

Bad stuff won't spoil our fall Saturdays

John Fowles, the novelist, spends a great deal of time and finds a great peace in the ancient Anglican churches of Britain.

He is a non-believer.

But amid maddening change and dizzying cynicism in his England and his world, he finds a soothing stability where "people do what people have always

Soon, again, we will do what we have always (it seems, at least) done: We will gather by the tens of thousands, and young men will tee up footballs and kick them

Like Fowles at his churches, many of us will shed our cynicism outside the stadia and rest in the ritual itself, whatever portion of it we believe anymore.

For our sanity's sake - for we need college football too badly as release from madness to allow ourselves to think of it as a madness in itself — we will choose to forget, amid the roars and the scent of bourbon on the breeze and the seas of "shakers" (red, black, blue, gold, white, orange), what we can summarize as "all the bad stuff."

The creeping of agents or their gobetweens into campus hangouts to court players too young, the controversial settlements of eligibilities, the lining up of youths for urinalyses, the grilling of coaches concerning how much of their charges' lives they will take responsibility for ... we will not dwell on that.

Neither will the coaches, nor the players, nor even the dour academicians dwell on it, once the digits of the stadium clocks start to dwindle urgently - more urgently, it always seems at the time and place, than anything else we know of.

Youth, laid bare and simple

We cannot dwell on the bad stuff, not just because so many need the ritual so badly as an anchor, but because there is still more good than bad in college football. And each September we manage not so much to remember this as to accept, instinctively, the easement of our fretting that the playing of the game itself provides.

It is during the games that we see the youths laid bare and simple, especially in television closeups and printed pictures faces joyous, faces tense, faces in pain, faces devastated, faces shocked, faces spilling tears. Just kids, after all, who succeed or fail at something and react accordingly.

At other times we judge them harshly, denying what they are — a cross section of American youth, no more, no less.

But with the coming of the season, we see and feel only the glow, and find new things to hope for.

We look to a Bill Curry, who tells us he has gone on a mission, for a purpose,

to Alabama. And, doubters though we have become, we hope, all of us, deep inside, that we have to end up admitting he told us so - that there must be a way to win decently, honestly.

Nowhere is there more awareness of the bad stuff in college football than in the sports department of a major newspaper - especially at this newspaper, where colleagues of mine have laid open so much of the damaged tissue of college football, leading, hopefully, to excision and some healing.

A time for arguments, optimism

Yet here, on the sixth floor at 72 Marietta Street, where the doings of Lloyd Bloom and Norby Walters and the eligibility tribulations of Jeff Burger have been with us virtually every moment of summer - and where the questions of exploitation and academic indecency are with us always - we still find enough good in college football to get excited about.

And you the public go about the happy work-a-day arguments and questions of preseason: Can Lars Tate hold up carrying the ball that many times a game? Will Bobby Ross' work-ethic thoroughness really make Georgia Tech an ACC title contender this soon?

You plan to pack the motor homes and get a little rowdy, but as every good fan knows, it's the other team's fans who are insufferable.

You know the preseason pulp magazines have picked somebody else to win the SEC, or the ACC, or the national championship; but in August the fan's reasoning is done with the heart, and so surely there is a chance, if your team can just get past so-and-so . . .

And you pass by the campuses and in the distance you hear the drums of the

bands beginning their practice. And you know, whatever you believe about the ritual, that it is time to go again and do what we've been doing for so long.

Six fail Pan Am Games drug tests

More Pan Am coverage, Page 3-D By Bud Shaw Staff Writer

INDIANAPOLIS - Amid growing confusion about drug-testing procedures at the Pan American Games, six athletes - including U.S. hammer thrower Bill Green were disqualified Monday after testing positive for banned substances.

Green, of Torrance, Calif., tested positive for an anabolic steroid.

The others who failed tests for various

banned substanceswere Bernardo Ocando of Venezuela, a silver and bronze medalist in shooting; Orlando Vasquez-Mendose of Nicaragua, winner of three bronze medals in weightlifting; Elnes Bollings, a men's basketball player from the U.S. Virgin Islands; and weightlifters Javier Jimenez of Colombia and Pedro Torres of Venezuela.

Green, Vasquez-Mendose and Ocando will be stripped of their medals. The others had not won medals.

Mario Vazquez Rana, president of Pan American Sports Organization (PASO), said

Monday that "two or three more cases" are under review and that PASO would release the results in the next few days.

The drug-testing confusion stems from Rana's contention that the PASO medical commission is testing all medal winners in every Pan American Games sport. But commission head Dr. Eduardo DeRose said Monday that while all medal winners are tested in track and field and weightlifting that is not the case in sports such as swimming and shooting.

