

# WALTERS, BLOOM, 2 OTHERS INDICTED

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By Maurice Possley and John Gorman  
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CHICAGO, AUG. 24 -- New York sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom, backed by the money and muscle of a powerful organized-crime boss, used cash and threats of violence to secure bargaining rights for 44 college athletes, a federal grand jury charged today.

The eight-count indictment against Walters and Bloom charged that Michael Franzese, reputed to be a top boss in the 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 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 Jacksons musical tour, according 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 Walters 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 David Lueddeke, a California-based 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 Walters 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 got Franzese to cooperate in its investigation, according to sources familiar with the inquiry. U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas said the investigation was continuing. He also said it would be "unfair" to suggest it focused on shaving points or fixing games.

Valukas said 43 college athletes who signed with Walters and Bloom avoided prosecution with pre-trial agreements, agreeing to testify if the case goes to trial. Those athletes include NFL players Timmy Smith of the Washington Redskins, Paul Palmer of the Kansas City Chiefs, Chuck Faucette of the San Diego Chargers, Ron Morris of the Chicago Bears and Ronrie Harmon of the Buffalo Bills, plus Brad Sellers of the NBA's Chicago Bulls. Palmer attended Churchill High in Potomac, Md; Faucette went to the University of Maryland.

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.

If convicted on all counts, Walters and Bloom each face a maximum sentence of 70 years in prison and a \$2 million fine.

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 to persuade them to sign agreements allowing the agents to bargain for them with professional teams.

{Late yesterday, the NFL Players Association called for a conference of representatives of the NCAA, major university football powers, the NFL and the NFLPA to coordinate effective regulation of sports agents.}

Federal prosecutors say these athletes have entered a one-year pre-trial diversion program for illegally signing representation agreements and accepting money from agents **Norby Walters** and **Lloyd Bloom**. Prosecutors say the athletes have agreed to perform community service, reimburse their schools and cooperate with the ongoing government investigation:

Athlete..... College.....Class

Egypt Allen..... Texas Christian...1987

Jeffery Atkins..... So. Methodist.....1987

Teryl D. Austin..... Pittsburgh.....1988

Jerry L. Ball..... So. Methodist.....1987

Robert Banks..... Notre Dame.....1987

Ravin Caldwell..... Arkansas.....1986

John Clay..... Missouri.....1987

Terry Coner..... Alabama.....1987

Ken Davis..... Texas Christian...1986

Donald D. DuBose..... Nebraska.....1987

Charles Faucette..... Maryland.....1987

Robert T. Flagler.... Clemson.....1987

Ken Flowers..... Clemson.....1987

Brent Fullwood..... Auburn.....1987

Everett Gay..... Texas.....1987

**Ronnie Harmon**..... Iowa.....1986

Mark Ingram..... Michigan State...1987

Charles Gladman..... Pittsburgh.....1988

Carl Hilton..... Houston.....1986

Mark Logan..... Kentucky.....1987

James Lott..... Texas.....1988

Terance Mann..... So. Methodist.....1987

Timothy McGee..... Tennessee.....1986

Alvin Miller..... Notre Dame.....1987

Devon Mitchell..... Iowa.....1986

Ron Morris..... So. Methodist.....1987

Andrew Mott..... So. Mississippi...1987

Frankie Neal..... Kansas State.....1987

Paul Palmer..... Temple.....1987

Robert Perryman..... Michigan.....1987

Tom Powell III..... Auburn.....1987

Garland Rivers..... Michigan.....1987  
Terrence Roulhac..... Clemson.....1987  
Brad Sellers..... Ohio State.....1986  
Edwin Simmons..... Texas.....1987  
Tim Smith..... Texas Tech.....1987  
George Swarn III.... Miami.....1987  
Craig Swoope..... Illinois.....1986  
Raymond Tate..... Houston.....1987  
Adrian White..... Florida.....1987  
Lester Williams..... Iowa State.....1986  
Tony Woods..... Pittsburgh.....1987  
Roderick Woodson.... Purdue.....1987

