

Hopefully, pressure won't strike McGwire

You look at Mark McGwire and mostly you wonder what's going to happen to foul this up. You sort of hold your breath waiting for the bad news.

Buckeyes declare Carter ineligible

By I.J. Rosenberg Staff Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Cris Carter, a two-time All-America wide receiver, was ruled ineligible for the upcoming season Wednesday by Ohio State for his dealings with New York-based agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

Ohio State athletic director Rick Bay made the announcement, saying that Carter, 21, had signed a representation agreement with Walters and Bloom and had received nearly \$7,000 from them, including a \$5,000 promissory note from a post-dated contract. NCAA rules prevent a college athlete with eligibility remaining from entering an agreement with or taking money from an agent. The announcement comes after The Atlanta Constitution reported Wednesday that Carter's testimony the day before at grand

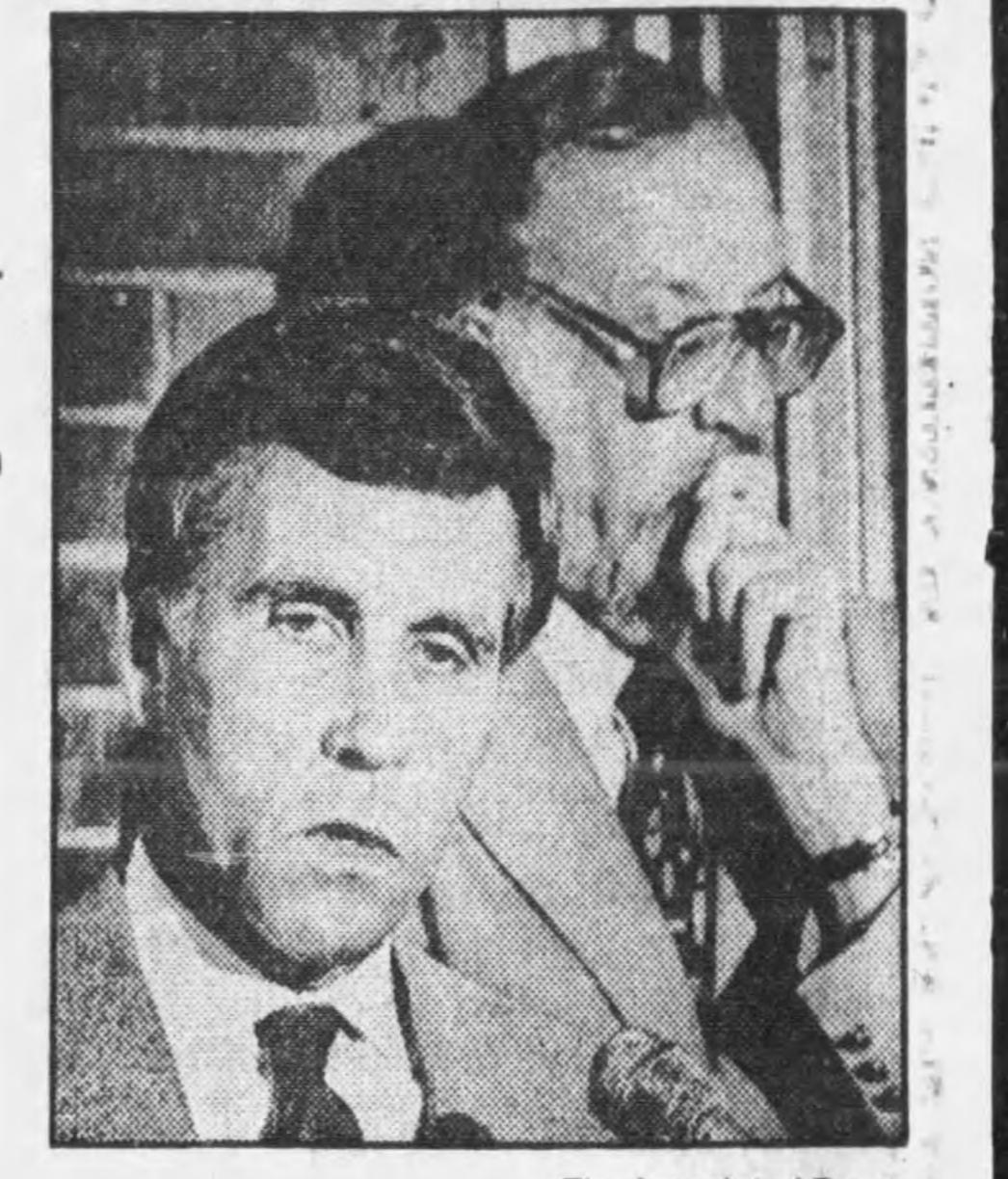
Ohio State star's infractions too blatant