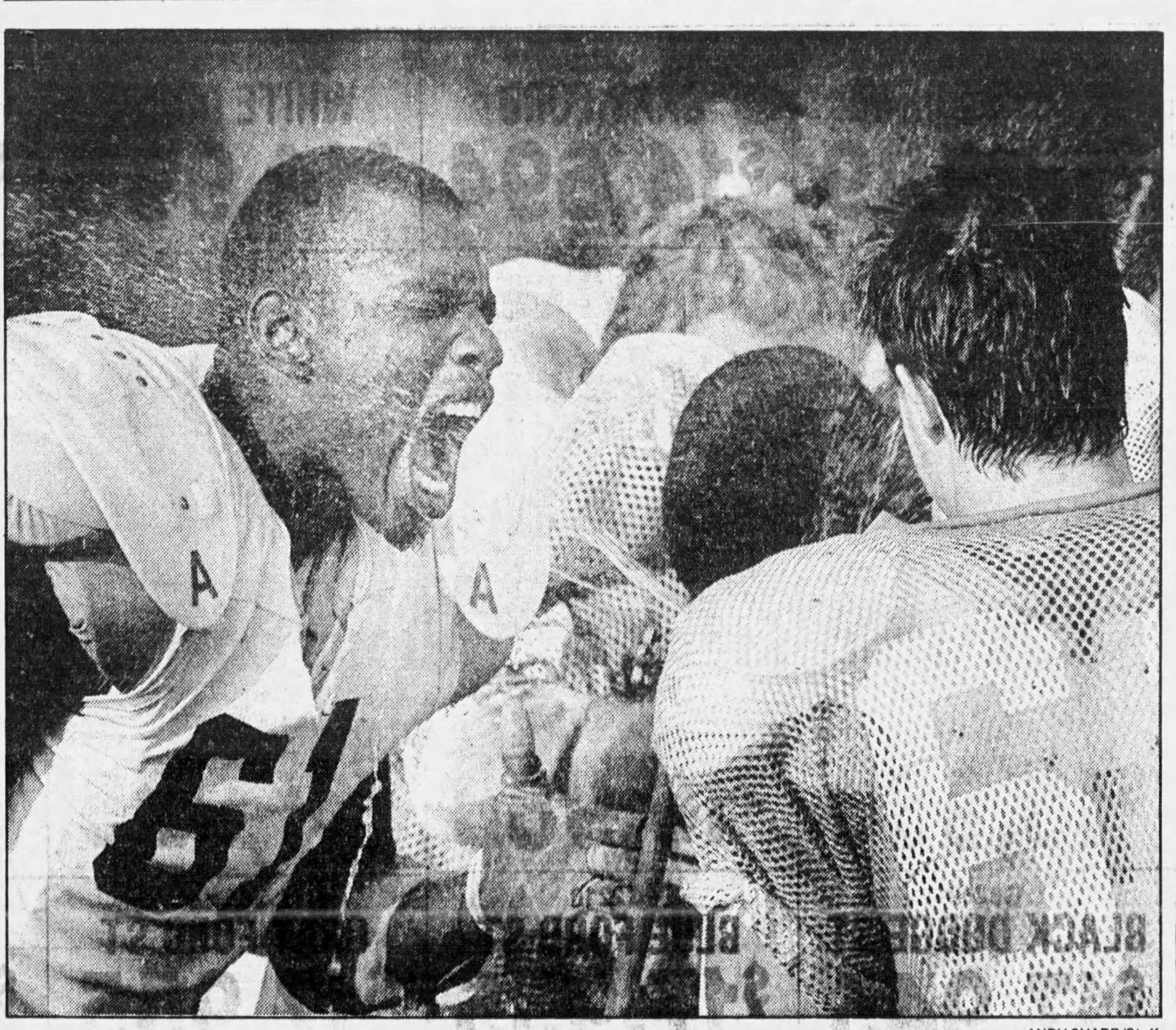
"We are trusting some federations to

choose athletes for testing in some sports," DeRose said. Asked if the testing was predicated on trust, DeRose said, "Yes, science and trust."

All medal winners and other athletes chosen at random were tested at the Los Angeles Olympics.

"I don't know if I can say I'm surprised when an athlete tests positive," said Stephen Sobel, chief of the U.S. team. "I'm only disappointed."

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ANDY SHARP/Staff

A crowd around the hose

ROME, Ga. — Randall Smith takes a pause for refreshment during East Rome High School's preseason work-

out. Monday was the first day Georgia teams were allowed to practice in pads.

TCU clears Jeffery of agent dealings

By I.J. Rosenberg and Evan Grant Staff Writers

Texas Christian running back Tony Jeffery has been cleared by the school of violating NCAA rules in his association

with two Atlanta-based sports agents, TCU's chancellor said Monday night. The announcement came five days af-

ter a TCU vice chancellor confronted. Jeffery about his relationship with agent Jim Abernethy and his associate, Gary Wilson.

"We have found no evidence of loans, payments, contracts or inducements," TCU chancellor William E. Tucker said. "There is no evidence that Tony Jeffery violated the rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association."

However, a source close to the TCU athletic department said the school has not closed its inquiry.

TCU football coach Jim Wacker said last week he first asked Jeffery about the Atlanta agents a month earlier. Last Wednesday Jeffery met for two hours with TCU vice chancellor William Kohler and denied he had broken NCAA rules.

