Mistrial Declared In Walters Case

State and defense attorneys were granted a mistrial yesterday to buy more time in a bid to settle the case against Norby Walters, a New York sports agent charged in Tuscaloosa, Ala., with three misdemeanors for dealing with two University of Alabama basketball players.

At the request of both sides, Circuit Judge John M. Karrh declared the mistrial and dismissed the jury that had been chosen to try Walters on criminal counts of commercial bribery, violation of deceptive trade law and tampering with a sports event.

The attorneys have been trying to negotiate a settlement that would satisfy the university, which had to forfeit \$250,000 in NCAA Tournament playoff revenues because of Walters' dealings with Derrick McKey, Southeastern Conference player of the year in 1986-87. Walters was accused of similar dealings with Terry Coner, who finished his eligibility with the 1986-87 season.

Johnson Pulls Up Lame

World sprint champion Ben Johnson dropped out midway through the 100-meter dash at the JAL Tokyo international track and field meet after feeling a leg twinge. It was Johnson's first outdoor competition this season.

The 26-year-old Canadian is the holder of the world 100-meter record of 9.83 seconds. His coach, Charlie Francis, said Johnson felt "a slight strain" in his left leg and immediately stopped. American Marty Krulee won the event in 10.32.

Noah, Agassi Ousted in Rome

Fifth-seeded Kent Carlsson of Sweden surprised No. 4 Yannick Noah in a two-hour battle, and Haiti's Ronald Agenor upset American teenager Andre Agassi in 53 minutes to reach the semifinals of the Italian Open in Rome.

Carlsson beat Noah, 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, to advance to a semifinal match against top-seeded Ivan Lendl, who outlasted unseeded Jaime Yzaga of Peru, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2. Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina, seeded 14th, upset No. 6 Andres Gomez, 6-2, 6-3. The unseeded Agenor beat No. 9 Agassi, 6-3, 6-1, to end the 18-year-old's 14-match winning streak.

Crenshaw Leads, Palmer Out

Ben Crenshaw shot a 5-under-par 65 to take the second-round lead at the PGA's \$750,000 Byron Nelson Golf Classic in Irving, Texas. Crenshaw had a 36-hole total of 9-under-par 131 for a two-shot lead over Jeff Sluman (67) and firstround leader Mark Wiebe (69).

Arnold Palmer, who shot an opening-round 70, had a 36 on the front nine, but had to withdraw on the 11th because of pain in his right side.

Quinton Gray, a former minor-league baseball player, shot a 3-under-par 67 to take the firstround lead in the \$225,000 United Hospitals Senior championship in Malvern, Pa.

