# **Myers' Olympic Case Will Go Into Independent Arbitration**



**Angel Myers** 

#### **By Matt Winkeljohn and Bud Shaw** Staff Writers

AMERICUS, Ga. - An independent arbitrator will determine Thursday morning in Denver whether swimmer Angel Myers, suspended from the U.S. Olympic team after testing positive for a steroid, has grounds for reinstatement.

Myers' family spokeswoman, Mary Ann Fenessy, said Tuesday night in Americus that the 21-year-old swimmer from south Georgia, a contender for five gold medals in Seoul, had scheduled the hearing through U.S. Swimming Inc., the sport's governing body. Ray Essick, executive director of U.S. Swimming, confirmed that the hearing was set for 10 a.m. (EDT) Thursday.

## USOC Vows to Fight a Favorable Ruling

Essick said Americus attorney Michael Fenessy, the husband of Mrs. Fenessy, met with an ad hoc committee at its invitation Tuesday in Colorado Springs, Colo., to explain the reasons for Myers' dismissal. Mr. Fenessy requested the arbitration. As a national governing body, U.S. Swimming Inc. is subject by law to the ruling of the independent arbitrator.

Myers contends that the drug test was conducted improperly. If the arbitrator rules in her favor, Essick said, Myers' name will be submitted by U.S. Swimming Inc. to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) for reinstatement to the team.

"If the arbitrator rules in her favor, we would have to object," said USOC spokesman Mike Moran. "In defense of our drug testing, we would have no other choice. We would have to fight it."

Said Essick: "Our position in a situation like this is to encourage athletes to exhaust every possible appeal. The real issue at hand is the reliability of the USOC drug testing. We've taken the USOC's advice in not submitting her name for Olympic consideration.

"Whatever the law says, we will comply. We

want to make sure everything is being done to give her a chance to appeal."

In a similar case, U.S. Olympic boxing coach Ken Adams was recently reinstated by an arbitrator after he had been suspended for assaulting a U.S.A. Boxing Federation employee. The federation had ousted Adams and named Tom Coulter head coach.

After his appeal to the federation failed, Adams went before a federal arbitrator, which ruled in his favor. Coulter is now an assistant coach.

In addition, two amateur boxers who tested positive at the U.S. Trials are seeking reinstatement Wednesday at a hearing with an arbitrator in St. Louis. William Guthrie and La-

**MYERS** Continued on 14E





### Growing Crisis on the Court

FLUSHING MEADOW, N.Y. - Remember Richard Bengh. A young fellow named Zeeshan Ali, too.

At the moment, chances are that not even the most ardent of tennis followers can claim to be familiar with either of these two obscure players on the men's pro circuit. They're not ranked among the top 200 in the world, which ostensibly means they should probably pursue another vocation. As the U.S. Open unfolded just outside of Manhattan this week, they were nowhere to be found. Quite frankly, no one missed them.

But take note. In two years, Richard Bengh and Zeeshan Ali could meet in the finals of the nation's tennis championships. One of them might capture the prestigious French or Australian championships. One of them might even win Wimbledon. And it would have nothing to do with whether the players have improved their respective skills.

