

SPORTSPEOPLE

Odds & **INS**

By Skip Myslenski & Linda Kay

Monroe Ingram is the head basketball coach of Southern Arkansas University and, two seasons ago, he found himself talking to Dallas Mavericks administrative assistant Keith Grant. There's a kid playing down here in our conference no one has heard of, but you ought to keep an eye on him, Ingram suggested to Grant at the time. The pair talked again sometime during the last basketball season, and this time Grant delivered a message. "Man, we took a look at that kid," he told Ingram. "We thought we could sneak up and get him, but everyone in the world knows about this guy now." That kid, you may have guessed, was Central Arkansas' Scottie Pippen.

**Quickie scouting report**

"How did you prepare to play Pippen?" we asked Ingram shortly after the Bulls secured his rights.

"We prepared," he admitted, "to let him have his rebounds and points and to stop the other people on the team."

"You weren't going to stop him. You just hoped to slow him down a little bit," agreed Cliff Garrison, the coach at Hendrix College. Both that school and Central Arkansas are located in Conway, which makes them crosstown rivals. Continued Garrison: "I think you could see this coming. Early in the season, several of us made the statement that we thought Scottie was the best player in Arkansas—and, of course, there are three fine Division I teams in the state. I certainly felt he was the best, and so I don't think this is a real surprise."

**Armed and ready**

"But he probably hurt us as much defensively as he did offensively," continued Garrison in his capsule scouting report. "They used him a lot on the wing in a 1-3-1 trap, and he was almost a one-man double-team himself because of his arm span. He was an intimidator defensively."

"He could live on his offense. But he's a great defensive player too," said Ingram. "With his long arms, he plays bigger than his height (6 feet 7 inches)."

**In comparison**

Pippen blossomed while at an NAIA school, an oft-ignored association of 527 four-year colleges and universities. That explains why he remained relatively anonymous and why Ingram links him now to Detroit's Dennis Rodman, who joined the Pistons after leading the NAIA in rebounding while at Southeastern Oklahoma State. The "Worm," as Rodman is called, made headlines for his trashing of Larry Bird, but he played much better than he talked and finished seventh in the coaches' voting for the 1987 NBA All-Rookie Team. "But Scottie," claims Ingram, "is a better scorer and better ball-handler and can do many of the things Rodman can do. I'm not sure anyone can run the floor better than Rodman, but Scottie is a better all-around player."

Adds Garrison simply: "I don't think Rodman has the all-around skills Pippen has."

**An interested observer**

One year ago, Brad Sellers waited nervously at his parents' home in Cleveland. On Monday, the Bulls' top choice in 1986 breezed to classes at Ohio State and then casually flipped on the television for a peek at the draft. "They made a pretty good selection," Sellers said from Columbus moments after the Bulls corralled Pippen. "They wanted him all along, and it's commendable that they were able to make a trade and get him."

**The way it was**

Pippen's selection Monday was cheered in Chicago. Sellers' selection last year was not—though he remained ignorant of that fact until he did a TV interview and was asked to listen to the fans' reactions when the Bulls chose him instead of Duke's Johnny Dawkins. Only then did he learn that boos had greeted his pick. "I wasn't devastated," Sellers remembers, "but I thought it was pretty wild. It shook me a bit. When I got to Chicago, all eyes were on me because of the Dawkins' situation and it took me a while to play out of that syndrome. I just had to put it out of my head." To help do that, he drew on the experience of Charles Oakley, whom he had known in Cleveland. "Everybody thought he was a wasted pick his first year in the league," explains Sellers. "But he told me 'Don't worry about those other factors. Those factors are out of your hands. They took you for a reason. You obviously must be able to play.'"

