



Odds & INS

By Linda Kay & Mike Conklin

Get your rest this weekend, Chicagoans. What figures to be one of college sports' darkest chapters begins unfolding here next week when the federal trial of agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom starts. Originally scheduled to open Monday, it's now set for Wednesday and could last a month. The case sees legal heavyweights U.S. Atty. Anton Valukas squaring off against his predecessor, Dan Webb. An all-star cast of athletes—Cris Carter, Shaun Gayle, Ron Morris, etc.—are expected to be witnesses. We hear a few university administrators may not smell like roses before the trial's over.

Cub alert

Memo to Cubs GM Jim Frey: Criticism over the Rafael Palmeiro deal is coming from more corners than press and fans. Here's Andre Dawson's less-than-charitable remarks at a Florida charity event: "I don't know why we traded him away. I figured if we were going to trade away any of our young players it would have been Mark Grace. Rafael is a better hitter and he's got more speed [than Grace]. But they gave up on him too quickly. They did the same thing with David Martinez. He was a good hitter, and he was the best center-fielder we had. But now the chemistry is off in the outfield, and there's no way we're as strong offensively. I just don't know what direction the ballclub is going in anymore."

Sighting Illini

Illinois AD/football coach John Mackovic said he expects to hear within a week whether the game with Southern Cal in the Glasnost Bowl, which has hit snags, will be played as scheduled. Said Mackovic: "All the parties involved are in Russia now working out details." If the game doesn't materialize in Moscow, he said it'll be in the LA Coliseum. Mackovic, who came to Chicago Thursday with basketball coach Lou Henson, obviously is a man for details. Their airplane had to be diverted from Meigs Field to Midway Airport because of weather. They hailed a taxi and were only a few minutes late—despite an auto accident on the way. "Yes, and I've got a sore neck," joked the AD, twitching in mock pain. When asked if he was going to put the university's law school to work, he did produce a slip of paper with names and numbers of the parties involved.

On the run

Oprah Winfrey said she lost much of her weight through running. Now, the Lake County Marathon would like to plan her next step. A personal invitation to compete in the April 30 race from event chairman Barry Seiller has been sent to the TV talk-show host. "We don't know if she'll accept, but, judging from what we hear of her running schedule, the Lake County is perfect for her," said executive director Terry Levin. "We're prepared to also offer her a complete training program from an expert." She wouldn't even have to run the entire 26.2-mile course. The Lake County also has half-marathon and 10K courses.

On the mend

Here were some of Bensenville stock-car racer Don Marmor's injuries when he crashed Nov. 19 at Atlanta International Speedway: fractures of the left leg in 14 places, cracked ribs, detached retina, fractured right foot, fractures of every bone in both hands, bruised lungs and loss of memory. He was unconscious three weeks but now is at Wheaton's Marianjoy Rehab Center after stays in two hospitals. Wife Gail is running the family business, Budget Auto Body in Bensenville, while raising two kids. Said Gail: "The ARCA circuit Don raced in covered us to \$16,000, which was gone in the first 24 hours. They've upped it since Don's crash." A recent fundraiser sponsored by Santa Fe Speedway helped raise another \$15,000.

Real education

Former NFL great Joe Namath, a big fan of thoroughbred racing and spokesman for Gulfstream Park in Florida, attributes his love for the sport to former Alabama coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. Said Namath: "In 1962, Alabama came to Miami to play Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl, and coach Bryant allowed some of us to come to the track with him and some of the guys to go fishing one day. I went to the track and fell in love with it. I guess it's another turn where the old football coach helped me out again."

