Ross coming to grips with enormity of task



Meanyble theres Scorgig Tech.
 any measure, it may no. Tecech has sistas ater
 winchist

 Franky, it it getin emparasasiug nteenents
 Wuke. There was - abject sorrow. Atterward, his
team a 48.14 loser team a $48-14$ 1oser, Ross nearly wept. He apologized to Tech backers. He admitted he "had
not reached" his players. He said, "I'm at a total loss."
Three months ago, a man spent a half-hour winning fast and winning big, and bega column: "Bobby Ross has the answers." In August, Ross was sure of his methods, secure, said. "I sure wouldn't say I'm bad." Now, with the Jackets 2-6, so low they're home-field underdogs to middling Virginia, about all Ross can say are word
"We're laying the groundwork," Ross said Tuesday " "We're going in the direction we have to go... I believe in Georgia Tech. I feel we're
doing the right thing here." And yet. and yet

Doubters are rarely winners
Ross: "One thing is important to the team and the program, and that's to make winning important. Xou've got ito get that pacress Your
priorities have to be academics and education, yes, but football better be damn important, too. I don't know if we've gotten to that point wit this team. You've got to hurrt more (upon losing.. Idon't know if everyone hurts. Daggone,
winning games is important to our alumni, and it's important to me."
Of not hurting to mou." Rosh R emphasized that he meant this team, not any of its predecessors. Still, his message held a Techpardon some for wondering if John Heisman wasn't serious, or Bobby Dodd, or Bill Curry.
bright man, bright man, Ross knows they were. It's just gets a tad paranoid. excuse" said Pess, make it sound like an excuse," said Ross, not quite succeeding, "but
injuries are the biggest problem we have. That's not an excuse. That's a fact. Had we had everybody (healthy), we could've stayed emotional peak we have to now." Against Auburn, the Jackets played like madmen and coulda/shoulda won. Against Tennessee and
Duke, Tech was so listless as to be sedted Of the Duke effort (or lack of same), Ross said: "Maybe four or five guys did not play with the intensity I'm expecting.' This, alas, is also standard transitional fare. Most of these Jackets
weren't reeruited by Ross. When things go wereng reecruited bly Rossi. When things go
wrong certain playes invariably doubt the new guy, his rules and his approach, and they say so among themselves. Seldom is a doubting team a winning team.

A promise: 'Better days ahead'
Standard, too, is the new coach's cupboard is-bare lament. "We have to upgrade
everything." Ross said. "We everything," Ross said. "We have to upgrade our talent level. We need to upgrade our speed
and strength." Gee, wasn't Tech $9-2-1$ not long and strength." Gee, wasn't Tech $9 .-2.1$ not long
apog, gifted enough to beat Georgia (twice) and
Cle Clemson (twice) and Alabama and Michigan State? And didn't these Jackets play Auburn,
perhaps the nation's most gifted team, off its penhaps the nation

Ask Bill Curry, and he'll say he left behind "an awfull lot of players." (No second-guesser staring at $2-9$, and hell say he needs better players, lots of 'em. Key question: Did Ross thinkt there was more talent on hand when he too the job than he does now? Ross thought for 10
seconds, finally saying: "I think I'll withhold comment on that one.

What Ross needs. most is time, time to instail his system, time to bring in players loyal other places, should win here. Then as now, he expects to. Then again, Bobby Ross never expected winning would be this slow in coming. speaking of Duke. "We didn't give Georgia Te people a representative periormance. We've had some problems $-I$ even made a iist of all our injuries - but we should've piayed better
Ithought about that game a long time and discussed it with people important to me, and itt's made me that much more determined do get this thing right. .,. There will be better days
ahead, I promise you that . . I didn't come here ahead, I promise you tha
for this kind of record."

