

Dave Kindred

Anybody Can Hit . . . Well, Almost Anybody

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — In his Braves uniform number 74, the singular Luke Appling sat on a ball bat propped up on its fat end, no easy trick unless you have done it for most of a century as Mr. Appling has. The Hall of Fame shortstop, a part-time Braves coach, is 81 and creaky in the joints. On shimmery, sundancing baseball mornings, he is a kid dreaming.

"The modern ballplayer has better equipment than we had," Mr. Appling said from his Louisville Slugger perch. "He's got bats, he's got balls. People give him gloves. I had to buy my own. They aren't as hardnosed as we were. They live too soft a life. They ride in cars."

He talked hitting. "Anybody can hit, anybody's that not crippled. Just lay the bat on it. Everybody wants to hit home runs now. They don't want no line drives, even those small guys."

Jane Leavy of the Washington Post wore sunglasses with burgundy frames. Modern times have delivered ballplayers into cars and have brought women in burgundy sunglasses to ask Mr. Appling

about hitting. "If anybody can hit," said Ms. Leavy, who confessed that she once wanted to be the next Mickey Mantle, "then why is hitting so

hard?" Mr. Appling's chinless mug became delightfully elfin. "It's not," he said. "Anybody can hit."

A Morning Sprinkled With Trade Talk

The Braves couldn't hit Wednesday. They had three hits and lost to the Phillies, 6-5. The Braves scored four runs without a hit when the Phillies' pitcher, Bruce Ruffin, walked four men and threw four wild pitches, during which suffering a Phillies fan demonstrated mid-season compassion by shouting, "Get the bum to a hospital!"

Spring training's charm is built on such shared intimacies. The globular Willie Stargell, a coach again, walked to the Braves' dugout with a bat stuck in his back pocket. One fan said, "Willie, whatcha got there? A toothpick?" Another sized up the Stargell waistband: "Willie, looks like you lost a couple."

Trade talk. Atlanta manager Russ Nixon stood in the shimmery morning sun and said both Dale Murphy and Jeff Blauser are handling the uncertainty well.

"Blauser's having a helluva spring," Nixon said of the young infielder hitting .379 in nine games. "He's going to be on this club" — unless general manager Bobby Cox trades him, perhaps to the Yankees. Because the Yankees played the Braves the other day, maybe 20 New York reporters cornered Blauser.

"I tried not to say anything," said Blauser, who admits that the trade talk confuses him. "If I had my druthers, I'd rather stay with the Braves. We're going the right direction. If we keep playing during the season the way we are now, we'll surprise people. New York? I don't know. If you're going good, it could be the best place to be. But if you're going bad, it's the worst."

Two Russ Nixons For the Price of One

I walked away from Russ Nixon for five minutes. Then I saw the skipper in blue jeans, not his Braves' uniform. Why, I wondered, was he out of uniform? Then I noticed a more curious thing. There are two Russ Nixons. They walked past me together.

"Russ is my older brother, by five minutes," said Roy Nixon, the skipper's twin, 53, the same gray hair, the same white farmer's brow which comes with work done under a ballcap. The brothers milked 25 cows a day on their family's farm, up at 4 a.m. for two hours' tugging. They planted corn and beans. They still curse the day their dad put in tobacco, an ornery crop. They learned baseball together, country kids who didn't see a real diamond until they were

"I would pitch, with Russ catching, and we set up between the clothesline poles," said Roy Nixon, touching the Braves cap given to him by his brother, the skipper. "Our backstop was the smokehouse."

The Nixons signed with the Indians and played two minor-league seasons together. Roy Nixon: "We got \$175 a month to start. The most I ever made was \$400. I played six years, as high as Triple-A." Russ Nixon played 11 big-league seasons before becoming a manager.

A shimmery, sundancing baseball morning. Luke Appling laughing with a woman in burgundy shades. Twin brothers still together. The kid Jeff Blauser, born in 1965, 15 years after Mr. Appling's retirement, saying, "I think of myself as an old-time ballplayer. I play hard. I get dirty.

A throwback, maybe." Someone suggested, "Maybe you were Luke Appling in an earlier life." The kid loved it. "You know what?"

Blauser said. "I wear Luke's old number, 4."