News, notes and nonsense

Hat Tip: Northwestern's Zoo Crew caught a lot of flak this season for its conduct during the Illinois game, but the lads and lassies apparently saw the error of their ways. They were the picture of rah-rah decorum at Wednesday's Iowa game despite the Hawkeyes' off-the-court problems. ... More NU: Wildcat officials are making a push to break the school's attendance record of 1,251 for women's basketball at Friday's game against Illinois in Welsh-Ryan. The bait? A free spring-break holiday that'll be a door prize. ... Midwestern Collegiate Conference Commissioner James Shaffer says it appears likely his league's postseason tournament in 1991 will be in St. Louis or Milwaukee. It's committed through 1990 at Dayton, where 9,000 tickets already have been sold for this season's event. ... De Kalb High School of the Upstate Eight may be headed for Rockford West's place in the Northern Illinois Conference. West is scheduled to close after the current school year. And finally, for you casual fight fans who think Frank Bruno has a chance of dethroning Mike Tyson, here's something to ponder. In the last 52 years, seven different British boxers have challenged for the heavyweight championship. Two lost 15-round decisions and the other five were knocked out. Bruno was one of those who got KO'd—by Tim Witherspoon in 1986. Still like his chances?

New wife gets Garvey 'off the street,' but maybe not soon enough

Steve Garvey's former fiance has criticized the former baseball star for making her paternity allegations public. She also insisted that Garvey knew she was pregnant before he broke off their engagement to marry another woman. "I was wanting to handle this in a private manner," Rebecca Mendenhall, an assignment editor for Atlanta-based Cable News Network, told the San Diego Tribune. "Maybe in his mind this was damage control. In my mind, it was unnecessary. It's a careless, reckless thing." Garvey, 40, the former All-Star first baseman of the Los Angeles Dodgers and the San Diego Padres, also has said that a San Diego woman he dated "four or five times" subsequently informed him she was pregnant. A baby girl was born Feb. 13 to the unidentified woman.

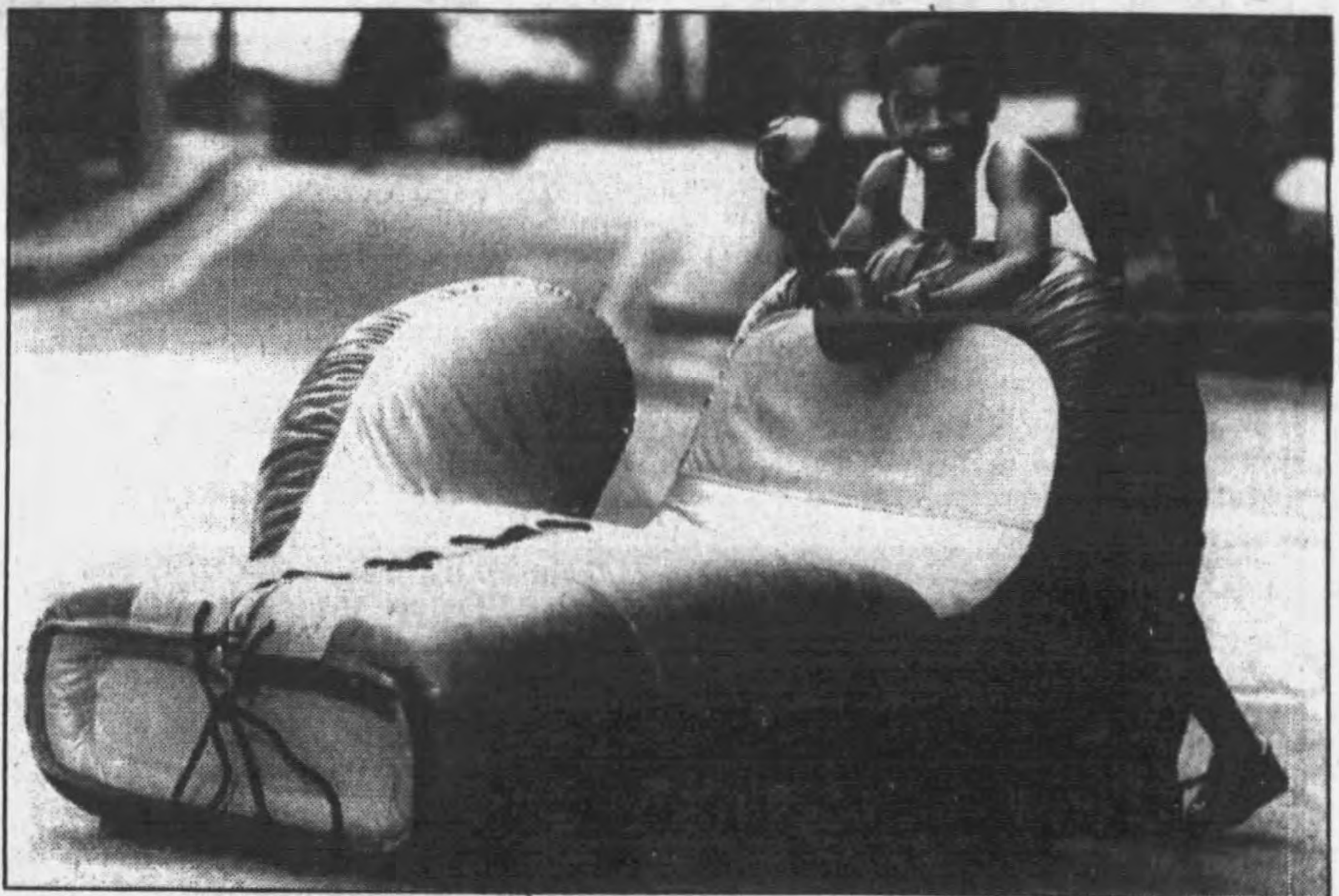
Garvey said he was unaware of any legal action against him in connection with either of the pregnancies. The two women informed him they were pregnant and he told them he would live up to his moral obligations, he said. "If tests proved that I am the father, I would certainly live up to any obligations I have incurred," he said. When asked about birth control, Garvey, a Roman Catholic, said previously: "I'd like to think that with any relationship, one of the two people assume responsibility for birth control, and ... one will say, 'I'll be responsible.'" In both cases, I was led to believe that I wasn't responsible for birth control." Garvey said Mendenhall didn't tell him she was pregnant until two weeks after he had broken their engagement