## Walters out $\$ 50,000$ after arbitrator's ruling

##  League Players Association (NFLPA) per. as however, Harmon should not be seen nd jeopardized his rel

 Buffalo Bills running back Ronnie arrmon will not have to repay agentNorby Walters almost $\$ 50,000$ that was given to Harmon dating back to his junior year at the University of lowa, an arbitra-
lor has ruled r has ruled. Arbitrator John Culver, a former U.S. senatron fiom signed in March 1985 beause aining to agents. Harmon was a junior at the agents, according to culver, who repLowa when ne signed the contract with the rimanded the player throughout the gents and began aceepting money from decision. IIt should be emphasized that the arCulver's 30 -page decision, a copy of bitrator does not wish to exculpate Mr
 tution held that Harmon must repay only distasteful case", culver wrote. "Indeed,
55,669977 of the $55,924.42$ that Walters
Mr. Harmon


## wesdilers was unavaiable for comment

 id he was "solreses close to the agent suid he was "sshocke" by the The ruling is another blow to Walters and Bloom, whose dealings with college etes are under investigation by a chiSee WALTERS, Page 9-C
## RAMBO \& RAM-BRO


uиим gerpyystat
In reality; John 'Rambo' Brantley (left) and Terrie Florida natives make an efficient pairing as Geor-'Ram-bro' Webster are anything but clones, but the gia's starting linebackers.

Brantley, Webster mesh well as Dogs' starting linebackers
 By Thomas 0'Toole
ATHENS - Teammates who have long called wild-and-crazy nature now call Terrie Webster "Ram bro." Brantley and Webster are as close as brothers - but about as different as teammates can be.
Hardly bookend linebackers for Georgia, they are an anomaly on and
off the field.
off the field. "John is a slugger, the trenchfighter, the foundation builder," says
linebackers coach Dale Strahm. "Terrie's the architect. He does the

finishing touches." | finishing touches." |
| :--- |
| This week, their bond is stronger | than ever. Both are from Florida, and the Gators are Saturddy's opponent in Jacksonville. Brantley, who is from Wildwood. "I grew up being a

Gator fan. Now all my friends tell me they hope
 In a calculated plan to learn as much about the other as possible, Brantley and Webster spent practi-
cally all summé cogethet they became great cally all summed Cogethet they became grea
friends while learning just how different they are friends whie eearnitg jusi thow abderenent and his playing "e plays with wild abandon, and his playing
style reflects his life off the field," said Webster. "I try to use more finesse. I know he likes to make the
big plays." big plays." $\begin{aligned} & \text { Webster, a }\end{aligned}$
age, is an athlete. strrahm calls him "the most talented linebacker I've ever coached." He is cat quick and agile. Most of all, he represents the prototype lineBackithe, most comfortable with a pinch between
Bure
his cheek and gum, is a throwback to the street fighters, the overachievers who rely on toughness instead
of ability. But he isn't awed by Webster's talent of ability. But he isn't awed by Webster's talent.
"He's supoosed to to the best athlete with all this God-given ability," Brantley said. "But he has yet to beat me at racquetball. He doesn't come close."
Webster wouldn't beat him on a hunting trip eiWebster wouldn't beat him on a hunting trip, ei-
ther. Peerhaps the most prolific shooter on the team, Brantley didn't follow sports much while growing up because "my spare time was spent in the woods." He
has even arranged his classes this fall to start has even arranged his classes this fall to start late in
the morning so he can go hunting first. He already the morning so he
has bagged one deer.
Despite
Despite the differences, their statistics are similar. Brantley, a senior, leads the team witt 102 tack-
les. Webster, a junior who did not start the first two

