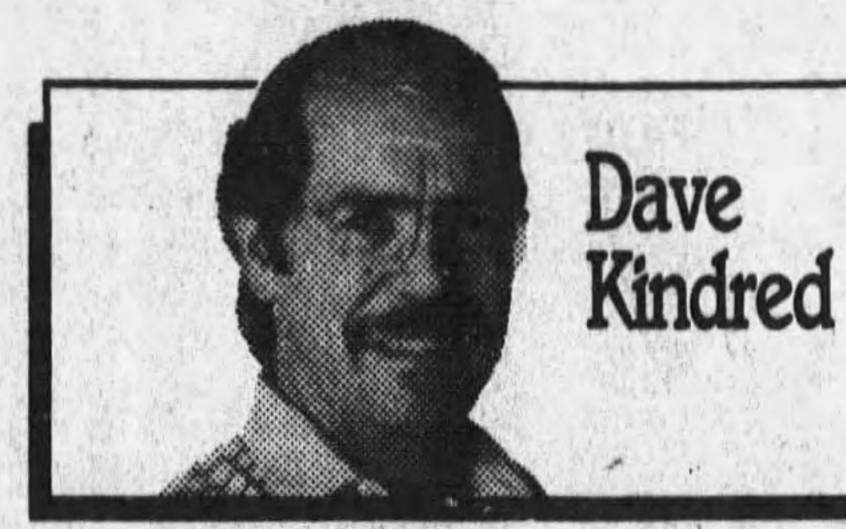
Sports

SECTION E

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

* THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1989



Bring Landry to Atlanta

Marion Campbell's contract runs out after this season with the Falcons. If timing is everything, then the Falcons at last have struck it lucky. The silly goings-on in Dallas coincide with our town's aching need for an NFL coach of reputation and substance.

For \$140 million, Arkansas oilman Jerry Jones seems to have bought not only the Cowboys and Texas Stadium but a license to lunatic behavior. He dumped Tom Landry cold in favor of his old Razorback teammate Jimmy Johnson, the University of Miami coach who first thing each morning waxes his plastic hair.

There is no easy way to fire a legend.
That said, Jones and Johnson still owed Landry better than they gave him by riding into Dallas before the deal was done. A Dallas reporter put it to Johnson this way: "Jimmy, you and Jerry are not the most popular people in town right now. How do you feel about the disrespectful way Tom Landry was treated?" Johnson's response was a tasteless stew of explanations, apologies and pleadings, all self-serving.

As to why he hired Johnson, the oilman Jones said friendship was only part of it. He then added these remarkable sentiments: "What Johnson brings to the table is worth more than five first-round draft choices and the last five Heisman Trophy winners." (One might wonder if Miami's 51-7 thrashing of Arkansas two seasons ago was Johnson's audition for Jones.)

Surely by now, the Falcons have been in touch with Landry. Surely they sent a telegram. Maybe they made a visit by corporate jet. At the least, surely they left a message on his machine, something like: "Tom, this is Rankin Smith. Got us a new dome up here. Now we need a team real bad. Let's talk, y'hear?"

Are the Falcons Asleep in Their Nests?

On second thought, judging by past Falcons performances, it's more likely that our dear birds once again are asleep in their nests of feathered comfort.

'Tis a pity, for more than once the Falcons' bosses have cried out in dismay that after all the hiring and firing they have done, they should have hired another Don Shula by accident. They're in their third decade of NFL grad school. They should know by now that genius is no accident. You hire Don Shula because, before everyone else, you see genius in him.

It can be argued that Tom Landry is on a certain descent from greatness. The Cowboys were 3-13 last season, their third straight losing record and Landry's worst since the team's first season, 1960. As if to prove the onset of NFL senility, players said Landry forgot names and forgot yardage-and-down situations. Old-timers pooh-poohed those reports. They said such lapses were nothing new. Landry at his best worked in a vacuum of concentration that left him vulnerable to mundane demands.

If Landry wants to coach and I'm an NFL owner, I hire the man. I take the risk that he has lost it. I believe the odds are that whatever made him a great coach is still there.

Discount his retirement talk. Listen to how he said it: "I wouldn't think I would coach again, because it would just be hard, not being in the Cowboys' blue."

Parallels to Lombardi and Redskins

Does that sound like iron resolve to you?
Only two weeks ago Landry said he intended to coach the Cowboys "into the '90s." As Chuck Noll and Dan Reeves had done, Landry fired loyal assistants — both his offensive and defensive coordinators, one of whom had worked with him 22 years.

