Knepper missed the call with remarks on women

 wasiniter fupted by by the sounds of fdesesparation nearbs: As it turned out, a father was attempting into the family swimming pool. Porter dropped her clubs and ran to their aid, scurrying over a aix-foot fence in the process. In
minutes she revived the child using mouth-tominutes she revived the child using mouth-to-
mouth resuscitation. Witnesses said she saved mouth res
This touching story is mentioned in the wake of remarks made recently by Bob Knepper, apitcher for the Houston Astros, concerning
Pam Postema. After watching Postema, iho is Pam Postema. Afrer wathing Postema, who
strivin to becone the first female umpire in
mion major-league baseball history, work behind the plate during a spring training game, Knepper
expressed the beliet that she ead do business in the profession. Not because she lacked umpiringskills, but because she's a woman
Indeed, it seems if Knepper had his way Mary Bea Porter would have been in the e kicthen
rather than on the golf course when that little rather than on the golf course when that little
bov's life began to boy's life began to slip away. Knepper's insidious comments, the Houston chapter of the National Irganization of Women NOW presested the pitcher with a Paper bag and a plaque nominating gim for
Neanderthal of the Year. Accordingto Kathy
Aubin the chapter president the besi Auabi, hhe chapter president, the basa ist o
"put over his head, so he can express his belief "put over his head, so he he cant express his beliefs
to himself."

Initial reaction was to ignore commen Knepper could find himself among Gov. Bill Clemenents of Texas, who has vetoed several bills affecting women's sirights, and and
couple in West Texas lobbyin to have all references to evolution stricken from textbooks. Postema has spent the last five seasons just below the majors. She's been spat upon, kicked, propositioned and called every vullagrity
in the book. As for battle scars, she's suffered in the book. As for battle scars, she's suffered a broken to from a foul tip. Still, Postema says umpiring is a athiril. And now she estands, by merit, on the brink of obtaining one of the two
openings in the hig leagues. openings in the big leagues.
Knepper's insipid comments. After all, who cares what a baseball pitcter - and, no less, a mediocre e asesebll ititcher-thinks about such alters of socioiogy?
Croorate executive anointed with personnel responsibililities. He insit t Jimm " "he Greek" Snyder, a nationally prominent figure whose ccess to the airwaves makes him a pseudo an athlete, Knepper doesn't possess the kind of national aura that caused Isiah Thomas to be unduly villified for having the mettle to criticize the print and broadceast media for its stereotypes.
Prejudices beneath his religious beliefs
No. Knepper is simply an ordinary leffhanded hurler who managed only eight victories against 17 defeats last season, while owning
an embarrassing 5.27 ERA. (That's earned run an embarrassing 5.27 ERA. (That's earned ru What is disturbing is that Knepper cloaked his prejudices beneath his religious beliefs, claiming that it was his
matter the cost ${ }^{\text {s. }}$ a Christian to speak up, no
Strangely, Knepper's religion conflicts with this nation's Constitution, which guarantee all of its citizens, regardless of sex, race or religion, the right to pursue any profession,
succeed to the level of their capabilities Through history women were slowly accorded the right to vote, drive, pilot an airplane, own a business, become an attorney, even an umpire. But justa asthe remarks uttered by Campanis and Snyder confirmed the continued existence of archaic racial atititudes, so has Knepper reminded us that egislation canno changex he tears "He meat me within all sectors of the community", says Aubin. "We know it exists becaus of the many telephone calls we receeive with complaints of
sexual harassment and disicrimination. Bob sexual harassment and divcrimination. Bob
Knepper said he felt goodabout the job she did Kunpers saidink she shoull do it simply because she's a woman.
"We don"t challenge his right to his beliefs, and we realize that AI Campanis was an
individual who made hiring decisions, But in a sense, Knepper is a spocesman for our city, a
 to more than their teaches or parents. Children No one is happier than that young boy's father that the existenceef people such as Knepper, who are still blyded by their own
prejudices, didn't hindel Mary Bea Porter in the prejudices, didn't ininder Mary Bea Porter in the pursuit of
her thrill.

## Chapman the undisputed top 'Cat

Kentucky guard holds key for a run at the Final Four By Tony Barnhar
Staff Writer
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - Yes, Rex Chapman admitted, he has always dreamed of winning a national championship. What
player doesn't? While admitting that he covets a ring, however, he will not agree
with the suggestion that he would be less than complete as a basketball player - or as a person - should he someday leave
the University of Kentucky without winthe University of Kentucky without win-
ning one.
"If you think about it there a lot of great players who never won one," said the Wildcats' sophomore guard.
"When I came to Kentucky, I just wanted


Rick Mahler, shown here signing autographs at spring training, is $4-0$ with three shutouts in opening-day starts.

