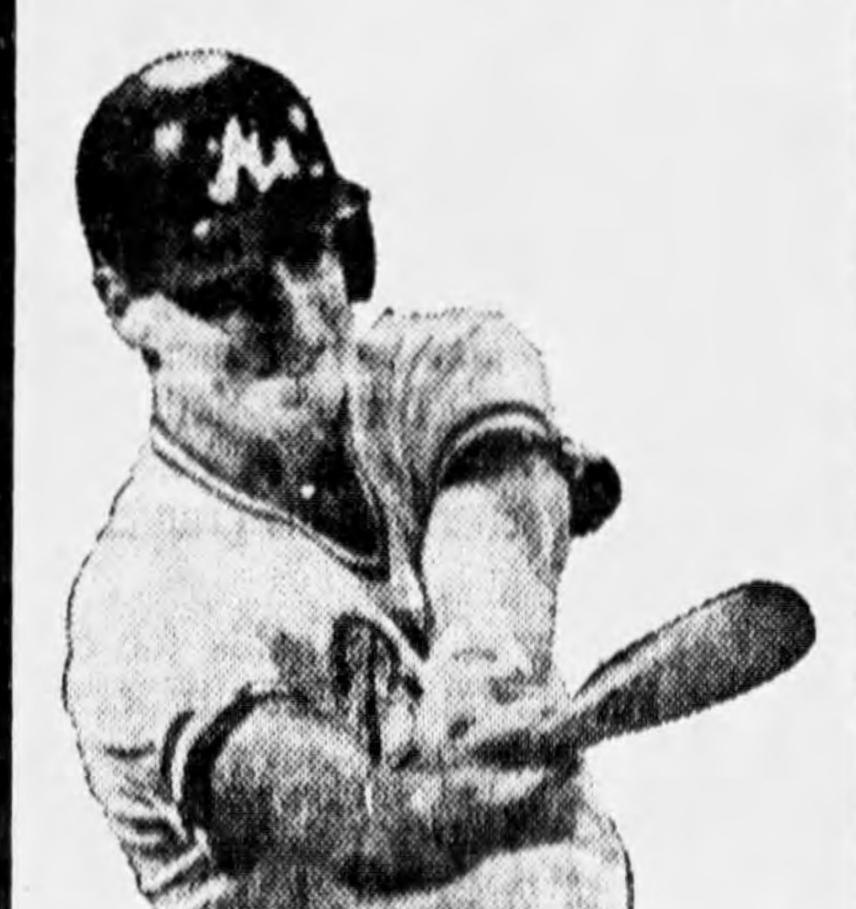
Murphy is the franchise for the Braves. His agent, Bruce Church, operates

The peace does not mean it will be simple to reach an agreement. If this were a matter just between Murphy and the Braves, the new contract would have already been signed. Instead, there will be

a long wait. There are other factors involved. The forces involved in the changing economic philosophy of baseball will come into play for Murphy just as they did last winter with free agents such as Horner, Doyle Alexander and Tim Raines.

It really doesn't occupy most of my thoughts when I'm playing or when I'm off the field. But it is something I've thought about.

- Dale Murphy



"I saw what happened last year," Murphy said. "Along with all other players, I'm concerned about it. But I'm confident things will work out. I haven't thought about it not working out."

See MURPHY, Page 5-D



Associated Press

Boris Becker falls to the ground after returning a smash from Jimmy Connors. Becker went on to a Club championship in three years.

6-7, 6-3, 6-4 win Monday for his second Queens

Becker outlasts sharp Connors for second Queens Club crown

Scores, Page 6-D Wimbledon seeds, Page 6-D From Wire Reports



Boris Becker won the \$300,000 Queens Club tennis tournament for the second time in three years Monday when he beat Jimmy Connors 6-7, 6-3, 6-4 in

the rain-delayed final. Connors, the fifth seed, bidding for his first title in nearly three years to add to the 105 he has won, twice was within a point of going up 3-0 in the final set. But Becker, the top seed, held on and broke service in the sixth game to draw even at 3-3...

Until that game Becker had been wandering around the court shaking his head in disbelief at his own poor form and the sharpness of Connors, who at 34 is 15 years his senior.