No, I don't believe Landry wants out. And I don't think he can stay out any more than Vince Lombardi could.

Three times at the mountaintop,
Lombardi had forgotten the thrill of the climb.
So in 1968 he retired from the Green Bay
Packers, the only head coaching job he ever
held. Within a year, he knew he'd made a
mistake.

He didn't need championships; he needed something more important. What he'd been forever was a teacher. He found out he could walk away from victories and defeats, but he couldn't walk away from what he was.

So when Edward Bennett Williams called in 1969, Lombardi listened. Williams was the great Washington defense attorney who ran the Washington Redskins franchise in the late 1960s

Williams persuaded Lombardi to return to coaching. He gave the coach 5 percent ownership. He promised him dinner with R.M. Nixon, once a benchwarming end for Whittier College.

Williams said another thing as well. He told Lombardi there were mountains yet to climb. Green Bay was one thing. Try it with the woebegone Redskins, Vince. This will make you young again, coach.

The Falcons could say much the same thing to Ton Landry.

Florida Downs LSU to Clinch Tie for SEC Title

□ Kentucky Tops Mississippi, Page 4E

Rv Gerry Fraley

By Gerry Fraley
Staff Writer

BATON ROUGE, La. — Dwayne Davis danced at midcourt. Dwayne Schintzius waved to the snarling, debris-throwing crowd. Norm Sloan puffed out his chest.

It was an unusual display for an unusual event. Florida, the comeback team that would be king, Wednesday night won at least a share of the championship for the first time in the 57-year history of the SEC.

Trailing by 12 points in the second half, the Gators wore down LSU for a 104-

SEC Race at a Glance

Team	Rec.	Remaining games
Florida	13-4	at Alabama
Vanderbilt	12-5	Tennessee
LSU	11-6	Ole Miss
Alabama	10-6	Auburn, Florida

95 victory at the Pete Maravich Assembly Center. The victory, Florida's 11th straight in the conference after a 2-4 SEC start, assured the Gators (19-10, 13-4) of no worse than a tie with Vanderbilt.

The Gators, who will be the top-seeded team in the conference tournament, can win the title outright with a win Saturday at Alabama. For Sloan, Florida's coach, this is a championship as sweet as his national title with North Carolina State in

"It's more gratifying," Sloan said.
"That team [at N.C. State] was expected to win. You couldn't have started out any worse than this team did. But they got the job done.

"I'm as happy as I can be for these kids. These are kids with a lot of heart. They went out and left it on the floor. There was no technique to it. They did

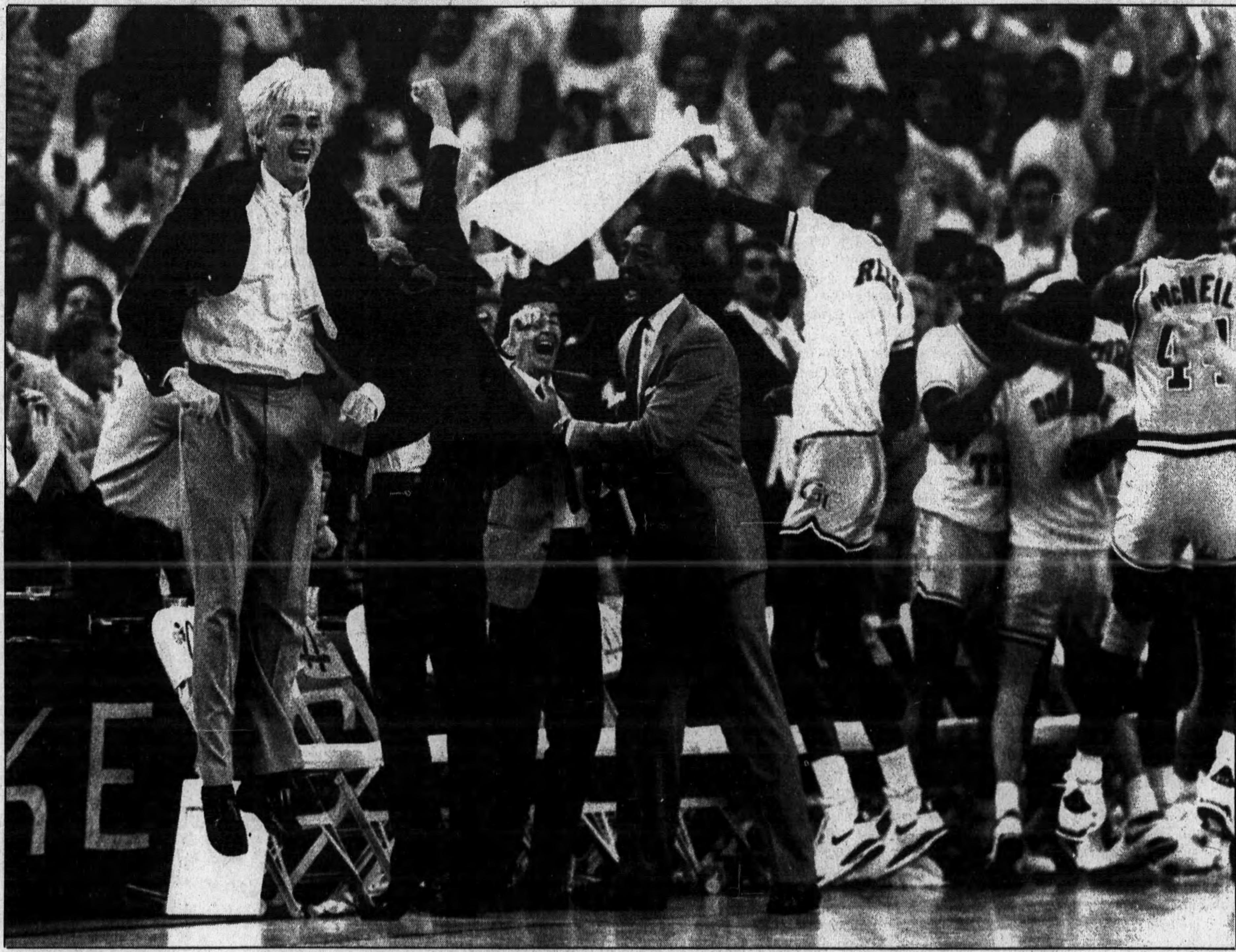
what had to be done."

