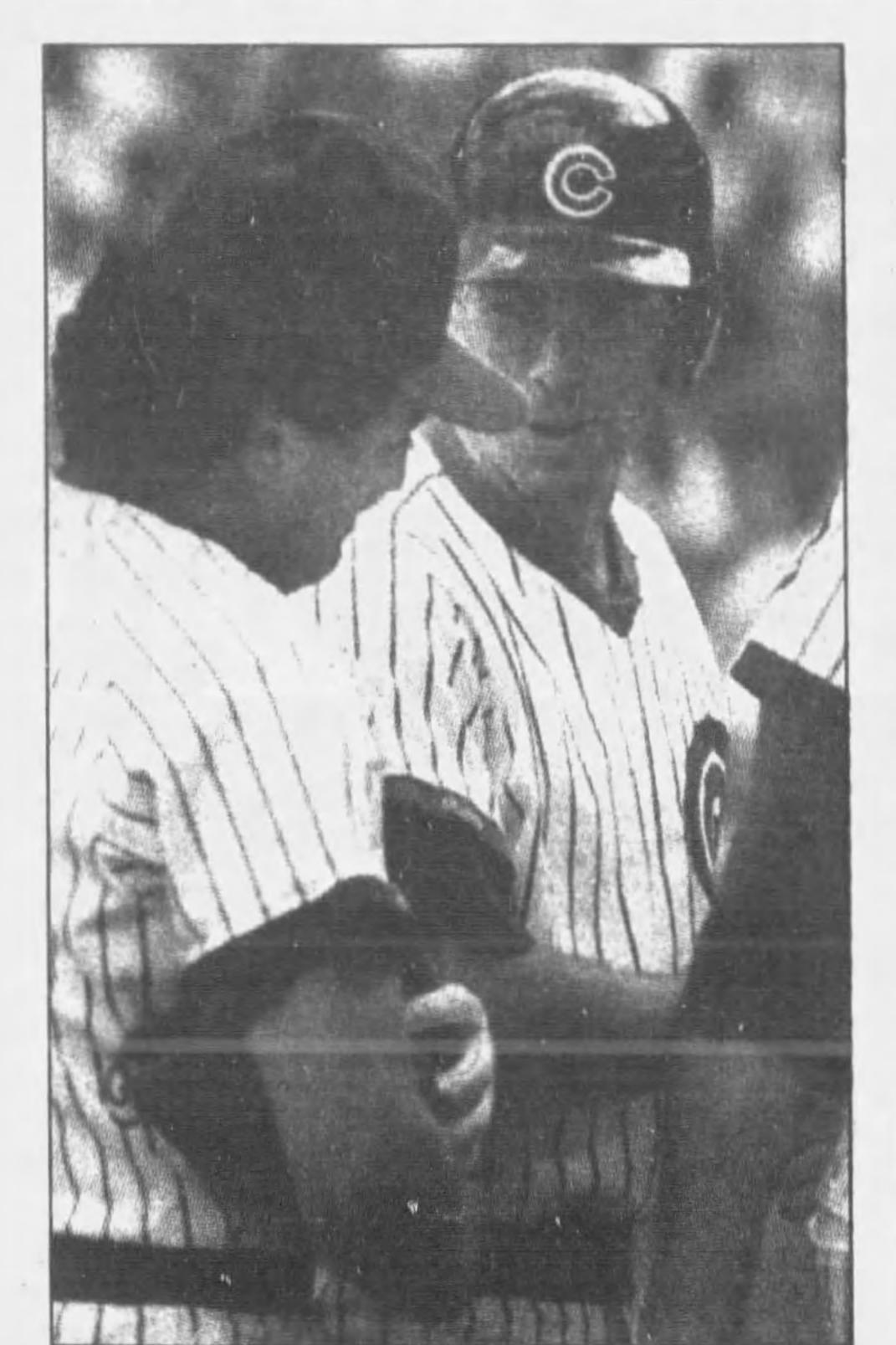


142d Year - No. 238 C Chicago Tribuna 9 Sections

Sports



U.S. jury indicts sports agents

Mob role alleged in college player deals

By Maurice Possley and John Gorman

New York sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom, backed by the money and muscle of a powerful organizedcrime boss, used cash and threats of violence to secure bargaining rights for 44 college athletes, a federal grand jury charged Wednesday.

reputed to be one of the top bosses in New York's Colombo organized-crime family, was a silent partner in Walters' firm. Franzese financed efforts by the agents to induce college athletes to sign over their rights to represent them in professional contract negotiations before

cording to the charges. The long-awaited grand jury and FBI investigation that convulsed the college sports world for the last 18 months produced charges that included extortion, mail fraud, racketeering, obstruction of justice and perjury. The indictment against Wal-

Complete coverage

Walters and Bloom made for an odd couple. Page 12.
Michael Franzese has lifelong ties to the mob. Page 13.
Sports agents' world is one with few rules. Sec. 4, pg. 3.
Cris Carter only athlete facing charges. Sec. 4, pg. 3.
List of athletes involved in investigation. Sec. 4, pg. 3.

Tribune photo by Ed Wagner

Cubs tip Astros in 9th Vance Law (right) is congratulated by Angel Salazar after driving in the winning run in the Cubs' 3-2 victory. Sec. 4, pg. 1.

Sox end losing streak The White Sox and Bill Long hold off the Blue Jays 6-4 in Toronto to end their losing streak at six games. Sec. 4, pg. 1.

Twins beat Tigers again The Twins beat the Tigers 8-2 for their 11th consecutive victory over the American League East leaders. Sec. 4, pg. 5.

Wilson may miss season

Bears linebacker Otis Wilson's season, and possibly his career, may be over because of a knee injury. Sec. 4, pg. 1.

Inside

Trade gap shrinks 14.9%

The eight-count indictment against Walters and Bloom charged that Michael Franzese, Walters in an unsuccessful attempt in 1981 to take over the Jackson Five musical tour, ac-

 their college eligibility expired,
 according to the charges. He also provided the muscle for
 Walters in an unsuccessful attempt in 1981 to take over the Jackson Five musical tour, acters and Bloom, who operated World Sports & Entertainment Inc., also seeks forfeiture of the business, as well as \$275,000 in earnings.

Also indicted separately was football star. Carter was charged

David Lueddeke, a Californiabased sports agent who allegedly paid \$5,000 to Cris Carter, a former Ohio State University football star. Carter was charged with perjury and obstruction of justice, but he is cooperating in the investigation, officials said. The indictment against Wal-See Agents, pg. 12

New CHA workers tied to City Hall

By Jorge Casuso and Joel Kaplan

The new leadership of the Chicago Housing Authority, which promised to end political patronage and interference at the cash-strapped agency, is hiring employees with close ties to City Hall, including a personal friend of Mayor Eugene Sawyer for a \$40,000-a-year job.

Newly installed CHA Chairman Vincent Lane promised to put a stop to political cronyism at the agency, but among his first hires is Nikki Simpson, a 24-year-old friend of Sawyer, who recently worked for his campaign fund. She will be making double her previous salary to work on special projects for the CHA.

"They're friends," mayoral spokesman Monroe Anderson said. "They've known each other for about a year. It's a personal relationship. I don't know a lot of details about the relationship.

"The mayor has no comment on it," Anderson said.

Aided by record exports the US tra

Aided by record exports, the U.S. trade deficit shrinks 14.9 percent in the second quarter. In Business.

Burma frees dissident

A leading dissident and nine others are released after the new Burmese leader urges a vote on democracy. Page 3.

Plant shield passes test A biological shield leading to herbicideresistant plants is successfully engineered into soybeans. Page 3.

Law protects collider land

Gov. James Thompson signs legislation that would provide protection for homeowners and taxing bodies if the superconducting supercollider lowers property values. Sec. 2, pg. 5.



EPA aims at leaking dumps The EPA proposes rules that eventually

would force city garbage dumps to halt leaks that pollute drinking water. Page 8.

Overnight Chicago

Ellen Burstyn lights up "Driving Miss Daisy," and the Grant Park Symphony

By Philip Lentz and Jon Margolis Chicago Tribune

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—Vice President George Bush apparently has pulled out of the first two presidential debates scheduled for September, a decision Michael Dukakis' campaign chairman called an "inexcusable" effort to limit the number of debates this fall.

The first debate had been scheduled for Sept. 8 by the League of Women Voters in Birmingham, Ala. The second, on Sept. 14 in Annapolis, Md., had been set up by a bipartisan commission established by the chairmen of the Republican and Democratic Parties.

But Bush campaign chairman James A. Baker said in a statement issued in Washington that "it is unlikely that a debate can occur prior to Sept. 20." Baker said he would meet with Dukakis

Yellowstone:

Did U.S. yell

Fire! too late?



Dukakis rips Bush on debate delay

AFL-CIO chief Lane Kirkland lauds Michael Dukakis Wednesday after he won the union's presidential endorsement.

 Quayle opens fire on Dukakis' defense policies. Page 5.

 Dukakis gains endorsement of AFL-CIO. Page 4.

President Reagan lauds Quayle's principles. Page 4.

campaign chairman Paul Brountas soon to arrange the debates.

"This is inexcusable," Brountas said in a statement. "The presidential commission debates have been scheduled for

over a year and the vice president has known he would be his party's nominee for more than five months.

"It is shocking that the vice president is not ready to debate issues today, not to mention three weeks from today," he continued. "The Bush campaign's decision threatens the full schedule of debates anticipated for the fall. It is a transparent effort to limit the number of debates."

Dukakis, speaking at Grand Valley University Wednesday evening, said he would still go to Annapolis on Sept. 14 to discuss foreign policy and national security, which were to have been the subjects of the debate.