See GEORGIA, Page 6-C

## Dallas' Schramm

 won't give an inch, still striking blows
## By Chris Mortensen

Staff Writer
IRVING, Texas - When Dallas Cowboys presient Tex Schramm devised the plan for repiacement games, some say he not only destroyed the NFL play
ers' strike, he almost destroyed the Cowboys. ers' strixe, ke amost destroyed the Cowboys.
He literally became public enemy No. 1 to NFL players. reams used to hate the Cowboys out of respect," Says cowboys assistant player representative Everson
Walls. "Now they hate the Cowboys out of disrespect." Schramm jousted with almost everyone in the
players' union during the strike. He took particular players' union during the strike. He took particular of the union spokesmen. Luckhurst blasted Schramm, who showed he can blast back with the best of them.
"I heard Mick Luckhurst, sat right across the negotiating table, and what a treat that was," Schramm says sarcastically, two weeks after the players' recurn to work. "Mick is a very eloguent guy Il will be
ortunate for him if his toe remains as eloguent as his mouth.
"Mick has one of those Cal-Berkeley backgrounds, doesn't he? Radicals, right? Oh, no, I'm going to
alienate myself from those people out there, too." See SCHRAMM, Page 9.C
 FSU's Bobby Bowden says a win over Auburn would take the big-game heat off 'for about one week.'

## FSU's record is on the shaky side in the big games <br> By David Davidson College Editor <br> TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - In his 11 -plus seasons as Florida State's head coach, Bobby Bowden has taken the Seminoles tou unperecedente heights. His 97-36-3 record at FSU is easily school history. His 170-68-3 overall record ranks him fourth in victories among active Division I-A coaches among active Division I-A coaches and eighth in winning percentage. The Seminoles have gone to eight bowl games under Bowden, and a ninth is assured. Until $1979-80$, ninth is assured. Until 1979-80, when Bowden carried the Seminoles to Bowden carried the Seminoles to back-to-back Oranges, they had never been invited to so prostigious a bowl. His teams have won at least seven Fiorido 8 8. at Auburn Saturdey. his teams have won at least seven games 10 times, iefigh or more seven times, nine or more five times, 10 or more three times and in 79 won 11 straight regularseason games. <br> But wail a minule. It has been eight losses and more than two years since Forida State and Bowden have won a football game over a bigname opponent See BOWDEN, Page 5-C

## Hawks are shopping only Comegys




Center of attention
HOUSTON - Hawks backup center Jon Koncak, shown blocking Rockets' Allen Leavell from loose ball Monday night in Atlanta's $117-107$ loss
trade talks.
trade to go farther in the playoffs. team. People like us the way we
What if I say I don't believe that. are. If we don't get there this year
We've gotten better every year. I are. ifs we what? We'll be a bright,
believe we will improve just from young team again."
being together
believe we will improve just from young team again."
being together.
"Hey, we have a bright, young er feel they need help in the back-

Chiefs will keep Blackledge to back up Kenney
 With the turn of events regarding Kenney's whist, we dorn of events re- have a bona
fide interest in trading Blackledge, savid Chefs lide interest in trading Blackledge," said Chiefs
general manager Jim Schaaf. Blackledge regeneral manager Jim Schaaf. Blackledge re-
guvested a trade Oct 21 after being replaced by
Kenney as the starting quarterback. It was the Kenney as the starting aquarterback.. It was by
third time in five seasons that Kenney had takthird time in five seasons that Kenney had tak-
en over from Blackledge.

Schaaf said he found little interest around
the league for the five-year veteran from Penn State.
Eagles acquire Giles from Lion PHILADELPHIA - The Philadelphia Ea-
gles picked up tight end Jimmie Giles from the
Detroit Lions for an undisclosed 1988 draft Detroit
pick.
Giles, an 11 -year veteran from Alcorn this year, catching six passes for 62 yards and
no touchdowns. He will join the Eagles for Sunno touchdowns. He will join the Eagles for Sun-
day's home game against the Washington

Redskins.
The 6 -foot-3, 240 -pound Giles joined the Lions ine the middele of the 1986 season, after
playing the first seven games with the Tampa playing the first
Bay Bucaneers.

Buccaneers' Testaverde to wed
TAMPA, Fla. - Vinny Testaverde may not
have fond memories of the Fiesta Bowi last January, but he'll have to reserve a warm spot Heisman Trophy winner from the University of Miami met Laura Gambucci at a Fiesta Bowl pregame party and now the couple plans a
wedding, tentatively set for next June.