With the game tied at 87 and two minutes remaining, guards Renaldo Garcia and Clifford Lett scored Florida's final 15 points. LSU freshman guard Chris Jackson had 48 points, but missed a frantic threepoint try that would have tied the score with 15 seconds remaining.

With one second remaining, technicals were called against LSU coach Dale Brown, who took the court to berate the officials, and against the crowd for throwing items on the court. Lett, already at the line, sealed the win by making five of six

FLORIDA Continued on 5E

Great Scott Shot Lifts Tech



Georgia Tech coach Bobby Cremins (far left) jumps for joy as the Jackets' bench celebrates Dennis Scott's game-winning shot.

FRANK NIEMEIR/Staff

Steal, Three-Pointer With Two Seconds Left Stun UNC 76-74

□ Clemson Upsets Duke, Page 4E
□ Scott's 'Biggest Shot', Page 5E

By I.J. Rosenberg
Staff Writer

It was to be a night to remember for Georgia Tech. The jersey of forward Tom Hammonds was retired. The Yellow Jackets were playing fifth-ranked North Carolina in Alexander Memorial Coliseum for first time since 1981. A record crowd of

9,323 was on hand.

But with five seconds remaining and the Tar Heels with the ball and the onepoint lead, the evening appeared it would end on a bitter note.

Then somewhat of a miracle took place.

Throwing the ball in under its basket, UNC's Scott Williams could not handle a Kevin Madden pass, which Tech's Dennis Scott grabbed, whirled and hit from 21

feet to lift the Jackets to a 76-74 victory

Wednesday night.

The win is Tech's 20th of the season and first in eight games over the Tar Heels. The win also keeps Carolina (24-6 overall, 9-4) from clinching a share of the

"It was absolutely, totally incredible," said Tech coach Bobby Cremins, whose

SCOTT Continued on 5E

ACC Race at a Glance Team Rec. Remaining games N. Carolina 9-4 Duke N.C. State 8-4 Maryland, at Wake

N.C. State 8-4 Maryland, at Wake
Duke 8-5 at N. Carolina
Ga. Tech 8-5 at Clemson
Virginia 8-5 Maryland

All-Star Witness List Disclosed For Agents' Trial

By Chris Mortensen Staff Writer

CHICAGO — NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle, former NCAA president Walter Byers, retired Notre Dame president Father Theodore Hesburgh, Gov. William Clements of Texas, the father of pop music superstar Michael Jackson and reputed New York organized crime figure Michael Franzese lead an all-star cast of prospective witnesses in the trial of former sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

"See, I told you this would be an interesting case," said a smiling U.S. District Court Judge George Marovich as jury selection got under way Wednesday.