"The vice president said he's not ready yet ... [He's had] 7½ years ...," the Massachusetts governor said, prompting laughter from more than 1,000 persons who filled a college audi-

Gulf guns silent, but POWs' lives still bleak

See Debates, pg. 5

Agence France-Presse photo

Recent hires also include a former attorney with the city's corporation counsel's office, the son of a city department head and the late Mayor Harold Washington's housekeeper and personal aide.

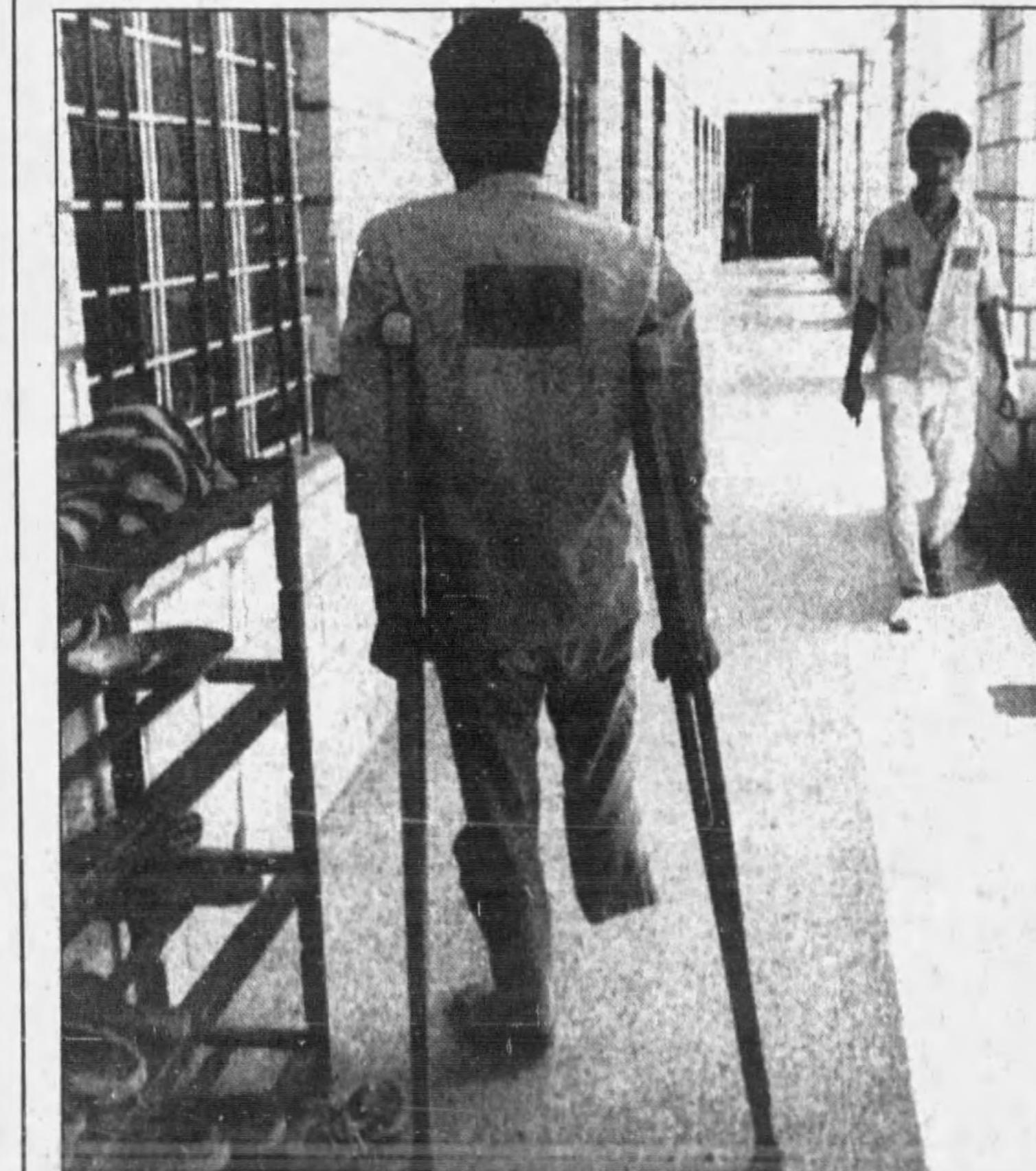
"If I have to hire people who have access to other resources, whether from City Hall, the Department of Housing or the state, I'm going to find them and I'm going to hire them," Lane said. "Not all people who work at City Hall are incompetent."

Among the most recent hires are:

• Simpson, a former \$20,000-a-year executive secretary with the city's Department of Zoning, who joined the CHA staff July 5. She worked for Sawyer's campaign fund two or three months ago and used Sawyer's brother, Charles, as a reference on her résumé, Anderson said. Simpson, who has worked on special projects, is currently on an unpaid two-week leave of absence.

• Lela Davis, a former staff attorney in the corporation counsel's office, who was hired by the CHA Aug. 8. Davis is a lifelong resident of Sawyer's 6th Ward. She said she knows Sawyer but that the mayor played no role in her landing her \$41,694-a-year job, a substantial increase over her \$24,528-a-year salary at City Hall.

• Doreathear Washington, who was hired July 5 as the authority's \$45,000-a-year security specialist. She formerly held a \$14,772-a-year job as See CHA, pg. 2



By Uli Schmetzer Chicago Tribune RAMADI, Iraq—Ali Bigleri, 15, grew his first mustache at Prisoner of War Camp No. 7 here on the banks of the Euphrates, 80 miles west of Baghdad. He has lived in a dormitory at the camp with 52 other Iranian POWs since he was captured at the age of 12. " want to go home," he said Wednesday. That simple wish echoed the sentiments of the 1,000 Iranian war prisoners in Ramadi, part of the estimated 40,000 Iranian soldiers captured by Iraq during the 8year gulf war. On the Iranian side of the border, about 70,000 Iraqis, many of them taken by Iran soon after fighting started in September, 1980, also are waiting for a peace settlement that will send them home. The fate of all of them hangs in the balance as the first direct peace negotiations between Iraq and Iran begin Thursday in Geneva. Prisoners of war, international boundaries and blame for the conflict are among the contentious issues to be dis-

cussed during the talks, which diplomats in Baghdad say will be especially difficult because neither side won the conflict, yet both need to win the peace to justify the war at home. Camp No. 7 is a model prison. Its concrete barracks are freshly painted, its floors clean enough to eat from. It has a library, vocational training courses, language classes, sports facilities, two doctors and a psychiatric center. The camp commander, Col. Ali Mahmoud, says he is proud because not one prisoner has tried to escape from this 4-year-old showcase facil-Ali, the boy prisoner with the mustache to show he is a man, clearly recalls the day he was captured. It was 9 in the morning, exactly one week after he ran away from school together with his friends Mohammed, Ibrahim and Mosen, to fight for the Islamic revolution. It was the day his unit of volunteers sought martyrdom for Islam at the battle of Khorramshahr in the south. Ali, the only son in his fami-

reaches for the stars. Sec. 2, pg. 9.

Treat from the deep New Zealand fishermen are musseling

into the market. In the Food Guide.

Weather

CHICAGO AND VICINITY: Thursday: Partly cloudy, chance of showers; high 83 degrees, lows 57 to 65. Shifting southwest to northwest winds at 12 to 20 m.p.h. Friday: Partly cloudy, chance of showers; high 76.

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By James Coates Chicago Tribune

COOKE CITY, Mont.—The hottest-selling T-shirt in this tourist hamlet on the northern edge of fire-ravaged Yellowstone National Park shows Smokey the Bear toasting marshmallows over a flaming tree stump.

The waitresses at the Silvergate Range Riders Bar joke about serving "Bambi burgers" and "roast of Thumper" as forest fires rage within view just across the Yellowstone Park boundary line.

Irritated because some backfires deliberately started by government crews in a bid to stop looming blazes have themselves gotten out of hand, residents joked, "How does the government put out a fire in your kitchen?"

Answer: "They backburn your living room."

Gallows humor has set in in a big way here on the edge of America's most popular national park. Since July 3, wildfires have covered at least 16 percent of the vast park in the corner of Wyoming where it borders Mon-

See Forest fire, pg. 2

Agence France-Presse photo

A young Iranian makes his way through a corridor on Wednesday at the Prisoner of War Camp No. 7 in Ramadi, Iraq.

See Prisoners, pg. 6

From Page 1

Agents

Continued from page 1

ters and Bloom said Franzese, now serving a 10-year prison sentence for a New York racketeering conviction, invested \$50,000 in World Sports & Entertainment and received numerous cash payments of unspecified amounts in return.

In a major breakthrough, the federal government obtained the cooperation of Franzese in its investigation, according to sources familiar with the inquiry. U.S. Atty. Anton Valukas said the investigation was continuing. He also said it would be "unfair" to suggest that the inquiry focused on point-shaving or fixing of games.

The indictment charged that Walters and Bloom invoked the threat of organized-crime associates in Las Vegas and California to keep athletes in line.

