

SATURDAY, DEC. 26, 1987 INSIDE Financial Outdoor Weather Comics

# Little hope for suspended Hurricanes

Positive drug tests put 2 Miami starters out for Orange Bowl

MIAMI (AP) — The NCAA held out the slimmest hope Friday that two starters on second-ranked Miami - including career tackle leader George Mira Jr. — could still be eligible for the Orange Bowl despite failing pre-bowl drug tests.

Mira, a senior middle linebacker, and John O'Neill, a junior offensive tackle, were barred Thursday night from playing in the national championship showdown against No. 1ranked Oklahoma on New Year's night. Both had tested positive for a diuretic, a prescription drug that helps rid the body of excess fluids. Eighteen specific diuretics are on the NCAA's list of banned drugs. Meanwhile, Oklahoma trainer Dan Pickett said he was informed Thursday night that all 36 Sooners had passed tests given earlier this month.

Tuesday to an unspecified number of players on each team. Mira and O'Neill, however, will not be retested

The NCAA has the option to do a second on-site testing of bowl teams and a Miami spokesman said the schools will be notified Monday which players are to be tested. The original test is given to the 22 starters plus 14 other players chosen at random.

The Miami spokesman emphasized that neither Mira nor O'Neill tested positive for steroids, one of six categories on the NCAA's list of banned drugs. Last year, 11 players on eight teams, including Oklahoma linebacker Brian Bosworth, were ruled ineligible for various bowl games after traces of steroids showed up in urine specimens.

Miami's best chance, but a virtually nonexistent one, to regain the services of Mira and O'Neill apparently rests with a second and, as yet, untested - urine specimen obtained during the original testing about two weeks ago.

"When a positive test comes back, we allow the athlete to ask for an appeal. At that time, we test the 'B' sample. The athlete can be present at the time of the second testing if he or she desires, but we do not take another specimen. We use only the one taken originally."

According to the NCAA, a second sample has never tested negative after the original was positive. The second sample is taken to minimize the possibility of a laboratory error in the tests, which are extremely sensitive, and to guard against the possible misidentification of a specimen.

It was not known whether Mira and O'Neill planned to ask that the second sample be tested but Miami TV station WPLG-TV reported that Mira's family plans to file a suit to overturn the suspension and will call experts to explain his use of the medication.

However, David Cawood, an assistant executive director of the NCAA, said that before the tests are administered, the players are given a form on which to list any medication they are taking. "If they did test positive for diuretics, 1 wonder why they didn't identify them up front," Cawood said.

Another recourse would be an appeal to the NCAA's Eligibility Committee.

Section

"It never occurred to any of us that diuretics could be a problem because they're not performance-enhancing drugs," said Dr. John Cunio, a Miami team physician. "But it's a moot point because we've never prescribed a diuretic for any players and I was unaware that either of these two guys was taking one. "I can picture a football player who has high blood pressure being placed on a diuretic. It's ordinarily prescribed to get rid of excess fluid or to lower blood pressure by getting rid of excess sodium.

"A boxer or wrestler could load up with diuretics to get down to a lower weight class. They also enhance the behavior of certain horses that tend to develop pulmonary congestion."

In announcing the suspensions, Miami did not disclose the reasons. Coach Jimmy Johnson's statement said only that "both George and John violated team policy. The nature of the violations is confidential . . . We will not reveal them." Johnson was unavailable Friday. A family

ation of black athletes, there are very few black sports executives and no black major-league field managers or NFL head coaches.

1987: It had

bad stuff, too

n 1987, Los Angeles Dodgers

executive Al Campanis easily

won Bonehead of the Year

Many people thought Campanis'

ill-advised comments would turn

out to have a positive effect on

sports. With more attention placed

on the fact that despite the prolifer-

honors for his racist remarks on

ABC's "Nightline."

Wike

Gazette sports

columnist

Nothing has changed, so that also goes into the 1987 Bonehead File. Major-league baseball will again someday have a black manager or two, I'm guessing by the middle of the 1988 season. But the NFL?

Forget anything proper, just or decent when the NFL is involved. NFL owners are the biggest collection of sleazoids since the Huns. Boneheads and sleazoids. They

make the world go round, don't they?