jury proceedings in Chicago to investigate the dealings of Walters and Bloom with college players would lead to his suspension from the team.

"Coach (Earle) Bruce and I decided that the infractions were so blatant and had occurred over such a long period of time, that this situation could not be handled any other way," Bay said. "And we will not make any type of appeal to the NCAA in the future to get his eligibility restored." money. There is no excuse for that."

Carter released a statement through his attorney, Bob Berry of Boston, which read: "I did not realize at the time the consequences that would result or the pain I would cause my mother, the Ohio State University, my teammates or coach Bruce. What I did was wrong, and I apologize."

Carter, an All-America his sophomore



Such are the times in American sport.

Oh, you've got Dale Murphy, but he came in on cat's feet, growing on you slowly as a hero, always vague thunder on the horizons of seasons, never lightning overhead.

How long since someone soared so suddenly overhead as Mark McGwire, without something irritating in his contract, or embarrassing in his closet, or powdered in his nose, or loaded in the glove compartment of his Porsche, or smart about his mouth?

Mark McGwire is clean, but your heart's been long too broken by your heroes to accept that, and so you wait ...

Still you look at him and you see not just another pretty face — not a pretty face at all, really, just a face from back in The Beaver's neighborhood, the face of American sport as it was and longs to be again.

You watch him go 0-for-3 in the All-Star game at home in Oakland and the next morning the box score matters nothing alongside remembrance of his face at the plate, the face of wanting so badly to reward those who roar so, the face of such youthful disappointment at not rewarding them.

And now the All-Star break is over and the time has come for him either to fade from "the pace" as so many others have before him, or to enter the hellish heroism of "the watch" as another good kid did 26 summers ago, three years before Mark McGwire was born.

