## Wilkins Unhappy Over Benching by Fratello for His Defense

Scoutings the Hornets, Page 8 By Jeffry Denberg Sent Writer
Coach Mike Fratello told Dominique Wilkins on Thursday that he twice pulled
the Atlanta Hawks forward from their game at Boston the previous night largely be. at Boston the previous night largely be
cause of weak defensive work. "I can always make the next shot," said Wilkins, who remained upset after his conversation with the coach at Logan Field in Boston before the team boarded its plane.
"In my heart, I know that. If Larry Bird were healthy, would he come out of a close game in the fourth quarter? No. Well, I
should be in there too. should be in there, too."
Both men were vague about their con-
versation Thursday "He gave me a reason,
Byrum Beats
Rain for 65,
Early Lead
CORAL SPRINGS, Fla. - Before a
mid-afternoon thunderstorm halted the mid-afternoon thunderstorm halted the
first round of the Honda Classic, Thursday was the kind of day the PGA Tour
better players hate: no big wind on better players hate: no big wind on
course that needs it to divide the medio cre from the mighty.
The Tournament Players Club at Eagle Trace is long - 7,037 yards - and
small lakes dot the terrain. But there are sma large trees and little rough. On Thurs day the wind that usually
course its bite was laying low.
Before the rain stopped play with half 46 of them, led by Tom Byrum with a 65 , had broken par of 72 .
The remainder will resume play early today before the second round can begin
and it's unlikely 36 holes will be comple ed until Saturday. It was the seventh time in nine tournaments this season that
round was not finished on the day it round was
began.
While that is an irritant, it is the pros pect of a no-wind week that was the topic
of conversation Thursday among some the game's leading players. Few of them "If it stays like this there will be or 15 guys 18 - to 20 -under and fighting it out on Sunday," said Fred Couples, who was tied at 66 with Fulton Allem and Ted Schulz. "When you have these kind of 66. I'd rather see the wind blow and the greens fast. That's what separates the av-

Wilkins said of his benching. I dont have to like it. I don't have to agree win it. But fense, Fratello said, "That would be an accurate statement.
Fratello believes Wilkins was guilty of loose defensive work against the Celticis'
Reggie Lewis, who scored Reggie Lewis, who scored 22 points in the
10490 decision. In the ing one timeout, Fratello lectured Wilkins about how to guard Lewis. Wilkins wound up playing only 13 of 24
minutes during the second half as he and minutes during the second half as he and his coach renewed a quiet battle of wills.
Fratello believes Wilkins's participation is vital to the team's success, but he insists the Hawks' leading scorer play to an overall


Early leader Tom Byrum follows the flight of his tee shot at No. ${ }^{1 \%}$ Thursday.

erage from the very
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { e from the very good and the very } & \begin{array}{l}\text { had the excuse of playing with a tempera- } \\ \text { ture of }\end{array} \\ \text { from the best." "He shouldn't have been out }\end{array}$ on the abbreviated leaderboard Therery Masters champion Sandy Lyle at 67 with Ed Fiori and Jim Carter. Curtis Strange, Calvin Peete and Gene Sauers join Ronnie Black, Mike Sullivan, John Inman,
Lance Ten Broeck, Mike Miles and John Huston at 68 .

NOTES: Seve Ballesteros shot 77, but
ure of " 103 . "He shouldn't have been out
here," said Couples, his playing partner. Bob Murphy played his first nine like © Bob Murphy played his first nine like turned around with a 31, birdieing five straight holes at one point. The tournament record is six straight by Couples in 1985. ... Ballesteros, Rocco Medlate and
Allem had the day's only eagles. Allem had the day's
$\square$ Scores, Page 10 F
need to underscore that
the four-time All-Star.
need to underscore that point by removing $\begin{gathered}\text { six and iced the game with a } 7-0 \text { run. } \\ \text { Fratello said he would have liked to }\end{gathered}$
he four-time All-Star.
Nevertheless, Wilkins voiced his anger
have had the opportunity to explain Wilatter the defeat, saying, "I don't care what not say, they can't convince me I should not have been on the floor" during a key "I couldn't figure the fourth quarter. he game and nobody would tell me I asked Joe ( 0 'Toole, the trainer); I asked Brian (Hill, the first assistant coach). I asked my teammates, 'Why aren't I in the game? Shouldn't I be in the game?'
Actually, Wilkins was on the Hawks cut the Celtics' lead to $80-78$ the Hawks cut the Celtics' lead to 80-78,
sinking two key shots, but he also threw up an airball from the foul circle and launched an ill-advised running hook while off bal-
ance. The Celtics increased their
ins's benching to him during the game "The trouble is, you're still trying to win the game and the ball's going up and down the court," he said.
Several times previously over the years,
Fratello has sat down Wilkins for lapses in play. The last incident occurred Nov. 23 in play. Tne last incident occurred Nov. 23 in
San Antonio, and Wilkins expressed his displeasure ofter that game.
Wilkins's
Wilkins's teammate, Doc Rivers, came
"You're human and I think that's im portant to remember," he said Thursday. "You can't play the same way every night. Your body doesn't react the same. That'
55) games. I think it's great when a team
can be that good every night. I wish we an be that good every
were. I hope we can be." And while Wednesday's disagreement is creen, it emphasizes the season's radar as in playing consistently oyer aty Atlanta chedule. Charlotte's appearance tonight at 740 in The Omni only serves to underscore eat the Hawtster all, the expansion team beat he Hawks last month after losing to ason 21 and 24 points earlier in the Wilkins, meanwhile, promises to make mends when the Hornets visit. "We owe them a beating," he said. "I ter. I've got some scores to settle.