At that meeting, Jeffery was asked if he had allowed Abernethy and Wilson to pay for travel expenses to Atlanta, which would violate NCAA rules. Wilson, who has described himself as a friend of Jeffery's, acknowledged last week that Jeffery has been a guest in his home and that he has made reservations for Jeffery at an Atlanta hotel.

But Wilson said he never paid Jeffery's expenses, and Abernethy denied any association with Jeffery.

Neither Wilson nor Abernethy could be reached for comment Monday night.

"I'm glad it is over," Jeffery said. "My teammates voting me captain (over the weekend) shows me that stuff like this doesn't get the team down and that they supported me all along."

"Are we ever gratified to get this situation over with and behind us?" Wacker said. "Now we can move on and direct our efforts to football.

"Agents' involvements with our intercollegiate athletes is a very real concern. It's scary. I am just glad that in the case of Tony, we could find nothing to substantiate such a relationship."

Reversal on Burger draws fire

Academic committee head cites 'football' pressures

> By David Davidson College Editor

Two members of Auburn University's academic honesty committee said Monday a school official bowed to pressures in a "football state" when he overturned the committee's recommendation of a two-quarter suspension for quarterback Jeff Burger last week.

"I'm sad and disappointed to admit I do believe that," said Dr. Gregory Jeane, an associate professor of geography who chairs the academic honesty committee. "The fact this young man was an athlete was simply ignored by the committee, but it was not ignored by the administration."

The honesty committee had recommended Burger be suspended from school for two quarters, ending his college football career, for plagiarism on an industrial psy-chology term paper. The committee also recommended Burger receive an F in the course and have his transcript marked for "academic dishonesty."

But Dr. Warren Brandt, Auburn's vice president for academic affairs, threw out the suspension Friday — the first time he has ever rejected a recommendation of the committee. Brandt agreed Burger should receive an F in the course, but said the "dishonesty" mark would be removed from his transcript if he retakes the course and passes it.

"I am disappointed with Dr. Brandt's decision," said Jeane, who - like other members of the committee - had refused to speak publicly on the matter previously. "As chairman of the committee, I don't agree with his decision.

"Part of my frustration is that of the 35 or 36 cases this committee has heard under the present honesty code (which was adopted in February 1986), this is the only one in which there has been a reversal of sanctions. That would seem on the surface to imply that previous sanctions might be questioned.

"The responsibility of the committee is, to the best of its ability, to recommend comparable sanctions for comparable violations," Jeane said. "That's exactly what the committee did. This is not the first plagiarism case like this that has come to the

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Dogs signee Elmore Spencer in psychiatric unit at Grady

By Evan Grant and Thomas O'Toole Staff Writers

The University of Georgia's top basketball signee was listed in satisfactory condition in the psychiatric unit at Grady Memorial Hospital on Monday, a hospital spokesperson said.

Elmore Spencer, a 6-foot-11 center from Washington High School in Atlanta, was admitted to the hospital "a week and a couple of days ago" and will stay there until Friday, according to his sister, Donna Spencer. She would not provide details about his condition.

Hospital officials would not say why

or when he was admitted. "We keep everything confidential in the hospital to protect the patient," said William Reed, the head nurse in the psychiatric unit. "But in this ward, we're doubly protective."

A request to speak with Spencer Monday was denied. According to officials at Grady, Spencer's doctor has ordered that no visitors be allowed.