At present, ahead of Maris' pace

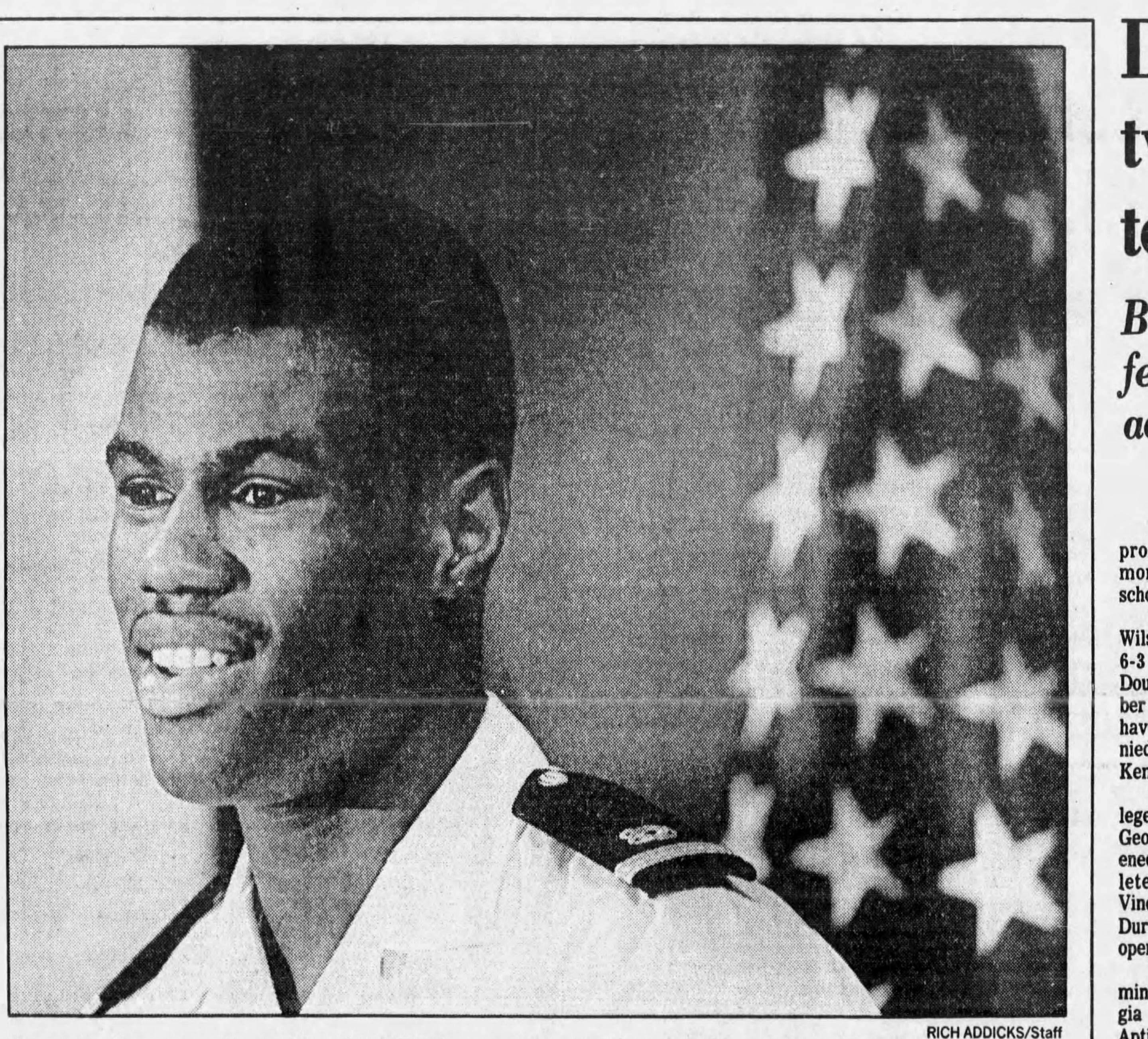
This being a National League town, we have noticed only from the corner of an eye that Mark McGwire of the Oakland Athletics is, at baseball season's halftime, ahead of Roger Maris' pace of 1961 when he hit the major league record 61 home runs in a season. Bruce, who did not attend the press conference, said later Wednesday, "He obviously wasn't a Buckeye off the field. Anyone who did what he did could not have any feelings toward our program. We knew what he was doing when he accepted

and junior seasons and expected to be a Heisman Trophy candidate this year, caught a school record 69 passes passes last year for 1,127 yards and 11 touchdowns, all Ohio State records. He also owns Buckeye career records with 168 receptions and 27 touchdowns.

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The Associated Press

Ohio State athletic director Rick Bay (left)announces football star Cris Carter is permanently ineligible for signing contract with an agent.



Dogs lose two more to test scores Basketball program feels the effects of admittance policy

> By Evan Grant Staff Writer

The University of Georgia's basketball program learned Wednesday that two more signees won't be admitted to the school because of academic deficiencies.