Sons of Dye, Durham Work as Sports Agents



David Durham

Some Competitors Cite Conflict of Interest

By David Davidson College Editor

The sons of coaches Pat Dye and Hugh Durham have entered the sports agent business, prompting criticism from other agents and charges of possible conflicts of

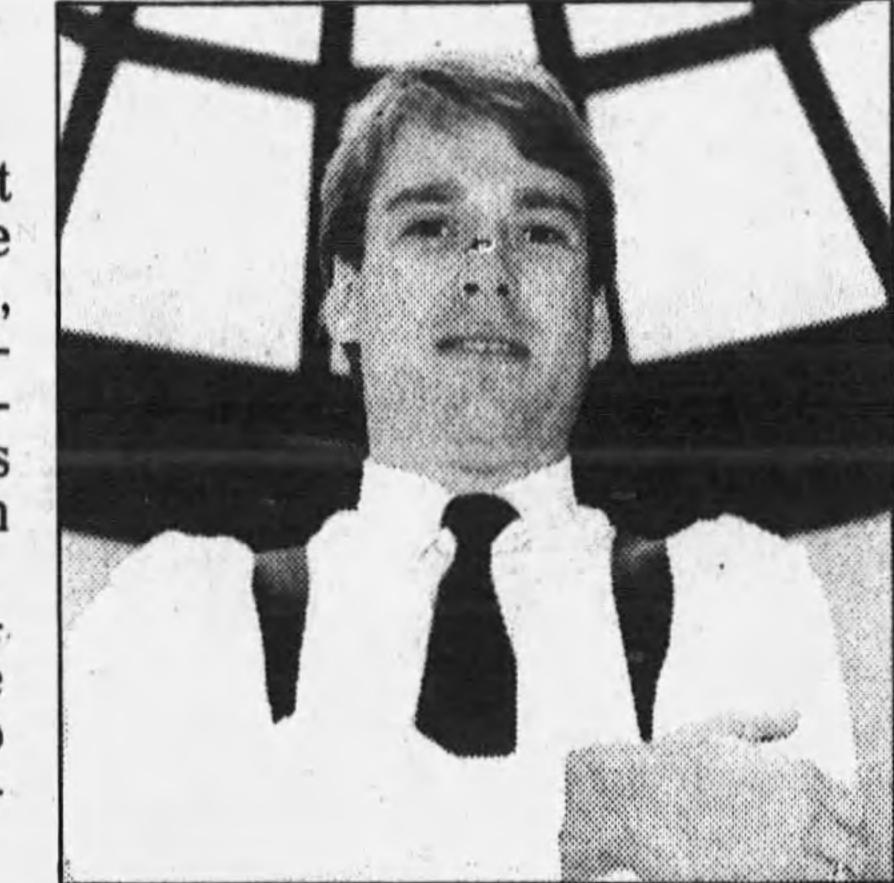
Pat Dye Jr. has signed 11 Auburn football players off his father's team since entering the profession last year, while David Durham, whose father Hugh is coach of the Georgia basketball team, became an agent last month and has not signed a