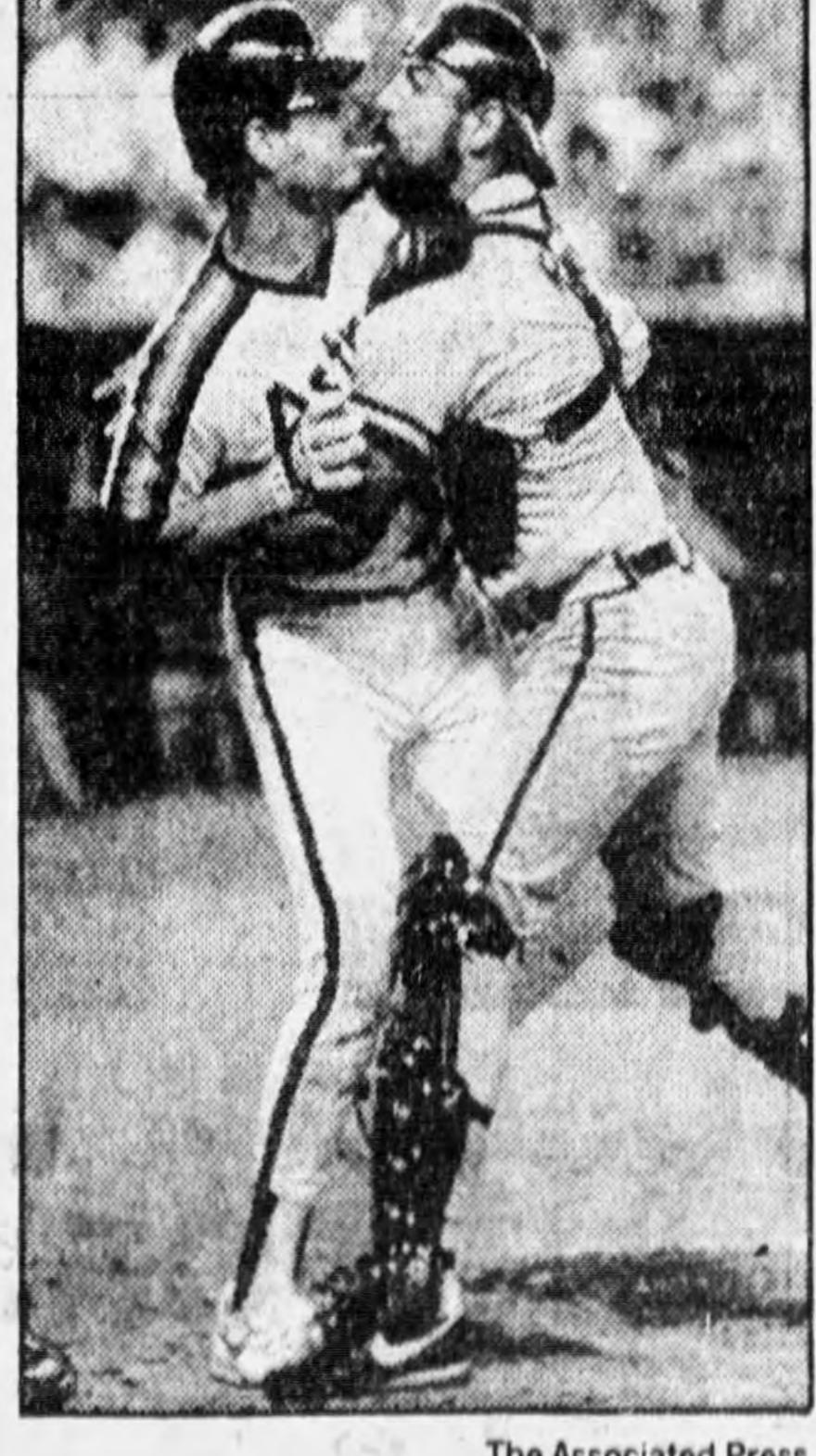
None of Georgia's basketball coaches knew of Spencer's hospitalization until informed by a reporter Monday afternoon. Head coach Hugh Durham sent assistant Larry Gay to Grady immediately.

Neither Durham nor Gay would comment on Spencer's condition Monday

Spencer's high school coach, Robert Bell, said Monday that Spencer was admitted to the hospital for dehydration. Asked why Spencer is in the psychiatric unit, Bell said he did not know.

Spencer, who made numerous high school all-America teams, played earlier this year in the prestigious McDonald's All-Star game. In his most recent competition - Georgia's 107-103 loss to Tennessee in an all-star game on July 31 -Spencer had 14 points and 19 rebounds in 27 minutes.

He has met the academic requirements for admission to Georgia and will be eligible as a freshman.



The Associated Press

Ozzie Virgil restrains Astros' Glenn Davis from charging the mound after being hit by a pitch.

Astros tough on Glavine, Braves 11-2

Braves notebook, Page 2-D By Gerry Fraley

HOUSTON — Welcome to the major leagues, Tom Glavine. There will be better nights than this.

Not every game has the Cy Young winner as an opponent, a batter hit in the neck, a Greco-Roman wrestling match, a benches-emptying non-brawl and a manager barking at a pitcher.

The Atlanta Braves sometimes even play better than they did in Monday night's 11-2 loss to Houston at the Astro-

Sometimes. The Braves, who have lost five straight and 22 of 31 since the All-Star break, showed Glavine the seamy side of major-league life. Under disorderly conditions, Glavine allowed

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL REPORT

Alabama: SEC checks Humphrey rumors

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - The SEC has made preliminary inquiries into rumors that Alabama tailback Bobby Humphrey has had dealings with an agent, Alabama football coach Bill Curry said Monday. But an SEC official indicated the league has no evidence that Humphrey has dealt with an agent. "There have been all kinds of rumors, but we have talked to Bobby and looked him in the eye, and he has told us 'No,' and that's good enough for me," Curry said. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Southern Mississippi.

Duke: Speed impresses Spurrier

DURHAM, N.C. - New Duke coach Steve Spurrier has been looking for enough speed to utilize his pass-oriented attack and may have found it in Clarkston Hines, a sophomore wide receiver from Jacksonville, Fla. Hines was hampered as a redshirt freshman last season by a knee injury, on which he wore a brace. The brace now gone, Hines has been impressive in early drills for the Blue Devils with his 4.4 speed. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Colgate.

Florida: Odom to rejoin team

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - Walter Odom, a senior tight end who missed most of the past two seasons at Florida, will be declared academically eligible. Odom started the first six games of the 1985 season before being suspended for disciplinary reasons. Odom, 6-4, 233, missed the 1986 season due to academic prob-*lems. He has 27 career catches for 358 yards. Florida went through its first full contact drills Monday. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Miami.

