

SPORTSPEOPLE

Odds & INNS



By Linda Kay & Mike Conklin

Was it guilt by association? Several accounts making the rounds on Rush Street say it was a friend with Jim Harbaugh who shouted obscenities at plainclothes policemen, touching off the fracas that led to the Bear quarterback's arrest at She-Nannigans. Anyway you look at it, those closest to the classy Harbaugh are genuinely shocked at the disorderly conduct charges. Final irony: Jim has made several promotional appearances at She-Nannigans.

He's alive!

Michael Jordan has surfaced. No one's sure where he has been the last week or so while the Bulls tried to locate him for a Most Valuable Player award ceremony, but he'll be in the Turner Broadcast System studios Wednesday night at halftime of the Boston-Detroit playoff game. There, he'll finally receive the National Basketball Association MVP trophy. Jordan will be accompanied by Bulls coach Doug Collins for the presentation, which will be made by a representative of NBA Commissioner David Stern.

Shark a softie

Greg Norman drew most of the attention at the Grand Slam of Golf at Kemper Lakes Monday. From one standpoint, his return for the Beatrice Western Open later this month may be more meaningful. Norman hopes to be reunited with Jamie Hutton, a 17-year-old Wisconsin high school student. Jamie is battling leukemia and, through the Make-A-Wish organization that funds wishes of seriously ill youth, he met Norman at the MCI Heritage Classic earlier this year. After striking up a good friendship, the two made a date to get together at Butler National. Jamie entered the hospital after the Heritage for therapy. Western officials say everyone's fingers are crossed for the meeting to take place.

Boston beanings

Too bad we can't pick up New England's SportsChannel, which carries some Boston Celtic playoff games. We hear SportsChannel announcer Tommy Heinsohn, who also is a part of the CBS crew of NBA announcers, tends to be a little more critical when he's on the cable network. At least Heinsohn is not a big fan of Detroit's Isiah Thomas. The other night, during Game 2, a few reporters overheard this interesting exchange between Heinsohn and play-by-play man Mike Gorman piped into the press room—but not over the airwaves. Said Heinsohn: "I don't like Isiah." Answered Gorman: "I can tell."

Meanwhile, another Chicagoan took a shot from Boston's Bill Walton during the playoffs. After watching the Los Angeles Lakers play on TV, Walton said that they looked like "a dead team." On 29 points by Byron Scott, he added: "They were out of the Terry Cummings School of Basketball. Score as much as you can if you're going to lose so the coach can't blame you." Ouch.

No biz like ...

The Chicago Six, the lads who bring you that "O-o-o, Chicago HMO" song (chant?) in TV ads, are moving up in the entertainment world. After capturing an Academy Cable Entertainment award in Los Angeles for their video, they're now nominated for a Chicago Emmy to be presented at Monday's bash at the Fairmont Hotel. Shaun Gayle of the Bears has become a permanent band member. Walter Payton has been having too much difficulty working the gigs into his schedule. ... The rest of the group—Dan Hampton, Troy Murray, Curt Fraser, Dave Duerson and Gary Nylund—remains intact. Their summer schedule will be in the next issue of Chicago Sports Profile magazine. Two appearances we know of are a June 16 "Best of the Beach" games party and a June 23 opening of Traffic Jam, a watering hole partly owned by Hampton and Bear teammate Kevin Butler.

Good News Dept.

It turns out that the Northern Illinois women's softball team we told you about a few days ago, which made the school's first appearance in the College World Series, is as smart as it was good. The GTE Academic All-America squad will be announced Wednesday, and four Huskies are on the first two teams. Nebraska had two players named to the same units, but no other school had more than one. NIU's representatives were pitcher Beth Schrader, first baseman Sue Kause, second baseman Laura Peterson and shortstop Amy Veld. Their average grade-point average was 3.77 on a 4-point scale, and we're not talking basket-weaving, folks. Kause was a premed major who already has been accepted by at least two medical schools. Others: Schrader, architecture; Peterson, psychology; and Veld, nursing.