in January. "I'd hate to believe that all this came about simply because of hard feelings over a broken engagement," he said. According to Mendenhall, however, Garvey knew about her pregnancy when he broke off their engagement. Last Saturday, Garvey married Candace Thomas in a private ceremony at her parents' home in Utah. They had planned a formal wedding in May or June, but Garvey said they rushed the ceremony ahead "because I just couldn't live without her." Garvey, who made the paternity allegations public in a videotaped interview with San Diego TV station KNND, said his new wife supported his decision to take responsibility for any children he fathered while single. "I guess the true test when you love somebody, and I've told my wife about

all the situations in my life—this and others—and she said that if that's the case and one woman or both don't want the child, I'll take it. "That's the philosophy she has. On the other hand, she said, 'It's a good thing I married you to get you off the street.'" Asked if he thought the situation would have any affect on his political aspirations, Garvey said, "I don't think so. I've been single for the past six years. I've dated three women over the past couple of years, and it happened that two of them became pregnant. I think that if I was married at the time, there would be some criticism." Garvey's first wife, Cyndi, became a Los Angeles television talk show hostess while they were married and moved to New York for TV work after their divorce.

Researchers dish up cure for softball injuries

Breakaway bases can prevent injuries to sliding softball players, University of Michigan researchers say. A 1988 study on injuries related to the sport suggests that as many as 30 percent fewer players were hurt on fields equipped with bases that break free under force, said Dr. David H. Janda. Earlier studies indicated that more than 70 percent of all softball injuries occur when players slide into bases. Breakaway bases are attached by suction cups to a rubber mat spiked to the ground. The bases pop loose when players strike them.



A Bunyanesque boxing glove/chaise lounge to be auctioned in London intrigues Gary Bailey, 9, who wishes Frank Bruno could use it against Mike Tyson.

Sen. Connie Mack wants 3 big-league franchises in Florida

Sen. Connie Mack (R., Fla.), grandson of the Hall of Fame manager of the same name, told incoming Commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti that Florida should have three major-league baseball teams. "As citizens of the fourth-largest state, Floridians have supported with much enthusiasm the teams that travel to Florida each spring to get in shape in the best possible environment," Mack said in a letter to Giamatti. "Therefore, it seems to me that Florida should have its fair share of major-league teams." Mack met with other members of the bipartisan Senate Task Force on Expansion of Major League Baseball, a group spearheaded by senators from states particularly interested in landing major-league franchises.