FSU: Clark ruled academically ineligible

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Ed Clark, a junior linebacker at Florida State who was involved in an incident that left a teammate dead last season, was ruled academically ineligible on Monday. Clark, from Miami, took part in an altercation at a fraternity party last September on campus in which offensive tackle Pablo Lopez was shot and killed. Another man was charged with the shooting, but Clark was suspended by coach Bobby Bowden. Clark stayed in school trying to be reinstated to the team, but was dismissed for academic reasons. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Texas Tech.

Kentucky: Gardner rejoins team

LEXINGTON, Ky. - Kentucky junior defensive tackle Carwell Gardner, suspended from the team during spring drills, rejoined the Wildcats on Monday. Kentucky will hold its first preseason practice Tuesday. Gardner, Kentucky's third-leading tackler last season, was suspended after getting into an argument with an assistant coach last spring. Opener: Sept. 12 vs. Utah State.

LSU: Murray lost to academics

BATON ROUGE, La. - Keith Murray, a junior reserve receiver and punter, was ruled academically ineligible at LSU.... LSU has also lost two young players to injuries. Freshman nose guard Chris Truax, son of former LSU star Billy Truax, will require shoulder surgery for an injury that occurred last season at Richardson (Texas) High School. Sophomore outside linebacker Vince Robinson will be lost for the season with a herniated disc in his lower back. Robertson hurt his back earlier this summer. He had surgery Monday. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Texas A&M.

Maryland: Abdur-Ra'oof begins comeback

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — The temperature soared to almost 100 degrees Monday, and as a result Maryland's practice was moved to evening. It didn't seem to bother wide receiver Azizuddin "Ziz" Abdur-Ra'oof, one of Maryland's biggest question marks as he recovers from an Achilles' tendon injury suffered against North Carolina last year. Coach Joe Krivak has left little doubt he is pleased with the initial workouts by Abdur-Ra'oof. "If the whole team ran like that, we'd be happy." Ziz said his muscles tightened up before practice, but he's confident that time will work out the stiffness. "I think I'll get faster the more I run and regain my old form. What I'm doing now isn't terrible; it's just not what I'm used to," he said. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Syracuse.

Miami: Johnson makes linebacker change

MIAMI - Sophomore Bernard Clark has replaced Randy Shannon as Miami's starting strong-side linebacker, coach Jimmy Johnson said Monday. Clark, 6-2, 238, from Tampa, had 39 tackles last year in a backup role and runs a 4.88-second 40-yard dash. Shannon, a junior from Miami, had 82 tackles last year. Monday was the first day returning players practiced.... Johnson said he was not as optimistic about the prospects for his team as his fellow coaches, who picked the Hurricanes ninth in the first · UPI poll. "If they picked us ninth in the UPI poll, then they didn't see us run the 110s," Johnson said. "We're not in that good of shape at this point." Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Florida.

Ole Miss: Star recruit quits team

OXFORD, Miss. - Rod Baker, a high school All-America quarterback, has quit the Ole Miss team, coach Billy Brewer revealed Monday. Baker, who led Louisville (Miss.) High to two straight Class AAAA championships, left the team for no apparent reason, Brewer said. Sources at Ole Miss Indicate that Baker, who threw for 1,745 yards as a senior, showed up 15 pounds overweight for the first workout. ... Brewer also announced that junior tailback Johnny Boatman has left the team. Boatman was married over the winter.... The Rebels will hold their first workout in pads Tuesday. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Memphis State.

North Carolina: Trying to beat the heat

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. - North Carolina closed three days of conditioning Monday with workouts in heat that reached the high 90s. The Tar Heels will don full pads Tuesday. "I thought the players had come back in good shape and after these three days, I know that's true," said coach Dick Crum. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Illinois.

N.C. State: Worthen to return in '88

RALEIGH, N.C. - All-ACC flanker Nasrallah Worthen, suspended from the N.C. State team for the 1987 season by coach Dick "Sheridan, is expected to return in 1988. Worthen, who led the team with 41 catches last season, was suspended for an altercation with a man on the N.C. State campus. Worthen has also been charged with assaulting two Raleigh women, but a final decision in that case is pending completion of 50 hours of public service work by Worthen. Worthen is currently practicing with the varsity, but will not compete in games. He is scheduled to graduate next June but will return as a graduate student to use his final year of eligibility. N.C. State held its first practices in pads Monday. Opener: Sept. 5 vs. East Carolina.

South Carolina: Player unhappy with switch

COLUMBIA, S.C. - Greg Philpott, a three-year starter at free safety for South Carolina, has been moved to strong safety by defensive coordinator Joe Lee Dunn. Brad Edwards, who has started three seasons at strong safety, has been moved to free safety. Dunn is in his first year at South Carolina, but worked with coach Joe Morrison at UT-Chattanooga and New Mexico. Dunn said he made the move to take advantage of Philpott's "aggressiveness." Philpott, an honorable mention All-American last season, does not agree. "I was shocked," he said. "I didn't feel good about it, but I'm a team player. I can deal with it." Opener: Sept. 5 vs. Appalachian State.