**Room enough for two**

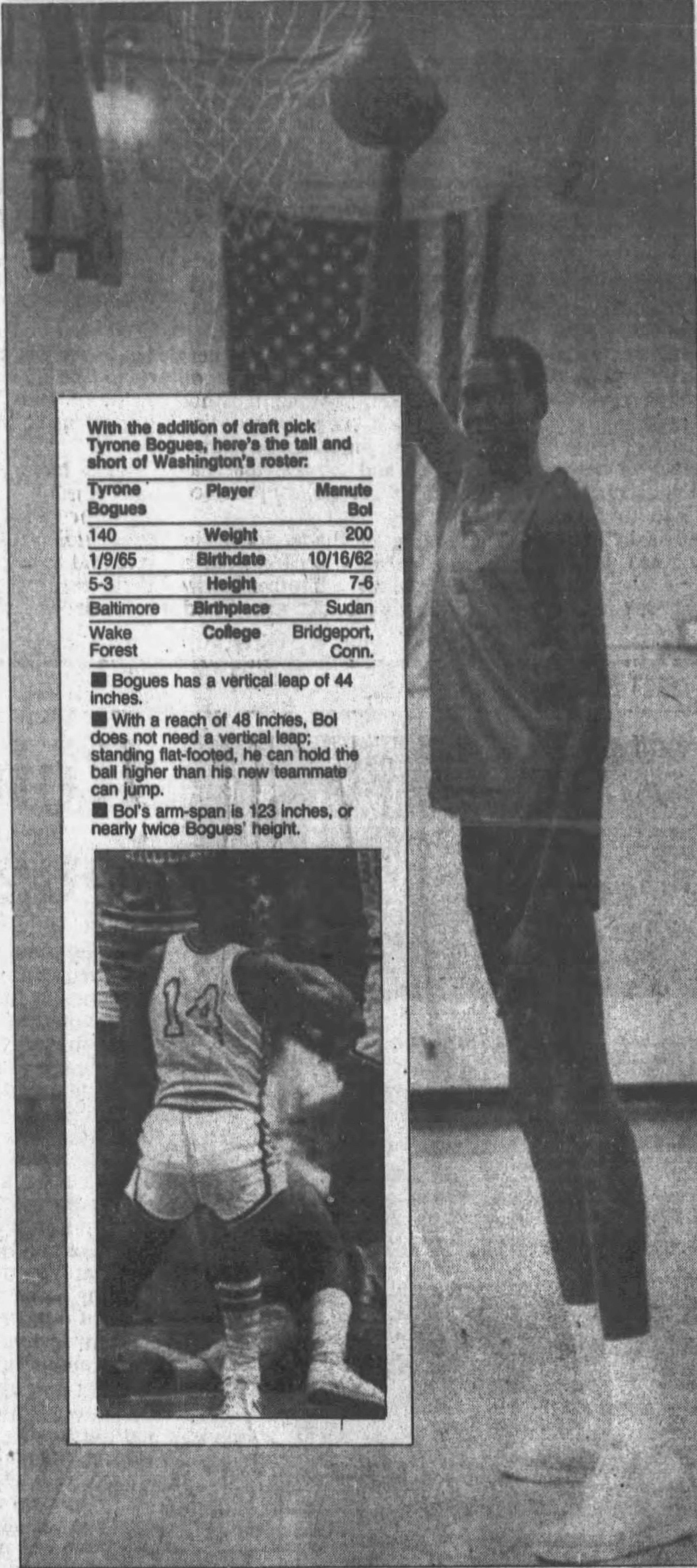
There are some in the Bulls' hierarchy who feel Pippen can step right in as a starting small forward, and that prompted us to ask Sellers if he viewed the rookie as a threat. "No, I don't," he said. "I just look at him as another ballplayer that is going to help us out. If you look at the game from the perspective of competition, it's a distorted point of view."

**News, notes and nonsense**

If you are a believer in omens, you may want to note the nickname of the team Pippen played on at Central Arkansas: The Bears. . . Ingram, the Southern Arkansas coach, noted one residual benefit the Bulls will reap with their selection of Pippen. "The cable system in this part of the state carries WGN," he said, "so the Bulls are going to pick up some Arkansas' fans." . . . Sellers is back at Ohio State working toward a degree in economics.

And finally, the play's title is spelled a bit differently from the player's surname, but here is one other omen for tea leaf readers. The hit musical "Pippin" opens with a song entitled "Magic To Do."