Athletes who balked at signing agreements or later sought to dismiss Walters and Bloom were threatened with physical violence, authorities said. One player was warned that the house of his new agent "would be blown up," said Valukas, who announced the indictment at a news conference in the Kluczynski Federal Building. If convicted on all counts, Walters and **Bloom** each face a maximum sentence of 70 years in prison and a \$2 million fine. One of the athletes, Chicago Bears defensive back Maurice Douglass, signed on with Walters and Bloom in December, 1985, but sought to get a new agent in 1986, according to the indictment. Douglass reconsidered after Bloom said that if he switched, "they would have somebody 'break his legs' and that Douglass might not ever make it to the upcoming National Football League draft," according to the indictment. Others threatened included Chicago Bears wide receiver Ron Morris, who allegedly was told that people who "don't care what they do" would break his legs and destroy his new agent's home, the indictment said. Morris had no comment Wednesday. The indictment said University of Texas football player Everett Gay was told by Bloom, through a teammate, that if he tried to switch agents, men from Las Vegas would "see that Everett Gay doesn't play football again." M.L. Trope, the Los Angeles attorney for Bloom, said his client met Walters in 1985 while operating a New York catering business. Trope said Bloom "does not have, nor did he have, any knowledge of the funding of the corporation."



Lloyd Bloom

agents, authorities said, including that of Carter, Ronnie Harmon of the University of Iowa; John Clay of the University of Missouri; Paul Palmer of Temple University; Brad Sellers of Ohio State University, now with the Chicago Bulls; and the Bears' Morris, who played at Southern Methodist University.



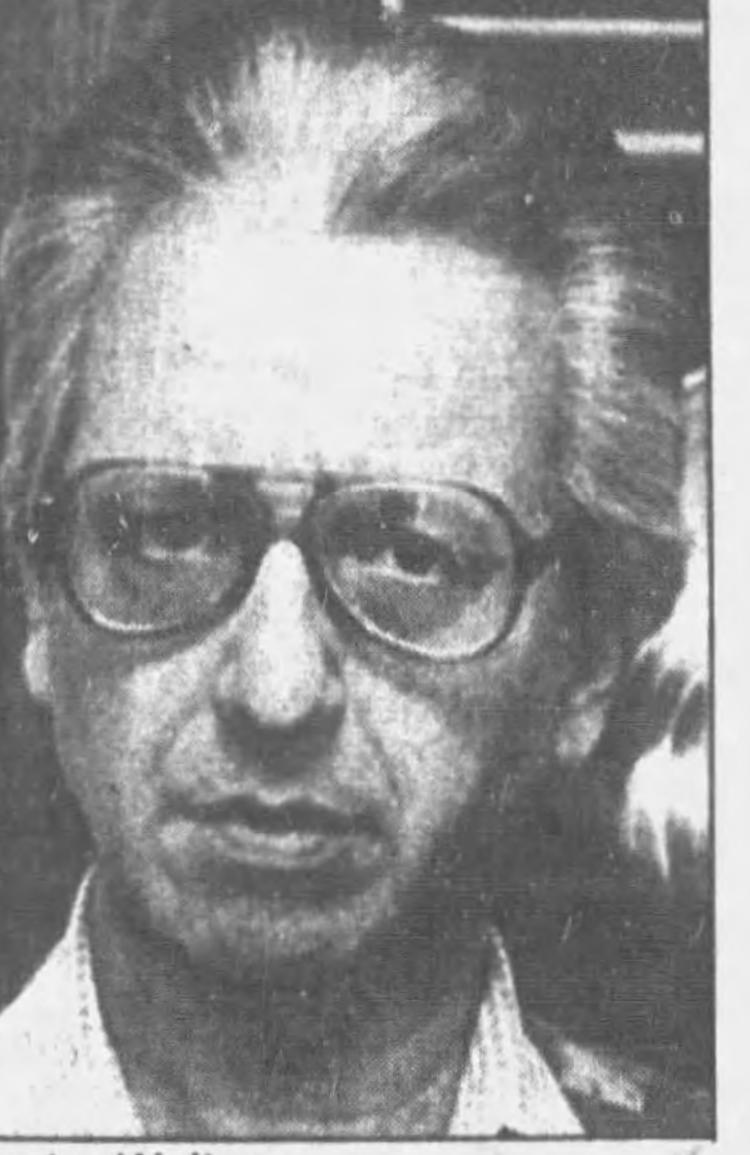
Sports agents made for an odd couple

By Jody Temkin

Norby Walters discovered the potentially lucrative field of sports management about three years ago, after careers as a nightclub owner and booking agent for some of the country's top black entertainers.

The transition was a natural for the white-haired Walters, known for his savvy business sense and slick salesmanship. According to several athletes, Walters easily and frequently adopted the mannerisms and street talk of the black athletes he recruited, and he freely name-dropped or used his connections in the entertainment world to impress his new sports clients.

Walters was born 58 years ago in Brooklyn, N.Y. He was named Norby Meyer, son of Joseph Meyer, a lightweight boxer known as "Soldier Meyer" when he



Norby Walters

said in the Sports Illustrated interview.

Trope said his client does not

Harmon was paid more than \$54,000 over two years by Walters and Bloom, the indictment said.

The indictment also charged that after Palmer signed a series of contracts with the Kansas City Chiefs football team, he entrusted \$145,000 with Bloom to invest in a California "credit repair" business. Pearl said that "there is no evidence that Palmer ever got any benefit" from the investment.

Prosecutors said Bloom converted \$140,000 of the money to his personal use, including using about \$82,000 for the downpayment on the lease of a \$160,000 Rolls-Royce Corniche convertible.

Trope denied that Bloom had defrauded Palmer.

Because 43 of the athletes involved in the investigation have agreed to pay back scholarship money, perform varying amounts of community service and testify against Walters and Bloom, they were not charged with any crimes, Valukas said.

The indictment also said that the schools, including the University of Illinois, University of Notre Dame, Michigan State University, Purdue University, University of Michigan, Temple and Miami University of Ohio were defrauded.

Valukas said that starting with Franzese's \$50,000 in seed money, Walters, 58, of New York, and Bloom, 29, of Sherman Oaks, Calif., descended on college athletes and provided them with cash, concert tickets, trips to New York, interestfree loans, cars, the use of limousines, introductions to prominent enterTribune photo by Val Mazzenga

U.S. Atty. Anton Valukas announces the indictment Wednesday of New York sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

leased cars for student athletes in the names of third parties."

The athletes were coached on how to conceal the agreements and were told the deals would be kept secret, Valukas added.

A Notre Dame spokesman said the school had warned players about the dangers of dealing with agents, but added: "It was awfully difficult to monitor every single phone call that a player had, to know what did or did not happen."

Robert Banks, a former standout defensive tackle for the Notre Dame football team, was alleged to have received \$5,000 from Bloom and Walters in May, 1986, four months before the beginning of his final collegiate season. The indictment said Banks' football scholarship was worth \$11,477 his senior year.

In a statement released by his attorney, Scott Turow, Banks said: "I have cooperated fully with the Unit-

ed States attorney's office in Chicago and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in their investigation of this matter. ... I deeply regret this matter and any unintended embarrassment it may have caused the University of Notre Dame, my family or the National Football League."

The indictment against Walters also outlined details of a joint venture in 1981 in which Franzese and Walters tried unsuccessfully to persuade the Jackson Five musical group to allow Walters to become one of the group's booking agents.

Franzese told the group's manager, who was not identified in the indictment, that Walters, then operating as Norby Walters & Associates, would "be involved in the Jackson Five Tour and be their partners or there would be no tour," the indictment said.

Andrew Bagnato also contributed to this report.

fought in the Army, according to a 1987 Sports Illustrated magazine story.

After World War II, the elder Meyer opened a jazz club called Soldier Meyer's Brooklyn Bop House and sold it to Norby and his brother Walter in 1953. They renamed it Norby & Walter's Bel-Air. Soon after, both brothers changed their last names to Wal-

Norby Walters owned several other clubs in New York. The last place lost its liquor license for what a New York State Liquor Authority report described as "a highly adverse police and license history for assaults and prostitution." The club stayed open for three more months, appealing the allegations in the report, but during that period, two mobsters were shot to death at the bar by a third man, and the club closed in 1968.

Walters' next career was as a booking agent for bands in New York and New Jersey. It wasn't long before he formed World Sports & Entertainment Inc. and was representing some of the better-known entertainers, including Luther Vandross, Patti LaBelle, Kool and the Gang, Ben Vereen and Miles Davis.

"I've become Norby Walters, the premier seller of black entertainment in the United States of America, maybe in the world," he

In early 1985, he was approached by Lloyd Bloom, 29, who suggested that they team up to recruit and represent college athletes, mostly football players. They were among hundreds of agents to join the burgeoning sports representation field in the last decade, some credentialed with law or accounting degrees, others with nothing more than a desire to go where the money was.

Bloom had worked as a bouncer at New York's Studio 54 disco and also had worked at his father's collection agency in Westchester County, N.Y. He played football at Irvington High School in New York, but he never achieved a goal of playing in the National Football League.

In recent times, he has lived in Sherman Oaks, Calif., with his wife, actress Donna Denton, former costar of the television show "Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer."

Bloom was Walters' principal associate in his dealings with the athletes, though the two did not always see eye-to-eye. Walters has been quoted as ruing the day he joined forces with Bloom, who reportedly bragged openly about the amount of money being given to athletes and about the number of clients signed by World Sports & Entertainment.

know Franzese.

"He never met Franzese," Trope said. "Mr. Bloom wouldn't hurt a fly."

Bloom and Walters are scheduled to be arraigned Thursday in U.S. District Court in Chicago. Both plan to plead innocent.

The charges, outlined by Valukas and Howard Pearl, an assistant U.S. attorney, describe one of the most expansive frauds in college athletics. As professional sport salaries skyrocketed in recent years, the competition has increased among agents to sign the athletes.

At one time Walters and Bloom had the bargaining rights to 8 of the top 28 draft picks in the 1987 National Football League draft. Eventually all except two abandoned the agents.