In all, 130 prospective witnesses were named by both sides as Walters and

PROSECUTION Continued on 7E



Moses Malone moves in too late to stop a shot by Boston's Kevin McHale.

Hawks Stumble in the Garden And Lose to Celtics 104-90

By Jeffrey Denberg
Staff Writer

BOSTON — Dominique Wilkins was confused by his limited role in the Atlanta Hawks' 104-90 loss to the Boston Celtics on Wednesday night. Doc Rivers and his coach disagreed about the cause of the loss.

But Hawks coach Mike Fratello was adamant in his displeasure with performances that ended his team's four-game winning streak and brought an unpleasant reminder of other inadequate play this

Wilkins scored 23 points on 11-for-20 shooting, but played less than usual in the

second half, when he scored 17 points.

"I don't understand it; I don't understand it," he muttered several times afterward in the locker room. "I don't care what they say, they can't convince me I shouldn't have been in there."

Wilkins did not play from 4444 of the

third quarter to 9:22 of the fourth and from 6:13 to 2:19 of the final period. The Hawks went from 13 down to a deficit of five during Wilkins's first stretch on the bench, but from six to nine down during the second stretch.

"I preferred to stay with the group that cut the lead from 13 to two," Fratello said.

But Wilkins pointed out that his backto-back jumpers in the fourth quarter had reduced Boston's lead to four on the way to the two-point deficit at 80-78.

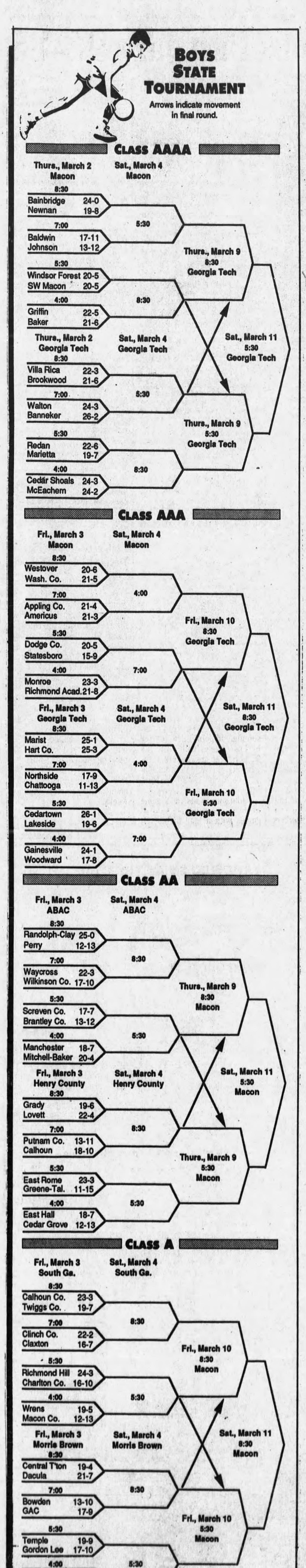
"I missed a jumper from the circle and he took me out, but, hey, I was hot. I was on fire." Wilkins said.

on fire," Wilkins said.

Later, the Hawks had a chance to reduce the Celtics' lead to one, but Jon Kon-

duce the Celtics' lead to one, but Jon Koncak failed twice at the line with 5:04 to play, and the Hawks quickly dropped out of contention to their 21st defeat of the season. They've won 35.

HAWKS Continued on 6E



Buford

21-4

Marist-Hart: Big AAA Game For Openers

By Steve Figueroa Staff Writer

The last time Marist and Hart County met in a basketball game, the boys' Class AAA state championship was on the line. Hart won the 1986 title 63-53.

The two powers meet again Friday night in the AAA state tournament at Georgia Tech. This time it's a first-round matchup, but the state championship may again be at stake.

Marist (25-1) was ranked No. 1 in the final regular-season poll, while Hart (25-3), which started the season No. 1, was ranked third.

"It's not fair to the other teams in the field to say this is the state championship game," said Marist coach Ron Bell. "But certainly the winner of the game will have a good chance to win it all. It's kind of a shame we have to play in the first round."

Neither coach is happy about the matchup, which came about when Hart was upset by Gainesville in the Region 8-AAA final.

"The loss to Gainesville really shook us up," admitted Hart coach Harry Marsh. "I hope we can bounce back for Marist. They look stronger to me than they were in

Marist, which has finished runner-up in the state tournament the last three years, is led by 6-foot-7 center Derek Waugh, who averages 20 points and 13 rebounds a game. But 6-7 forward Jeff Blount, point guard Blair Ford and guard Andrew Wellman also average in double figures.