**Bullets' tale of the tape**



With the addition of draft pick Tyrone Bogues, here's the tall and short of Washington's roster:

Tyrone Bogues	Player	Minute	Boi
140	Weight	200	
1/9/65	Birthdate	10/16/62	
5-3	Height	7-6	
Baltimore	Birthplace	Sudan	
Wake Forest	College	Bridgeport, Conn.	

- Bogues has a vertical leap of 44 inches.
- With a reach of 48 inches, Boi does not need a vertical leap; standing flat-footed, he can hold the ball higher than his new teammate can jump.
- Boi's arm-span is 123 inches, or nearly twice Bogues' height.



**Agent Norby Walters: I'm no crook**

Sports agent Norby Walters, whose dealings with college athletes have stirred up controversy across the country, says he has never done anything that could even be "remotely considered illegal."

Walters, in an interview with the Iowa City Press-Citizen, insisted he's a legitimate businessman who looks out for his clients. He said he hasn't corrupted college athletics because the system was already corrupt.

"I'm a good husband and a good father," said Walters, who has been married 30 years and has three sons. "If everybody was as straight-arrowed as I am, it would be a great country."

Walters and associate Lloyd Bloom, who run World Sports & Entertainment Inc. of New York, have admitted signing college athletes before their eligibility expired—a violation of NCAA rules.

"Norby Walters didn't break any rules," he said, "but someone else may have, namely the players."

"College ball is major, big-time ball and working farm teams for the NFL. We're dealing with a system that has been corrupt, and it's been the tail wagging the dog. Everybody knows it."

A federal grand jury in Chicago is investigating his activities. The grand jury was called after Kathie Clements, vice president of Zucker Sports Entertainment Group in Skokie, was beaten unconscious and stabbed in the arm by a man wearing a ski mask.

Three of Walters' former clients had taken their business to the Zucker firm.

"I haven't been contacted yet about the Iran scam or the Iraqi bombing of our boat [in the Persian Gulf]," Walters said. "I'm a businessman. I'm not a thug."



The Cubs' Keith Moreland shows a group from the Sylvan Learning Centers some of the game's finer points before Monday's meeting with the Pirates. Later, he proved he knew whereof he spoke by hitting a game-winning homer.

**I'm no longer the unsinkable good ship Molly Brown. There's nothing wrong technically with my game. It's all emotional.**

-Martina Navratilova, 0-for-6 in '87 before Wimbledon.

**BRIEFS**

■ Bob McCammon, former Philadelphia Flyers coach and general manager, was named head coach of the Vancouver Canucks. The appointment reunited McCammon with new Canucks President and General Manager Pat Quinn, who was replaced by McCammon as Flyers head coach in 1982. Earlier, the two had spent several years together as coaches in the Flyers' organization. McCammon replaces Tom Watt, who has been offered a job as Quinn's assistant.

■ Prosecutors have asked a federal appeals court to reinstate the three murder convictions of former boxer Rubin "Hurricane" Carter. Carter, who once fought for the world middleweight title, was released from prison on bail in November, 1985, when a federal judge in New Jersey reversed the murder convictions because he found them tainted by racism. After hearing brief arguments from prosecuting and defense attorneys Monday, the 3d U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals took the case under advisement. In arguing for reinstatement of the murder convictions, prosecutors said Carter and codefendant John Artis, who are both black, killed three white people in a Paterson, N.J., bar in revenge for the slaying of a black man.

■ Additional charges were filed against Iowa sophomore defensive back Keaton Smiley, accused of assaulting two women students in three separate Iowa City incidents dating back more than a year. Charges of assault with intent to commit sexual abuse, aggravated assault, false imprisonment and two counts of assault causing injury were filed against Smiley, of Duncanville, Tex. Johnson County Attorney J. Patrick White upgraded the original charge of willful injury to assault with intent to commit sexual abuse, a Class C forcible felony that carries a mandatory prison term. The maximum sentence for a conviction is 10 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. The charges stem from alleged attacks on Cheryl Zemaitis of Downers Grove on June 9 and Oct. 27, 1986, and on Jennifer Lee May 17, 1986.