The two, 6-foot-8 forward Marshall Wilson of Franklin County High School and 6-3 guard Kevin Howard of Atlanta's Douglass High School, bring to 25 the number of football or basketball players who have been dismissed from Georgia or denied admission to the school since the Jan Kemp trial last year. The Kemp trial centered around the alleged preferential treatment of athletes at Georgia. After the trial, the school toughened its academic policies regarding athletes, and both Georgia football coach Vince Dooley and basketball coach Hugh Durham have said their programs are now operating at a competitive disadvantage. Wilson and Howard failed to make a minimum 700 score as required by Georgia on their final tries at the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and thus were denied admission to the school in accordance with a policy announced on the last day of the Kemp trial. Georgia's policy is more rigid than the NCAA's Bylaw 5-1-(j). According to Bylaw 5-1-(j), athletes by 1988 must have at least a 700 SAT score and at least a 2.0 high school grade point average to be eligible for college athletics as freshmen. But there are two differences between the NCAA's policy and Georgia's: Under an NCAA provision in effect this year, an athlete who has an SAT score as low as 680 can be eligible if his high school GPA is as high as 2.1. The more significant difference is that, under NCAA rules, an ineligible athlete can still be admitted to a school and can play as a sophomore if he makes satisfactory academic progress as a freshman. Under NCAA rules, Georgia could have admitted Wilson and Howard and conceivably could have had them on the basketball team as sophomores. But under Georgia's policy, the door was closed to them. Georgia is the only NCAA school with a stated policy of admitting no athlete un-See GEORGIA, Page 7-D

McGwire, the California dentist's son, the red-headed rookie behaving as if he is living in a boyhood fantasy, has 33 homers now.

They call him "McG-Whiz" in Oakland because he's so boyish, so wowed, so proud to be here, with a cute and pregnant wife watching from the seats behind the dugout.

He is still polite to the media types, the proxies of the public, the breed that devastated Maris in '61, the types already shooed away by the guy who took a short-lived run at being McGwire's National League counterpart this year, Eric Davis of the Cincinnati Reds.

Mark McGwire would be just another serious candidate to fade after the All-Star break were it not for his innate level-headedness, and for an A's batting coach who is a superb keeper of calm in others, Bob Watson, four years ago the steady clutch hitter and professor of plate demeanor with the Atlanta Braves.

McGwire may make a run at 61. But there is a shudder in that thought, a memory of a frozen night in Fargo, N.D. at Christmas time of 1985, and the tear-filled eyes of Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford and most of all Clete Boyer, the man who had roomed with Maris in '61 and had lockered beside him. Humbly asking for 'the watch'

On that night before Roger Maris' funeral the ice clinked into glasses late as they drank "to Roger," and when old Yankees were sad, what made them saddest was remembrance of late summer, '61.

"His hair had started coming out," Clete Boyer remembered of what befell the good kid of '61, "from the pressure, even when things were going good. Then there was the Sunday afternoon in Baltimore when Roger went 1-for-9 in a doubleheader. One-for-nine. So what? This reporter came to Roger in the clubhouse and said, 'You're choking, aren't you?' Nowadays you wouldn't think much about a question like that. But we just didn't get such questions in those days, and Roger was already under so much pressure. On the way out of Municipal Stadium, Roger said to' me, 'That's it. I won't talk to them any more.' It was over between Roger and the media from there." Pain that would gnaw at the rest of Roger Maris' life had begun that August day. In his tears, Clete Boyer remembered an end to hero worship, and the hardening of a good kid. "The watch" had gotten Roger Maris, whatever the trigger, and from there the public, prompted by the media, put an asterisk by Maris' record, because he used all of a 162-game season to break Babe Ruth's record of 60 homers in the 154-game season of 1927. "The watch" may never come for Mark McGwire. But he is happily, humbly asking for it. If it comes, in this day and time, the media will be proportionately tougher, and the public proportionately more skeptical, than in '61, for so many fallen idols have made us that way, and you wonder just how much of it Mark McGwire will be able to grin and golly-gee away.

Dressed in his summer Navy whites, David Robinson answers questions about his present and future.

Robinson sets priorities

Tallest Navy ensign says Spurs will have to improve, keep team happy and draw fans if they expect him to play in San Antonio when two-year hitch is over

By Susan Howard Staff Writer

ST. MARYS — Ann King made certain she had a front-row seat inside a room of the Public Affairs Office at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. A deputy officer in the Equal Opportunity Employment Office at the base, King was determined to get an autograph from Ensign David Robinson. "I met him last week at the BOQ (Bachelor Officer's Quarters)," King said. "He was so cute. He's so tall and

Braves manager Chuck Tanner views the 11-game road

swing that begins Thursday as a 'make-or-break time.'

he was bending over so much, just so he could get to the salad bar."

