

Tribune photo by Ed Wagner

Richard Dent (95) was the target of Bear coaching wrath last week. This week's tirade was provoked by Dennis McKinnon.

Vince Tobin gives McKinnon a blitz

By Don Pierson

Bears defensive coordinator Vince Tobin lashed back Wednesday at flanker Dennis McKinnon and anybody else for second-guessing his strategy.

"First off, I think Dennis McKinnon has got a big mouth, and there's only one thing worse than having a big mouth, and that's if you don't have the facts to back up your mouthy statements," Tobin

In an unprecedented outburst, Tobin defended his record and compared it to past and present accomplishments of his predecessor, Buddy Ryan.

Tobin asked coach Mike Ditka for

permission to speak to the entire team Wednesday so he could respond to remarks McKinnon made at a Tuesday luncheon suggesting it was time for Tobin "to wake up and smell the coffee" and go back to Ryan's blitzing, gambling style.

"Some coaches get upset when you tell the truth," McKinnon said after the meeting, apparently unimpressed by the facts Tobin presented. "Same thing happened in college."

Ditka said players should vent opinions in private. He said he thought McKinnon's comments were "not meant maliciously, yet when it's said, it's said."

Ditka even apologized for voicing one of his own opinions recently

that may have lifted the lid on criticism of Tobin.

"My statement two weeks ago that the defense stunk was not a good statement to make, period, because all phases of the defense weren't playing bad. I was talking mental mistakes," Ditka said.

He agreed that coaches are more entitled to such opinions than players are. "Players play," Ditka said.

Tobin said defensive end Richard Dent was wrong when he said he jumped offsides against Denver two games ago because he was playing in a stand-up position as opposed to his normal three-point position.

"He was offside when he was down," Tobin said. "He also said the reason he got sacks last week

was because we went back to the old Buddy Ryan system, which has nothing to do with it. It's the same defense we've been running for two-

Quarterback Jim McMahon said on his WLS radio show Wednesday morning that he has heard Ditka yelling at Tobin on the sideline the last couple of weeks about "turning them loose" and abandoning the zone coverages that Ditka and Tobin have implemented more than Ryan did.

"Our guys are aggressive and like to be aggressive," McMahon said. "It's tough to teach aggressive people to play passive zones. Coaches always want to do different things. I

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Bob Verdi In the wake of the news

To a lot of faces with egg on them

It is a day for turkeys, and not a moment too soon, because 1987 has been a year in sports tarnished by greed, deceit and fowl bawling. Clearly, citations are warranted, as are a few warrants. Dinner invitations, please.

Golden Dumbstick Award: Jack Donlan and NFL owners share this dishonor. They were not only poised for a union-busting strike as far back as last spring, but they insulted real players and real fans by staging replacement games as cheap imitations of professional football. Scars remain throughout the league. Donlan and his management buddies belong at the head table.

Desserter: Donlan's labor adversary, Gene Upshaw, spoke bravely but caved in like a bad pumpkin pie. For all his posturing, Upshaw gained nothing for the players, who were left high and dry. It's a good thing he and Donlan claimed to be friends, or the impasse really would have gotten out of hand.

San Diego's Chicken Wing: Pitcher Eric Show of the Padres hit Andre Dawson in the face with a wayward baseball, then ran to the safety of the visitors' dugout when the Cubs

Football star Brian Bosworth heads the list of the top 10 turkeys of 1987. Page 2.

went after him. Show thus not only became the only National League opponent to express fear of the Cubs; this incident also proved that the Cubs were indeed awake on selected occasions during the summer.