■ Rep. Eddie Cavazos of Corpus Christi has asked Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox to examine a report by Methodist bishops that placed most of the blame for the Southern Methodist football scandal on Gov. Bill Clements. Should Mattox find evidence of criminal misconduct on Clements' part, Cavazos said he would call for the governor's resignation or impeachment. Rep. Paul Moreno of El Paso, meanwhile, said he may seek an impeachment resolution against Clements without waiting for Mattox's report.

■ Three people remained hospitalized in Grand Rapids, Mich., with injuries suffered in a fatal traffic accident involving Buffalo Bills linebacker Ray Bentley. Evelyn Ann Kruthoff, 66, died in the 4:15 p.m. collision Sunday at an intersection in Byron Township, south of Grand Rapids. She was among five people in a mini-van that collided with a small pick-up truck driven by Bentley, police said. Bentley slowed but did not stop for a stop sign at the intersection. The vehicle carrying Kruthoff struck the truck. Bentley was treated and released from an area hospital.

■ NBC television, trying to protect its \$400 million investment, has been assured that South Korean opposition leaders will not disrupt the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, Newsweek magazine reported. Newsweek said in this week's edition the activists assured NBC they have no objection to the Summer Games and that their position would not change if they assume power in the next year.

■ Anniacrombie sped to a track record at Sportsman's Park in the \$15,000 Three Diamonds Invitational, her first Chicago start since being crowned the 1986 U.S. 3-year-old Pacing Filly of the Year. She covered the mile in 1:55 1/2, breaking the mark for 4-year-old fillies of 1:56, set by Jenny's Arrow in 1984. She won by 2 1/2 lengths over Bit Of Good News, who'd won six straight races.

■ Michael Orecchia was named head men's and women's track coach at the University of Chicago. He coached at San Francisco State the last four years.

■ Tim Stephens, sports information director at St. Louis University the last three years, was named SID at De Paul.

Compiled by Mike Conklin and Bob Vanderberg from staff, wire reports.