Helped by a double fault in the eighth game, Becker broke for 5-3 and then held to end the match.

Becker begins defense of his Wimbledon championship next

Navratilova, Evert win openers at Eastbourne

EASTBOURNE, England Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert had easy first-round victories in the \$200,000 Pilkington Glass women's grass-court tennis championships Monday but scoffed at suggestions their appearance in Sunday's final would be a formality.

The longest running show in women's tennis opened in typical style with one-sided victories, while Briefly ... four of the 16 seeds lost on the opening day.

But No. 7 seed Lori McNeill lost 6-4, 1-6, 6-3 to Isabelle Demongeot of France, and ninth-seeded Wendy Turnbull of Australia was beaten by Kathy Jordan 7-5, 3-6, 6-3.

7-6, 6-2 to South African Rosalyn Fairbank, and Natalie Tauziat of France, seeded 16th, was defeated said.

by Briton Ann Hobbs 6-2, 7-6.

Navratilova yielded the first game against Werdel, 19, from Bakersfield, Calif., but wrapped up the the match in 37 minutes.

Of other seeds in action on the opening day, West Germany's Bettina Bunge went close to elimination, while Gabriela Sabatini dropped a set before advancing over Japan's Etsuko Inoue.

Veteran tennis umpire Peter Al-Navratilova, the defending derson, who handled the 1979 men's champion, won 12 consecutive championship match at Wimbledon, games in a 6-1, 6-0 triumph over has been barred from this year's fellow American Marianne Werdel, tournament for selling tickets, offiwhile Evert beat another American, cials said Monday. Alderson, who 35-year-old Sharon Walsh-Peete, 6-2, has been a tennis line judge and umpire for 25 years, acknowledged in a newspaper interview that he accepted \$5,600 for six seats each on Centre Court and Court No. 1 at this year's tournament, which begins June 22. The tickets were given to Mary Jo Fernandez, No. 15, lost Alderson as part of a batch set Brtitish Tennis Umpires Association

Historic Olympic Club presents a mystery to U.S. Open golfers

Few of today's stars have real experience on course

From Wire Reports

SAN FRANCISCO - They came at intervals, popping in like distant relatives - inquisitive, investigative, curious and frequently wide-eyed.

Chris Roderick, the Olympic Club's head professional, often found time to play genial host, dropping his regular duties to play a few holes with his guests.

Tom Kite, Greg Norman, Jack Nicklaus, Raymond Floyd, John Cook, Lanny Wadkins, Pat McGowan they came, they saw and they left with deep concern they could conquer.

Mighty Olympic, regularly ranked among the top 10 golf courses in America, remains a mystery to more than half the players who will tee off in the 87th U.S. Open on Thursday. Many, somewhat embarrassed, will not have even

seen the course - in person or on television - until they arrive for practice rounds this week. Olympic hasn't played host to a tournament involv-

ing pros since the 1966 Open. That means Nicklaus, Floyd, Johnny Miller and Lee Trevino can rely a wee bit on their experiences in it that year.

Seven others - Hal Sutton, Corey Pavin, Jodie Mudd, Paul Azinger, Bob Lohr, Gene Sauers and John Grund — competed at Olympic in the 1981 U.S. Amateur, won dramatically by Nathaniel Crosby. And Cook and Barry Jaeckel can flash back to the 1975 Pacific Coast Amateur, trying to pull on their memory banks on how to handle the renowned old course.

Mac O'Grady remembers trying and failing to qualify at Olympic for the Open 10 years ago.

A few others showed up for pro-am outings last year. They included Craig Stadler, Andy North, Fred Couples, Scott Simpson, Don Pooley, Mark Wiebe, Jim Thorpe, Gil Morgan, Dave Barr and Wayne Levi.

But a friendly outing is but a casual handshake to really knowing Olympic as it will be sculptured under the rigid standards of the U.S. Golf Association.

And there are the "locals," such as Tom Watson, Roger Maltbie, Johnny Miller, Bob Lunn, Bob Eastwood, Bill Glasson and Joey Rassett. They have lived in the area, and many sampled Olympic's wares

"But for most players, I think Olympic will be a revelation," tournament director Bob Murphy said. "Ben Crenshaw is an interesting case. He feels almost guilty for never having come here.