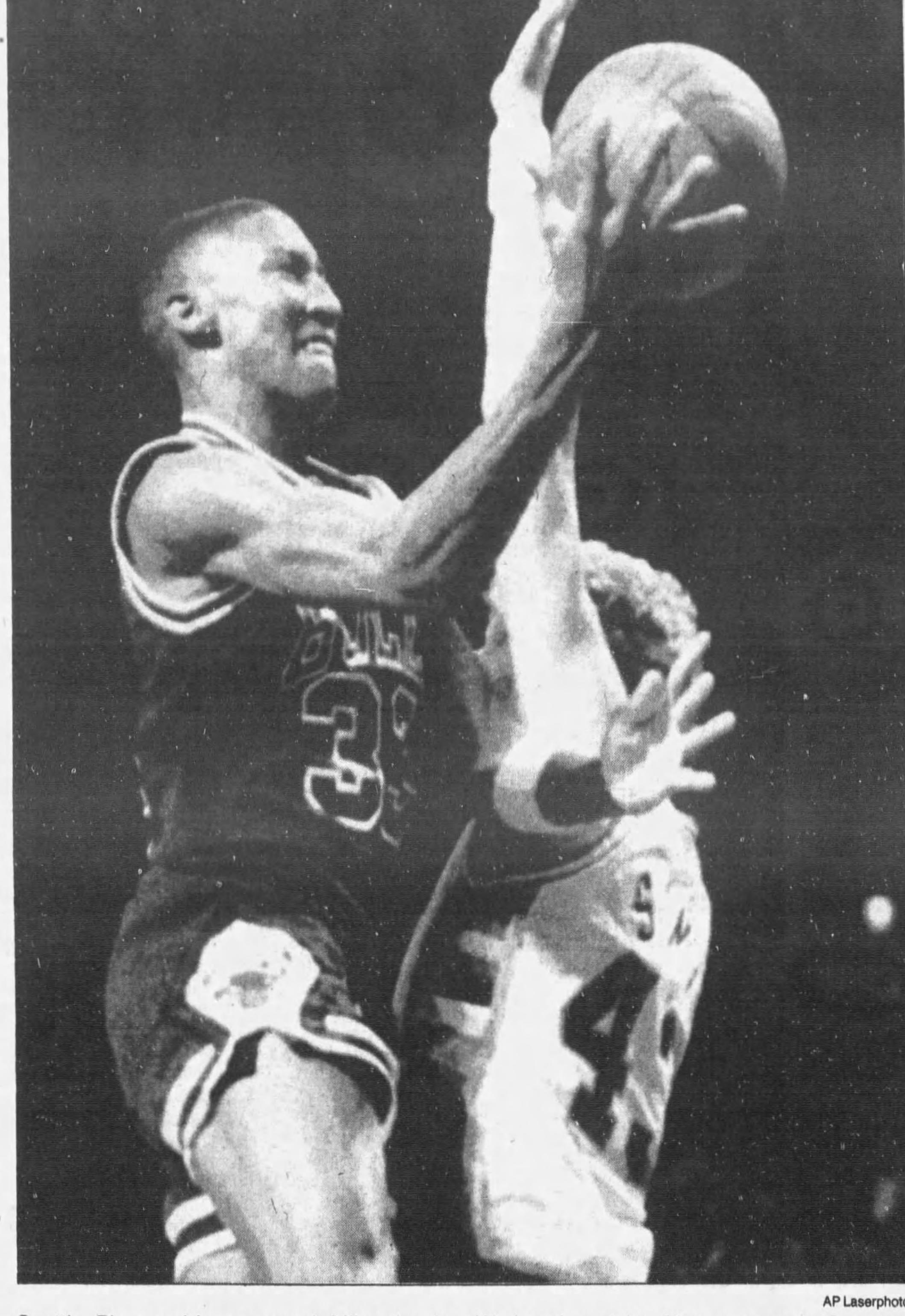
Biggest Mess Hall: Southern Methodist University, the best little house of its kind in Texas, was dealt the infamous "Death Penalty" by the NCAA for various indiscretions. SMU canceled its football season. As part of the punishment, students were forced to attend soccer games.

Second Biggest Mess Hall: Ohio State fired football Earle Bruce, who won 81 games, lost 26 and tied one during nine seasons but failed to rub elbows with influential Buckeye groupies. Dr. Edward Jennings, the university president, cited "intense pressure" to can Bruce, so Jennings did what most university presidents do. He issued an executive order, then hid beneath his desk.