Lopez, Ritzman Tied With 68s

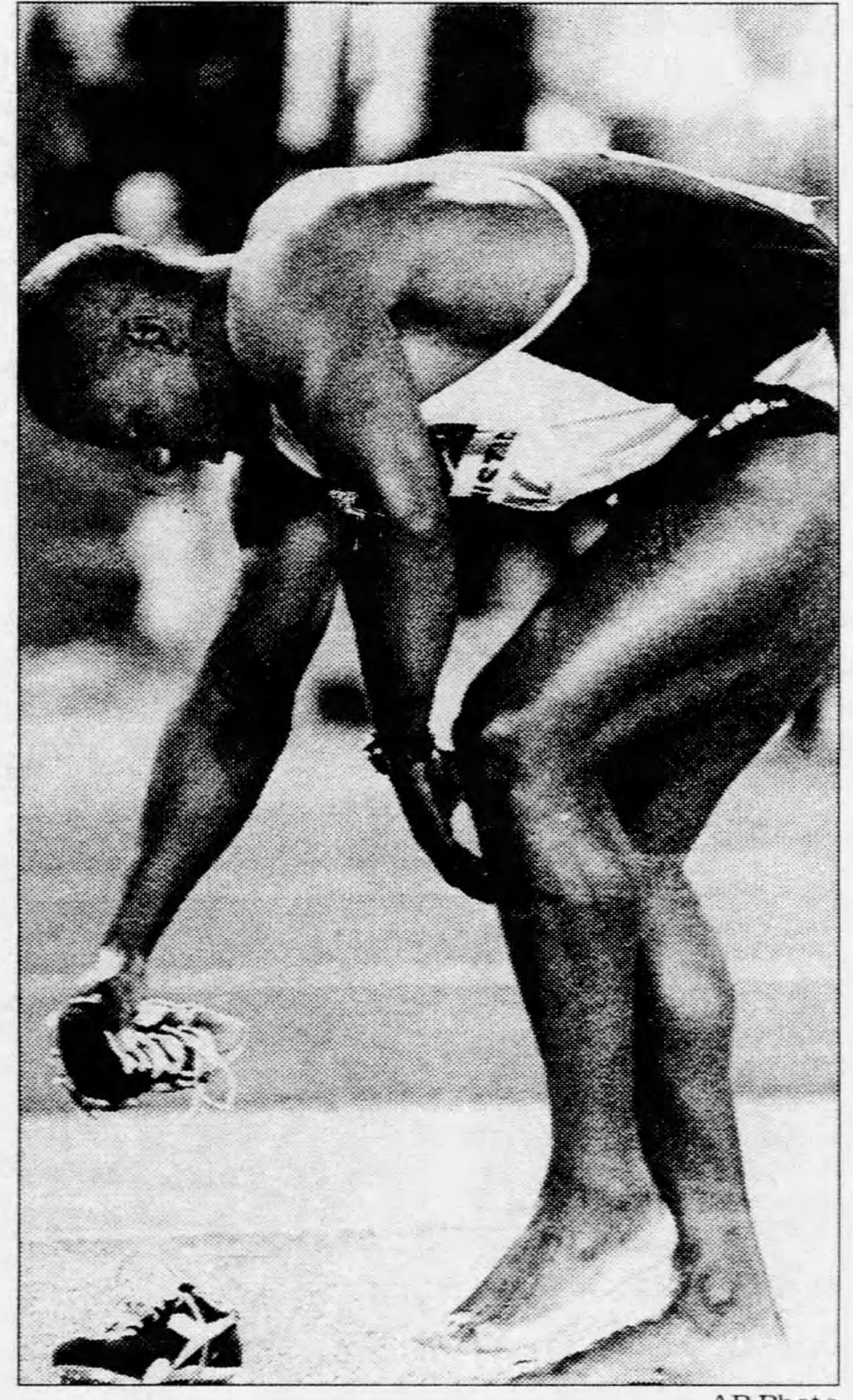
Nancy Lopez, looking to regain the No. 1 spot on the LPGA Tour, shot a 4-under-par 68 to share the first-round lead at the \$250,000 Chrysler-Plymouth Classic in Middleton, N.J.

Lopez, a two-time winner this year, had five birdies and a bogey on the 6,232-yard Navesink Country Club course and was tied with Alice Ritzman, a non-winner in 10 years on the Tour. Janet Coles was third after a 69.

Defending champion Ayako Okamoto withdrew after nine holes because of neck pain.

Tyson 'Just Kibitzing'

Mike Tyson, the undisputed heavyweight champion, has no intention of surrendering his U.S. citizenship to live in Monaco, his manager said. "He was only kibitzing," Bill Cayton said of remarks Tyson made on an Albany television station Thursday night about becoming a resident of Monaco, which has no income tax. "He thought there was dual citzenship," Cayton said. "I said, 'That's not right.' He said, 'Forget it.' . . I told him he should be proud to pay taxes."



AP Photo Ben Johnson pulls off his spikes after dropping out of a 100-meter race in Tokyo.

Knights Play Bruisers Tonight

The New York Knights, coming off a 54-48 loss Monday to the Detroit Drive, meet the Chicago Bruisers in an Arena Football League game at 8:30 tonight in the Rosemont Horizon. The Knights (1-1) have averaged 54 points in their first two games. Chicago (2-0) has allowed 35 points per game, the fewest in the six-team league.

Redmen in Playoffs Again

St. John's clinched a Big East baseball playoff berth for the 15th consecutive year by splitting a doubleheader with Boston College. The Redmen (24-6-1) won, 18-5, with a 20-hit attack led by Tom Dodson's four hits and five RBI, after an 8-0 loss to the Eagles (15-16, 8-10).

Men's Tennis. Gerard Gonsalve and Rob Weidenbaum defeated Joe Sutherland and Juzar Sulemanji of FDU, 6-3, 6-3, in the final of the Metropolitan championships to lead Queens to the team title with 40 points. St. John's and FDU tied for second with 38 points.