"Pat Jr. may well be the finest individ-

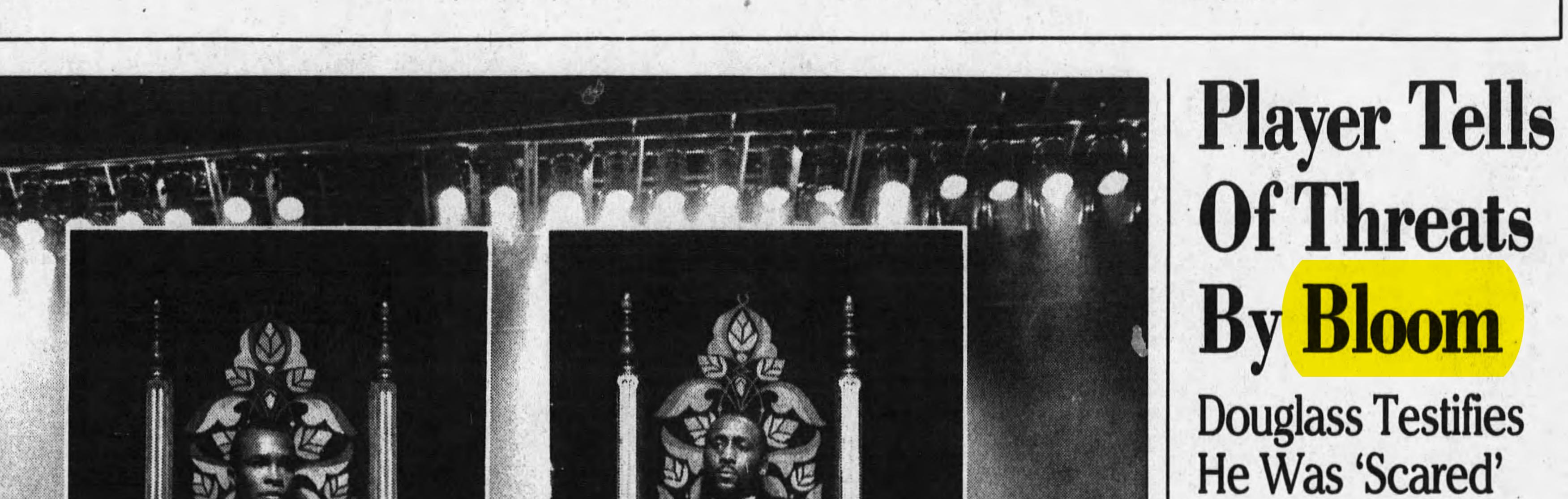
ual and agent and attorney in the land, but without question it is a clear and absolute conflict of interest," said Ralph Cindrich, president of football operations for International Management Group, which represents Herschel Walker, among others. "It's not right. That hits a nerve center with

Dye Jr. and David Durham, both attorneys, admit their family connections give them an advantage, but neither the two agents nor their fathers say they are uncomfortable with the situation.

SONS Continued on 10E



Pat Dye Jr.



By Chris Mortensen Staff Writer CHICAGO — Chicago Bears defen-

sive back Maurice Douglass testified here Wednesday before a federal jury that sports agent Lloyd Bloom threatened to have "somebody break my legs" when the player backed out of a representation contract in 1986.

"He [Bloom] told me if I didn't return the [borrowed] money, he'd have somebody rough me up and that I might not make it to the [NFL] draft," Douglass testified. "He said he may have somebody break my legs."

Douglass, a former University of Kentucky player, testified against Bloom and associate Norby Walters, who are standing trial on charges of racketeering, mail fraud, wire fraud and extortion. He said he repaid approximately \$9,000 to Walters and Bloom in two installments.

Imprisoned mobster Michael Frantestified Tuesday that Walters and Bloom had his permission to use his reputation in organized crime to "settle disputes" with sports clients.

Douglass made no mention of any organized crime figure.

"I was at my mother's house in Cincinnati when he [Bloom] called ... three times," Douglass testified. "I figured I could handle my own if he came after me, but because they had so many clients and a lot of money ... I was really, really scared. I didn't have a

gun to protect myself. "I told my mom that if anything should happen to me, notify the police that it was Lloyd Bloom who threatened me."

Douglass said Bloom's threats came after he sent word that he did not want to honor a representation contract he had signed.

"After he threatened me, I decided that if I had to go through this, I would stay with Lloyd Bloom and Norby Walters," Douglass testified. "But then I decided that if they want to threaten me like that, I'm not going to have them handle my money."

After Douglass told an eight-woman, four-man jury of Bloom's threat, former Michigan defensive back Garland Rivers testified that Bloom once threatened to expose Rivers's dealings with the agents to Michigan coach Bo Schembechler and the NCAA.

Bloom did not follow through on the alleged threat, but Rivers testified that Schembechler later stripped him

AGENTS Continued on 10E



W.A. BRIDGES JR./Staff

Sugar Ray Leonard (left inset) and Thomas Hearns preside over the flashy promotion Wednesday at the Fox Theatre for their fight on June 12, which included a performance by the Harrison & Company dancers in camouflage combat fatigues.

IT'S SHOWTIME!

Mere Hype Is Not Enough As Arum Uses War Films, **Explosions and Gladiators** To Pump Leonard-Hearns II

> By Bud Shaw Staff Writer

Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns emerged from smoke bombs and sat on velvet thrones. They flanked Julius Caesar and his date, the lovely Cleopatra, who earlier held a microphone while Caesar told

prosper and buy closed-circuit fight tickets. Caesar and Cleo were at the Fox Theatre Wednesday because Leonard and Hearns will fight June 12 in Caesars Palace. Get it? The smoke bombs were there because the theme of Leonard-Hearns II is "The War" and the promotional minds behind the Leonard-Hearns tour figured mortar shells and shrapnel might be taking things too far.