Then King pointed to a miniature basketball in her left hand. "I'm getting an autograph for my son, Mark," she said, smiling. "He's 19 years old and he's a big fan of David's."

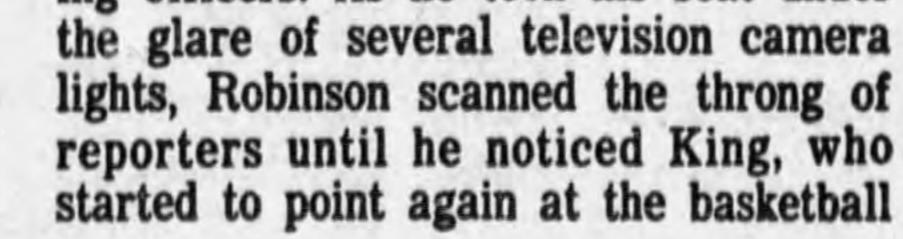
A minute later, Robinson entered the room under the escort of two commanding officers. As he took his seat under in her lap. A smile swept across Robinson's face as he winked and nodded.

Mark would get his autograph. No ensign at this or any other naval base is in such demand for autographs and interviews, but this ensign is 7-foot-1 and the NBA's No. 1 draft pick. Wedesday became the unofficial David Robinson Day at Kings Bay as the 21year-old center held his first press conference since reporting for active duty two weeks ago. No longer just an athletic Middie, Robinson is officially in the Navy now.

Whether he officially is a San Antonio Spur soon remains questionable. Robinson's comments Wednesday indicated he is hesitant to sign with San An-

And so you wait ...

Constitution sports columnist Dave Kindred is on vacation.



See ROBINSON, Page 9-D

An unsuccessful trip could lead to another bummer of a summer Before break After break

All-Star Game wrap-up, Page 4-D Expos on deck, Page 5-D By Gerry Fraley Staff Writer

MONTREAL — Before heading into their three-day summer vacation, the Atlanta Braves received a warning: Look at the schedule.

It presents a familiar and chilling sight. The Braves, who begin the second section of their season with Thursday's 7:35 p.m. game against Montreal at Olympic Stadium, face the same torturous stretch they could not handle last year.

"We've got to be ready to go right away," Bruce Benedict said. "This is where we got killed last year."