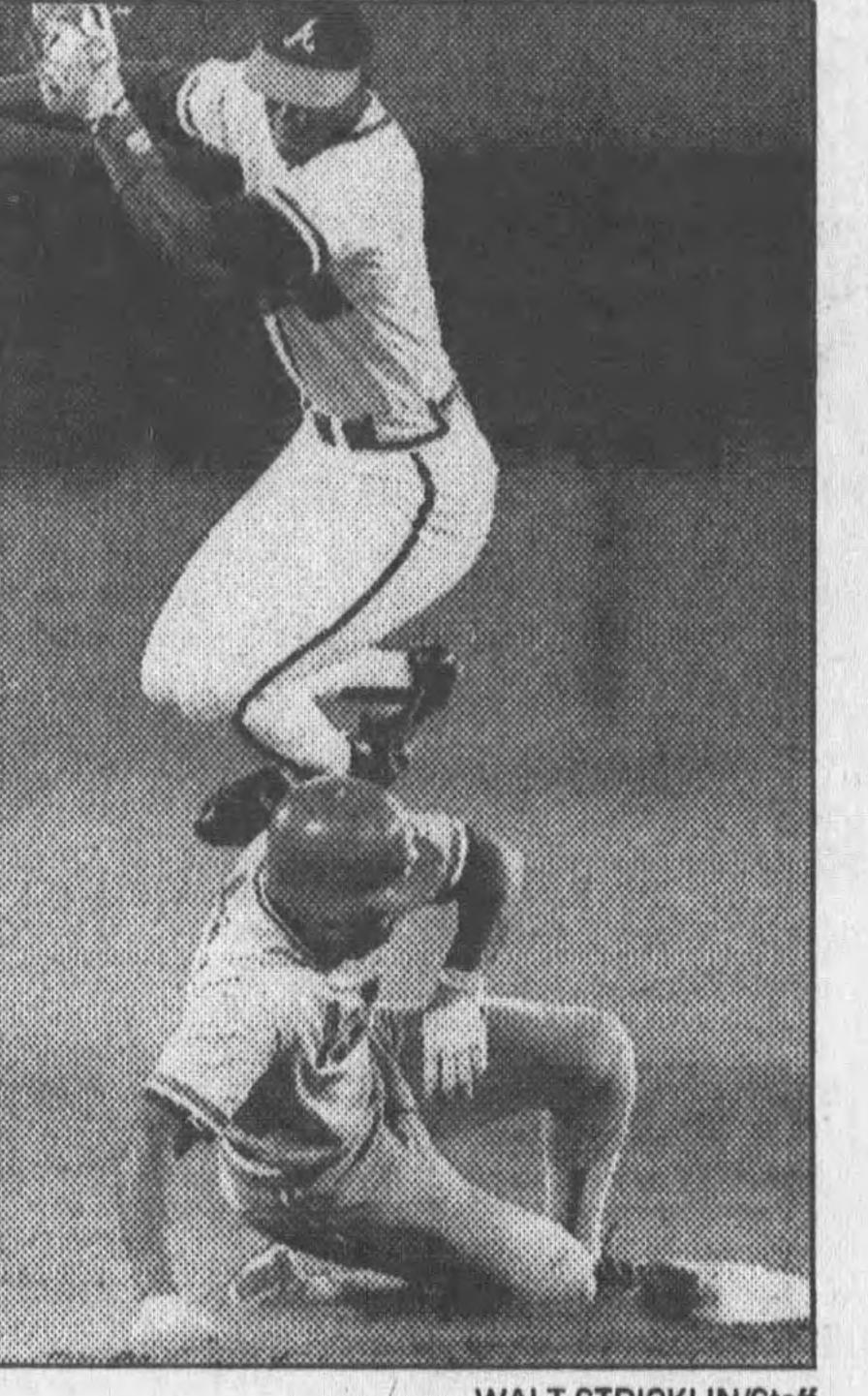
That far-fetched and frightening scenario is just one of the improbable ramifications of the mutiny that erupted on the grounds of the National Tennis Center on Tuesday afternoon. Or rather, just outside the gigantic public park where the players landed the bold, initial salvo in an intriguing confrontation with the sport's power structure that's reminiscent of a high-stakes poker game, nose-to-nose volleys across a net.

#### **Braves Slash Prices** To Reach 1 Million Attendance Streak On Line in Next Month **By Darryl Maxie** Staff Writer The Atlanta Braves are doing everything but giving away tickets, trying to avoid becoming the first major-league team in three years to draw fewer than one million fans for the season at home. After Tuesday's home game against the St. Louis Cardinals, the Braves had drawn a major-league-low 750,725 fans with 17 dates left. That put them on a pace to draw 956,532 for the season.

"Nobody wants to be the first to break the (1-million) streak," said Jack Tyson, the Braves' director of ticket sales.

So, because \$1 tickets count as much in attendance figures as top-of-the-line \$9.50 tickets, the Braves are offering all sorts of bargain-basement sales pitches:

Season-ticket holders were asked, in a letter from the Braves, to buy additional \$8 field-level tickets for \$1 each "as we strive to reach our goal of 1 million fans." And if the season-ticket holders do not have friends or relatives interested in going to Braves games, the letter offered this suggestion: "If you would like to donate the tickets to a local charitable organization, we would be happy to assist with distribution." Elementary and high-school students in a 23-county area surrounding Atlanta have been given coupons allowing them to buy up to six \$6 upper-level tickets for \$1 each. For the rest of the season, senior citizens attending 5:40 p.m. games can buy field-level tickets for half price. And on Sept. 17, active and retired members of the military can buy up to six upper-level tickets for \$1 each. Also, former prisoners of war and soldiers formerly missing in action will be admitted free. "It (drawing 1 million) became important in 1986, when every team did it," said Tyson. "The (Pittsburgh) Pirates were looking like the only team that wouldn't make it, but they instituted some of the things we are doing and just made it."