## Wallace Gets Pole, Record In Goodwrench Qualifying


#### Abstract

By Ed Hinton Stuff Writer ROCKINGHAM, N.C. - Just as he'd predicted, Rusty Wallace - stormed back to the forefront of stock car racing Thursday, winning the pole for Sunday's Goodwrench winning the pole for Sunday's G00 500 at a track record 148.793 mph . Wallace, who won four of the last five races in 1988, had a miserable time at this year's season-opener, the Feb. 19 Daytona 500 . He never got his Pontiac working satis500. He never got his Pontiac working satis- factorily and finished 18th. But even then, factorily and finished ioth. But even the he was warning that once he left the 2.5 he was warning that once her mile Daytona International Speedway and hit hit the smaller tracks, such as the 1.017- mile North Carolina Motor Speedway mile North Carolina Motor Speedway (NCMS) here, "It's going to be a different (NCMS) here, "It's going to be a different story." around on a qualifying lap that was "comfortable, but a little hung-out - there was a little reckless abandon there." "We've got the restrictor plates off the cars," Wallace said of the carburetor restrictors that are required only at Daytona and the 2.66 -mile track at Talladega, Ala. "The restrictor plates have always seemed to hurt the Pontiac more than anything." to hurt the Pontiac more than anything." Daytona 500 winner Darrell Waltrip qualified second Thursday in a Chevrolet at 148.353, followed by Ken Schrader in another Chevi at 148.1 Ford at 148.125. Wallace's lap broke the NCMS record of 148.359 set by Bill Elliott in a Ford here last October. Elliott, still hampered by the broken left wrist he suffered in a crash during practice for the Daytona 500 , qualified his practice for the Daytona 500 , qualified his Thunderbird seventh at 147.113 , driving


ne-handed. Sunday, as he did in the Dayona 500 , Elliott plans to drive until the to relief driver Jody Ridley.
"The problem," Elliott said Thursday, is that I just can't do everything I need to
do. If I get the least bit out of (control) do. If's get the least bit out of (control),
there's a chance that I can't get it back, and just can't afford to let that happen. I'm a little hesitant. I drove with one hand. have to play it a little conservative."
But Wallace, who almost overtook Elliott for the Winston Cup season points championship at the end of last year, said, We're back on track. At Daytona, , thas hard to keep smiling. It just didn't seem go back to the hotel tonight and say, 'Yep we've picked up right where we left off at he end of last year.'
Waltrip, who'll be starting on the outside front row for the second straight race, ing lap as Ive ever run at this track. Rusty got around a tick better than I did, but we're in good shape."
Schrader, who started on the pole in he Daytona 500 , conceded he hadn't felt as "That was the best lap we'd had," said Schrader, "except for one (in practice) ear lier this morning."

Dale Earnhardt, the three-time NASalifying - who has had terrible luck in quairying - he didn't win a pole all last
season - barely made the field in Thursay's first round, which determined the top D. Earnhardt qualified 19th at 145.257 mph.

## Jury Selection Snag

Delays Walters-Bloom
Jurors List Dwindles; Trial Can’t Start Till Monday

| By Chris Mortensen Staf Writer |  |
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| ICAGO - What had bee |  |
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| Do you still see him on |  |
| basis?" Marovich asked. |  |
| "No, he's dead now," | a jury on Monday afternoon. |


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## What has 6 heads, jumps high, and plays in the streets of Buckhead? 3noin-3