Speaking of which, how about that Norby Walters! Not to indicate anything's sleazy about Norby. Why, perish the thought.

LET'S NOT LET baseball's owners off too easily. They made a travesty of the free enterprise system with collusion.

Tim Raines and Jack Morris, two of baseball's most consistently productive stars in this decade, were free agents before the 1987 season. Who wanted them? Nobody but their old teams. Those two guys are winners, heads and tails above most players. But collusion kept the lid on them last winter.

Andre Dawson had to take a severe pay cut to jump to the Chicago Cubs as a free agent. It hurt the Cubs' guts to actually sign that guy, but it was a price they couldn't refuse. The only thing better than collusion is thievery. Dawson was merely good enough to be the National League's Most Valuable Player despite working for a last-place team that bordered on A second test will be administered next

Frank D. Uryasz, the NCAA's director of sports sciences, said that "at the time of the test, the specimen is divided into two samples, an 'A' and a 'B.' The 'A' sample is tested, the 'B' sample is stored.

• Please turn to 2B: Miami

### Legendary victory for Donahue

Florida becomes 6th straight bowl victim for Bruins

HONOLULU (AP) - UCLA Coach Terry Donahue celebrated Christmas Friday by equaling a major accomplishment of two coaching legends, Bobby Dodd and Bear Bryant.

Donahue's Bruins defeated Florida 20-16 in the sixth Aloha Bowl, marking the sixth straight year that UCLA has won a bowl game.

Dodd and Bryant are the only other coaches in NCAA history to win bowl games to close out six consecutive seasons - Dodd doing so at Georgia Tech from 1951-56 and Bryant accomplishing the feat at Alabama from 1975-80.

Two other schools have won six consecutive bowl games, Nebraska



brain-dead in the front office. It's pretty easy to place Bob Knight on a jerk list. The thing that's maddening about Knight is he says so many thought-provoking, common-sense things that few in college athletics have the conviction to say, but he makes his words meaningless with juvenile actions. Pulling his team off the floor against the Soviet national squad was another Knight act of idiocy. The NCAA didn't have a lock on basketball's absurdities in 1987. In its divine wisdom, the NBA opted to expand by four teams.

If ever a league already had too many teams, it's the NBA. Now, for reasons unbeknownst to mankind, four more cities have to get NBA clubs.

This is great for Minneapolis, an expansion city, but it means four into, say, Chicago. That means visits from good teams will be even rarer.

When the Indiana Pacers host the Miami Heat, will anyone care in the slightest?

THE PAN AMERICAN Games. Why?

Bo Jackson. Who cares anymore? Sugar Ray Leonard retires again.

Oklahoma State running back Thurman Thomas bursts through the West Virginia defense for one of the four touchdowns he scored on

Christmas Day to lead the Cowboys to a thrilling 35-33 victory in the John Hancock Sun Bowl in snowy El Paso, Texas.

## **Cowboys weather Mountaineers' flurry**

more watered-down teams will pop into say Chicago. That means Oklahoma State stops West Virginia when it really counts, 35-33

> EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Oklahoma State stopped itself too much and let West Virginia stay too close in Friday's Sun Bowl, Cowboys coach Pat Jones said. But his team had the ability to stop the Mountaineers when the game was on the line. "We made just enough big plays at crucial times to allow us to win," Jones said after Oklahoma State took a 35-33 victory over West Virginia in a snow-bound Sun Bowl.



shy of the end zone on a two-point conversion try to seal the Cowboy's victory.

Oklahoma State won its 10th game of the year

one point to undefeated Syracuse, three to Pitt and four points each to Penn State and Maryland. "We couldn't put the opposition away. We played a solid game but weren't consistent."

All-America running back Thurman Thomas carried 33 times for 157 yards, setting a Sun Bowl record for rushing attempts, and scored four times for another Sun Bowl record.

Thomas was selected the game's most valuable player.

"Offensively, I did think that they hadn't stopped us. We stopped ourselves," Jones said. "Defensively, we did about what we've been doing all year long."



from 1969-74 and Southern Cal from 1974-79, but two coaches were involved for each school.

"It's a tremendous accomplishment for this team, it's a national record that's good for the program," said the 43-year-old Donahue, who has coached at UCLA for 12 years. "Personally, it's a great achievement. Bobby Dodd was the mentor of a good friend of mine, Pepper Rodgers. Pepper spoke of him often.