WALT STRICKLIN/Staff

#### **Tennis Players Want More Control**

The heart of the issue is control, power over the game that has allowed Ivan Lendl to abandon his native country and live like a king in Greenwich, **Conn., John McEnroe to pursue a rich-and-famous** lifestyle in Malibu, Calif., and Boris Becker to frolic in Monte Carlo. This conglomerate, which apparently includes all but two of the top 10 players, said it was seceding from the current system because it has been confined to the locker room and shut out of the board rooms where the game is governed.

They want fewer tournaments (currently, an audacious 78 events are squeezed into 52 weeks) and a well-defined off-season. They also want a global marketing plan that would make the sport less dependent upon the elite group of players at the top of the rankings and more attractive to investors tired of getting nothing for their money except a courtside table in Cincinnati or Gstaad.

So within the next two months, the group known as the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) promised to organize its own circuit with an off-season and begin in 1990 - even, hinted American Tim Mayotte, if it meant forcing a boycott/lockout of the four prized Grand Slam tournaments. "It's academic to say what's going to happen, but all the players have discussed the possibility," Mayotte said.

#### 'We're Not After More Money'

It wouldn't be the first time. Fifteen years ago, Jan Kodes captured Wimbledon, but his victory was tainted by the absence of many of the world's elite players, who were members of a fledgling group calling itself the ATP. The group boycotted the tournament because it banned Niki Pilic of Yugoslavia for refusing to represent his country in Davis Cup competition. All of this occurred, of course, in the neophyte years of tennis prosperity. Even the major championships in those days seemed like commodities belonging to some exclusive club, not spectacles to be bounced from satellites into homes around the world. Players still played for a living, not for endorsements that tripled their income. And they participated in tournaments for prize money, not in exhibitions that guaranteed them an enormous payday, win or lose. The players who support this anarchy do not deny their prosperity. In fact, they seem prepared to forge ahead even at the risk of losing a small portion of it. "We're not after more money. If anything, we may lose money," pronounced McEnroe. "The players want more of an interest in the sport because they deserve it. The tennis would be a lot better and more kids would be given an opportunity to do it if the players were given a foothold in it. All we want is to see the sport at its best." The impetus behind the players' movement is Hamilton Jordan, the former aide to President Jimmy Carter and the executive director of the ATP. "I don't know of one single sport where the players have less control than tennis," said Jordan. "But we're not blameless. We've contributed to the problem, but now it's out of control. The top players



**BILLY DOWNS/Staff** 

Alonzo Watson holds three-month-old Chris, who is healthy despite being born 131/2 weeks premature.

Alonzo Watson's

SMALL MIRACLE

Tech senior became a father and a starting tight end over the summer under extraordinary circumstances.

#### By I.J. Rosenberg Staff Writer

With the blessing of his coaches, tight end Alonzo Watson left Georgia Tech's morning practice a half-hour early Tuesday so he could be with a time. miracle baby - his own. Christopher Watson, weighing only two pounds, four ounces, was born 13½ weeks premature on May 29. "The doctors told us not to expect him to

make it through the night," said Kim Watson, Alonzo's wife and a former Tech basketball player.

Tuesday, the Watsons picked up their son at North Shallowford Hospital and brought him home for the first

**TICKETS** Continued on **GE** 

	Braves	Attendanc
Year	Dates	Average
1988	62	12,108
1987	80	15,218
1986	80	17,340
1985	79	17,090
1984	79	21,834
1983	77	x-27,532

**Cards' Vince Coleman successfully** steals second base as Braves' Ron Gant pulls down a high throw.

### KNOTTOG Draves housed As Morrison Mops Up Mess

#### Mahler Decision Expected, Page 2E The Braves Report, Page 6E **By Darryl Maxie** Staff Writer

There's no longer anything funny about utility infielder Jim Morrison pitching for the Atlanta Braves.

It's a telltale sign the Braves are getting routed and that no more real pitchers need be wasted on a hopeless cause, like Tuesday's night's 9-1 rout by the St. Louis Cardinals before 6,278 at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium.

Morrison hasn't grown tired of helping out when the Braves run out of arms, but the novelty is wearing off.

"I'm just an extra guy so they wouldn't have to use another pitcher," Morrison said after getting Terry Pendleton out for the second time in a week. "I want to help any way I can, since I'm not helping with my hitting (.143 average)."

Braves manager Russ Nixon said he sees nothing embarrassing about putting Morrison on the mound. Morrison hasn't allowed an earned run in three outings covering 3<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings and pitched onethird of an inning Tuesday.