The college eligibility of 44 athletes was compromised by the

tainers, large insurance policies and benefits to family members to persuade them to sign agreements allowing the agents to bargain for them with professional teams.

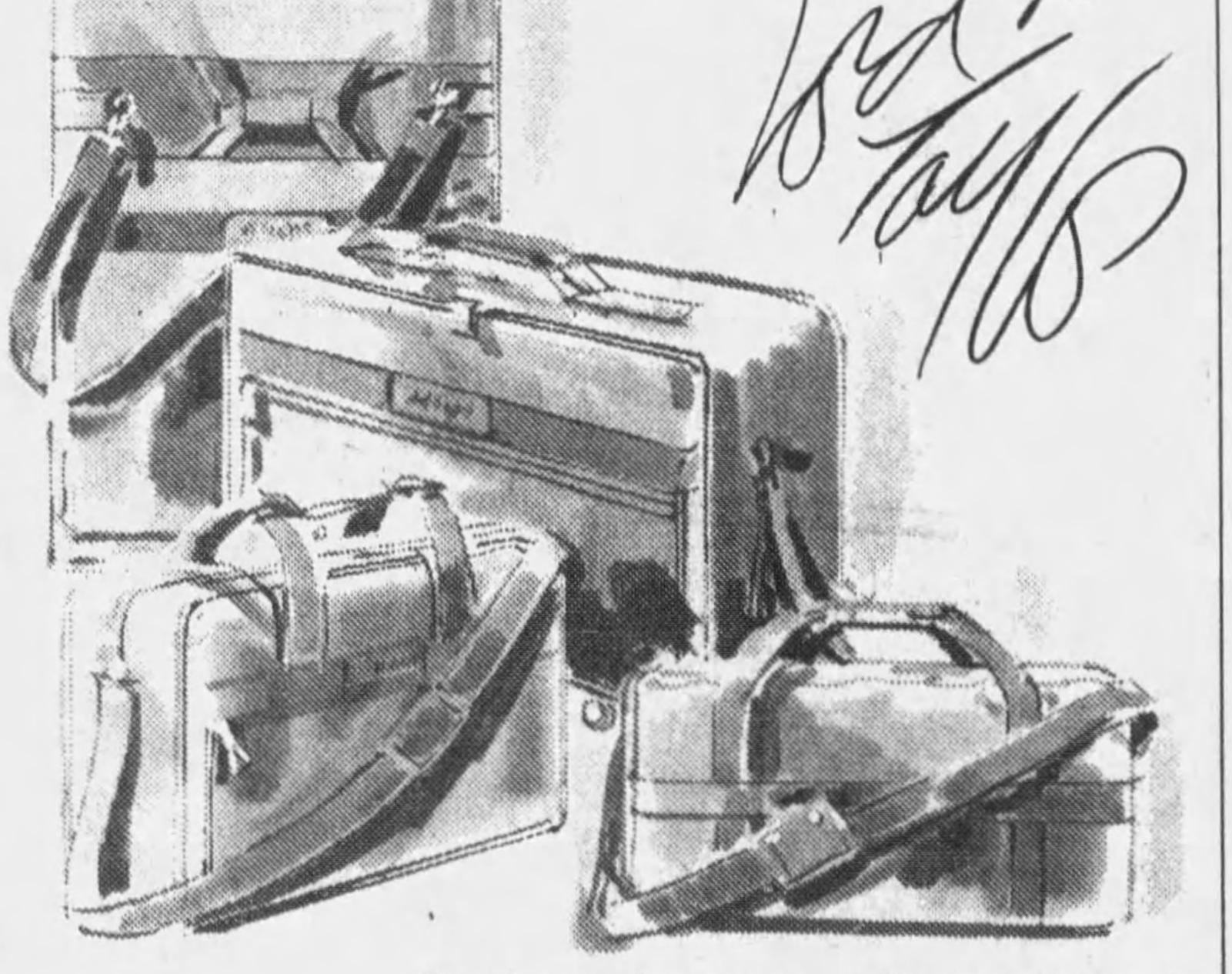
The indictment charged that the athletes signed the contracts before their athletic eligibility expired, a violation of National Collegiate Athletic Association rules.

Walters and Bloom told athletes the contracts would be postdated to the time when their eligibility had expired to make it appear that the contracts were legal, the indictment charged.

Valukas said Walters and Bloom "paid the student athletes a signing bonus in cash."

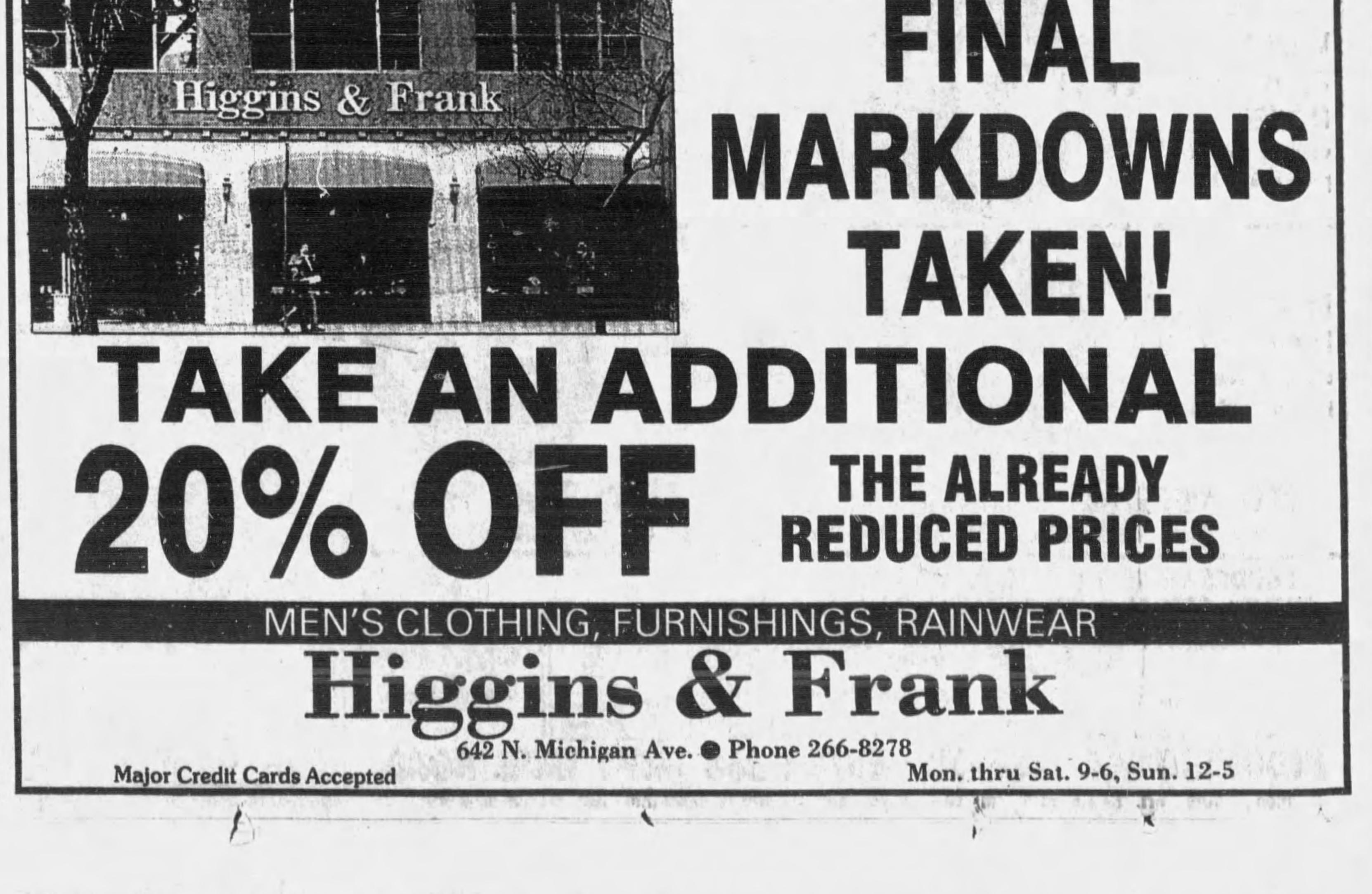
"They periodically provided additional funds for the student athletes using money orders and wire transfers, frequently in the names of third parties," Valukas said. "And they Higgins & Frank LAST DAY OF BUSINESS: SUNDAY, AUG. 28 CLOSING FOREVER GOING OUT OF

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Permit #4094

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Nation/world

Highlights of sports scandal

Some of the specifics alleged in the indictment brought against sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom:

When Temple University running back Paul Palmer signed a professional contract with the Kansas City Chiefs, Walters and Bloom received a \$78,000 commission, a check for \$30,000 to repay loans previously advanced to Palmer and \$145,000 in funds for Bloom to invest privately for Palmer. Bloom allegedly used \$82,000 as down payment for a \$160,000 Rolls-Royce Corniche convertible, wrote checks to himself totaling \$27,000. paid more than \$3,000 in personal credit card bills, paid \$6,188 for insurance on the Rolls-Royce, gave \$1,200 to his ex-wife, paid \$150 for karate school tuition and repaid a \$2,500 loan to his father.