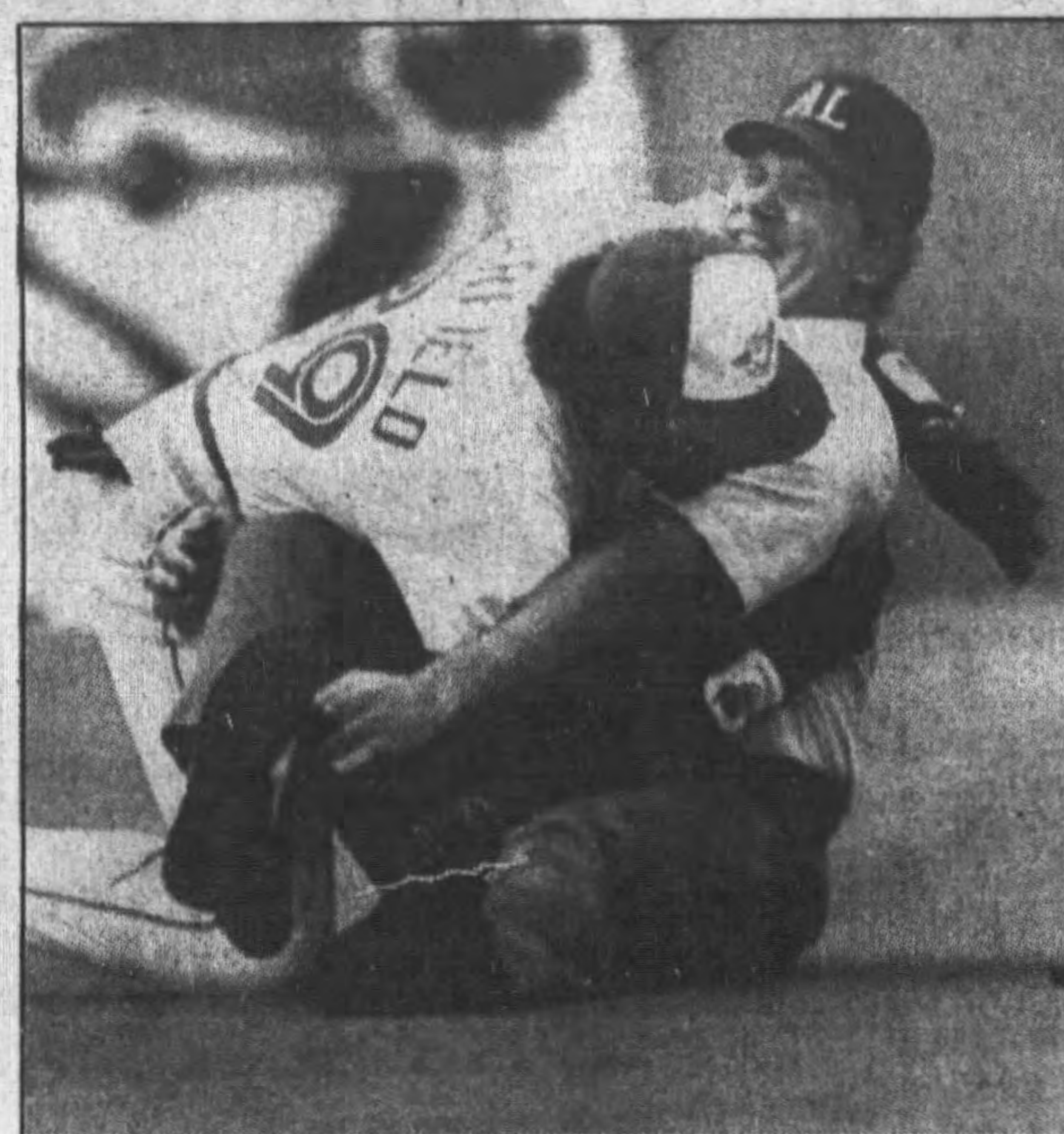
**Who's the worst? They'll find out**

The date, Sept. 14, has been set for 72 duffers to golf in the first Budweiser-Golf Digest Worst Avid Golfer Tournament, which organizers hope will become an annual event to raise proceeds for United Cerebral Palsy and Easter Seals. It will be held on the Indiana Bluffs course in Moline, Ill.

The event is an outgrowth of Golf Digest's Worst Avid Golfers meet in June, 1985, that brought Jack Pulford of Moline and three other hackers together for an unmemorable match.

Golfers from a four-state area are being sought for the tournament. The only requirement to enter is a U.S. Golf Association certifiable handicap of 24 or higher.

The winner will be presented with a natty red sport coat; the worst golfer will receive an ugly plaid one.



Umpire Durwood Merrill, who was only trying to tie his shoe, gets playfully wrestled to the ground by Toronto's Jesse Barfield between innings Sunday.

**41,675 fans, but no bonus check for fight publicist**

Fifty years and one day later, waves from the Joe Louis-James Braddock heavyweight boxing championship fight in Chicago were still being felt.

"I was really surprised to read that final count on the number of tickets [41,675] sold," said Bill Margolis, a longtime Chicago publicist who handled the press for the Braddock camp in Grand Beach, Mich.

"About a week before the fight, [promoter] Mike Jacobs told me to cut down on every-

thing for the writers because the tickets weren't moving. Until then, we were serving them the best steaks and liquor that money could buy.

"But that count was a lot better than I was led to believe. I was the only outsider let into Braddock's hotel after the fight. We had gotten to be very friendly, and he was really upset to learn there weren't going to be any bonus checks for some of us.

"He said, 'Is that Jacobs going to gyp you out of your money?'" recalled Margolis.

**Triathlon competition without the usual drawbacks**

At last, a triathlon experience for the person who's intimidated by: (1), the hundreds of well-proportioned, youthful-looking participants in tight wetsuits who usually show up; (2), the typical 6 a.m. start on a Sunday; or (3), swimming in cold lake water.

The Downtown Sports Club, 441 N. Wabash Ave., is offering what it calls the 1987 Benchmark Triathlon Challenge within the relative privacy of its walls.

It takes place the last three weeks in July, leading up to the Aug. 2 USTS Bud Light Triathlon in Chicago.

Triathlon stars Scott Molina and Liz Bulman will be at the club July 7 setting time and distance standards for 20 minutes of swimming in the pool, 20 minutes of riding a stationary bike and 20 minutes of running on a treadmill.

Any person can arrange to challenge. Fees are \$15 for nonmembers, \$12 for members.