Leonard and Hearns were there. ... Wait, why were Leonard and Hearns

Why were two fighters who didn't need such fluff when they threw punches eight the noble people of Atlanta to live long, years ago now touring with a dance troupe

in camouflage outfits, a video of WWI war planes, western bar room brawls and Indian war dances? Do they really need such musical introductions as "Bad to the Bone" and "We Are The Champions" played at a decibel level that had workers in in a nearby building practicing earthquake alert

Don't all boxing press conferences have models in Roman togas handing out postcards advertising an adult entertainment

Maybe this was theater. Surely this was overkill. Without a doubt, this was why

OVERBLOWN Continued on 10E

Yankees Discuss Blauser in 5-Man Deal meeting in Dallas and was not available □ Union Rep Visits Braves, Page 7E Kelly, 24, would become the Braves' □ The Exhibition Report, Page 10E for comment. starting center fielder, allowing Dale Mur-By Joe Strauss phy to return to right field. Santana, 30, Staff Writer was a starter last season for the Yankees WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The At-



Jeff Blauser leads the Braves in six offensive categories this spring, including batting average.

lanta Braves and New York Yankees are discussing a five-player trade that would send infielder Jeff Blauser and either outfielder Dion James or Terry Blocker to the New York Yankees in return for center fielder Roberto Kelly and shortstops Rafael Santana and Randy Velarde.

The deal, which centers on Blauser and Kelly, could be completed by Saturday, according to sources close to the nego-

but would join Paul Runge as the Braves' reserve infielders. Velarde, 26, has only 23

major-league at-bats.

Cox said Wednesday no deal is imminent. Quinn was at a league scheduling

"I like Jeff Blauser an awful lot," said

Cox, repeating his most-used line of the spring. "It's going to take something to get him from us.'

Cox met Wednesday morning with his coaching staff to receive their input. Third-The teams have agreed that any deal base coach Roy Majtyka became familiar would definitely include Blauser and Kel- with Kelly, who played at Columbus in the ly. Braves general manager Bobby Cox Class AAA International League, two years plans to further discuss the other players ago while managing at Richmond. His rewith Yankees general manager Bob Quinn placement, Jim Beauchamp, observed Kelly last season.

BRAVES Continued on 10E

□ The Golf Report, Page 9E By Tom McCollister Staff Writer

PONTE VEDRA, Fla. — It's taken seven years worth of modifications and cosmetic surgeries, but the Tournament Players Club course finally has passed inspection by those who will take it on this week in the Players Championship.

Once described by Tom Weiskopf as similar to playing the video game Donkey Kong, the course now has fewer sharp edges. Its once hump-backed putting surfaces now collect shots rather than repel them, and gone is the deep grass along the banks and collars of the greens.

"After four or five major facelifts, the course is done," said defending champion Mark McCumber, a resident of Ponte Vedra.

"The rough edges have been softened. They've taken out all the bad spots. The course is in the best shape I've ever seen it. I think the guys are going to enjoy playing

The biggest change this year is that the five-inch high Bahai grass around the greens has been replaced by closely cropped Bermuda. Balls that once stopped in the tall stuff now bounce and roll away. The putting surfaces also are smoother, more consistent and faster.

"We wanted to put chipping and pitching back into the game here," said PGA commissioner Deane Beman. "Before, there was no option if a ball landed in the Bahai. The player opened up the face of his sand wedge and plopped it onto the green. Now, he has a decision to make.

TPC at a Glance

What: The Players Championship. When: Today through Sunday. ■ Where: Tournament Players Club, Ponte

Vedra, Fla. ■ Purse: \$1,350,000, winner gets

\$235,400. champion: ■ Defending McCumber.

"We are where we want to be with the course. We have tried for a long time to get there. Scoring will be more difficult, but anywhere from 8 to 13 under [par] should win. If you can't shoot that, then scoring conditions are too severe."

McCumber's 15-under stands as the

tournament record since the event moved from across the street at Sawgrass in 1982. The worst winning score was the 5-under by Hal Sutton in 1983.