University of Iowa running back Chicago Tribune Graphic



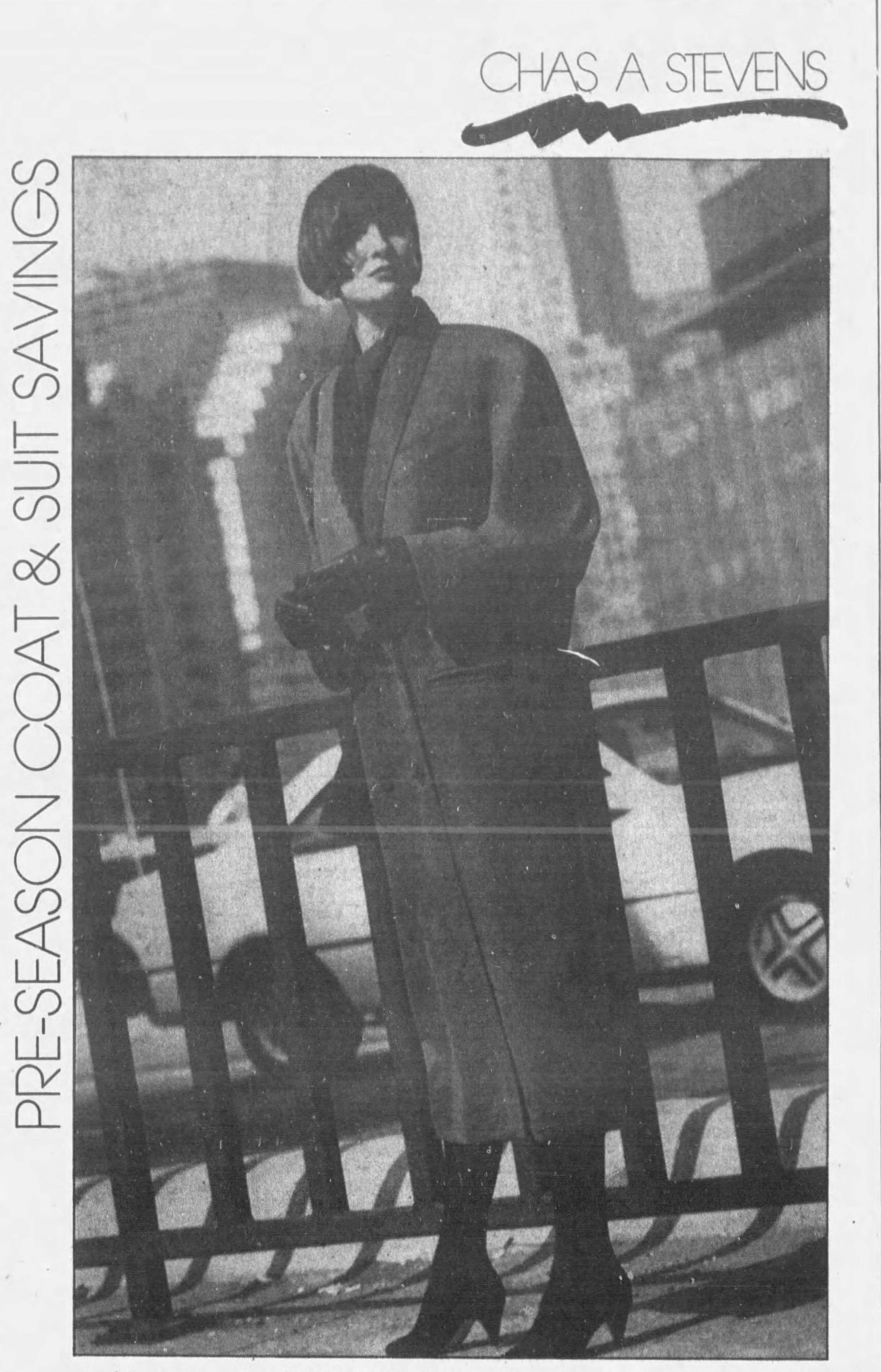
Paul Palmer

Ronnie Harmon apparently has the distinction of being the athlete who was paid the most money by Walters and Bloom. Over two years, Harmon received more than \$54,000. Although he broke with the agents, he was allowed to keep nearly \$50,000 of the money.

In 1981, New York mob boss Michael Franzese and Walters teamed up in an unsuccessful attempt to force the Jackson Five musical group to hire Walters as its booking agent. Franzese allegedly told the group's manager they would hire Walters or "there would be no tour." Franzese used similar threats to help Walters obtain and retain other entertainment clients and settle disputes, according to the charges.

Two Chicago Bears players, defensive back Maurice Douglass and wide receiver Ron Morris, were told their legs would be broken if they dismissed Walters and Bloom as their agents. Douglass was told that if he dropped the agents, he "might not ever make it to the upcoming National Football League draft," the indictment said. Morris was told his new agent's home would be bombed.

Defendant has lifelong ties to mob



By Maurice Possley

In 1986, Michael Franzese was profiled in Fortune magazine as one of "The 50 Biggest Mafia Bosses."

Described as a top figure in the Colombo "family", one of New York's five organized crime alliances, and labeled by prosecutors as the "Yuppie Boss," Franzese is the stepson of John Franzese.

The elder Franzese was sentenced to 50 years in prison for orchestrating a series of bank robberies in the 1960s and is now in prison on a parole violation.

He earned his early reputation in the New York organized crime world as an enforcer and later came to be known as the mob's armorer, according to law enforcement authorities.

New York attorney Jerry Bernstein, a onetime federal prosecutor now in private practice, said in the magazine interview that Michael Franzese, despite attempts to create the image of being a businessman, was familiar with the violence often associated with organized crime.

Bernstein told Fortune that a Franzese associate once caved in the head of a competitor with a ball peen hammer, and an auditor who once raised questions about bookkeeping procedures was told "You don't know who you're ...

(dealing) with. He'll cut your heart

Michael Franzese was a baby when his mother, Christina, divorced her husband and married John Franzese. Christina was indicted last year on charges of taking part in a credit-card fraud ring.

Michael Franzese attended college briefly, then began to carve out a small empire in the business world that included a movie-making business, construction companies, gasoline sales, a disco and car dealerships.

Along the way he often crossed paths with the federal government. From 1973 to 1984, Michael Franzese was indicted, but not convicted, five times.

Among the allegations was that he obtained \$580,000 from two auto dealerships by defrauding a number of firms, including General Motors Corp., and he was also accused of misappropriating more than \$500,000 from the benefits fund of a private security guard union.

Franzese's movie production company, Miami Gold, produced four movies, including a breakdancing film, "Knights of the City."

While filming another breakdancing movie in Florida in 1984, Franzese was made an honorary Miami Beach police officer and

then-Mayor Malcom Fromberg presented him with a key to the city.

Franzese told Sports Illustrated in 1987 that he knew sports agent Norby Walters as "Uncle Norby" because Walters and John Franzese had become friendly through visiting restaurants and bars owned by Walters in New York.

According to a published report earlier this year, Franzese tried to become business partners with boxing promoter Don King in 1983.

In December, 1985, Michael Franzese's luck in thwarting federal prosecution began to run out. He and eight others were indicted by a grand jury in New York on charges of infiltrating numerous legitimate businesses to skim off millions of dollars in profits. He was charged with orchestrating a gasoline tax fraud scheme that federal prosecutors said bilked New York, New Jersey and Florida out of hundreds of millions in gasoline taxes.

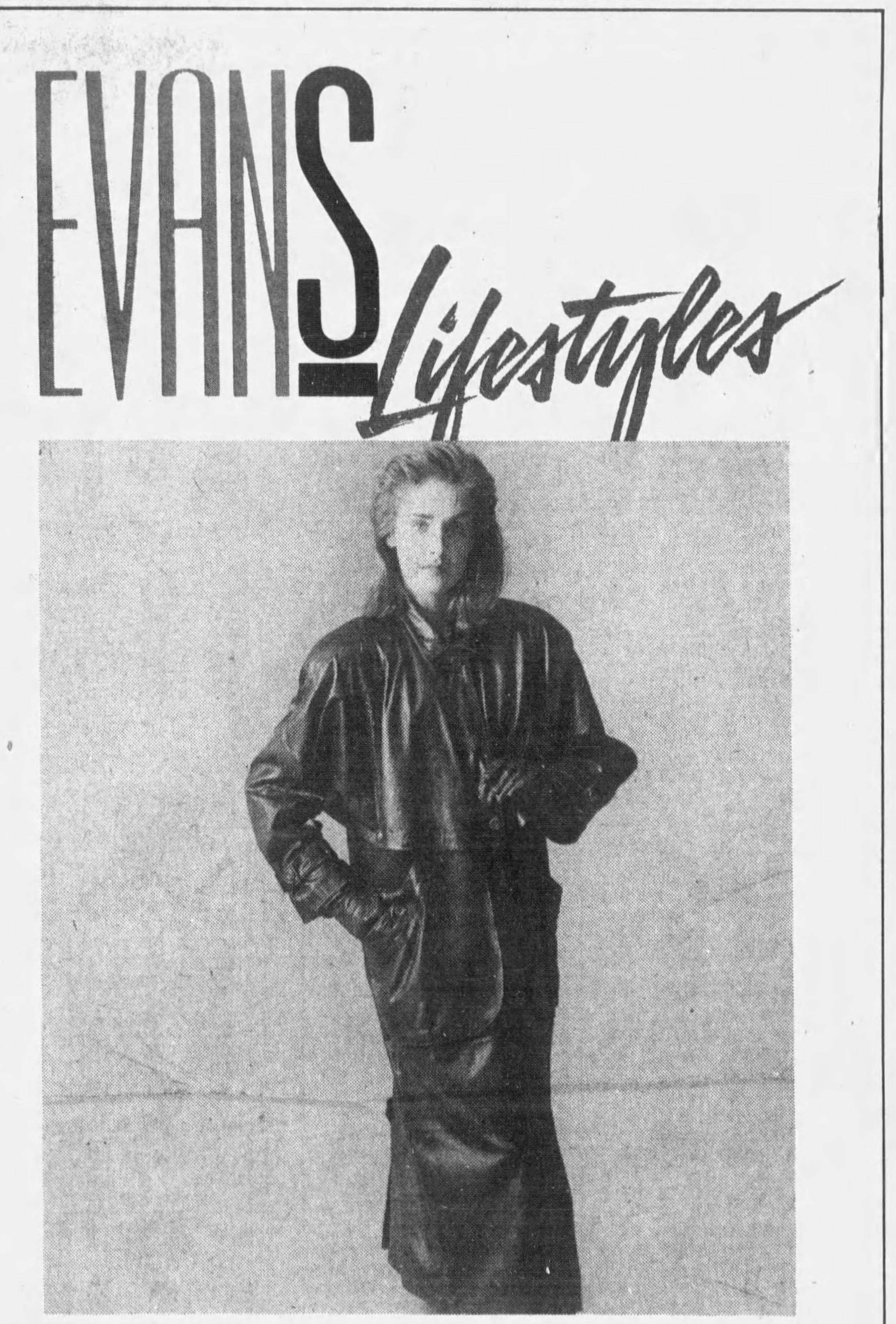
Franzese pleaded guilty to the charges in 1986, and was sentenced to 10 years in prison. He agreed to sell his Long Island mansion and other real estate valued at nearly \$5 million, and make his profits from "Knights of the City" part of \$15 million in fines and restitution.