Third Biggest Mess Hall: The Columbia Lions have played like football lambs for years, and last Saturday dropped their 41st straight game. No problem. Columbia is an By Lisa Dillman outstanding educational institution. Or was, until it admitted some athlete-students who fall below strict Ivy League academic requirements. Explained dean of students Roger Lehecka: "There's no need for variations like this in music. Columbia and Yale don't compete with their orchestras. If Yale decides to enroll too many musicians, Columbia doesn't feel the pressure to compete." Oh.

Agent Orange: Norby Walters, an advisor to college athletes, signed more than 30 lads to join his stable, including several first-round

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Scottie Pippen drives around Milwaukee's Jack Sikma during the Bulls' 103-101 victory

Wednesday night. Pippen scored 18 points and finished up with a game-saving steal.

l'ippen steals show as Bulls hold off Bucks

By Bob Sakamoto Chicago Tribune

MILWAUKEE-Doug Collins' worst nightmare was about to become reality once again.

Four times in this young season, the Bulls' coach has grimaced as the opposition hit a 3-point basket in the waning moments. Twice, it led to defeat.

Wednesday night, Paul Pressey was about to stick another dagger into Collins' heart when Scottie Pippen came to the rescue. The precocious rookie, who had missed two free throws with 17 seconds to go, stripped Paul Pressey as he was about to launch his shot with two seconds left and preserved a 103-101 victory over the Milwaukee

Bucks. That leaves the Bulls at 9-2, the best record in the National Basketball Association, and 5-0 on the road. The club record for most consecutive road victories is seven in 1971-72 and 1973.

Pippen dashed into a happy locker room shouting about his redemption. The Bulls had come through a tensely fought fourth quarter with a 102-98 lead when Pippen was fouled going to the basket. After his pair of rim jobs, John Lucas banked in a running 3-pointer with :12 left.

Michael Jordan was tied up at center court and tapped a jump ball to Charles Oakley, who was fouled. Oakley made one of two. On the miss, Pressey got the ball, dashed upcourt and started to load up the potential game-winner when Pippen intervened.

All this happened right in front of the Bulls' bench, with Collins holding his breath. Did he think Pressey would connect?

"Every other one has gone in," Collins said without a smile.

The usually expressionless Pippen was all smiles. And no wonder. He started the day by arriving at practice just two minutes before Collins could have fined him for being late. "I jumped his butt," Collins said. "I will not let him be a big shot."

But he will let him take big shots. Pippen scored 12 of the Bulls' first 16 points in the fourth quarter, sparking them to a 92-88 lead with 5:44 to go. He drove the lane three times, hit medium-range jumpers twice and got a tip-in. He wound up with 18 points and was the Bulls' big scorer down the stretch as Jordan was limited to 4 points in the last period.

"I was thinking about the game we lost to Detroit," Pippen said, recalling Isiah Thomas' 3-pointer that led to a loss. "I had the opportunity to either foul Pressey or get the block. I had to gamble and ended up winning.

"With Michael resting in the fourth quarter, I really tried to take control of the game. I feel like Coach has confidence in me. I can take the ball to the hole and create things instead of waiting every time and giving the ball to Michael. When he gets double-teamed, the other guys have to make themselves available."

Despite being the decoy at the end, Jordan still wound up with 33 points, 6 assists and 3 steals. Charles Oakley, who is learning about consistency and becoming a fourth-quarter force, had 19 points and 14 rebounds. He had two clutch baskets, a free throw and a tip-in that was credited to Dave Corzine

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Hawks trip again on road against Kings

Special to The Tribune

INGLEWOOD, Calif.—Once again, the Blackhawks failed to find a cure for their road woes even against the Los Angeles

This time, the Hawks fell behind early, giving up three goals in the first 10 minutes of the game, and took a 6-4 loss Wednesday night.

It was the first outing of a six-

the Kings, who moved out of last place in the Smythe Division with the victory, won two straight for the first time this

The Blackhawks are 0-8-1 since their victory against the Red Wings on Oct. 21 at Detroit. The Hawks have gone more than a month without re-

get much tougher. Nevertheless plain his team's lack of success on the road.

> "We're struggling a little bit," Murdoch said. "It's the same numbers and the same names, but we're playing a little differently on the road.