News, notes and nonsense

Rumors are swirling about Blackhawks coach Bob Murdoch's being replaced by Mike Keenan, but who's going to replace Keenan in Philadelphia? Expect Flyers assistant Paul Holmgren to get the job Wednesday. ... On June 9, the Variety Club of Illinois will host its annual Chicago Coho Sports Fishing Derby on Lake Michigan for 40 children from the Maryville City of Youth. ... The Chicago Park District will offer seven weeks of tennis lessons for beginners at 77 locations starting June 20. Finally: Is there no end to these guys? The "Sports Writers on TV" show on SportsVision, featuring Bill Jauss, Bill Gleason, Rick Telander and Ben Bentley, has just been picked up by Prime Ticket in Los Angeles. Prime Ticket is the nation's largest regional sports cable service. This is another 2.3 million households for this adroit group, bringing their total to more than 9 million in Chicago, Cleveland, Florida, Minnesota, Houston, Dallas, Hawaii, Pittsburgh, etc. We hear ESPN may be next.

Pete Rose Jr. awaits the call

Only one ballplayer can be called the next Pete Rose. Because he is the next Pete Rose. Pete Rose Jr. And he is graduating to his father's profession, maybe to his father's team.

The Reds are one team to have shown particular interest in drafting their manager's son in Wednesday's amateur draft.

Although the Reds don't have a first-round selection, lost for signing free agent Eddie Milner, Pete Rose Jr. will probably be available for Cincinnati in the second round or beyond. And certainly there will be pressure to take him.

"You can't make a decision based on emotion," says scouting director John Cox. "You have to divorce yourself from all that and consider the realities of who he is, where he is and what's going on."

Also, if Pete Jr. is drafted by the Reds, he'd be more closely scrutinized than if he were to play for another organization. Pete Jr. says he'd love to play for the Reds, but admits the pressure would be greater.

"If I had a preference, I'd probably prefer to play for somebody else," says Pete Jr. "But if it don't work that way and I play for the Reds, I'll be happy."

How good is he? This year, he had 44 hits in 100 at-bats (.440), 4 home runs, 41 RBIs, 13 doubles, 3 triples and 33 runs. He made two errors playing the whole season at third base. Word is that he has a good bat and glove and a great attitude, but his arm and power are in question and his speed is a liability.

"My kid can hit because he's had



Pete Rose Jr. is a lot like his father—even down to No. 14.

more practice than anybody else," Rose said. "He ought to be able to hit because I always brought him to the ballpark. Every day he was here, I worked with him."

"And you don't take infield every day with Buddy Bell and Mike Schmidt and Davey Concepcion and not have some of that rub off on you."

There are those who believe his dad's name will help him come draft day. Pete Rose Jr. has heard such talk.

"The way me and my mom look at it, if I go in the top three rounds, it's not going to be because of my name," he says. "It's going to be because I can play a little baseball."

Needy ex-players to get help—via baseball card books

Lever Brothers, which last year went into the baseball memorabilia business with its Surf Baseball Card books, is now using the books to help needy former major leaguers.

"We had 56,000 books left over from last year," says Richard Goldblatt, a spokesman for Lever Brothers. "We donated them to the Baseball Alumni Team, an organization consisting of former players who donate time to raise money for players in need."

Each book features color replicas of a major-league

team's Topps baseball cards dating to 1952. The books were given away at stadiums last season, and were available through a mail-in offer. Since they were introduced, demand has sent prices climbing to as much as \$50 a book for some teams.

The 56,000 books were donated to the Baseball Alumni Team at a luncheon Tuesday in New York. BAT is expected to raise more than \$500,000 through their sale.

Former Brooklyn Dodgers pitcher Ralph Branca, presi-

dent of BAT, said the fund spent \$325,000 and \$350,000 last year. He said that 64 former major leaguers, minor leaguers or umpires, many of whom had financial problems stemming from illness, have been given help. He said the fund also aided those with drug and alcohol problems.

"Everyone who's played the game has a great deal of pride," Branca said. "A lot of people won't step forward to say they need help. We hope this can help give them a decent life."

That switch is around here somewhere

The World Basketball League may be just starting out, but it's already on the same footing as at least one of the established leagues ... say, the National Hockey League.

Tuesday's night's game between Youngstown and Calgary was delayed by—that's right—a power failure.

With :34 left, there was a loss of power at Beeghly Center in Youngstown. According to one report, the lights went out because they were on a timer, but team officials wouldn't confirm that.

There was a delay of 12 minutes while the mercury vapor lights cooled down and were restarted.

When the lights came back up, Youngstown held on for a 94-92 victory.