Hart is led by 6-4 guard Donnie Clinkscales, a three-point shooter with a 24-point average.

Another attractive first-round



Ron Bell

AAA matchup at Tech Friday has second-ranked Cedartown (26-1) taking on ninth-ranked Lakeside (19-6).

Lakeside was rewarded for winning the regular-season championship in 6-AAA with a bye to the region finals. But that meant the Vikings went two weeks without a game and they were upset by Northside (17-9) in the championship game to set up Friday's draw.

First-round play in the AAAA boys bracket, which begins today at Macon and at Tech, also was affected by a couple of key upsets in last weekend's region finals.

In 2-AAAA, No. 1-ranked Southwest Macon (20-5) lost at Baldwin (17-11) and thus finds itself pitted against Windsor Forest (20-5) in Macon. The winner of that game gets the winner of the Griffin-Baker contest, likely to be defending state champion Griffin (22-5), in Saturday's second round.

The expected North bracket at Tech was dramatically changed by Villa Rica's upset of McEachern, which had won two previous meetings, in the 5-AAAA region final. Third-ranked McEachern (24-2) has to take on fourth-ranked Cedar Shoals (24-3) in today's opener.

Another battle of ranked teams takes place at Tech today, as No. 6 Banneker (26-2) plays No. 10 Walton

Etowah Girls Struggle To Defeat Druid Hills

> By Chuck Anschutz Staff Writer

The Etowah girls had reason to breathe a collective sigh of relief after Wednesday night's 65-61 win over Druid Hills in the first round of the Class AAAA girls state playoffs at the Cobb Civic Center.

"I knew the best team in that region [7-AAAA] had lost," said Etowah coach Scott Bursmith, referring to Druid Hills's loss to Redan in the region finals last week. " knew we'd have a tough first game.'

The once-beaten and top-rated Lady Eagles (27-1) survived eight lead changes before taking the advantage for good on Deborah Rusch's three-pointer early in the fourth quarter.

Tracy Baker, who ended with 16 points, finally put the game out of reach with a pair of free throws with 17 seconds left.

Karen White scored 18 points to lead Etowah. Rusch, Tina Gray and Carroll Baker each scored nine for Etowah, which had lost starting point guard Jama Herbert to a knee injury in the Region 6-AAAA tournament.

Rekelia Rozier led Druid Hills with 19 points and also pulled down 10 rebounds. Keisha Smith scored 12 and Avis White and 6-2 center Stephanie Christmas added 11 each.

"I knew they would be good, but I didn't think their guards would do so well breaking our press," said Bursmith.

In Wednesday's first game, Central Gwinnett (26-3) pulled away from a 32-32 halftime tie with Pebblebrook (18-7) to win 66-58. Walton defeated Redan 71-65 and South Cobb eliminated South Gwinnett 56-43 in the other two games.

In Friday's second round, South Cobb will play Etowah at 4 p.m. and

Walton will play Central Gwinn

Leigh Swanson, who had points and 12 rebounds for Centi Gwinnett, twice in the final quart denied Pebblebrook a chance take the lead. With Central Gw nett ahead 49-48, she sank a pair free throws with five minutes le and her three-point field goal ma it 54-50 with 3:35 remaining.

Pebblebrook, which made on two of 10 fourth-quarter free thro and only six of 18 for the game, ne er got closer.

Karen Nunn added 21 points f Central Gwinnett. Pebblebrook w led by Celeste Hoyt's 18 points.

Walton's Susan Fryer made for three-pointers and Michele Jacqu made three in the victory over R dan. After leading 34-32 at halftim Walton (19-9) widened the margin as much as 13 points in the thi quarter before Redan (20-8) stage a late flurry. Catha Cochran score 12 of her 16 points in the secon half for Walton.

Fryer finished with 21 poin and Jacques 15 points. Leza Cox le Redan with 15 points.

Renee' Patton scored 20 poin including 10 in the third quarter, lead South Cobb (25-2). South Gwi nett (16-11) was paced by Lore Crook, who scored 17.

South Cobb jumped to a 15 first-quarter lead and never traile South Cobb increased its advanta to 17 points, 48-31, early in the fourth quarter before coach Robb Stancil emptied her bench.

In the other half of the fire round AAAA bracket, which begin Friday at West Laurens High, Mo row plays Valdosta, Beach play Northeast Macon, Brunswick face Southwest Macon and Coffee take on Riverdale.