"I don't know whether it's the opposition playing that well or whether we don't get up for the games as much."

cording a road victory. The latest loss came courtesy Before Wednesday's game, of Kings left winger Luc Robi-

Year. He scored two goals, his ninth and 10th of the season, to lead Los Angeles.

His first goal 9 minutes 58 seconds into the first period, gave the Kings a 3-0 lead and sent goalie Bob Mason to the bench. Mason gave up three goals on just seven shots and didn't look sharp as the three came on fairly long slap shots.

Robitaille scored off a feed from Jimmy Carson. Robitaille

game road trip that figures to coach Bob Murdoch tried to ex- taille, last season's Rookie of the beat Mason from the top of the left circle just as Kings goalie Glenn Healy was coming to the bench on a delayed penalty.

> The goal brought in Darren Pang, who played well in making excellent saves on Bobby Carpenter and Carson early in the second period.

That kept the Blackhawks in the game. They cut the margin to 3-2 with Curt Fraser's goal

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INSIDE

Zimmer completes his staff

Cub skipper Don Zimmer names two exmanagers among his coaches. Page 3.

King knocks off St. Joseph

No. 4 King rips No. 1 St. Joseph 64-52 in the Lyons Township tournament. Page 4.

	Kings 6, Blackh
	Penguins 6, Nor
	Devils 8, Oilers
	-

NHL

Capitals 4, Bruins 1 Canadiens 6, Whalers 5 Wings 10, Jets 8 Blues 4, N. Stars 3 Flyers 5, Sabres 2 Rangers 5, Leafs 3 Flames 4, Canucks 2

Roundup, Page 5

NBA

Bulls 103, Bucks 101 Knicks 104, Cavs 101 Pacers 133, Spurs 102 Celtics 117, Hawks 102 Mays 113, Pistons 107 Rockets 109, Suns 103 Bullets 101, Clippers 96 Roundup, Page 5

Larry Bird returns to spark the Boston Celtics' win. Page 5.