## Schramm

From Page 1-C

Schramm alienated himself
from the players, and perhaps even from the players, and perhaps even
from NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle, who ochilosophically opposed
the replacement the replacement games. But
Schramm lobbied for the games through the Management Council and stood up to the criticism, al-
most bathed himself in it most bathed himself in it.
Schramm is a member
Management Council's executive committee, a designated spokesman
by Management Council director Jack Donlan, and was the creative force in continuing the 1997 season
while the regular players were on
strike
strike. It's been an unusual situation, but when you get in a confrontation,
youtve got to take a stand," said you've got "to take a stand," said body to take a lead, and I took it.
You gotta be prepared for the fallout."
Schramm not only was the brain behind the replacement games, he deighted in the success of the Dal
las
team games. Consider that the Cowboys replacement Monday night game
against the Washington Redskins on Oct. 19 drew 5,000 more fans than the Cowboys' Monday night game
this week against the New York
"It was a very unusual and once-in-a-lifetime phenomenon that
happened," Schram happened," Schramm said. "It hap-
pened on the telecast of our first pened on the telecast of our first
strike game in New Jersey with the New York Jets. People here fell in
love with a bunch of love with a bunch of young guys
who played with enthusiasm just for who played with enthusiasm just for
the sake of playing and winning. I certainly would not play a role to
diffuse that. diffuse that.
was one of a kind. There were 60,000 people who paid to see players they hadn't seen until three
weeks earlier.' That Monday night was a high
and low one for Schramm. The turnout put him in terrific spirits.
The game did The game did not. The Redskins, without any union players, beat the
Cobbops, placement team.
Schramm

court, where the Hawks are long on
versatility. They have, however versatility. They have, however,
long acknowledged a basic flaw in
their team - two punchless long acknowledged a basic flaw in
their team - two punchless
centers.

 backup Koncak and could not recon-
cile the Knicks to an alternative of
fer. Once Antoine Carr received an
offer sheet from Boston, Kasten's offer sheet from Boston, Kasten's
hands were tied. The need ot bring
Carr into camp precluded further maneuvering.
"We're up with the (salary) cap
now," Kasten explains. "It would be now", Kasten explains. "II would be
very difficult to trade for Cart-
wright now. wright now..
"(And) we feel a commitment
to this team, top. That't s why we are
being very careful not to destrey
being very careful not to destroy
it."
that, so the Pacers call to see if
Koncak is available. The idea is to initiate a threeway deal with New York. But Pacers general manager
Don Walsh is told Koncak will remain a Hawk, so a trade dies. Simultaneously,
works on Portland, trying to extract either forward Kiki vandeweghe or swing man Clyde Drexler. The Blazers need a big man, so a dedeal re-
quires a third team - Atlanta. The quires a thir the Hawks ship Koncak
idea iont
to Portland. The Blazers obtain Cartwright from New York and exchange him for Koncak.
Why can't Portland and New
York deal directly? Two reasons: First, the Blazers need a rebounder, First, the Blazers need a rebounder,
not a soft player like Cartwright,
whose single asset is a talent for Whose single asset is a talent for
scoring. The second reason is that
having already lost two centers, Bill having already lost two centers, Bill
Watlon and Sam Bowie, who had
notoriously fragie bones notoriously fragile bonese, whe had are
now loath to bring in a player who now loath to bring in a player who
missed two entire eseans with reted fractures of the foot.