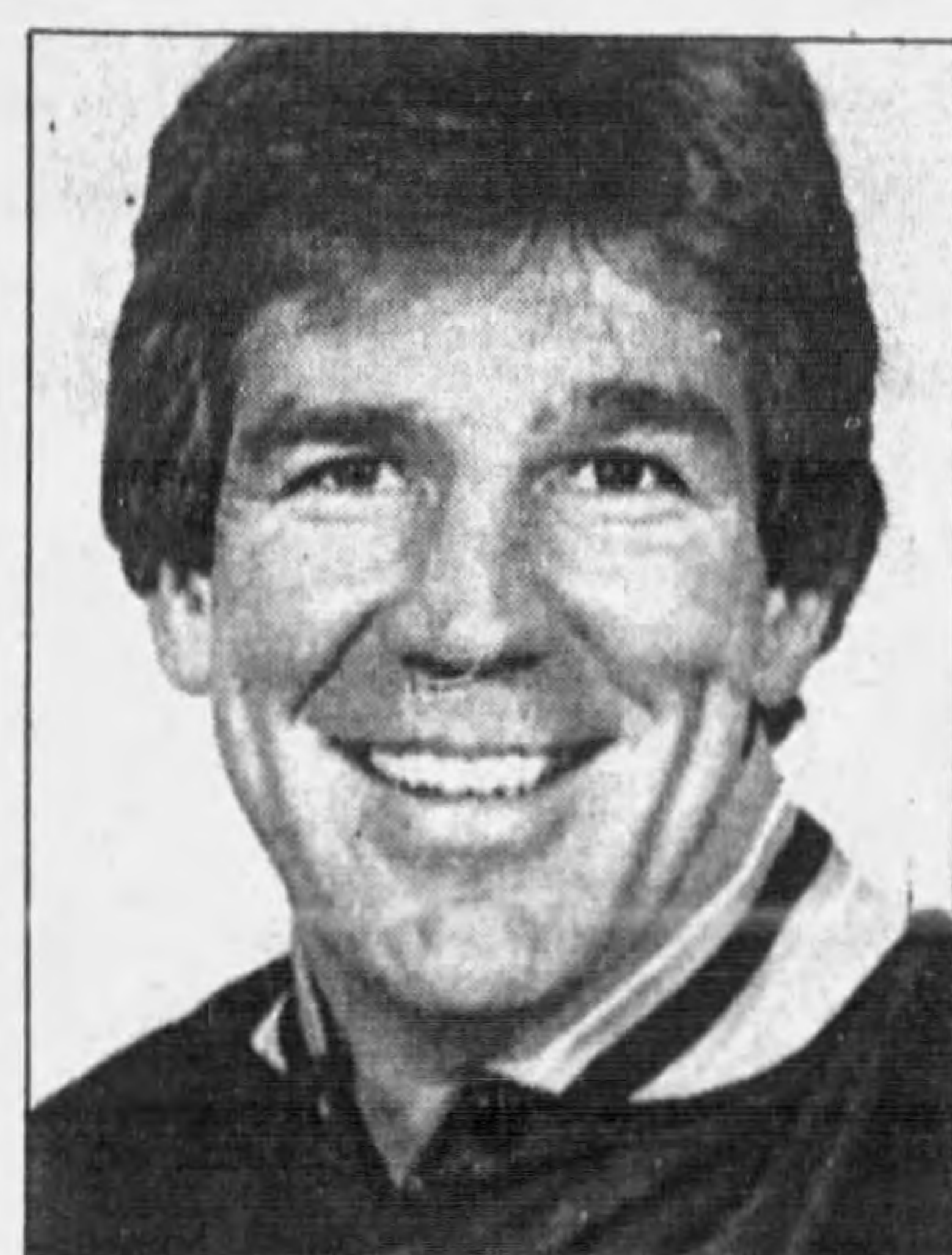
Somewhere, Roger's smiling

When Shane Rawley allowed two home runs in the same game to Steve Sax last week, he joined a very exclusive club.

The only other man in history ever to give up two homers in one game to Sax was the immortal Roger Matuschutto.

Uh, who? Roger Matuschutto. He did it in 1972, in Little League in Sacramento, Calif., when he and Sax were both 12 years old.