Tennessee: QB Francis injures ankle

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee quarterback Jeff Francis injured an ankle in Monday's practice, but the extent of the injury will not be known until Tuesday. ... Two freshman players missed prac-- tice Monday due to back injuries suffered in Saturday's drills. Kacy Rodgers, a lineman, and defensive back Tony Nelson are listed as day-to-day. Opener: Aug. 30 vs. lowa.

Wake Forest: Top lineman a no-show

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - Paul Mann, Wake Forest's only returning starter on the offensive line, was a no-show for picture day Sunday, and his status is unknown. Mann, a 6-3, 260-pound guard, missed spring practice with a shoulder injury and was considered questionable for the season by coach Bill Dooley's staff. A fifth-year senior, Mann attended school and worked throughout the summer rehabilitating. Opener: Sept. 12 vs. Richmond.

- Compiled from correspondents' reports

Ross summons his QBs for a meeting

By LJ. Rosenberg Staff Writer

Georgia Tech coach Bobby Ross has summoned all three of his quarterbacks to a Tuesday meeting, at which time Ross says he will reveal Tech's starting quarterback for this season.

As of Monday, Rick Strom, Todd Rampley and Darrell Gast all continued to think they are the man. Ross said he would not divulge the name of the starter until meeting with the candidates.

"I've got a lot of confidence in myself," Strom said. "If it's me, then I'm ready to play. And if it's not me, then I'm going to do my best in camp to make it me, to change their minds. But I think things are going to work out."

"I think that my best is good enough to win the starting quarterback job," Gast said. "But it really doesn't matter what I think. And for better or for worse, I'm just ready to put all this talk behind us and start practice."

Said Rampley, "I'm a little nervous about the whole thing, but I'm looking forward to seeing who it will be. I'm sure the coaches will make the best decision, what's best for the team."

Last year, Strom started 10 of 11 games, completing 87 of 168 passes for 1,011 yards for five touchdowns. His best game came against Georgia when he completed 15 of 26 for 223 yards and a touchdown.

Gast completed 46 of 85 passes for 562 yards and led the offense to its top point totals of the season - 59 against N.C. State, 34 against Duke and 52 against VMI, all victories.

Rampley was redshirted last year, and his only substantial game experience came in the 1985 All-American Bowl when he replaced starter John Dewberry and completed 12 of 23 passes for 98 yards in Tech's 17-14 victory over Michigan State.

"There have been a lot of back-and-forth

comments with the coaching staff about this situation," said Ross, who will number the quarterbacks one through three in Tuesday's meeting.

"(Offensive coordinator) Ralph Friedgen and on an individual basis have gone back and looked at practice film and scrimmage film and game film. It is a decision of some magnitude, but we are not wrong with any of them, which is a comfortable feeling for me. We have given this thing a lot of thought. But I will sit back and think about the decision tonight. Who knows, it could change tommorrow."

But Ross said the decision will be firm after his meeting with the quarterbacks.

"This is the way we are going to start out, and we're not going to be impatient about it," he said. "By that, I mean we're not going to sit back and have an inclination to change just because of this happening or that happening. I have always believed that you go with a guy, give him that good shot."

Dooley tells Dogs to report agent contacts

By Thomas O'Toole Staff Writer

ATHENS - Georgia football coach Vince Dooley, beginning a program of "increased awareness," told his seniors Monday to report any contact they have with sports agents.

"We strongly suggested," said Dooley, "that if they were contacted in any way, we want them to let me or someone on the staff know about it."

According to NCAA rules, agents are allowed to contact college players by mail or telephone before their eligibility has expired. Signing a player before that time, however, is prohibited. By having his players report even a contact, Dooley is taking a hard stand in reaction to recent reports of early player signings by agents Lloyd Bloom and Norby Walters.

Following an afternoon meeting with his seniors only, Dooley also said that along with "working a little harder and increasing their awareness" of potential problems, he is making assistant athletic director Dick Bestwick responsible for an agent-education program. Dooley also said he and the entire coaching staff "will do more individual counseling with designated

Two of those players, linebacker John Brantley and tailback Lars Tate, said they already have received contacts from several agents by mail and phone.

"I just tell them I don't have any need for an agent," said Tate. "For Coach Dooley to have a meeting like this, means he's pretty serious."

Brantley said he has even had calls from agents at a friend's house.

"How they got the number, I'll never know," he said. "But I just tell them I'm not talking to anyone until after the season. Coach Dooley is trying to watch out for us and also for the team, because if somebody does something wrong, it will hurt them and the team."

Also at the meeting, Dooley passed out a handbook published by the NCAA that details the rules involving agents. He also suggested the seniors take advantage of Georgia's agent committee, which is mandated by the NCAA and includes representatives from the law school and business school.

"But I don't care how much you educate them," said Dooley, "you're going to have problems. In the final analysis, it's their (the players') responsibility. They are supposed to know right from wrong."

Dooley already is behind a drive to sponsor legislation in Georgia governing the activities of agents. But he feels "the only solution would be federal legislation."

Georgia moves two freshmen to second team

By Thomas O'Toole

ATHENS - Two freshmen earned spots on the second team, and a returning fullback was dropped to fifth team Monday as Georgia football coach Vince Dooley released his first depth chart of the preseason.