"It's still a little funky because there are a lot of deep pothole bunkers out there," said Curtis Strange, one of the favorites. "But it's definitely better than it was. Good shots now are rewarded. In the early days here, you couldn't look away from any shot even if you thought it was good. Good shots weren't always rewarded."

Even with the changes, however, The Players Club course favors no one particular game. Long hitters such as McCumber and Sandy Lyle have won. So have the average swingers like Sutton and John Mahaffey, and the not-so-long Calvin Peete.

"Picking a winner is like throwing darts

in the dark," McCumber said. "Just look at the range of winners this year. You can count on the guys who've played well thus far to play well again."

In that group are leading money winner Mark Calcavecchia, Steve Jones, Bill Glasson, Tom Kite, Paul Azinger, Strange and Fred Couples. And because the greens will be faster, putting master Ben Crenshaw joins the list of favorites.

"The winner is going to be the guy who gets on his game early, feels comfortable playing the course, gets the speed of the greens and makes the important putts," Mahaffey said. "This is a difficult golf course to play if you're just a little bit off."

But not nearly as difficult as in previous years. The grind is gone.

Sons of Dye, Durham Work As Agents

From Page 1E

"His competitors may think it's a conflict of interest, but I don't, not if he's the best guy to represent the players," said Pat Dye Sr., who is Auburn's athletics director as well as head football coach.

Dye Jr., 26, an attorney with a Birmingham law firm, began representing players last year by signing Auburn offensive lineman Stacy Searels, linebacker Kurt Crain and quarterback Jeff Burger. From this year's Auburn roster, Dye Jr. has signed eight players — wide receivers Lawyer Tillman and Freddy Weygand, tight end Walter Reeves, defensive lineman Benji Roland, offensive linemen Jim Thompson and Rodney Garner, fullback Vincent Harris and punter Brian Shulman.

In little more than a year, Dye Jr. has displaced veterans George Kickliter of Au- five years and been fair to him, it would be burn and Richard Woods of Mobile, Ala., as an advantage for Pat Jr. just on family relathe dominant agent among Tigers football tionship," he added.

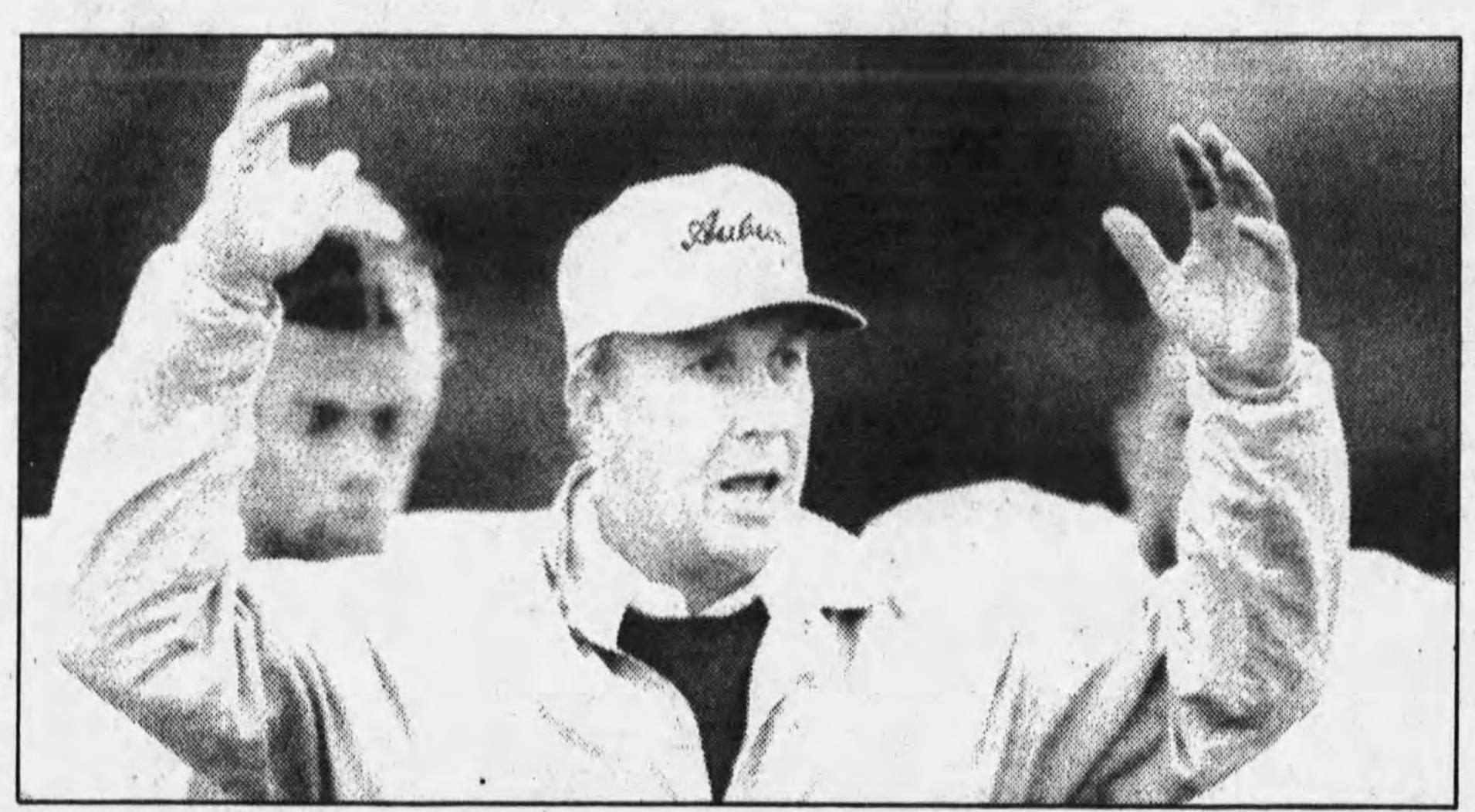
players. the NFL from the players association and determine how much your client is worth. You just have to set a figure, stick to your guns and try to be creative with incentives, make the best of what you can under the circumstances."