## Mahler will start Braves' opener

Zane Smith will follow in the five-man rotation, Tanner's first in Atlanta
Braves looking at Destrade, Page 2E By Gerry Fraley By Gerry Fraley
Staf Writer
WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. - Rick Mahler, the National League's losingest pitcher over the last three years, will be
the Atlanta Braves' opening-day pitcher this season.
Mahler will face Rick Sutcliffe of the Chicago Cubs in the April 5 game at At-
lanta-Fulton County Stadium It will lanta-Fulton County Stadium. It will be
Mahler's fifth opening-day start. He is 4 0 with three shutouts and no runs al lowed in 34 innings on opening day. "He'll have pitched the most innings, (in exhibitions) and has the experience,
manager Chuck Tanner said. "I manager chuck Tanner said. "I have
faith in Mahler. I just know he can win."

## Braves' opening day

 Who: Cubs vs. Braves When: April 5, 7:40 p.m. Where: Atlanta-Fulton Co. StadiumMahler received the assignment Wednesday as the Braves' rotation fell bone spur in his left elbow during camp. will start the second game of the season. Smith, who led the Braves with 15 because his innings have been limited during camp. It is also a psychologial move by Tanner. He is giving Mahler a vote of confidence and also wants to
keep Smith from thinking he has to carry keep Smif
"We need Mahler to have a good The rest of the rotation will be fille by kids. Kevin Coffman, Tom Glavine Peter Smith will take the other spots. The Braves will begin with a five-man rotace seasons. The first time in Tanner's last season by using starters the league three days' rest. The bullpen is also nearly set. Jim Acker, Paul Assenmacher, Chuck Cary and Charlie Puleo have spots. The final opening will go to either rookie Sid
Akins or Jeff $D$ dedm, with lurking in the background. The rotation was $28-32$ with a 4.61 ERA in the majors last season. The rota-
tion has 107 career wins, 102 by Mahler tion has 107 career wins, 102 by Mahler
and Smith.
"We have a nice balance with the two veterans and the three kids," Tanner said. "If they have a problem or falter,
somebody who's doing well down below See BRAVES, Page 10E


Sophomore guard Rex Chapman (back ground) is close to realizing goal.

Atlanta is
No. 2 on USOC list

## By Bud Shaw

After entertaining U.S. Olympic Committee board members at the Winte
Olympics and while continuing to lobby among sports federations, Minneapolis-St. Paul believes it has an edge over Atlanta
in the race for the 1996 Summer Olympics in the race for the 1996 Summer Olympic
"People aren't saying to me, 'You've tor of the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission, said Wednesday. "But they'r aying it looks very good. ommendation to the International Olym pic Committee, Twin Cities officials rent Plaza in Calgary and invited USOC guests to watch the nightly medal ceremony Their entourage included Minnesota Gov Rudy Perpich, Minneapolis Mayor Donald mer. In Calgary, Erickson said of the U.S.
designation, Word is, its ours th ose. Amateur Athletics Foundation (GAAF')
said Wednesday he believes Minneapolis St. Paul has the lead in committed votes on the USOC executive board but that At lanta has a " $50-50$ chance."
"The great majority of votes are un-
committed," said Payne, who also made an appearance in Calgary. "The race has yet to be run and won."
San Francisco and Nashville have faded in the race, according to USOC
sources. San Francisco's attempt to make

See OLYMIPICS, Page 9E

## Bloom will surrender in Alabama

By Chris Mortensen Staff Writer
Threatened with extradition, sports agent Lloyd Bloom of Los Angeles agreed ednesday to surrender to Alabama offl-
cials to face charges for his dealings with of Alabama basketball players Derrick McKey and Terry Coner.
"Lloyd wants resolution wants some finality to some finality to
the situation in Alabama," said
Bloom's attorney. LloydBloom "He does not want a fugitive status hang
ing over his head" ing over his head."
Bloom failed to appear for his sched-
uled arraignment Mapch 16 in Ala., and Alabama Assistant Attorney General Don Valeska vowed to "track him down ... to all ends of the world." Valeska to commit himself or face the threatened extradition proceedings.
Bloom and former associate Norby Walters have been indicted on three misSee BLOOM, Page 9E