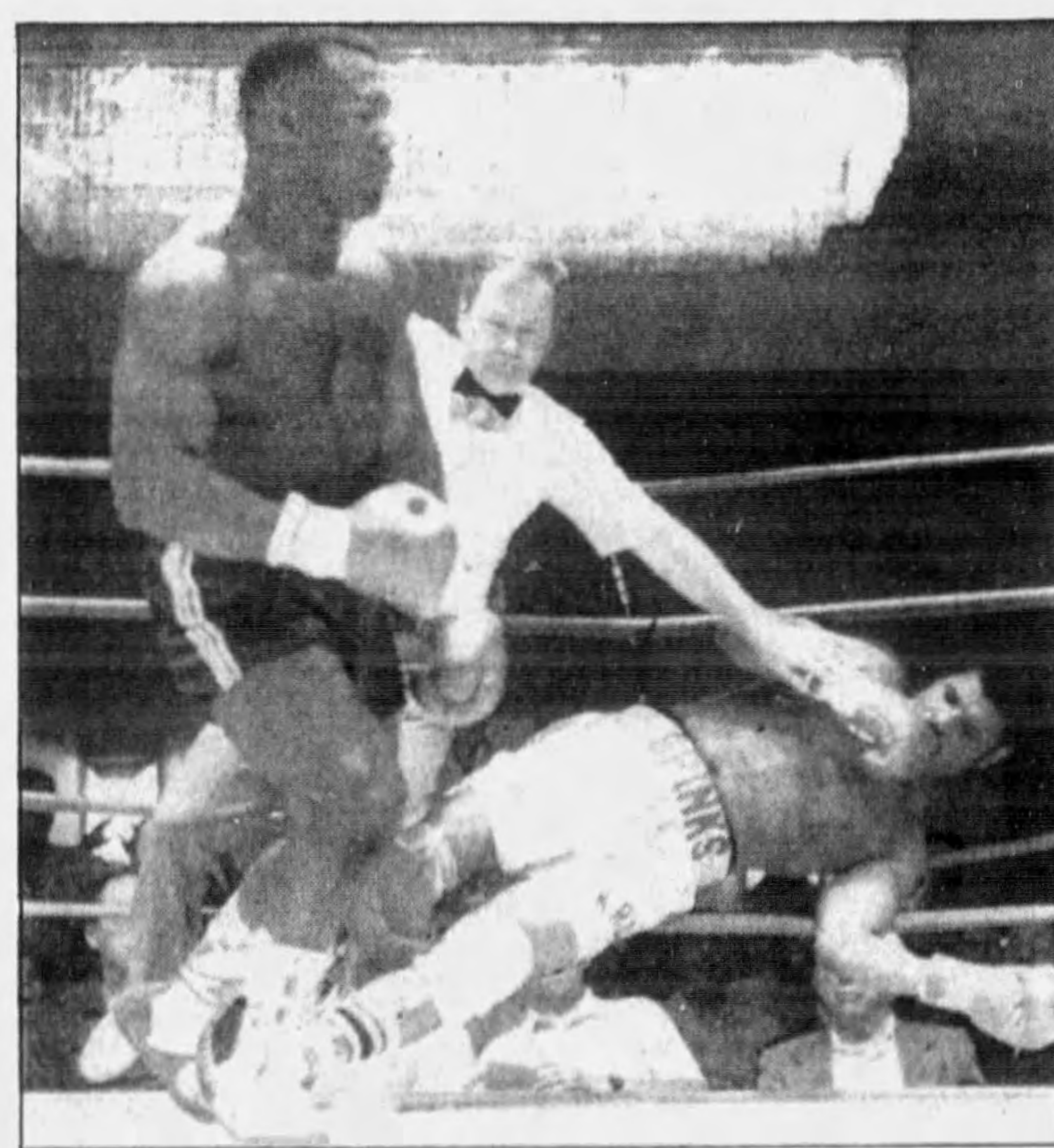
"I think he's out of baseball now," Sax says.



Terry O'Reilly

'A comment on Gretzky? What can you say about him? Everything you can say has been said before. He's a bum ... Has that been said? When he matures, he's going to be unbelievable. No. He's the best.'

Boston Bruins coach Terry O'Reilly when asked for a comment on Wayne Gretzky



Leon Spinks hits the deck seconds into the first round of his fight with Tony Morrison Monday night in Trumbull, Conn. Spinks was knocked out 33 seconds into the fight.

Yeah, but they never had a 56-game hitting streak

Joe DiMaggio, who has signed plenty of baseballs in his life, says it took a trip to the White House for last year's superpower summit before he asked someone to autograph one.

And the baseball, bearing the signatures of President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev, is one of the New York Yankee great's most prized possessions.

"I was a witness to history," DiMaggio told the New York Times. "I have done a lot of things in my time. But that day became one of the nicest days of my life, and one of the most meaningful."

"In my life, that's the only time I ever asked anybody to sign a baseball," said DiMaggio, 73.