"He has that spiritual feeling for the game, and this is one of the Sistine Chapels, one of the Missions. He should have visited here. It's almost a religious-fervor kind of thing with him. He is almost apologetic that he hasn't played Olympic Club."

Roderick seemed bemused by the reactions of firsttime visitors.

"Most of the guys found things they weren't accustomed to," said Roderick. "The trees are much bigger than what they see most places. They feel a little cramped in. They start to miss a few greens and realize they are small — averaging 3,700 square feet. Then it dawns on them they are hitting a lot of 3-irons, 4-

aside for the event's umpires, the "That's the nature of the course. Most PGA Tour courses range to 7,000 yards. This is under 6,800. The pros think, 'Oh, short, lots of birdies.' But those birdies said, "that's too long."



Greg Norman seems happy about making long birdie putt during practice round at Olympic Club Monday, site of this year's U.S. Open.

aren't there. You have to think about your shots, you have to grind. You can't just take a look and fire. There may be some 66s, 67s. Fine, I hope so. A lot will depend on the weather."

Cook dropped in early last week for two practice

He noted the similarity to Shinnecock Hills, last year's Open site, in that it also was an unknown. Located on eastern Long Island, few Open players had seen

"Olympic ... isn't on the tour, and it's true, it defi-

nitely is a mystery," said Cook, who qualified for the Open by finishing in the top 30 on the '86 money list. "It's tough coming to an unfamiliar course. Look at the Kemper (played earlier this month). The guys didn't know the course, and the scores were pretty high.

"I know what I have to work on for Olympic. You have to be able to walk it, think it and play it. It's a typical U.S. Open course. So it won't be easy."

Anthony Zirpoli, a USGA official, doubts '66 Open veterans such as Nicklaus, Trevino, Miller and Floyd will have an edge.

"If you haven't been back here in 21 years," he

Bramble resumes career with TKO victory

By Bud Shaw Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. - Livingstone Bramble was 23-2-1. Ras-I Aluja Bramble is now 1-0.

-- Whatever the name change might actually mean, Bramble, the former WBA lightweight champion, believes it's the start of something

In his first fight since his identity crisis, Bramble stopped Toronto lightweight Johnny Kahlbenn (15-4-2) on a TKO at 2:16 of the fifth round Monday at Convention Hall. Bramble, who now calls himself "The Pit Bull," dominated throughout.

Bramble won the WBA title in 1984 by pounding Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini. But just when he thought he was invincible, Edwin Rosario took his title away. His last fight under the name, Livingstone, was a draw.

Bramble's handlers, as did those of other fighters on the undercard, wore surgical gloves while working the corner. The New Jersey boxing commission has given cornermen the option of wearing the gloves for protection against AIDS because they come into contact with saliva and blood.

The rest of the undercard was less than thrilling. Lightweight Glen Thomas (11-0) scored a TKO over Kenny Butler (21-6) at 2:12 in the sixth round, heavyweight Elijah Tillery (20-3) won a unanimous decision over Dorcy Gaymon (19-6-1), Razor Ruddock (15-1-1) was declared a winner after heavyweight Carlos Hernandez (15-4-1) was disqualified in the seventh round.

Perhaps the most entertaining bout of the night was a scheduled four-rounder between Barry Forbes (8-1) and Pete Ludwinski (7-1). Ludwinski's ring name is Pete "The Pugilistic Preacher" Ludwinski. The back of his robe reads "In the Name of Jesus." When Ludwinski KO'd Forbes Monday night, he dropped to his knees and raised his hands to the heavens. He then screamed, "Jesus did it."