## Dogs limping into Blue-Gray

## By Thomas 0'Toole Stuf Writer

ATHENS - Georgia's controversial homecourt advantage at the NCAA Tennis Tournament may be moot this year. The defending national champion,
riddled with key injuries, is in danger of missing the 20 -team field, according to head coach Dan Magill. "We've not given up, but we have a critichal said Magill. "W've not given up, but we have a aritical situation This is a crucial time for us. You have to be
injuries. Wére having a rash of tough luck."
Georgia has played without No. 1 player Al Pa ker and No. 4 ..J. Middleten most of the winter. Both have back inj.
ing to Magil.
On Monday, No. 3 player Trey Carter suffered a
cut on his big toe which required stitches. He is
doubtuul for the Blue-Gray Classic, which begins to-
day in Montyomery Ala day in Montgomery, Ala,
Georgia $(6-1)$ is seeded second in the tournament, Georgia 6.1 .1 is seeded second in the tournament,
based on its
Bo 3 ranking in the coaches' poll. The
 play matches against top-ranked teams. Heading the field in MMontyomerys is top-ranked
southern Cal The Trojans coach, Dick Leach was Southern Cal. The Trojans' coach, Dick Leach, was so outspoken about Georgia's homecourt advantage at
the NCAA Tournament that the rules committe is considering another site for next year's event.
The Bulldogs have won two of the last three The Bulldogs have woo two of the last three NCAA tities. This year's championships, the 12 th
straight time they will be in Athens, are scheduled Mraiaght time they will be it henry Feild stadium.
sto Me "Itis very likely we'll be losing to some teams in the Blue-ergay Tourramentitasd that will put us be-
hind them in the polls," said Magill.

## Connors moves to semifinals

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. - Secondi-seeded Jinmy Connors, who has yet to lose a set in the Lip-
ton International Players Championships, routed Anders Jarryd Wednesday night to move into the semifinals of the $\$ 2.1$ mil lion tournament.
TENNIS lion tournament.
Connors, 35 , beat Jarryd, the seventh seed from Sweden, $7-5,6-3,6-6-1$, and will face defend ing champion Miloslav Mecir in Friday's semifinals. Mecir, the third seed, defeated Jay Berger 6-1, 2-6, 6
$3,7-6(7-1)$.
The other semifinal has sixth-seeded Yannick
Noah against No. 1 seed Mats Wilander. Noah Noah against No. 1 seed Mats Wilander. Noah looked impressive in beating Andrei Chesnokov, a
winner two weeks ago in the DuPont Classic at Orlanwinner two weeks ago in the DuPont Classic at Orlan
do $, 6-1,6-4,6-4$, while Wilander crushed Aaron Krick
stein 6-1, 6-2, 6-0.
Women's semifinals are scheduled for today at
the International Tennis Center, when top seed and
defending champion Steffi Graf takes on Stephanie deeending champion Steffi Graf takes on Stephan
Rehe, and Chris Evert faces Mary Joe Fernandez. Connors has won five straight matches at the Lip-
ton, 15 straight sets, in reaching the semifinals for on, 15 straight sets, in reaching the semifinals for
the third straight year. Wednesday night, in front of a the third straight year. Wednesday night, in front of a
partisan crowd, Connors improved as the match went partisan crowd, connors improved as the match went Connors has a $14-2$ record in the Lipton, losing to van Lendl in the semifinals in 1986 and 1987 .
In 1986, Connors stalked off the court in a dispute with an official, and Lendl was awarded the match. "Ive had pretty good results here. I've played
ell in the past. Some Liptons I finsts well in the past. Some Liptons I finish, some I don't," he said laughing.

## Connors.

Results, Page 8 E

## Johnson bowls

 to top spot in Lady EboniteTish Johnson of Downey, Calif., got everything she needed and took great pains to avoid everything she
didn't Wednesday in the $\$ 40,000$ Lady Ebonite Classic bowling tournament at Fair Lanes in Chamblee. She needed seven wins in the final seven matches.
She got them. She needed at least a tie with Lorrie She got them. She needed at least a a tie with Lorrie
Nichols of Algonquin, Ill., in their position-round Nichols of Algonquin, 1 Il.
match. She got it, $216-216$.
She didn't need extra pressure from well-meaning fans whilit entring to come from 146 pins behing to to catch
Nichols. And she didnt need a $7-10$ split on her final Nichols. And she didn't need a $7-10$ split on her final Johnson managed to escape the first in the bowling
center's lounge, the second on lane 28 . Such is the wiscenters sionge, the second on lane 28 . Such is she wis-
dom a 25 -year-old has gathered on the Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour.
"People kept telling me I was getting closer to her," pins. IIn letween match play and the position round, I phid right here in this seat. But not drinking."
Trailing Nichols by nine pins going into her final
frame, Johnson soberly made sure the ball hooked left. Because it did, she goes into the finals today in good position after starting the day 12 th, She leads Nichols; and Donna Adamek of Duarte, Calif.
Nichols led after 34 games with 7,907 pins and an
 into second as a result of play Wednesday afternoon.
Johnson had 7.761 pins
But Nichois struggled in her final eight-game block


Keith Spears (left) tests bowling balls of Tish Fair Lanes Chamblee. Johnson leads he he Lady EbJohnson (right) and Lorrie Nichols (to her right) at onite Classic going into tonight's finals.
(4.3-1), and Johnson didn't. Getting 30 bonus pins for day at midnight. each win and a bonus pin for every pinfall over 200
made a leader of Johnson, who rolled games of 243,246 and 258 during her charge.
be winner gdvayan at 7 p.m, Adamek will play Maiden, the winner advancing to. play Wagner. The winner of play, will await the survivor of the stepladder format play, will await the survivor of the stepladder format
The finals will be taped by ESPN and shown next Mon-

## day at midnight.

I'll take a second-place is second". Tnhnson said. "And every week." Nichols admitted she was helpless to stop Johnson,
but doesn't consider herself out of the running for the but doesn't consider herself out of the running for the
$\$ 7,500$ first-place money.