## Walters

## From Page 1-C

> cago-based federal grand jury.
Charges being considered agains the agents include fraud, mail
fraud, wire fraud, extortion rraud, wire fraud, extortion and
racketeering, according to sources close to the case. Walters and Bloom have admitted diving money
to numerous college athietes in reto numerous college athiletes in re-
turn for signing representation turn for signing representation con-
tracts from 1984 until early this year.
Har
Harmon also is under consider-
ation for indictment on charges of ation for indictment on charges of
income tax evasion, wire fraud and income tax evasion, wire fraud and
fraud against the University of Lowa, the sources said.
Culver ruled that the $\$ 49,054.95$ Harmon doess't have to repay was
not a loan, but an inducement to not a loan, but an inducement to
keep Harmon as a client. That inducement is a violation of NFLPA
regulations, which prohibit an agent regulations, which prohibit an agent
from "providing of ofering to pro-
vide anything of significant value to vide anything of significant value to a player in order to become the
contract advisor for such player."
"Under the circumstances, the correct remedy is to render the (contratet) null a and void," Culver
wrote. "Otherwis, if the wrote. "Otherwise, if the agreement
were enforced, the contract advisor were enforced, the contract advisor
who provided somethin of signifi-
cant value to a player in order for cant value to a player in order for
the player to execute a representa the player to execuute a representa-
tion argeement would benefit from
his or her wronful conduct. Culver wronte than the age."
not provide sufficient diocument not provide sufficieient documentation
that any of the money and gifts givthat any of the money and gifts giv-
en to tarmon were loans other than a 82,500 promissory note Harmon
signed after his junior signed after his junior season at
lowa. The other $\$ 3,399.47$ to be re. Iowa. The other $\$ 3,369.47$ to be re-
imbursed is for negotiation fees and expenses. '
Culver interpreted Walters' testimony at a June 10 hearing to
mean that the money and gitis Har mean that the money and gitis Har-
mon received were inducements to keep him from switching agents.
"If you) create a cash flow or tha "(If you) create a cash flow for tha
client, he would be willing to let the contract wick in willen the time
came," Walters testified the contract walters in when
cintified.
iI such
"If such unfettered 'bribery'
were permitted, the result could be
were permited, the resuit could be
bidding wars between contract advi-
sors sor bsoring fors the rightseen to cronresect ad avt-
sotes," ruled Culver. "Clearly, the
regulations do not sanction such
behavior."
Since Walters and Bloom were certified by the NFLPA, they were
bound to its regulations. Walters is no longer certified, and. Bloom was
recently de-certified for a minimum recently de-certified for a minimum
of two years, meaning they cannot
negotiate contracts for NFL negotiate
players.
contracts Harmon fired the agents in Au--
gust 1986, just prior to signing a
four-year, si. gust 1986, just prior to signing a
four-year, si.4 million contract with
the Bills as their to draft her- Biils as their top doant chocice.
Culver's decision documented Culver's decision documented
again that Harmon signed with the agents on March 9, 1985 , in New oostdated to Jan. 2 1986 , follow his senior season. at at Iowa. During
that period, in which Harmon stil had perliog, in eligibilicty, Warmon stilers gave
had cole him the $\$ 2,500$ loan and at least 5,609 in wire transfers and airrine
tickets. The payments continued until Harmon fired the agents.
According to the decision, Wal According to the decision, Wa ters gave Harmon s1,500 for revea,
ing the telephone number of Har
mon's college teammate, defensi mon's college teammate, defensive
back Devon Mitchell, now with the Detroit Lions. According to Culver,
Harmon refused another $\$ 2,000$ armon refused another $\$ 2,00$ troduced to another lowa player linebacker Larry Station.
The biggest payment was for a Mercededs-Benz after Harmon's final han $\$ 32,000$ for a lease and insur nee on the car, according to th
decision. Walters also bought $\$ 12,157$ worth of airline tickets for Harmon, his brother Kevin and an unnamed
the ruling. The grievance was filed on Jan.
Boo this year by Walters and
Bloom, but they later attempted to Bloom, but they by later attempted to have it dismissed and settled instead in the New York Supreme
Court. Judge Myriam Altman, criticizing the practice of Walters and loom as "pernicious and decep. ive," ruled on June 1 that the case because the agents used a standard LIPA contract with clients.
"It's a big victory against un-
crupulous agents like waiters and Blopm," said Harmon's attorney, Martin' Rauch Sr. "t's a warning to ents that they just can't buy a kid
... Wedneddey, November 4, 1987 THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION ... 98 тamsussion Epins

There's Never Been A Better Time To BuyAtDekalbTire