Signee LeMonte Tellis of Peachtree High was listed in a tie for second team with Chris Warren at right tackle. Tellis, who reported at 287, had two outstanding performances in summer all-star games. He is being counted on to provide depth at a critical position on offense.

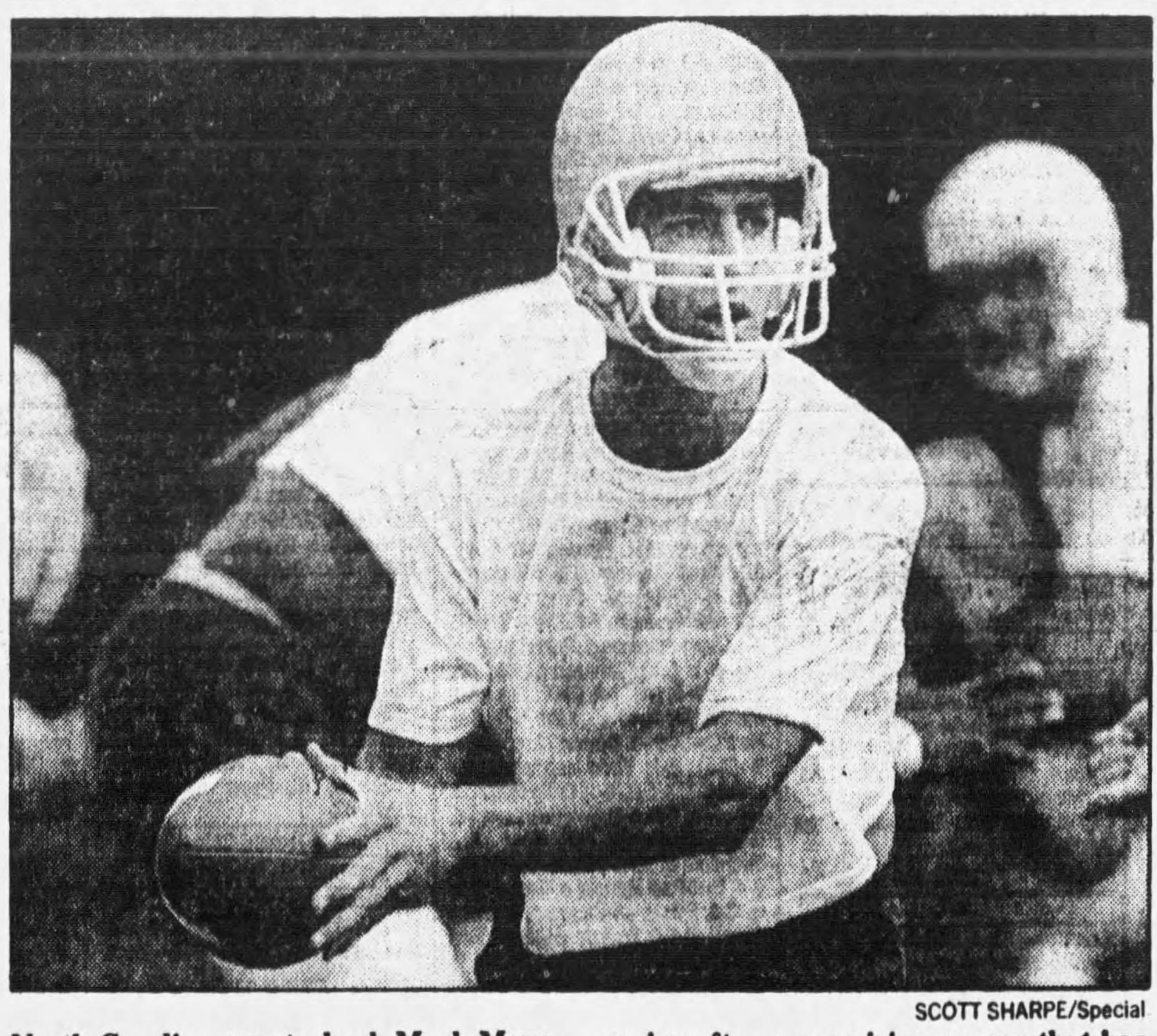
Sophomore Curt Mull is listed as the starter at right tackle, but he was held out of Monday's afternoon practice session because of a lingering knee injury.

Freshman Alphonso Ellis, who also played well in the all-star games, was bracketed with converted defensive guard Hiawatha Berry at second-team fullback. Junior Randy Jackson is listed as first-team.

Junior Kevin Jackson, second-team following. spring practice, was dropped to the fifth spot. The coaching staff is displeased with his condi-

Sophomore tight end Pat Simmons, who appeared in several games as a true freshman, was dropped to fourth team, also because of his conditioning tests. Tight end Kirk Warner, who moved into a tie for first team with Troy Sadowski, was judged the team's best-conditioned

"Some of the changes were made primarily because of the conditioning tests," said Dooley. "But we also feel that some positions will be as competitive as we've ever seen. So we will look at the depth chart every day. We will be very conscious of making changes every day."



senior after a promising career that has been interrupted by shoulder injuries.