Results, Page 8E

## Bloom

## From Page IE

deceptive trade practice and tampering with a sports contest. The charges stem from contracts they signe with McKey and Coner during Alabama's 1986-87 sea
son. The agents have been indicted on two counts soach charge.
sonts have been incled on two cor Tuscaloosa County Circuit Court Judge Johr. M. Karrh will preside over the agents' May 9 trial. If found guilty on all three charges involving each of the two six years in jail and $\$ 12,000$ in fines.
Waiters appeared for last week's arraignment, enbond. When Bloom was a no-show released on a $\$ 1,000$ General Don Siegelman said, "If he doesn't come of his own accord, he will be brought back in handeuffs." Siegelman and Valeska gave Bioom one week turn himself in when they learned that he no longer was represented by Wall New York.
"Lloyd
dictment in the state properiy served a copy of the in yesterday that I had a chance to review the Alabam statutes in question," said Trope "There also is broad er consideration given to the misdemeanor laws."
Lloyd will be in contact with other jurisdictions." Trope was referring to a federal grand jury in Chi cago that is investigating Walters' and Bloom's dealing with college athletes. Trope had expressed doubt th Alabama would be successul in extraditing Bioom from
California, where the agent lives, on a misdemeanor charge.
Valeska said Bloom bama immediately, as long as he attends a pretria earing April 26 at the Tuscaloosa County Courthouse Trope won't keep their word," said Valeska. "This is courtesy we have extended Mr. Bloom. We will not ex
tend another one like it if he fails to appear. We will tend anoth
get him."
Bloom and Walters have declined to comment on
their legal battles.

## Olympics

From Page 1E
city bid approval contingent on the SoC's acceptance of gay-oriented its chances, the sources say. USOC Site Selection members have categorized Nashville as "impressive After visiting Minneapolis-St. Paul this weekend, the Site Selec ion Committee will recommend candidate cities to USOC president
Robert Helmick. Those cities, expected to be Atlanta and Minneapo-is-St. Paul, are then invited to make a presentation April 29 in A vote on which city should rep-
esent the U.S. in international bidding for the ${ }^{96}$ Games follows imoming to the U.S so ompics 1984 is extremely unlikely, bid cities believe the designation stamps them as the next U.S. choice to host the olympics. However, there is no
uarantee the USOC will stick with its April choice indefinitely. Getting the USOC's approval is the first step. Site Selection Committee chairman Jimmy Carnes
won't comment on the competition until after the committee makes its recommendations. A formal announcement is expected Monday.
Minneapolis-St. Paul believes
its strengths are its moderate sumits strengths are its moderate summer climate, existing facilities,
proximity of venues and established working relationship with the USOC. Payne points to Atlanta's dynamic growth, airport and transit system, and solid political and cor-
"I think we're in position to host the Olympics today," said Payne. "I
don't believe Minneapolis-St. Paul is in the same position."
The Twin Cities list a track-andneeded for 1996 that isn't already under construction or in the planning stage. Many of the facilities will be built in time to host the 1990
U.S. Olympic Festival.
"The fact we've already been
awarded a Festival can't hurt us," said bid group spokesman Ken said bid group spokesman Ken
Brunsvold. "We have a relationship
with the USOC with the USOC. They know who we are."
Excluding yachting, the farthest venue in the Twin Cities bid is ap-
proximately 25 miles from the press center. The GAAF proposes tennis in Athens ( 65 miles) and equestrian,
$\rightarrow \longrightarrow$

I think we're in position to $\begin{aligned} & \text { University system. In contrast to the } \\ & \text { Minneapolis bid, Payne said, the }\end{aligned}$ host the Olympics today. I GAAF is "not proposing to build don't believe Minneapolis-St. housing units to be funded out of Paul is in the same struction, Atlanta needs a trackposition.'

GAAF Blly Payne
GAAF chalrman
rowing and canoeing at Callaway Gardens ( 70 miles).
"When the site selection committee visited," said Payne, "they
had no problems with the being too sppread out."
Minneapolis includes $\$ 100$ million in its budget for an athlete's village. Atlanta's bid utilizes Georsia Tech, Emory and the Atlanta Payne.

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