"All the kids who have played in the program the last six years can share in the record. It shows that UCLA's bowl tradition is as good an anyone's."

**RESERVE RUNNING BACK Dan**ny Thompson's first reception of the year, a 5-yard touchdown catch from Troy Aikman in the third quarter. lifted UCLA out of a 10-10 tie and into the lead for good.

Thompson, a 6-foot, 202-pound junior, was flat on his back when he made his touchdown catch with 1:18 left in the period. Florida's Kerry Watkins had deflected the pass near the goal line before Thompson grabbed it.

#### ZZZZZZ.

's football team played Tennessee in New Jersey. In August. Yeccch.

Drugs. Dwight Gooden. Drugs. Lewis Lloyd. Drugs. Lawrence Taylor. Drugs. Lamarr Hoyt. Drugs. The Phoenix Suns.

Drugs.

The Kansas City Chiefs fired making the playoffs for the first time in ages. This season, the Chiefs could have the NFL's worst record.

Ohio State fired the last Big Ten football coach to win a New Year's Day bowl game.

Funny thing is, OSU will probably replace Earle Bruce with someone without as good a track record as Bruce's, and that coach will undoubtedly fail to post as good a record at OSU as Bruce's.

What's even funnier is how so many of the red-hots in Columbus were screaming for Bruce's scalp before the end of the 1987 season, but expressed such righteous outrage when Bruce got the boot.

Despite all the above, 1987 had a very redeeming feature: The New York Yankees again failed to win their division, and George Steinbonner was cranke once more.

Shawn Mackey stopped Keith Winn a half-yard

and lost only to No. 1 Oklahoma and No. 5 Nebraska in 1987. West Virginia finished 6-6, with five of its losses coming by five points or less.

"It was the same old story for us," said WVU Coach Don Nehlen, whose team lost this year by

THE COWBOYS ALLOWED West Virginia to convert two fourth-down plays on its attempt at a game-tying drive, but stopped the two-point try

Please turn to 2B: Cowboys

The touchdown was the first ever for Thompson at UCLA and just the

Please turn to 2B: Bruins

the Kansas City Chiefs fired head coach John Mackovic after making the playoffs for the first Stallings' son has Downs, but he's far from out

ALLAS (AP) - St. Louis Cardinals Coach Gene Stallings fainted the day doctors told him his newborn son had Down's Syndrome and wasn't expected to live long.

That was 25 years ago, and Stallings and his son still are staunch companions.

Stallings was 27 when John Mark Stallings was born on June 11, 1962. As an assistant coach on Bear Bryant's staff at Alabama, his life had been geared to the national championship the Crimson Tide had won less than six months earlier.

Then a doctor bluntly broke the news to the coach.

"The next thing I knew (was) that I was laying there on the floor with about six or eight nurses around me," Stallings said. "I was out."

Down's Syndrome occurs when a child is born with an extra chromosome in each cell. Children with the condition are mentally retarded, but are able to live happy, active lives.

"The doctor said he wouldn't live to be 4," Stallings said. "Then they said he wouldn't make it to 11."

<sup>66</sup>He still believes in Santa Claus 100 percent. He's got a one-way ticket to heaven. There isn't a mean bone in his body. "

#### St. Louis Coach **Gene Stallings**

Sunday, when the Cardinals visit Texas Stadium to take on the Dallas Cowboys, father and son will be there. "This is the great thing about Johnny," Stallings said. "He still believes in Santa Claus 100 percent. He's got a one-way ticket to heaven.

"There isn't a mean bone in his body."

AP photo

STALLINGS, BORN and raised in Texas and a Dallas defensive back coach for 14 years, has a farm in Paris and the two often go there to ride their horses in the offseason.

"His favorite expression is 'I love to see the farm on a beautiful day,'" Stalling said. "He loves to ride the horses, go fishing, just walk around the farm. People have always been extremely nice to him. Church friends have been so good.

"Kids have always played with him. No one has ever made fun of him or didn't allow him to take part." Stallings said he doesn't regret the choice he made 25 years ago.

"We had a tough decision a long time ago," he said. "He was part of our family and we could raise him the best we could. We could keep him warm and healthy and make him ours."