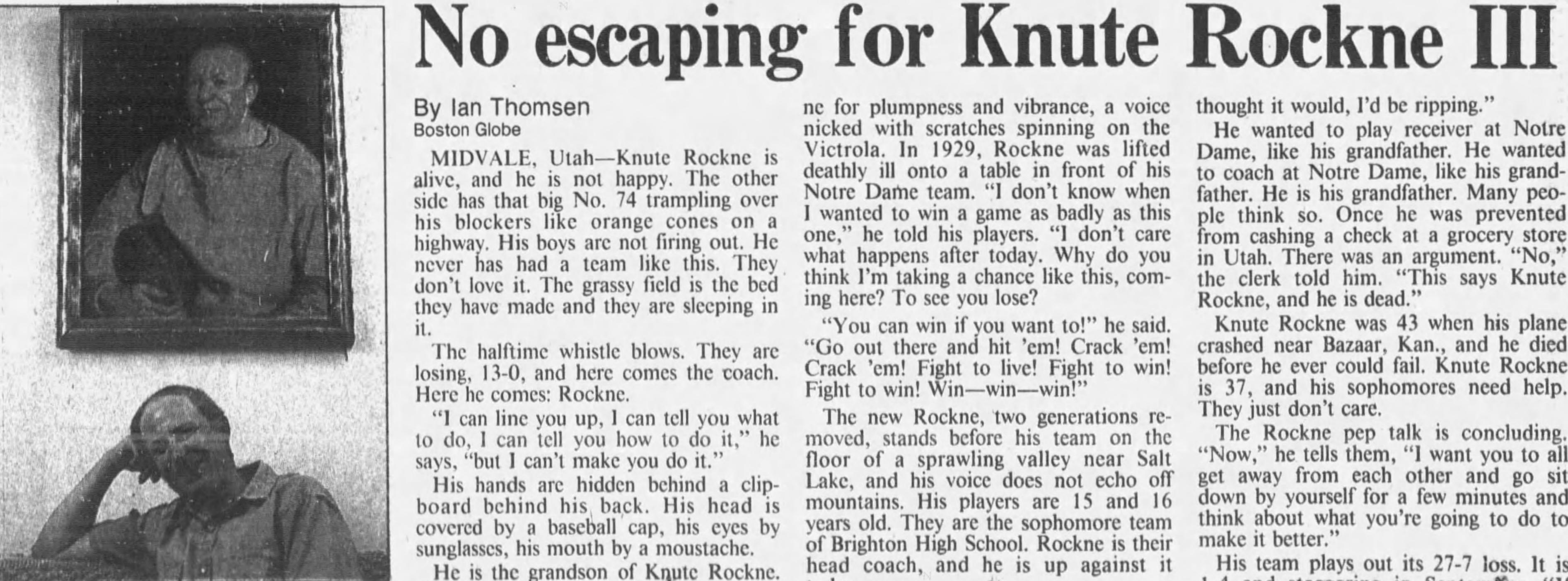


Photo by Ravell Call

Knute Rockne III says he has learned to live with his grandfather's legend.

By Ian Thomsen Boston Globe

MIDVALE, Utah-Knute Rockne is alive, and he is not happy. The other side has that big No. 74 trampling over his blockers like orange cones on a highway. His boys are not firing out. He never has had a team like this. They don't love it. The grassy field is the bed they have made and they are sleeping in

The halftime whistle blows. They are losing, 13-0, and here comes the coach. Here he comes: Rockne.

"I can line you up, I can tell you what to do, I can tell you how to do it," he says, "but I can't make you do it."

His hands are hidden behind a clipboard behind his back. His head is covered by a baseball cap, his eyes by sunglasses, his mouth by a moustache.

He is the grandson of Knute Rockne. These last 56 years of American evolution have stretched the legendary name taller, thinned him. We remember Rock-

ne for plumpness and vibrance, a voice nicked with scratches spinning on the Victrola. In 1929, Rockne was lifted deathly ill onto a table in front of his Notre Dame team. "I don't know when wanted to win a game as badly as this one," he told his players. "I don't care what happens after today. Why do you think I'm taking a chance like this, coming here? To see you lose? "You can win if you want to!" he said.

"Go out there and hit 'em! Crack 'em! Crack 'em! Fight to live! Fight to win! Fight to win! Win-win-win!"

The new Rockne, two generations removed, stands before his team on the floor of a sprawling valley near Salt Lake, and his voice does not echo off mountains. His players are 15 and 16 years old. They are the sophomore team of Brighton High School. Rockne is their head coach, and he is up against it

He says to them, "Yelling and screaming isn't going to get it done. If I

thought it would, I'd be ripping."

He wanted to play receiver at Notre Dame, like his grandfather. He wanted to coach at Notre Dame, like his grandfather. He is his grandfather. Many people think so. Once he was prevented from cashing a check at a grocery store in Utah. There was an argument. "No," the clerk told him. "This says Knute Rockne, and he is dead."

Knute Rockne was 43 when his plane crashed near Bazaar, Kan., and he died before he ever could fail. Knute Rockne is 37, and his sophomores need help. They just don't care.

The Rockne pep talk is concluding. "Now," he tells them, "I want you to all get away from each other and go sit down by yourself for a few minutes and think about what you're going to do to make it better."

His team plays out its 27-7 loss. It is 1-4 and staggering in September. "If there was one quality I wish I had, I

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Verdi

Continued from page 1

NFL draft choices. He did so, however, before their college eligibility had expired. Walters did not brag about his illegal maneuver, because he probably knows he's not alone.

Buffalo I Scream Parlor: On a Saturday night before his Houston Oilers were to play at Buffalo in September, General Manager Ladd Herzeg became enraged at all the noise from a wedding party in the team's hotel. He promptly crashed the party, headed for the bandstand and dropped his sweatpants. The Oilers, who started referring to Herzeg as Reverend Moon, lost to the Bills the next day.

Pass The Rolaids: Seeking relief on a frigid evening in Buffalo, Steve Thomas of the Black Hawks was apprehended for allegedly urinating in public. Unfortunately, Thomas selected the side of a police station. As part of his penalty, Thomas must return to Buffalo to defend himself. What is it with Buffalo?