Manager Chuck Tanner calls it "a make-or-break

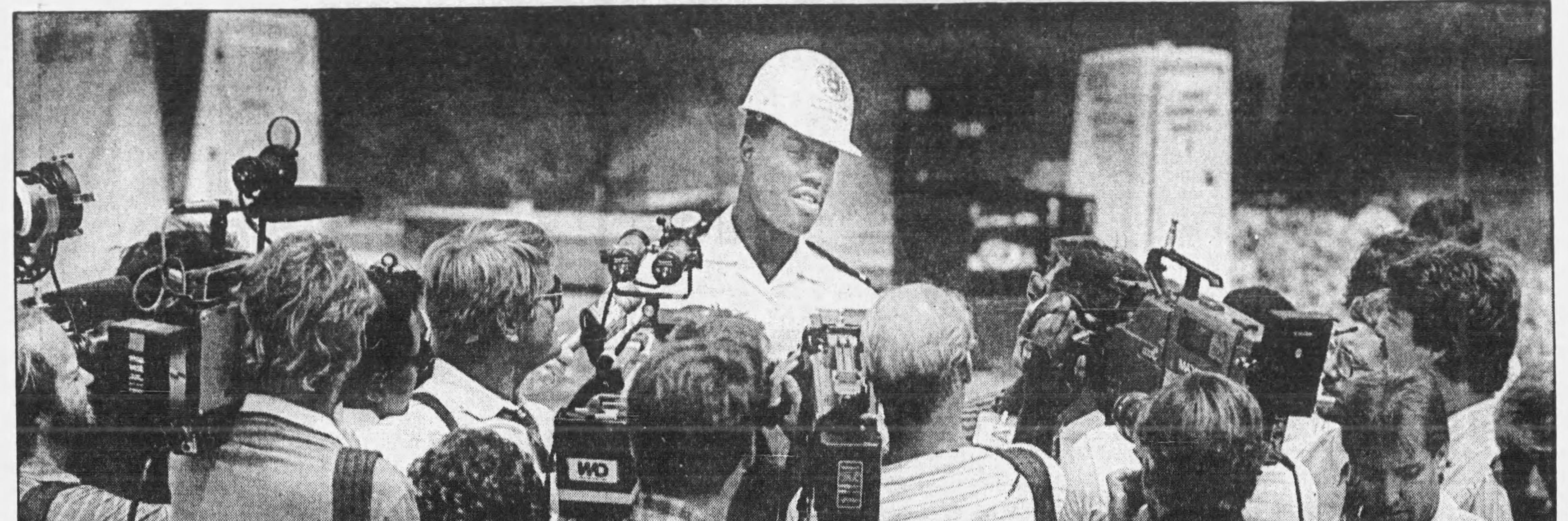
Braves' second-half slumps						
	Before break			After break		
Year	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
1982	51	33	.607	38	40	.487
1983	49	31	.613	39	43	.476
1984	46	41	.529	34	41	.453
1985	39	47	.453	27	49	.355
1986	42	46	.477	30	43	.411
1987	41	46	.471			

time." He said the same thing last year. The Braves broke.

In 1986, the Braves returned from the All-Star break six games off the lead and still considered cou-

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"一、""嗯"是一次是一些是一些打的情绪的 THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION *** Thursday, July 16, 1987 'I belong to San Antonio until the year is up?"



Navy Ensign David Robinson towers over questioners and cameramen on Wednesday as he meets the med ia for first time since his arrival at Kings Bay, Ga., site of submarine base under construction.

Robinson

From Page 1-D

tonio, the team that drafted him at least this year.

"San Antonio has to show me that they have the will to want to win and to want to make their team better in the next few years," Robinson said. "They have to show me that the players enjoy playing there, that the fans will come out and support the team.

"It's a packaging thing. The money isn't the main thing. They have to make themselves look real good when I go there (for a visit in the fall). I'm going to go down there, then talk to my agent, then tell him if I want to play there.

"I've heard positive and negative things, more negative because their season was so bad the last couple of years."

As a recent graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Robinson lucked out - well, sort of.

Unlike the typical college athlete, he cannot go directly to the pros. On the other hand, instead of the standard five years of active duty upon graduation from the academy, Robinson faces only a two-year commitment. That courtesy was extended by John F. Lehman Jr., the former secretary of the Navy, because of Robinson's athletic promise.

still a considerable amount of time for the nation's top college basketball player. For two seasons, Robinson will have to miss out on a pro basketball career that could guarantee him millions. During that time, he will make an estimated \$400 a month for working on an explosivehandling wharf for a Trident submarine.

Rod Thorn, vice president of operations for the NBA, describes Robinson's situation as the most unusual in the history of the league.

"He grew from 6-foot-6 to 7foot-1 while he was in the military academy, which is unusual in itself," Thorn said. "Then his skill increased three- or four-fold after that and that's very unusual.

"At the end of his sophomore year (Robinson's last opportunity to transfer out of the academy to another school), I don't think that even he thought he would be destined to be in the position he was in on draft day. He was a talent, yes, but he most certainly wasn't the talent he is today. I wonder: Would he have made the same decision if he had to do it all over again today?"

Robinson was asked the question Wednesday. "If I had a little crystal ball where I could see, yeah, I would have transferred," he said. "It would have been stupid for me

have absolutely no cision. I regrets."