Prosecution, Defense Each List Total of 65 Potential Witnesses

From Page 1E

Bloom defend charges of racketeering, extortion, mail fraud and wire fraud stemming primarily from their dealings with college athletes.

Jury selection is expected to be completed by Friday morning. Marovich told three prosecutors and six defense lawyers to be prepared to make their opening statements next Monday.

Other prominent names on the witness list include Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler, current NCAA executive director Dick Schultz, NCAA director of enforcement David Berst, Big Ten Conference commissioner Wayne Duke, singer Peabo Bryson, Indianapolis Colts coach Ron Meyer (a former college coach and sports agent), sports agent and SMU booster Sherwood Blount and Congress of Racial Equality director Roy Innis.

Additionally, rival sports agent Kathy Clements, who was beaten in an unsolved crime two years ago, is listed by the government as a witness under the extortion counts.

Also, 43 of 57 former college athletes who had dealings with Walters and Bloom are expected to be called as witnesses, as well as presidents and athletic directors of seven universities.

Both sides listed 65 prospective witnesses. It was Bloom's defense team that named Rozelle, Clements, Byers and Schultz.

Joe Jackson, Michael's father, was named because of Walters connections with the music business. Franzese is a former business associate of Walters. A conspiracy element of the racketeering charge includes information that Walte and Franzese tried to force their

way into the Jackson reunion tour. Rozelle's dealings as a former general manager of the Los Angeles Rams with Heisman Trophy winner Billy Cannon in 1959 are expected to be re-examined by the defense.

According to court documents filed in 1960, Rozelle signed Cannon to a contract prior to the LSU star's final game in the Sugar Bowl against Mississippi.

Cannon played in the game, but later signed with the Houston Oilers. The Rams sued to enforce their contract, but the courts ruled in favor of Cannon and the Oilers. The NCAA never took action despite the revelations.

Clements, the Texas governor, already has admitted he sanctioned payments to SMU football players during the scandal that led to the SMU program receiving the twoyear NCAA "death penalty."

The defense considers such testimony relevant because prosecutors intend to show that Walters and Bloom defrauded universities by inducing athletes to falsely certify NCAA documents to receive

scholarship benefits. Marovich told an initial group of 60 potential jurors that defense attorneys estimate the trial will last

eight weeks, but he believed it would be no more than six weeks.

"Most trials are boring as hell, but this trial is not going to be boring at all," Marovich told the jurors. "Usually, cases are not supposed to be entertainment, but some cases are more interesting than others.

"If in your lifetime you all had to sit on a trial, I think this is one you would like to sit on."

Marovich also told jurors that he would limit the trial to four days a week, 6½ hours a day. Despite his pep talk, 19 jurors were dismissed when they convinced the judge that a lengthy trial would create a hardship on their lives.

A few prospective jurors could not sway the judge to dismiss them. One claimed he had promised to babysit his grandchildren for two

"Just think, you might have all kinds of terrific stories to tell them after you sit on this case," Marovich said to the man. "You might be a better babysitter after this."

One more juror was dismissed under questioning when he claimed he was prejudiced against amateur and professional athletics. The judge did not ask him why.

Based on questions submitted by prosecutors and defense counsel, the judge asked all prospective jurors about their feelings and knowledge of amateur and professional sports, as well as the NCAA.

Earlier Wednesday, U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas asked the court to delete the defense's question for jurors regarding amateur athletics.

"The court has already made it clear in earlier motions we are not going to have a trial on amateurism," said Valukas.

But Dan Webb, Bloom's attorney, made a convincing emotional plea to the judge that the Walterscase inevitably involves the role of the NCAA in amateur athletics.

"The entire foundation of this case will be based on testimony from prominent men and women who will talk about the preservation of amateur athletics," said Webb. "I intend to attack the hypocrisy of this holier-than-thou, sanctimonious position.

"The issue of amateurism is critical to this case. Eventually, this is going to be thrown right into the middle of the trial, I promise you."

Marovich agreed with Webb, but said he would be on guard throughout the trial to ensure it does "not turn into a circus."

"This is a sports case; to use a sports vernacular, I don't know until this ballgame gets started as to whether I'm going to call 'em fair or foul," the judge said. "And I don't know how to call it until somebody hits the ball. So let's wait and see

Webb added one-time controversial sports agent Mike Trope as an "expert consultant" and "expert witness." Marovich rejected Valukas's protests about Trope's presence at the defense table.





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