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KUP'S COLUMN

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The evils of big-time college athletics will be laid bare in the upcoming trial here of sports agents Lloyd Bloom and Norby Walters, both indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of bribery, extortion and threats. In addition to the oft-reported scandal of illegal recruiting and payments to athletes, which has destroyed many a college career, the questionable policies of universities and the NCAA will be exposed for "looking the other way" in testimony that could rock the nation. . . . Incidentally, Bloom has retained former U.S. Attorney Dan Webb, who will be pitted in the trial against his successor, Tony Valukas. MICHAEL DUKAKIS, AFTER HIS Sunday night debate with George Bush, will head for the Midwest and a giant fund-raiser Tuesday eve in the Chicago Hilton and Towers. . . . Dukakis is preparing for the debate with the aid of N.Y. Gov. Mario Cuomo and Sen. Bill Bradley. He reportedly is readying a riposte if Bush once again says, "Read . . . my . . . lips." . . . And Bush is conducting mock debates with Richard Darman, a former U.S. Treasury aide, "playing" Dukakis.

ALD. BERNARD STONE, Republican candidate for county recorder, incurred the animosity of the Chicago Typographical Union by crossing its informational picket line at Lerner Publications. The union is striking Lerner for moving its composing room to the suburbs, thus putting union members out of work. Perhaps Stone figures he hasn't lost much because the

union has endorsed his rival, Carol Moseley Braun.

DENNIS FARINA, who zoomed to fame in TV's "Crime Story," tonight returns to Victory Gardens Theater, where he started his acting career. He'll star in "Some Men Need Help." Farina's dedication to the theater is evinced by the fact he's working for the Equity scale, approximately \$400 a week, whereas he can command huge salaries in films and TV. Farina currently appears in "Midnight Run" with Robert De Niro.

ENJOY, ENJOY: You don't have to know New York's Delancey Street, home of immigrants, to enjoy "Crossing Delancey." It captures the mood and merriment of the colorful area. The film stars Amy Irving, but the scene-stealer is a veteran actress making her movie debut. She's Reizel Dozyk, whose entire career has been in the Yiddish theater.

JEROME WATSON, Sun-Times Washington bureau chief, was elected to the board of the White House Correspondents Association. That's a prestigious post in D.C. . . . Tom W. Havey, popular CPA, is the new president of Catholic Charities. . . . Bob Briscoe, new lord mayor of Dublin, fair city, will be in Chicago on Dec. 9 as guest of the Irish Fellowship Club's president's dinner in the Chicago Hilton and Towers.

NEW TALENT can bong the gong in auditions for the "Gong Show" on Saturday at the Brickyard Mall. Producers are seeking "unusual talent," as befits the program. Final auditions will be held on Sunday. "Gong" airs on Channel 2 daily at 11 a.m. . . . Oops! Norman Ross corrects our correction. He won a Peabody award for his Channel 7 "Off the Cuff" in 1964, two years before "Kup's Show" won the award.

REV. JOHN BANAHAN taped the Morton Downey Jr. scream for airing next Monday. Banahan reports Downey was an uncharacteristic pussycat in their discussion of "The Last Temptation of Christ." Downey originally blasted "Temptation," but after viewing the film he became an admirer, as is Banahan. . . . Jet magazine editor Sylvia Flanagan will be honored Saturday at the La Rabida Children's Hospital and Research Center dance at the South Shore Country Club.

RICH MELMAN, famous for the unusual names of his numerous restaurants, will unveil Tucci Benucch as his spa in the new **Bloomingdale's**. Tucci Benucch stems from the nicknames of two of his associates. Can you think of a better way to name a restaurant? And an upcoming Melman opener will be in Japan, where he'll introduce his Ed Debevic's.

SHELDON GOOD has been tapped by the U.S. League of Savings Institutions for a whopping assignment. He has been designated as the real estate auctioneer to help the league's 3,400 members nationwide sell their commercial and investment properties. . . . Birthdaying: Meryl Streep, Julio Iglesias, the Rev. John Banahan, Debbie Boone, Marji Bank, John Houseman and Ch. 7's Andrew Leckey.

COMEDIAN PUDGY is the talk of Las Vegas as a result of her opening night performance at the Catch a Rising Star club in the Bally Hotel. . . . Today's action: Jerry "Tark the Shark" Tarkanian, basketball coach at the U. of Nevada at Las Vegas, addresses the Sports Lodge at the North Shore Hilton; humorist Steve Landesberg headlines an Old Style "goodbye to summer" party, and Larry Spatz introduces his Baja Beach Club in the North Pier Terminal. . . . And the closer: Israel's timing for the launching of its first satellite was perfect. It coincided with the High Holidays.

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