Franzese is in the federal penitentiary in Terminal Island, Calif.

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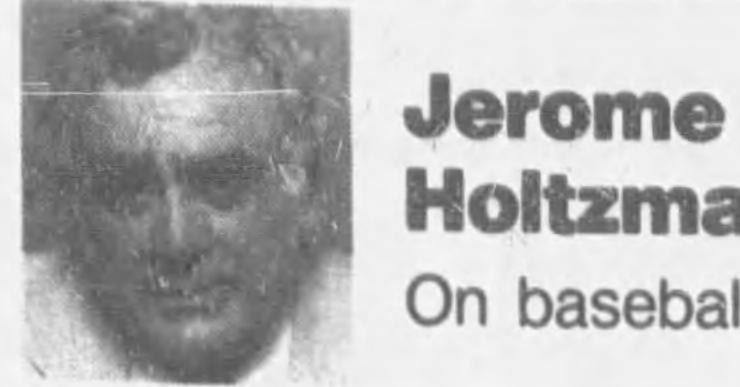
YORKTOWN WOODFIELD

NORTH RIVERSIDE

EVERGREEN

SOUTHLAKE

Chicago Tribune, Thursday, August 25, 1988 Section 4



Holtzman On baseball

Astros' Knepper sticks to his guns

Pitcher Bob Knepper of the Houston Astros, who earlier this season incurred the wrath of some of the hard-line feminists, is doing fine, thank you. Not that he couldn't be doing better. When the Astros broke their Florida spring camp and he was about to begin his 13th big-league season, Knepper was convinced that this would be the year he would finally join the 20-victory club.

"The way I was throwing and the makeup of our ballclub, I thought this would be the year," Knepper said.

He pushed off to a strong start, 6-0 on May 20. But he has since missed five turns because of injuries and is 12-4 on the season. Not the stuff he had dreamed about but more than creditable nonetheless. His winning percentage is among the best in the National League.

Still, it has been an unusually eventful and controversial year for the 34-year-old Knepper. The trouble began in spring training when he revealed he didn't approve of female umpires. Pam Postema had worked the plate in an exhibition, and after the game Ivy McLemore of the Houston Post asked Knepper to rate her performance. McLemore, who travels with the Astros, recalled the interview at Wrigley Field Wednesday. "He said he really didn't notice she was out there, that she did a good job," recalled McLemore. "Then, a woman reporter from Orlando asked what he thought about a woman umpire. He



COLLEGES

Agents' world is one with few rules NFL union leads effort for control.

By James Warren Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON-New York's Lloyd Bloom was riding into the ethically muddy world of football agents when he allegedly spent \$82,000 of Kansas City Chiefs running back Paul Palmer's money on the down payment on a Rolls-Royce Corniche convertible for himself, not on a promised investment for Palmer.

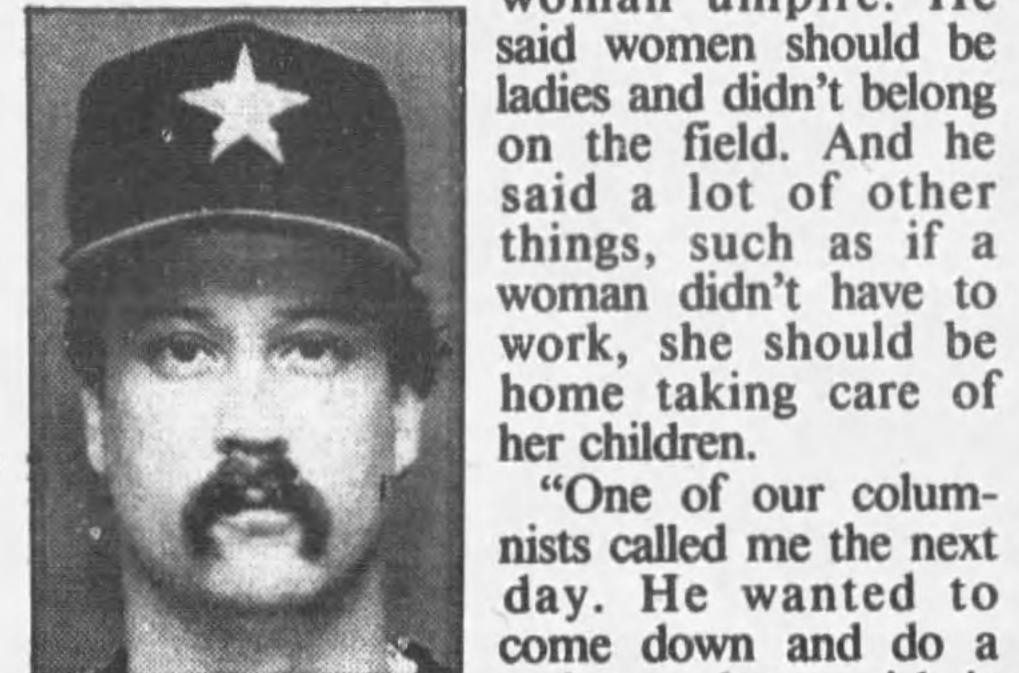
On Tuesday, Bloom, colleague Norby Walters and two other men were indicted by a federal grand jury in Chicago on charges of extortion, perjury and racketeering. The indictment focuses attention on a world with no minimum requirements for entry and substantial room for abuse.

"All you've needed to be a foot-**AP Laserphoto** ball agent was a business card and a phone number in a bar," said M.J. Duberstein, director of research for the National Football League Players Association. The union has been at the forefront in trying to bring some sanity and ethical norms to an enterprise whose lure is summed up probably means he will receive in one word: money. It has gone a less than the maximum 10-year long way but still confronts impediments, especially when seeking Carter's attorney, David Bohan to limit abuses among agents repof Jenner & Block in Chicago, resenting college seniors. said he didn't know when Carter "You have the ultimate in would be coming to Chicago. Reaganomics," said Duberstein, al-"An arraignment date is set by luding to the President's fondness the state," he said, adding he imfor free markets. "You have agined it would be in the next deregulated jungle in which susceptible young men are lured by Carter's name also surfaced in the promise of big bucks." the indictment of a third agent It is only in recent years that Wednesday, David Lueddeke, of being a football agent has become Pro-Line Sports in Sherman especially tempting economically. Oaks, Calif., who was charged In 1982, the average wage in the with perjury and obstruction of NFL was \$90,000. Now it exceeds justice. The government charges \$200,000, in no small measure that Lueddeke signed Carter to a due to the now-defunct United contract in October of 1986 States Football League. (while he was a junior at Ohio In 1982, the union received the State) and gave Carter \$5,000 at authority from the NFL to put into effect a certification procedure The grand jury charged for agents, rules on maximum fees Lueddeke with making false to be charged for negotiating constatements about when he first tracts and an arbitration system to met Carter, about whether an handle disputes between players agreement was signed and about and agents, with former U.S. Sen. John Culver (D., Iowa) serving as Carter did not show up at the the arbitrator.

percent. The minimum first-year salary is \$50,000. If a player signs a \$150,000 contract, the agent can't take more than 5 percent of \$100,000 for the pact's first year, or \$5,000. The fee charged for a minimum salary contract is a maximum of \$2,000.

The agent can only get his cut when the player receives actual payment from his team, though a player can pay the agent an advance fee on any deferred compensation.

Yet a big loophole always existed because the union's jurisdiction over agents has been seen as applying only to those representing veteran NFL players. The union could not oversee agents who were? representing college players seeking their first NFL contract, exactly the situation **Bloom** and Walters were in as they made the deals that are the subject of the indictment. It's a loophole the union believes. it has a legal basis to change, pointing to a court decision involving the National Basketball Association, by expanding its jurisdiction. The union will do so starting Oct. 1, taking jurisdiction over all negotiations and barring payment of anything of value to an athlete to sign a representation agreement. But other loopholes exist, as exemplified by the charge that Bloom converted money meant for Palmer into four-wheeled and other personal pleasures. "A big problem is that we only have jurisdiction over the negotiation process, not, for example, investing money. And it's in the financial planning area that abuses are greatest," said Doug Allen, assistant executive director of the NFL Players Association. The indictment, which also alleges links among Walters, Bloom and organized crime, raises # what many have considered the specter of mob attempts to shave points and fix games. Money may be good in bargaining contracts, goes the theory, but the real money would come in having an inside line when it came to wager-Allen, for one, contends that the nature of pro football makes it unlikely that players would take a dive and fix contests. Fumbles, missed passes and botched blocks can all too easily mean you lose your job and a well-paying career, he says. The real problem, according to Allen, is not organized crime but incompetence and dishonesty: among individual agents. There are more than 1,000 football agents, with perhaps 100 repreand Allen said he is amazed that the honest ones succeed in the face "of all crooks" promising the world to college athletes.