Hold The Rice: Ralph Sampson of the Houston Rockets invited numerous friends to celebrate his marriage to Alize Dial last summer. While waiting in the church, however, the group was informed that Sampson and his bride-to-be actually had exchanged vows months earlier and would not be showing up. Moreover, the couple already was having problems. Anyone interested in purchasing some cut-rate finger sandwiches, contact

John Husar's

fishing reports

Legend: * poor, ** fair, ***
good, *** very good, ***

Lake Michigan ★★★ Mostly smaller perch at Belmont, Navy Pier. Occasional steelhead. Abundant jack coho in Diversey Harbor, but tapering at Jackson Park. A few steelhead at Burnham Harbor, 95th Street. Mixed trout, salmon at Waukegan, Zion power plants on spawn, flies.

Mississippi River ★★★★ Sauger, walleyes improved below most dams from Bellevue to New Boston on leadhead or floating jigs. Crappies spotty in backwaters. Chain O'Lakes * *

Water very low. Stripers, walleyes still moving in Lake Marie, near bridg-

Kankakee River ★★★ Walleyes improved with cooler water on minnows, shad raps, jointed plugs. Try Aroma Park and Kankakee Dam through Wiley Creek. Smallmouth bass hitting slower. Northern pike improving on large Mepps spinners, large roaches, Johnson spoons. Illinois River ★

Some crappies in backwaters. A few sauger below Spring Valley at Negro Creek. Stripers quiet. Fox River ★★★

Some walleyes to 3 pounds, occasional crappie, striper below dams from North Aurora through Yorkville. LaSalle County Lake * * * Catfish steady from banks, best on

north access. Occasional striper from rip rap. Hennepin Canal ★★★

Crappies in trees along banks in most pools. Forest Preserves **

Northerns, crappies on north side of 131st at Tampier Lake. Some crappies, bluegills at Busse dams on jig and maggot. Wolf Lake *

A few crappies in channels. Calumet River *

Schooled perch traveling between mouth and fork of river, very difficult to find. Shabbona Lake **

Some walleyes in treeline and near handicap pier on large fatheads and medium roaches. Michiana ★★★★★

Trout, salmon plentiful at 15-30 feet in 50 feet of water off Portage. Small water discharges. Northerns on Pine Lake, also Kankakee River bayous.

St. Joseph, Mich. *** St. Joseph River steelhead on spawn sacks, Hot 'N Tots between bridge and Berrien Springs dam. Walleyes starting, but very small at dam. Madison, Wis. *

Most anglers waiting for ice. Some shoreline fishing for walleyes with poor results at night.

Eagle River, Wis. * Ice safe for panfishing only in shallow bays.

Lake Geneva, Wis. ** Some smallmouth at 12-14 feet around collapsing weeds. Some jumbo perch beginning deep. Northerns, walleyes quiet.

Door County, Wis. ★★ Charterboating ended; most launch ramp docks out. Some rainbow, brown trout off Green Bay and Lake Michigan shorelines. Salmon still on "The Bank" five miles off Sturgeon Bay. Some walleyes at night on Green Bay side.

SKIING

Italian race opens season

SESTRIERE, Italy (UPI)—Switzerland is expected to continue its winning ways Thursday when the Alpine World Ski Cup season gets under way with a women's slalom.

Corinne Schmidhauser, the slalom champion from Switzerland, is ranked No. 1 by the International Ski Federation, and she's followed by teammate Vreni

Schneider. Tamara McKinny of the United State is ranked third but won't ski until at least Christmas because

cha har a braken ankla

Sampson, c/o Houston Rockets.

Side Dishes That Nobody Ordered: In the worst tradition of the Goodwill Games, we were forcefed two events that bored a nation beyond the call of duty—the Pan-American Games and the Olympic Festival. Yawn.

High Ball: Lawrence Taylor of the Super Bowl champion New York Giants confessed that he had experienced a problem with drug dependency. However, Taylor said that he cured his habit by playing golf. Normally, it is golf that comes first and then the pills, but we told you 1987 has been a

Raspberry Preserved: A court in New York State ruled that it is perfectly normal for fans to boo and demean umpires. The judge's decision was cheered.