An on-the-spots report from the epidemic-plagued ECAC

A case of measles on the University of Hartford basketball team and more than two dozen cases on Siena College's team have disrupted the ECAC Northern Atlantic Conference schedule. Hartford's game against the University of New Hampshire was canceled late Wednesday when Hartford was told its team would not be permitted to enter New Hampshire because one of its players had contracted measles. The outbreak of the highly infectious disease could also mean no fans will be allowed into the Hartford Civic Center to watch the league's postseason tournament next month. To ensure that people are not exposed, Connecticut health officials recommend that Hartford not play before spectators for 21 days. No fans will be allowed at Hartford's game at Niagara Saturday or at the Hawks' two remaining home games. Both have been switched from the Hartford Civic Center to the Physical Education Center on the Hartford campus. "It's been administrative chaos," said Don Cook, Hart-

ford's athletic director, who has been organizing the league tournament. Nate Gainey, a sophomore guard from Buffalo, was diagnosed as having measles Feb. 18. "As it stands right now, the tournament [March 7, 9 and 11] would fall within the 21 days that we are using to look for the occurrence of other cases," said Dennis J. Dix, director of the Connecticut Department of Health Services immunization program. "So the tournament, if it is played, will not be played to spectators." Cook said league administrators agreed Tuesday to try and keep the tournament in Hartford. The school athletic directors agreed to discuss the situation further Friday. Cook's more immediate concern Wednesday was the canceled game against New Hampshire. Gainey would not have traveled to New Hampshire, and Cook said the rest of the team was given blood tests Tuesday and all were discovered to be immune. "We've been told by UNH that the [New Hampshire]

state board of health informed them that test results alone are not necessarily a good predictor of who is susceptible to measles," Cook said. Cook said Connecticut health officials do not share that view. University of Hartford officials have begun reviewing the records of all full-time students. Dix said Wednesday that only Gainey's case has been confirmed. The first reported cases in the league were earlier this month at Siena, a school of 2,600 in Loudonville, N.Y. Freshman guard Mike Brown is among the students there who contracted the disease. Hartford played at Siena Feb. 4, a week before the first cases were reported. After the outbreak, Siena postponed games Feb. 11 and 13, then resumed play Feb. 16 at Maine in a game without spectators. A game at New Hampshire was then postponed. Siena played Thursday night's rematch with Maine at Utica College, about 90 miles away from the Siena campus. Maine requested that the game not be played on the Siena campus.