Knepper

trip because Knepper would deny everything. told him: 'You don't know Bob Knepper. He's one of those guys who's going to say, "And furthermore." He's very sincere and insightful.' "

Which is what Knepper did in a subsequent magazine article. Instead of recanting, Knepper charged that the feminist movement had done more harm than good. Also, that NOW, the National Organization for Women, "was a blow-hard, lesbian organization," a statement for which he has since apologized.

NOW has been on his case ever since. Last weekend, when the Astros were in Pittsburgh, members of the NOW chapter in nearby Squirrel Hill passed out 5,000 anti-Knepper leaflets at Three Rivers Stadium. The next afternoon, during a game televised nationally, an airplane circled the field carring a message for Commissioner Peter Ueberroth: "Ueberroth-call Knepper out now."

Cris Carter, named in criminal charges Wednesday, scores for Ohio State in 1986.

Carter is only athlete charged

By Jody Temkin

Cris Carter was the only athlete named in criminal charges Wednesday when the results of an 18-month federal grand jury investigation into payments to ladies and didn't belong college players by sports agents on the field. And he were announced.

The former Ohio State receiver was charged with obstruction of justice and mail fraud. The other 43 athletes involved in the probe avoided prosecution through pretrial agreements to perform community service and to repay portions of their scholarships.

Carter didn't take any more money from agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom than the other athletes, or break any more NCAA rules.

His trouble was that he didn't come clean soon enough, according to the government.

When Carter was first interviewed by the grand jury last summer, he attempted to conceal information, according to the government, thus the obstruction of justice charge.

The government charges that Carter committed mail fraud when he allowed the Ohio State to confirm his eligibility for the 1986 season on a list mailed to the Big 10 Conference office in Schaumburg. According to prosecutors, Carter knew at the time that the contract he had signed with Walters and Bloon and the payments he received from them made him ineligible under NCAA rules.

Boston College law professor Robert Berry, who had been representing Carter, told Sports Illustrated magazine last August that Carter's brother, George, an ex-convict, was instrumental in convincing Cris to sign with Bloom. After Cris initially turned sloom away, George went to New York at Walters' expense, Berry said.

On May 1, 1986, Walters allegedly telephoned Carter to say that Bloom was on the way to Columbus with "the scratch," the indictment said.

When **Bloom** arrived, he offered Carter \$5,000 in cash and a promise of monthly payments to follow, the indictment said. After **Bloom** assured him that the deal would be kept secret, Carter signed a contract dated Jan. 1, 1988, and took the cash, the government said.

The monthly payments were funneled to Carter through Western Union money orders to conceal the identity of Walters and Bloom, the indictment said.

Carter was declared ineligible by OSU in July of 1987 and was subsequently drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football League.

In a statement issued Wednesday through the Eagles, Carter said: "I understand the nature of the charges filed against me by the U.S. attorney's office. I am cooperating fully with that office and can only say that I regret my past mistakes. ... I have faith my Lord will see me through these troubles, and I know I will continue to grow as a believing and practicing Christian." Although Carter has been charged with a felony, his cooperation with the government

Eagles' camp Wednesday. He Applying to be a certified was supposed to make the trip agent—a simple process unless one has a criminal past—costs \$100 and the annual fee is \$400. late Wednesday for Thursday No applicant has ever been turned down. An agent must sign a representation agreement with the player and forward a copy within 30 days to the union. Fees to be paid agents by players are based on the minimum salaries for players as set out in the league's collective bargaining agreement. For example, the maximum fee to be charged is 5 percent of the senting 80 percent of NFL players, amount of the contract above the minimum salary for the first three years of a player's contract, though most agents tend to charge 3 or 4

"One of our columnists called me the next day. He wanted to come down and do a column but said it wouldn't be worth the

Knepper currently is sidelined with a groin injury. He had just finished throwing for 20 minutes off the mound in the right-field bullpen when I caught up to him in the Houston dugout. I asked if he had had much reaction from his teammates.

"Two or three of them, in interviews with the press, disagreed with me," Knepper said. "But we have never talked about it. They've never said anything to me."

What about the players from other clubs?

"No player has come up to me and said he disagreed with me," Knepper said.

Did many players tell him they agreed with him?

"I'd say 75 to 100 players have told me they believe the way I do. They all said the same thing. They wanted me to know they agreed with me and said, 'But don't tell anybody.' They feel they can't afford to speak out publicly. It's a shame."

He also revealed that most of his mail has been supportive, about 2 to 1 in favor. "I've answered about 100 to 150 letters on that issue," he said. "I've got close to that many more I haven't answered. And probably another 100 letters I still haven't opened."

Knepper also revealed he is reluctant to make dinner reservations "because sometimes when I give my name I get some flak." Nonetheless, he insisted that the reaction has been mostly favorable. Three stewardesses, on different flights, expressed their support.

"More men have harassed me than women," he said. "I think they're intimidated by these women's organizations."

Knepper's wife, Terri, has been unswerving

The government charges that Carter was first approached by Bloom in May, 1986. Bloom invited Carter to New York, but Carter turned him down, the indictment said.

night's exhibition game against the Lions.

whether he gave Carter money.

with the team to Pontiac, Mich.,

jail sentence and \$500,000 fine.

few weeks.

that same meeting.

Eagles President Harry Gamble said: "Cris was one of many college athletes victimized by a system that permitted unscrupulous agents to take advantage of young men. The Philadelphia Eagles understand Cris Carter regrets the unfortunate circumstances of his involvement in this matter and that he is now cooperating fully with the authorities. We fully support Mr. Carter."

Players named in agents case

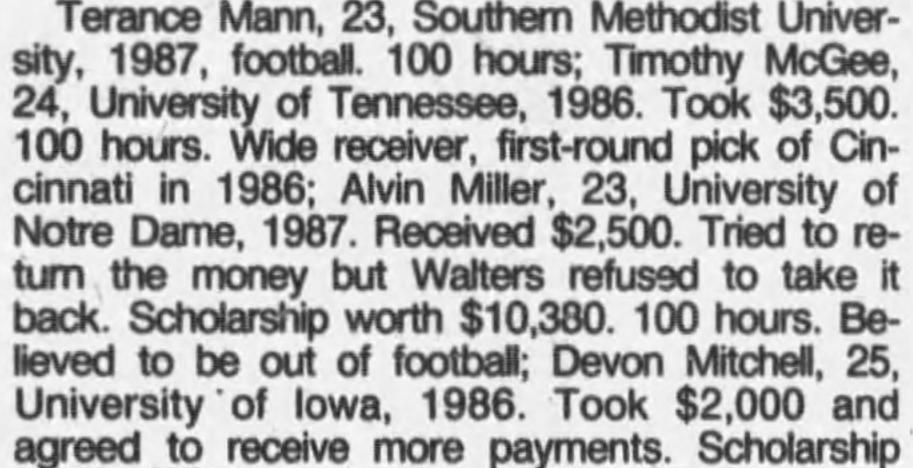
The following individuals were accepted into the Pre-Trial Diversion Program for one year and have agreed to perform community service under the jurisdiction of the United States Probation Office in the amount of 100 or 250 hours, and will pay back to their schools whatever monies they received on the basis of their false certifications of eligibility.

Egypt Allen, 24, Texas Christian University, class of 1986, football. Defensive back was waived by the Bears Tuesday. 250 hours; Jeffrey L. Atkins, 24, Southern Methodist University, 1987, football. 100 hours; Teryl D. Austin, 23, University of Pittsburgh, 1988, football. 100 hours.

Jerry L. Ball Jr., 23, Southern Methodist University, 1987, football. 250 hours; Robert Banks, 24, University of Notre Dame, 1987. Received \$5,000. Scholarship worth \$11,477. 100 hours. Defensive tackle picked in seventh round of 1987 NFL draft by Houston Oilers; Raven Caldwell Jr., 25, University of Arkansas, 1986, football. 100 hours; John Clay, 24, University of Missouri, 1987, football. 250 hours; Terry Coner, 23, University of Alabama, 1987, basketball. 100 hours. Kenneth Davis, 26, Texas Christian University, 1986. 100 hours; Running back, Green Bay's second-round pick in 1986; Doug Dubose, 24, University of Nebraska, 1987. 250 hours; Running back signed with San Francisco.; Charles Faucette Jr., 24, University of Maryland, 1987, football.