Robinson hinted at what could become an uphill, but feisty battle with the NBA constitution. According to the NBA, the Spurs will retain Robinson's rights until he finishes his stint in the Navy. But Robinson argues that the NBA ruling should not apply to him. He wants to be treated like any other rookie who doesn't sign with a team this year. If Robinson doesn't reach an agreement with the Spurs, he wants to re-enter the draft in 1988.

The NBA disagrees with Robinson's interpretation of a bylaw which states that a team should retain its original rights to player who is inducted into the military.

"It isn't fair to us that a team should draft a player and lose their rights because that player was inducted into the military," Thorn said. "When Robinson elected to stay at the academy after his sophomore year, he agreed to be inducted into the military. He could have transferred, but he didn't."

Bob Bass, the Spurs' general manager, expressed surprise at reports that Robinson was lukewarm to the prospect of San Antonio holding his rights for two years. A moratorium on contract negotiations for all NBA players extends until Oct. 1 and Bass has yet to even talk to Robinson. But when the Spurs get the green light to discuss contracts, Bass said, "We're going to make every effort to sign him to a contract - every effort."

will try to "force the issue," but warned that it won't be without a contest.

"They (the Spurs and the NBA) are looking out for their own interests," he said. "But if it's not in my best interest and if this comes up as an issue, then I'm going to protest it. Right now, I belong to San Antonio until the year is up."

He is aware that Kareem Abdul-Jabbar just signed a two-year contract with the Los Angeles Lakers. And yes, he has thought about the possibility of filling Jabbar's shoes. "Looks good to me," he said.

But, "I don't look at myself as playing for any specific team. Even if the Lakers or the Celtics were to have drafted me, I would have had to go there" to inspect the team, Robinson said.

Forgotten Wednesday was the fact that Kings Bay is the future east coast base of the Trident submarine and, as such, ranks as the most expensive (\$1.3 billion) peacetime construction project in the history of the U.S. Navy. The developmental impact that the base will have on this small Camden County town, 30 miles north of Jacksonville, Fla., was inconsequential to the two busloads of 50 media members who were escorted to the base.

According to Comm. Frank Evans, director of public affairs for the base, the press conference for Robinson was larger than the one held when the base was selected as a Trident site in 1979.

That fact alone surprised Robinson, who appeared embarrassed at the attention. After a photo session on the edge of a wharf that doubles as his work site, Robinson confessed, "It's wild. I wouldn't have imagined that all these people would be interested in my day-today activities on a construction site. If you took a camera and documented the day of an engineer, you wouldn't get too many people to go to the theater to watch that."

Dressed in his summer Navy white uniform, Robinson did not display any signs of athletic prowess. Aside from his height, he appeared to be just another ensign. He did concede that such status might earn him a few salutes.

And that might be the only thing Robinson gets. His commanding officer, Capt. Kent Riffey, pro-

claimed that Robinson, "won't be treated any differently than any other officer."

As the resident officer of the construction project, Robinson is learning how to become a contract administrator. "I go over contracts, help negotiate with the contractors and make sure that the specifications are followed through," Robinson said.

He is unsure about receiving endorsements and risking his amateur status. Lonely shooting sessions in the gym and a self-designed weight lifting program are his constant reminders of a basketball career put on hold.

"There's not a whole lot of basketball around here in Kings Bay. This is not the best place for basketball, and I really don't get the chance to play with anyone," he said. "Basketball is just not a part of my day every day. For the most . part, I work out by myself, I shoot by myself and I lift weights."

Not even a pick-up game?

"I get into a few pick-up games with the guys," he said. "Everyone wants to see if they can dunk over David Robinson."

Two years or five years, it's

not to."

As his commanding officers looked on, Robinson paused and shifted his tone. "But standing here right now and looking at you, I would tell you I have absolutely no second thoughts at all about my de-

Robinson suspects that the NBA

Carter

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Berry said prodding from Carter's older brother, George, got Cris involved with Walters and Bloom.

"Cris received a mailing from their agency (in April 1986) which Cris' brother, George, opened," Berry said. "Cris said he wasn't interested, but George asked Cris if he could call and find out about the agency."

According to Berry, George Carter traveled to New York to talk to both agents about Cris.