Other agents, however, view the fathercoach/son-agent combination as a conflict of

"I represent players at the University of Pittsburgh, but if my brother were president at Pitt, I'd have a real problem representing players from that school," said Cindrich, who lives in Pittsburgh. "It's an unfair advantage. It gives the appearance of impropriety. You can't tell me that even in a program operating in utmost integrity that a player doesn't feel a compulsion or is somewhat coerced to go with the coach's

Said Atlanta agent David Ware, "It's a disadvantage if you're not in good with the coach, and being the coach's son is the best recommendation you can have. He might have access to players earlier than the rest of us. I don't have a problem if the players think he'll do a good job, but if they're picking him because he's the coach's son, that's something else."

Said Cindrich: "In my mind, the end result of this kind of situation is the good and ethical agents realize there is no way they can legitimately compete, so they either



Pat Dye Sr. responds to conflict-of-interest charges: 'I don't tell them [his players] anything. The only thing I care about is that whoever represents them be fair and honest. . . . If anybody thinks I tell these kids where to go or who to sign with, they're crazy.'

break the rules or walk away. When I heard Stacy Searels was talking to Pat Jr., I said, "That's it," and I bowed out."

Dye Sr. acknowledged that the family connection might give his son an unfiar advantage.

"But if I've been coaching a kid four or

Said Dye Jr.: "If I weren't Pat Dye Jr., "It doesn't take a dang Philadelphia hell no, I wouldn't even get my foot in the lawyer to do this job," said Dye Jr. "You door. Would the Kennedy sons be where can get contract figures on every player in they are in politics if it hadn't been for their father?

> "[But] the kids this year wouldn't have signed with me if last year's group weren't satisfied with my work. My father is not funneling me players. It's all above board."

> David Durham said he and his father never talked specifically about possible conflicts of interest in their conversations leading to the younger Durham's decision to become an agent, "but it was in the forefront of our minds."

> "I guess somebody could make the case that if the relationship is abused it could create a conflict," said David Durham, 28, who works with veteran Atlanta agent Richard Howell at Robinson-Humphrey Co. "Otherwise, I don't see anything illegal or improper about me working at Robinson-Humphrey and the fact my father is a coach with many friends in the athletic department at Georgia.

> "From both party's perspective [agent's and player's], I think it would be an advantage. But I would hope they [Georgia athletes] would feel comfortable with what kind of person I am, regardless of my father. Hopefully the people at Georgia will feel comfortable with me and help get my foot in the door, regardless of my father."