JOHNSON Continued on 9E

Dave Kindred is on special assignment. His column will resume shortly.

"This is so special," said Alonzo, his eyes lighting up as he held Chris in his arms at their apartment com-

WATSON Continued on 9E

**BRAVES** Continued on **6E** 

## **Falcons Add Dils to Search** For Backup Quarterbacks

#### By Karen Rosen Staff Writer

The revolving door for reserve quarterbacks with the Atlanta Falcons spun faster Tuesday.

While Hugh Millen — newly arrived from Los Angeles to replace just-out-the-door Kerwin Bell at No. 3 quarterback — was talking about opportunities, former Rams teammate Steve Dils got ready to board a plane to Atlanta and become the fourth quarterback on the roster.

The pair of former Rams will compete with Erik Kramer for the two backup spots behind Chris Miller. The Falcons released Mark Mraz, a second-year defensive end, to make way for Dils on the 47-man roster. Mraz, a former fifth-round draft pick, played in 11 games on special teams last year.

The Falcons also claimed running back Gene Lang from Denver. Lang, a five-year player out of LSU, rushed for 303 yards on 89 carries with two touchdowns last year. The Falcons will release a player Wednesday to clear room for Lang.

Millen and Dils were both waived Monday by the Rams and claimed at the same time by the Falcons, who get first crack at any NFL waived player. Millen showed up first.

FALCONS Continued on 14E

## Walters Defends Payments With Two Full-Page Ads

#### **Franzese** Transferred, Page 8E **By Chris Mortensen** Staff Writer

Indicted sports agent Norby Walters accuses the U.S. Department of Justice of acting as "the champion of the NCAA and the sports establish ment" in a full-page advertisement he has purchased in two entertainment trade publications.

The ad, headlined "An Open Letter to the Industry from Norby Walters," is Walters' first public response to a federal grand jury that indicted him and former associate Lloyd Blog last week on charges of rackete extortion, mail fraud and wire fraud

stemming mostly from their dealings with more than 50 college athletes from 1985 to 1987.

Walters, who has declined interviews about the indictment, used the ad to call the charges "completely and utterly groundless" and added, "I will vigorously defend myself against these vicious, outrageous and false charges."

In the ad, Walters says, "I now understand . . . that by publicly disclosing that our firm had entered into contractual relations with college athletes, I had breached the unwritten code of silence that apparently exists in the world of big-time sports.

WALTERS Continued on 8E

#### The Atlanta Journal AND CONSTITUTION

## Gets Moved After Writ to Testify

8 ....

#### U.S. Attorney Mum On Link to Walters-Bloom

#### **By Chris Mortensen** Staff Writer

The imprisoned organized crime boss linked to indicted sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd n was transferred to a minimum federal security camp after appearing in Chicago earlier this month on a "writ to testify," according to prison records.

Michael Franzese, serving the third year of a 10-year sentence on racketeering charges, was moved from his medium security prison at Terminal Island, Calif., on Aug. 8 and entered a minimum security camp on Aug. 11 at Boron, Calif., prison records show.

Between Aug. 8 and 11, Fran- Norby Walters zese was placed under federal jurisdiction of the U.S. Attorney's office in the Northern District of Illinois on a "writ to testify," according to the records.



Contacted Tuesday, Walter

As he has done previously, Wal-

"We entered into agreements



U.S. Attorney Anton R. Valukas of Chicago again declined to say whether Franzese cooperated with authorities investigating the business practices of Walters and Bloom. "I cannot and would not comment on that," said Valukas.

Franzese, labeled by federal prosecutors as an organized crime boss, was named as an unindicted co-conspirator last week when a federal grand jury indicted Walters and Bloom on racketeering, extortion, mail fraud and wire fraud charges.

The indictment alleges that Walters and Bloom used their association with Franzese to "obtain and retain" sports and entertainment clients by "extortionate means." Furthermore, the grand jury alleges that Franzese gave \$50,000 in cash to help Walters expand from entertainment to sports.

The indictment also charges that Walters and Franzese threatened in 1981 to interrupt plans for the Jackson Five reunion music tour. The indictment alleges that Franzese met with the group's manager and "told him he was an associate of Norby Walters and that Norby Walters Associates was going to be involved in the tour and be their partners or there would be no tour."

The indictment also alleges that for using Franzese's reputation as a member of an organized crime family that Walters "would and did pay Michael Franzese.'

Franzese was unavailable for comment Tuesday.