Andretti, Mears Tuned Up

Former Indy winners Mario Andretti and Rick Mears turned in identical fast practice laps of 221.456 mph at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, setting the stage for a battle for the pole position today in the opening round of qualifying for the May 29 Indianapolis 500.

Furthermore...

Sabres center Doug Smith will undergo surgery for shoulder fractures suffered Sunday in an automobile accident . . . Fordham swimmer Elizabeth Maresca, a senior from Garden City, L.I., is a recipient of the MAAC Scholar-Athlete Award and will receive \$1,000 toward her education. She holds the school record in eight individual and relay events, has a 3.57 grade-point-average in mathematics and will attend NYU Law School

. . Cecelia Lopez-Arnold beat Kaija Posnick, 6-1, 6-2, in the singles final of the USTA-ETA Long Island Women's 35-and-over championship at the Sterling Tennis Club in Corona . . . National champion Duane Koslowski of Minneapolis defeated Ivan Katz of New York at 286 pounds in the qualifying meet for the 1988 Olympic Greco-Roman wrestling team in Boca Raton, Fla.

Edited by Marshall Reed

Chapman To Declare Eligibility

The Associated Press

Lexington, Ky. - Rex Chapman, the Kentucky guard who only last month indicated he would remain in school, said yesterday he would pass up his final two years of eligibility to make himself available for the NBA.

"It's strictly a business decision," Chapman said from his home in Owensboro. "There is only one reason to enter the NBA draft early . . . because I feel I have the talent and the ability to utilize that talent, and the maturity that is needed."

In early April, Chapman said he would stay at Kentucky at least one more season. But since then, the basketball program has come under an NCAA probe for alleged recruiting irregularities.

"This decision is in no way based on, or influenced by, the current basketball investigation," Chapman

The NBA's deadline for underclassmen declaring for the June 28 draft is midnight today. Chapman must mail a letter to commissioner David Stern that is postmarked by that time.

Chapman, a 6-4, 185-pounder, refused to speculate where he might be taken in the draft.

Kentucky coach Eddie Sutton said he regretted seeing Chapman leave but wished him well in the NBA. Although Sutton said he asked Chapman yesterday morning if he could talk him out of it, Chapman said he had made up his mind.

Chapman led Kentucky in scoring as a freshman and sophomore, averaging 16 and 19 points. He was an All-Southeastern Conference selection each season and a member of the U.S. team that won the silver medal in the 1987 Pan American Games.

Knight Denies Problem at IU

Bloomington, Ind. (AP) — Indiana coach Bob Knight, in an effort to defuse the appearance of a rift with university president Thomas Ehrlich, said yesterday if he goes to New Mexico, it would not be "because of people now at Indiana."

Ehrlich, completing his first year as president, has been the target of many of Knight's supporters since it became known Knight was considering coaching at New Mexico.

Knight has said one reason he is considering the New Mexico job is because of changes at IU. "Any decision that I would make to leave Indiana or to get out of coaching would not be made because of people now at Indiana," Knight told the Bloomington Herald-Telephone yesterday before leaving for a coaching clinic in New Orleans. "It would be because I feel that's just the best thing for me to do."

Knight also said he probably would not make a decision until next week.

Knight was reprimanded publicly by Ehrlich after the coach received three technical fouls in an exhibition with the Soviet Union last fall. Ehrlich also called Knight's comments about rape in a nationally televised interview "coarse."

In the book, "A Season on the Brink," author John Feinstein wrote that after Knight's 1984 chairthrowing incident, Knight could not deal with a public rebuke, no matter how mild, from former IU president John Ryan. Feinstein said that if Ryan had suspended Knight, Knight would have felt compelled to resign on the spot.

"For Bob's sake and for Indiana's," IU vice president Edgar Williams, who retires this year, was quoting as saying in the book. "I thought then, I think Z now, that the university had to take some action. It could not publicly condone what Bob did. And Bob needed to be told that. He needed to be told, 'Bob, we love you, we want you here forever, but there is a line, there is a point where we say no more. And you just came close to it."

The Albuquerque Tribune reported yesterday that Dave Bliss of Southern Methodist, a former assistant under Knight, said he believed Knight will accept the New Mexico job. It also quoted an unidentified UNM source as saying Bliss will accept it if Knight rejects it.