DiMaggio said he had to scramble to make it to a state dinner for Gorbachev during the December summit. His tuxedo was in Miami, he had no formal shirt, no place to stay in Washington, no airline reservation and no transportation.

He worked out the details with the help of his friend, Edward Bennett Williams, owner of the Baltimore Orioles. Bennett's driver even bought DiMaggio a formal shirt and the baseball he carried to the White House.

"Reagan's signature is very precise and readable. Gorbachev signed it the way a doctor writes a prescription," DiMaggio said. "But the mission was complete."

So what's he going to do with the ball?

"I haven't made a decision yet," he said. "I have two granddaughters. I've had requests to buy it already. But there's no way in the world I'll sell it. It's history."

It is a laughing matter

The new Second City revue opens Wednesday night, and in deference to these trying times, has entitled it "Kuwait Until Dark or Bright Lights, Night Baseball."

BRIEFS

Errol Sherrer and Jesse Torres each drove in three runs as Southern Idaho stayed alive in the losers' bracket of the National Junior College World Series Tuesday in Grand Junction, Colo., with a 13-3 victory over Lake Land (Ill.) in a game halted by the 10-run rule in the sixth inning. The loss ended Lake Land's season at 54-22. Lake Land got a two-run single from Bob Ingle. Starter Bob Summers took the loss.

St. Xavier (56-24) suffered its first loss in the NAIA World Series in Lewiston, Idaho, when Lewis-Clark State (43-19) roared to a 15-2 victory over the Cougars. St. Xavier plays Dallas Baptist (51-25) Wednesday in the double-elimination tourney.

Top-ranked Arizona State will open the College World Series Friday night against No. 9 California in a battle of Pac-10 teams. The tournament pairings placed defending champion Stanford against Fresno State on Saturday.

Freddie Banks scored 34 points and Dwayne Randall added 21 as the Las Vegas Silver Streaks (2-5) rolled to a 107-89 World Basketball League victory over the Express (2-4). Alfredrick Hughes and Jim Les had 13 points apiece for Chicago.

The University of Alabama and sports agent Norby Walters reportedly have reached a settlement that will lead to dismissal of criminal charges against Walters, who signed contracts with two Alabama basketball players before their eligibility expired. Walters had faced charges of tampering with a sports event, commercial bribery and deceptive trade practices because he had signed contracts with Derrick McKey and Terry Coner while they were still playing for the Crimson Tide. The Atlanta Constitution reported the university had reached a \$200,000 settlement with Walters and was to receive the first \$50,000 payment Wednesday. As part of the settlement, the newspaper said, Walters transmitted a signed consent decree Tuesday in which he agreed never to conceal any dealings with an eligible student-athlete from the Southeastern Conference.

Michael Fay said Tuesday he hasn't ruled out a compromise that would allow the San Diego Yacht Club extra time to meet him in a monohulled yacht for the America's Cup. Before the San Diego debut of his 90-foot waterline yacht New Zealand, Fay said he might be willing to grant the San Diego Yacht Club more time to build a similar vessel should a New York judge disallow the catamaran the SDYC plans to race.

West Germany, helped by two goals from Juergen Klinsmann, beat visiting Romania 3-0 and clinched the last berth in the Seoul Olympics soccer tournament.

The District 5 all-academic team was announced Tuesday by the College Sports Information Directors of America. The honors went to Robert Cull, Northwestern, track; Kenneth Dugan, Western Illinois, soccer; Barry Margolin, Indiana, soccer; Tom Mick, Notre Dame, track; and Mark Parmenter, Western Illinois, golf.

Defensive lineman Malcolm Taylor signed a four-year, \$1.27 million contract with the Los Angeles Raiders, his agent said. Taylor, 28, was paid \$90,000 last year.

Turner Broadcasting System and the Southeastern Conference announced a two-year contract extension providing TBS with 10 to 12 live SEC college football games a year through 1990.

The Soviet Union's Vassily Zhdanov won the second stage of the round-Britain Milk Race cycling tour, edging Poland's Marek Kulas after the two went clear of the field in the last five miles. Zhdanov's victory gave him the overall leader's yellow jersey after he had caught and overtaken Britain's Andy Herford.

The International Tennis Federation said it will implement drug testing aimed at young players. Jim Cochrane of Britain, a member of the ITF's management committee, said the ruling bodies of men's and women's professional tennis also would be asked to review their anti-drug programs.

Compiled by Bill Hageman and Steve Nidetz from staff, wire reports.

TANK McNAMARA



GIL THORP