"The whole thing sounds funny because George came back and told Cris that the agency would loan him some money," Berry said. "Cris had been a little low on funds and George knew this. He said they would loan him \$5,000, interest free, and that **Bloom** wanted to deliver the money himself in Columbus. Cris told me he needed the money and that he told George to tell Bloom to come down.

"When Bloom came to Columbus, Cris drove him and George around the town. They finally convinced Cris to sign the contract (on May 1, 1986), which would also pay \$150 a month." Berry said George Carter also signed the contract.

Berry said he became involved this April when Cris' other brother, Bruce (a former NBA player) called him to say Cris might be in difficulty with agents.

"I then talked to Cris and he told me what had happened," said Berry. "I then called the NCAA and told them I had an athlete that would come forward and tell all, asking if this would soften the penalities against him when the whole thing came out. But they said they couldn't do anything about it, that it first would have to be handled by the school.

Berry contacted the U.S. attorney's office, and they told him not to go to the university because i might jeopardize the grand jury's investigation, which was just starting in Chicago.

"That's why we waited going to the school," Berry said. "The U.S. attorney did not want anything to get out. But last week, the U.S. attorney's office said we could go to the school because Carter was about to testify."

Berry indicated he believes George Carter works for Walters and Bloom. Walters has refused to comment on whether he has employed George Carter.

months he heard rumors about Carter signing a contract and taking money, but "until last week I hadn't heard anything substantial."

"But last Thursday, Berry and Kevin Sharkey (another atterney representing Carter) called me told me they needed to meet with me about Cris," he said. "I told them they would have to meet with coach Bruce because I had to go to New York. They did. And I talked to coach Bruce later that night, and he indicated to me that our worst fears had been realized and that Carter had signed a contract of some sorts and received some money."

The next day, Bay and Bruce met with Carter, Sharkey and Berry in New York.

"Cris felt very badly," Bay said. "He indicated his regret. But clearly he had done what was alleged to be done over all these months. We knew then he was through at Ohio State."

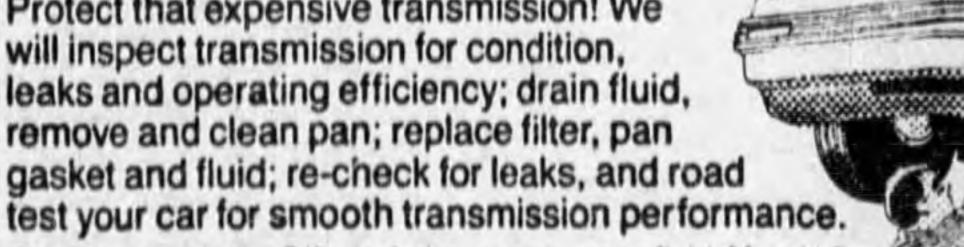
Bay said he doesn't expect the NCAA to take any action against Ohio State.

Berry said there is a possibility of criminal charges being brought against Carter.



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"Cris was under 21, and the contract required parental consent in that case," he said. "George explained to Cris that he did this because if there were any difficulties with the contract, then it was George that was responsible."

The payments stopped, according to Berry, in March when The Atlanta Constitution printed a story on the agents.

George Carter was not available for comment.

Bay said he first found out about Carter and his involvement with the agents through an Atlanta Constitution reporter.

"A reporter from Atlanta called me and asked me if I knew anything," Bay said. "I said I would check it out. I called Cris in here with coach Bruce, and Cris said he knew Walters and Bloom but denied taking money from them or signing a contract. We had no evidence to believe otherwise."

Bay said over the next few

"Possibly, he could be charged with fraud, mail and wire fraud. and income tax evasion under federal statutes," Berry said. "The fraud is that Cris signed a form last August verifying that he was eligible to play."

Berry said he doesn't expect Carter to petition the NFL to enter a supplemental draft for the upcoming season.

"I'm not positive about what Cris is going to do," he said. "But I don't see him playing pro ball this year. I think he'll spend this season in school, trying to get his life back together.

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