BRIEFS

- The Miami Dolphins, desperate to improve their defense, have reached an agreement with free-agent linebacker E.J. Junior. Junior, 29, who was excluded from the Phoenix Cardinals' list of protected players, said he expects to fly to Miami Monday to sign. "I knew this is where I wanted to play when I came to watch the Super Bowl," he said. "The weather is nice and the Dolphins have a great organization. This is a beautiful situation for me. It could not be any better." Junior refused to say how much the Dolphins will pay him but said last year he received \$700,000 from the Cardinals.
- Former Olympic sprint champion Allan Wells has warned six-time gold medalist Carl Lewis to stop accusing other athletes of taking drugs and says he "would not be surprised if one day his halo slipped and choked" the American track star. In a column in the March edition of Scotland's Runner magazine, Wells accused Lewis of riding a "snowy white chariot against drugs" and bringing all athletes under suspicion. Lewis said, "Allan said negative things about me in 1983 and 1984. I guess he doesn't like me. I have nothing against Allan." Wells questioned the consistency of drug regulations and asked whether Ben Johnson, who defeated Lewis in the 100 meters in Seoul but was disqualified after testing positive for steroids, was being treated unfairly. "Was his crime taking the drug, or was it getting caught?" Wells wrote. "It is only human for coaches and athletes to sometimes try and obtain every means possible to make the athlete the best."
- Heavyweight Mitch "Blood" Green pleaded innocent in New York to drug and drunken-driving charges, then stripped to the waist, flexed his muscles and challenged champion Mike Tyson to a fight. "I got him scared to death of me," Green said. Green, 31, was arrested Dec. 30 after he smashed his pink 1979 Lincoln Continental into two parked cars at a Harlem street corner. Green had a street scuffle with Tyson Aug. 23.
- John Tate, former World Boxing Association champion, said he's on a hunger strike to protest a legal conservatorship he no longer wants. Tate, who weighs more than 200 pounds, has lost 8 pounds since Feb. 16. "This is the last go-round to let people know I want my money back," said the 34-year-old boxer from Knoxville. "I have used everything else I know to get my money back." In 1983, Tate signed a legal document saying he wanted someone to manage his money, and the court appointed a legal conservator to pay his bills, give him an allowance and perform other financial duties. At the time, Tate's estate was estimated to be worth \$300,000. He says he's now capable of handling his money and wants to dissolve his conservatorship.
- Andre Agassi turned back Jim Courier 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) on the eighth match point in the U.S. Pro Indoor Tennis Championships in Philadelphia. Boris Becker crushed David Pate 6-1, 6-1. Tim Mayotte defeated Milan Srejber 6-3, 6-4. Christo van Rensburg overcame a series of double-faults to beat Amos Mansdorf 6-7 (6-8), 6-4, 6-4. Robert Seguso upended Kevin Curren 6-3, 6-7 (6-8), 7-5, and Mikael Pernfors defeated Roger Smith 6-1, 6-3. ... John McEnroe breezed into the quarterfinals of the Lyon Grand Prix tournament with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Christian Bergstrom. Jakob Hlasek rallied to defeat Erik Winogradsky 3-6, 6-4, 6-3. Anders Jarryd routed Tarik Benhabiles 6-1, 6-1, and Jonas Svensson beat Erik Jelen 6-2, 7-6 (7-5). ... Martina Navratilova beat Isabelle Demongeot 6-3, 6-1 in the second round of the Virginia Slims of California in Oakland. Gigi Fernandez topped Gretchen Majors 6-3, 6-4.
- The United States will play France in second-round Davis Cup competition April 7-9 at the San Diego Sports Arena, according to the U.S. Tennis Association. U.S. captain Tom Gorman said his team likely will consist of McEnroe and Agassi in singles, along with the doubles team of Seguso and Ken Flach.
- Wayne Webb held a 156-pin lead over Amleto Monacelli after four rounds of the Professional Bowlers Association's True Value Open in Peoria. Webb had 6,415 pins.

Compiled by Bob Fischer and Rich Lorenz from staff, wire reports



"The Gay Nineties" was the theme of Thursday's bonspiel at the Chicago Curling Club in Northbrook, and the participants did their part, dressing in beach attire of that period. Here, Margot Mack of Glencoe hastens a stone's advance by sweeping the ice in its path.

When it comes to balloons and jellyfish, turtle recall's a myth

A Florida legislator has introduced a bill in the state senate that would ban colleges from releasing clouds of balloons during football games and other events because they threaten wildlife when they fall to earth. "We can't keep throwing trash in the atmosphere and expect animals and wildlife to survive," said Sen. Tom McPherson (D., Ft. Lauderdale), whose bill would impose a \$250 fine for violating a proposed ban on releasing more than 10 helium-filled balloons at one time anywhere in the state. "People say to me: 'But balloons are so pretty. How could you do that?'" McPherson said. "But those balloons eventually deflate and fall into the ocean, where they can kill sea turtles." Researchers have found that balloons are eaten by whales and turtles, and the strings on the balloons have tangled the legs of birds. To the sea turtles common in Florida, balloons look like jellyfish, say the balloons can clog the turtle's intestines and cause death.

TANK McNAMARA



I'M AFRAID THE HIGHPOCKETS ARE ABOUT THREE POINTS BETTER THAN WE ARE. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MOVING THE STUDENT SECTION ACROSS THE COURT TO BEHIND THE VISITORS' BENCH FOR THIS GAME?

GIL THORP



OUR STUDENTS? I THINK THEY'LL USE CHEMICAL WEAPONS. BUT ALWAYS WITH GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP. THIS IS A MUST GAME FOR US GUYS... WE NEED A WIN TONIGHT TO QUALIFY FOR THE PLAYDOWNS! BITSY! OH WOW! YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND 'EH! NO! IT WAS CHANGED FOR ME! LISTEN... I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED AT THE BUCKET!... I... CUT THE BULL AND WIN TONIGHT! OKAY?