Fricasseed Illini: Once again, the University of Illinois football team failed to beat Northwestern, and Northwestern doesn't even

Sour Grapes: Former Bears star Gale Sayers was asked on "Monday Night Football" to rate his alltime running backs. Sayers nominated Jim Brown as No. 1 and O. J. Simpson as No. 2. As for the greatest running back in history, ders wrote an article criticizing re-

for Walter Payton to start thinking about the rest of his life. A double helping of envy here, perhaps?

Bird Crumbs: Soon after Los Angeles Dodgers General Manager Al Campanis was relieved of his duties for questioning whether blacks are qualified for baseball management, Dennis Rodman and Isiah Thomas of the Detroit Pistons unwisely theorized that Larry Bird might be overrated as a basketball player because he is white. Where's the mouthwash?

A Backbone of Jello: Bryan Trottier of the New York Islan-

heeding the advice of an exemplary veteran player, spineless league officials fined Trottier for expres-

sing his opinions. Larry Himes Should Be Their Waiter: Unlike the clean-living White Sox, the Minnesota Vikings have the darndest time driving from here to there without burping. When wide receiver Hassan Jones was apprehended while dozing in his automobile last week, he became the sixth Viking player charged with DUI in just over a year. The Vikings should take cue from the crosstown Twins, who won a World Series and cele-

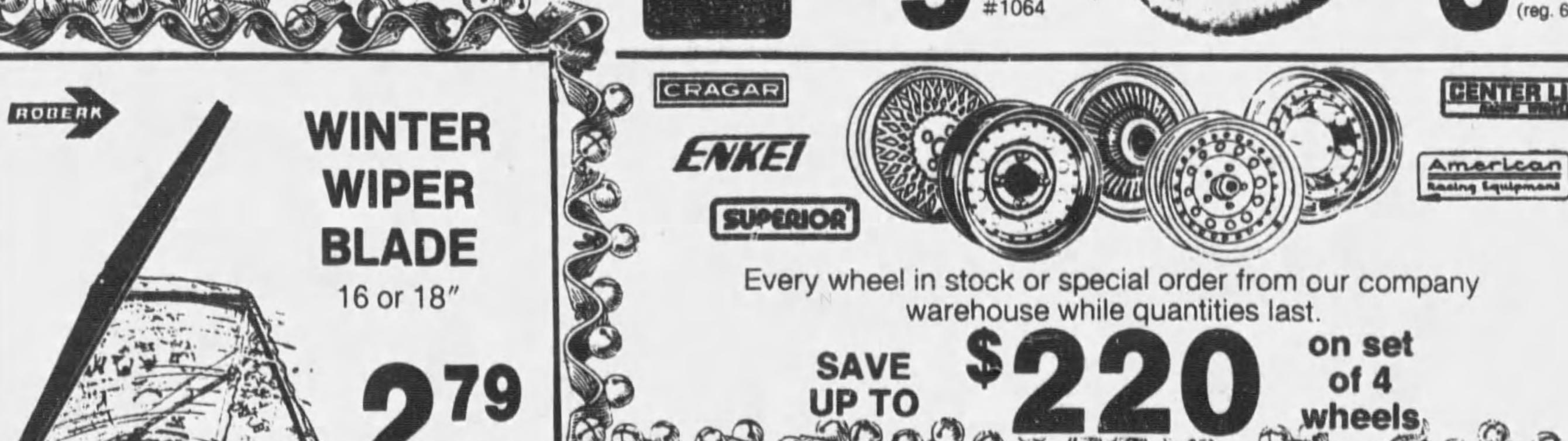
Caught in a Yam: Catcher Dave Bresnahan of the Williamsport Bills tried to pick an opposing runner off third base by throwing a potato instead of a ball. Bresnahan was asked why, and he said that he'd carefully studied the rule book, only to discover no regulations whatsoever concerning the throwing of potatoes.

"Someday," he said, "I might even run for governor of Idaho."

Bresnahan merely was attempting to inject some humor into an unpleasant year, but, naturally, he was fined and released.

That's the way it was in 1987, but give thanks. It's almost over.





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