North Carolina quarterback Mark Maye aims to reach his potential this year as a

Carolina's Maye takes another shot at destiny

Journal-Constitution reporters are visiting college football practices across the South, reporting on people and events that figure to shape the 1987 season. This is the second in a

By Tom Whitfield

CHAPEL HILL, N.C - Mark Maye is tall, handsome and an all-around nice guy, the kind you'd like your daughter to date.

He was the country's most-coveted, highschool quarterback of 1982, possessor of a strong, accurate arm and the smarts to use it. It was widely assumed he'd be an All-American by now, maybe even a Heisman Trophy

None of that has happened.

series of reports.

He's still 6 feet 4, with looks and smarts intact, and he's still a nice guy, not bitter about the major setback of his life - twoplus years of career-threatening shoulder injuries. He's over them now, with one year remaining at North Carolina to fulfill what everybody considered his destiny.

"I'm not worried about what a lot of people are expecting," said Maye, who started the final six games of the 1986 season and wound up the 12th-rated passer in the nation. "You can't play like that. The main emphasis is that I want to win."

Tar Heels coach Dick Crum, who has always tried to shield Maye from the inevitable great expectations, hasn't given up, but he is softening. "If the experience from last year comes through, he's capable of being outstanding," Crum said.

At one time, it appeared Maye would never get the chance. When he arrived after an outstanding three-sport career at Independence High School in Charlotte, N.C., Crum decided to redshirt him, partially because of a hand injury suffered in an all-star game, partially to allow for adjustment time.

On the first day of fall practice in August 1984, Maye threw and felt a pulling sensation in his shoulder. He tried to play that fall, even made a couple of starts, but threw only

22 passes. Something had gone wrong, but nobody quite knew what until Maye visited Dr. Frank Jobe, the famous Los Angeles-based orthopedic surgeon. In the spring of '85, Jobe performed an operation to correct the problem: When he threw, Maye's right shoulder was coming slightly out of the socket, causing pain

down his arm. "He (Jobe) called us back and said, 'This guy's got the shoulder of one of my 40-yearold pitchers," said Crum. "It's a classic example of throwing baseballs too hard at too

early an age." After the surgery, Maye was told to never pick up a baseball again, dashing his hopes of eventually playing for the Tar Heels and perhaps pursuing a pro career in the footsteps of his father, Jerry, a pitcher in the Minnesota

Twins organization in the early '60s. As far as a football was concerned, it was

wait-and-see. Maye waited 10 months, then threw a football across the training room, a tiny gesture chronicled in most North Carolina newspapers. "It wasn't really throwing," he said. "I was going through the motion and letting

loose an object. I was apprehensive. I wanted

to find out how it was going to feel."



North Carolina

It felt OK, and things started getting better. By the start of the '86 season, Maye was able to play sparingly as a backup to Jonathan Hall. When Hall was injured late in the fifth game of the season, Maye became the starter, even though he was able to throw only one or two days a week.

One of those days was Saturday, Oct. 18, before a packed house of 51,550 at Kenan Stadium. Against N.C. State, Maye was virtually unstoppable, completing 25 of 33 passes for a school-record 311 yards and three touchdowns, with no sacks or interceptions.

On the Tar Heels' final four possessions, Maye was 17-for-19 for 227 yards. In the final 53 seconds, he threw five consecutive completions for 68 yards, including a 13-yard touchdown pass to Quint Smith placed precisely between two defenders.

The Tar Heels lost 35-34 when Maye's receiver slipped down on the two-point conversion, but there was considerable optimism in Chapel Hill. Maye, the quarterback expected to lead North Carolina back to the top of the ACC and beyond, had played a complete game for the first time since high school.

"I thanked the Lord for giving me a chance to go out and play again," said Maye. "It made me feel a lot better about things."

Maye wasn't always a human highlight film the rest of the season, but he came close. A game later, he threw for 316 yards against Maryland. Two games after that, he broke the school passing record again with 319 yards against Duke, including a 51-yard touchdown to Eric Lewis with 2:51 remaining that provided a 42-35 victory.

For the season, Maye finished with 110 completions in 176 attempts for 1,401 yards and six interceptions. The Tar Heels, with major problems on defense, were 7-4-1, including a 30-21 loss to Arizona in the Aloha

This year, expectations are high. Mark Maye will do his best to meet them.

"I think my velocity is about as good as it's ever been," said Maye. "The problem I run into is endurance.

Even with the intense scrutiny he'll receive, Maye's top priority is to have fun. His studies never were a problem — he's at UNC on an academic scholarship — and he's only six hours away from graduating with a degree in business. Beyond that, he'd like to play in the pros, even though he realizes his shoulder's injury history works against him.

Whatever the outcome, he'll be remembered, if for nothing else, for the danger of expecting too much from high-school stars.

"To go through what he's been through and come back is absolutely amazing," said Crum. "It would have been real easy to give

NEXT: North Carolina State speedy receiver Danny Peebles spent his summer as a bank teller, listening to a repititious joke: If the bank is robbed, let Peebles 'catch' the criminals.