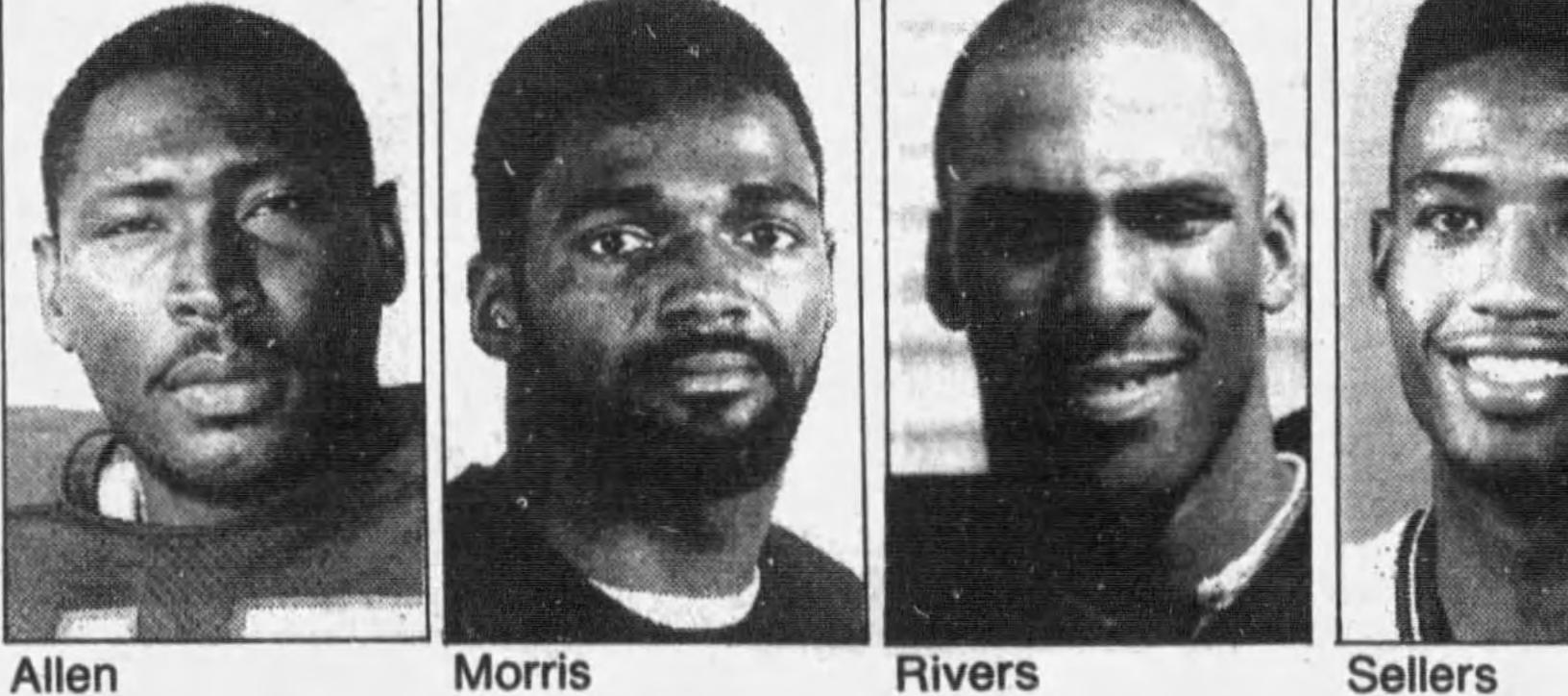
100 hours; Robert T. Flagler, 23, Clemson University, 1987, football. 100 hours; Kenneth Flowers, 24, Clemson University, 1987, football. 250 hours; Brent Fullwood, 24, Auburn University, 1987. Accepted \$8,000. 100 hours; Running back, firstround pick of Green Bay Packers in 1987.

Everett Gay, 23, University of Texas, 1987, football. 100 hours; Charles R. Gladman III, 21, University of Pittsburgh, 1988, football. 100 hours; Ronald Harmon, 24, University of Iowa, 1986. Received \$54,172 over two years. Scholarship worth \$6,034. 250 hours. Running back chosen in first round in 1986 by Buffalo; Carl Hilton, 24, University of Houston, 1986, football. 250 hours; Mark Ingram, 25, Michigan State University, 1987. Took \$7,500. Also was offered monthly payments by wire to mother, a \$500,000 disability insurance policy and concert tickets. Scholarship worth \$6,147. 250 hours. Wide receiver and first-round pick of the New York Giants in 1987; Mark Logan, 23, University of Kentucky, 1987, football. 100 hours; James Lott, 22, University of Texas, 1988, football. 100 hours.



draft by Kansas City; Robert Perryman, 23, University of Michigan, 1987. Received \$2,500 and promise of future payments. Scholarship worth \$10,602. 100 hours. Running back selected in third round of 1987 draft by New England Patriots; Tom Powell III, 24, Auburn University, 1987, football. 100 hours.

Garland Rivers, 23, University of Michigan, 1987. Accepted \$2,500 and promise of monthly payments to follow. Tried to break contract with Walters, who threatened to reveal Rivers' involvement with agents. Scholarship worth \$12,387. 100 hours. Defensive back selected by Detroit; Terrence Roulhac, 22, Clemson University, 1987, football. 100 hours; Brad Sellers, 23, Ohio State University, 1986. 100 hours. Now with Bulls; Edwin Simmons, 23, University of Texas, 1987. Took at least \$14,000. 100 hours; Timmy Smith, 24, Texas Tech University, 1987. 100 hours. Running back picked by Washington in fifth round of 1987 draft; George W. Swam III, 24, Miami University, 1987. Accepted \$2,500. Football scholarship worth \$5,172. 100 hours; Craig Swoope, 24, University of Illinois, 1986. Took \$2,500 and received a car leased in the name of his fiancee. Scholarship worth \$3,737. 250 hours. Defensive back played with Tampa Bay in 1986 and 1987 and with Indianapolis Colts in 1987.



Rivers

in her support. As for his parents, Knepper said all he knows is that they have been upset by the "abuse" he has taken in the press. "When the season's over, I'll ask my mother, 'Mom, what do you think?'" he said.

Knepper insists his attitude toward women is chivalrous, not demeaning. "What's happened," he said, "is that women are losing the lofty place they had in our society. I treat ladies with respect. I extend them all the common courtesies. That's the way I was brought up.

"But they [the feminists] have become macho-women. They want to be treated like men. They want to be one of the boys. But they can't be one of the boys. And when they take this approach, they're the losers. They lose our respect."

Knepper said it's perfectly okay with him, for example, if a woman wants to be a sportswriter. But he refuses to give them interviews in the clubhouse where men are undressing.

"They don't belong in that environment," he said. "They shouldn't be where men are changing their clothes. I take them outside and answer all their questions."

And what if Pam Postema becomes the first female umpire?

"I'd treat her like any umpire." Would he cuss her if he disagreed with a

"I never argue with umpires. I always assume they're doing the best they can."

wished him well and told him I hope he wins 20 games next year.

worth \$6,242. 100 hours; Defensive back was chosen by Detroit in fourth round of 1986 draft. Missed 1987 season with injury.

Ron Morris, 23, Southern Methodist University, 1987. 100 hours; Andrew Mott, 23, University of Southern Mississippi, 1987. Took \$4,500. 100 hours; Frankie Neal, 22, Fort Hays [Kansas] State University, 1987. Took \$3,000 and agreed to take future payments. Scholarship worth \$3,000. 100 hours; Paul Palmer, 23, Temple University, 1987. Received \$4,000. Scholarship worth \$9,340. 250 hours. Running back picked in first round of 1987

Raymond Tate, 24, University of Houston, 1987, football. 100 hours; Adrian White, 24; University of Florida, 1987, football. 100 hours; Lester Williams, 25, Iowa State University, 1986, football. Accepted \$10,000. 100 hours; Tony Woods, 22, University of Pittsburgh, 1987. Took \$11,00. 100 hours; Rod Woodson, 23, Purdue University, 1987. Took \$4,000 and was given car leased in grandmother's name. Scholarship worth \$4,336. 250 hours. Was 1987 athlete of the year at Purdue for football and track. Defensive back picked in first round of 1987 draft by Pittsburgh.

N. Star is 1st player sentenced to jail for fight in a game.

HOCKEY

From Chicago Tribune wires

TORONTO-Warning that professional athletes aren't above the law, a judge sentenced Dino Ciccarelli to one day in jail and fined him \$1,000 Wednesday for hitting another National Hockey League player with his stick.

The North Star right wing is believed to be the first NHL player to receive a jail term for an on-ice. attack on another player.

"It is time a message go out from the courts that violence in a

hockey game or in any other circumstances is not acceptable in our society," Judge Sidney Harris said after finding Ciccarelli guilty of assault.

"I think it's ridiculous," said Ciccarelli, 28, who was led from provincial court in handcuffs. "I don't see where these people are getting involved in the hockey aspect. I think the league office should be taking more charge and taking more control of it. Obviously, they are using me as a scapegoat, and the judge wanted to use me as an example."

Ciccarelli was released when his lawyer, Don Houston, filed an ap-

NHL President John Ziegler said, "Although we are disappointed in the outcome of the case, it has been our belief that sports are not above the law."

It was the second time this year that criminal charges were filed against Ciccarelli. He pleaded guilty in January to an indecent-

exposure charge in Minnesota and was placed on a year's probation.

The assault charge was brought after a Jan. 6 incident in which Ciccarelli hit Luke Richardson of the Toronto Maple Leafs on the head twice with his stick and punched him in the mouth. Ciccarelli was ejected from the game and was given a 10-game suspension by the NHL. Richardson was wearing a helmet and wasn't injured. Ciccarelli testified that he swung his stick in self-defense.

Although the judge acknowledged hockey is a fast-paced and physical game, he said Ciccarelli went beyond the acceptable use of torce.

"Violence is becoming more and more an accepted part of daily. life," Harris said, adding that because hockey players are heroes to young people, violence "spills over. from the arena onto the street." If violence in sports continues, "perpetrators can expect punitive. measures, including jail sentences."