NOTES: Promoter Butch Lewis had a few big ideas that didn't quite pan out Monday night. Lewis decided to ask Fawn Hall and Donna Rice of political fame to carry cards between rounds and was willing to pay \$25,000 for their services. Neither took him up on it. Evander Holyfield, IBF and WBC cruiserweight champion, made an appearance in Convention Hall Monday night. Even though Holy-

field has not fought in the heavyweight division, he is the No. 2 ranked heavyweight by Ring Magazine. . . . After watching the Lakers-Celtics at the Forum, Cooney vs. Spinks might not have seemed like much of celebrity hangout. Nevertheless, actors Don Johnson and Matt Dillon, Jesse Jackson, Mike Tyson, Tim Witherspoon, Jersey Joe Walcott, John Madden and Sugar Ray Leonard were in attendance. Sly Stallone and Tom Selleck were expected. ... Even though New Jersey has casinos and horse racing, you can't make a legal bet on a sports event. So the odds that filtered into Convention Hall two hours prior to fight time were from Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Cooney was a 8-5 favorite, 6-5 to win by knockout. ... Cooney's manager Dennis Rappaport requested a smaller ring (20 feet vs. 22) and got it. But he wasn't happy about the selection of judges and questioned the friendly relationship between promoter Butch Lewis, who also happens to be Spinks' manager, and New Jersey boxing commissioner Larry Hazzard. . . . Not that Lewis wanted to stand out in the crowd Monday night. He wore a white suit, black bow tie, white collar and no shirt. ... Tickets for Cooney-Spinks went a cool \$50 to

to the

Leisure Guide.

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BBS WHEELS

From Page 1-D

tract to be filed with the state and open to public scrutiny. The legislation also would require agents to register with the state and make it illegal for boosters or school officials to pay athletes for signing.

It carries penalties ranging from \$50,000 in fines to a year in prison. The Michigan senate is experted to act on the measure in the

On June 3, a Louisiana House committee approved a bill that would require agents to pay a fee, register with the secretary of state and follow stringent rules in the way they recruit athletes.

Legislation was proposed in Texas to impose a maximum \$10,000 fine on agents who sign athletes with remaining eligibility. It also would limit contact with athletes and require agents to register with the state.

Alabama and Nebraska are considering similar legislation. Oklahoma and California already have

laws placing some restrictions on agents, although California does not require them to register.

One Georgia player, senior center Keith Johnson, has admitted knowing Walters and has been subpoenaed to testify before a federal grand jury in Chicago.

Dooley said states must deal with the problem of agents because the NCAA won't address it.

"The fact remains," said Dooley, round that was even. "the NCAA has never addressed it and never will because of fears of individual rights. They won't address it this time and it will die down unless something is done."

According to Chuck Neinas, executive director of the CFA, his organization is watching the Walters jabs in the third. investigation "with considerable interest." Neinas also says that hav- 4, circling Cooney, staying away ing so many different laws passed and keeping his right hand next to

The grand jury reconvenes Tuesday in Chicago. Among the athletes cino stopped the fight. scheduled to testify are Derrick McKey and Terry Coner, former basketball players at Alabama.

Fight

From Page 1-D

Cooney scored the first solid blow of the fight in the first round, a straight right after pressuring Spinks to the ropes. Spinks rallied with several good jabs in a first

Spinks went to his corner after round 2, convinced he'd missed an opportunity to do some damange. Twice, he rocked Cooney with leftright-left combinations. Spinks simply appeared too quick for Cooney until Cooney cut him with two solid

Spinks fought a protective round by the states could cause a problem. his face. He dominated round 5, re-"There is some suggestion that peatedly hitting Cooney with overwe have federal legislation," said hand rights until he dropped Cooney twice. When Cooney proved unable to defend himself, referee Cappuc-

> Eddie Futch, Spinks' trainer, said before the fight he knew exactly why Cooney was favored to end

Spinks' magical mystery tour in the heavyweight division. "A simple lack of respect for the little man," Futch said.

Cooney weighed in at 238 on Sunday, Spinks at 208%. Neither boxer had ever been heavier for any bout, and the general feeling was that if Cooney landed one of his famous left hooks, Spinks might mistake it for a 30-pound sledge hammer.

Certainly, Spinks wasn't sure what a victory over Cooney would do to his acceptance as a heavyweight, which means he's been paying attention to what people have said since his second fight with former heavyweight champion Larry Holmes. He gained 25 pounds to get ready for Holmes and was none the worse for it, but still saw himself painted as someone who happened to be standing in the ring when Holmes' career went south.

Cooney has had the enigma market cornered. Someone recently counted the number of Cooney fights that had been postponed or cancelled - most because of injuries to Cooney - and stopped at a