> Added Hugh Durham, "I think coaches are interested in their players getting fair representation. I'm sure Pat has total confidence in his son. I have total confidence in

"I'm sure other agents are grousing," coach Durham said, "but they'll use every advantage they can use, too."

Grant Teaff, head football coach at Baylor and chairman of the American Football Coaches Association ethics committee, called the coach-agent relationship between the Dyes "simply coincidence."

"As an ethical question, it goes back to free enterprise," Teaff said. "As long as Pat Jr. stays within the rules, I don't see any

At Auburn, three agents were invited to make presentations to seniors earlier this year — Woods, Kickliter and Dye Jr.

Atlanta Falcons outside linebacker Aundray Bruce and Philadelphia Eagles center Ben Tambarello — both ex-Auburn players formerly represented by Woods have switched to Dye Jr.

Said Dye Sr., "If players being represented aren't satisfied, that's their agents' problem.

"I don't tell them anything. The only thing I care about is that whoever represents them be fair and honest. But as far as who they sign with, that's their business. If anybody thinks I tell these kids where to go or who to sign with, they're crazy."

Asked if he would recommend his son to a player, Hugh Durham said, "I'd probably do like I've always done — recommend three or four and let them make their decision. What takes place when coaches get involved is other representatives use it against them. They'll say the reason the coach is recommending a particular guy is because he [the coach] is getting something out of it. I just point out strong points."

But Kickliter said he was "somewhat irritated by this whole scenario. It's more than an irritation. I'm disappointed in the results of my recruiting of players at Auburn this year. It absolutely has cut into my

Overblown Promotional Tour Hypes Leonard-Hearns Fight

From Page 1E

Shakespeare warned us to beware the Ides of March.

In Boston Tuesday, Leonard and Hearns wore three-cornered hats and mingled with a town crier and a fife-and-drum corps. In Dallas, tanks were the motif. Houston? An old-fashioned Texas shootout. Washington? A retired Marine Corps officer and state senators from Nevada.

Why? Because Leonard and Hearns, already guaranteed \$13 and \$11 million, respectively, for the fight, will get a chunk of the pay-per-view audience promoter Bob Arum wants to attract with his promotional entertainment spectacular. Arum believes Leonard and Hearns could split between \$35 and \$40 million, and therein lies the answer. Wouldn't you wear a three-cornered hat, even a dunce cap, for a healthy cut of \$40 million?

"I don't need this kind of promo," Hearns said. "It's something the promoter wanted. He is welcome to spend his money any way he wants to."

"I was a little taken aback at first when heard we'd be promoting the fight this way," said Leonard. "I mean, Thomas Hearns is a personality. I felt like it's a natural fight that doesn't need promotion. But to reach the pay-per-view audience, we have to do this. I see it as fun and games. like the explosions, the camouflage dancers, the theatrics. It breaks the monotony of press conference tours where you answer the same question over and over."

The promo tour that made its seventh stop Wednesday consisted of, in order: 1) a video of Hearns-Leonard I, a September 1981 fight that Leonard won on a TKO in 14 rounds; 2) explosions; 3) the Harrison and Co. camouflage dancers, who cartwheeled from imaginary bunkers, with two of them emerging in blue boxing gloves; 4) Caesars Palace gladiators introducing Caesar and Cleo; 5) a war video; 6) more explosions; 7) finally, Leonard and Hearns appearing from the smoke to answer questions from the public first and then the media.

Some of the show was lost on the 250 or so people who came to the Fox Wednesday. There was some heckling from the audience even though admission was free and the show open to the public. For instance, when two of Caesars' gladiators walked on stage looking very serious, a man yelled, "Yo, Ulysses."

"The idea," said Arum, "was for a major promotion that could take us into a new limension. Not necessarily to attract the boxing fan to this event. That's gonna happen. We wanted to bring the message of this event to the general public. A number of years ago, we'd never have tried this. The general public was not going to closedcircuit theaters.

"Now we have pay-per-view. It's in 12 million homes. That's totally different than closed-circuit. It's one thing to get the elegant lady from Dubuque to go to the inner city for closed circuit. It's another to get her interested enough to agree with her husband to watch the fight pay-per-view in her living room."

Arum believes Leonard-Hearns II can gross \$80 million. He says \$10 million is budgeted for promoting the fight, most of which will come from sponsorship money. Arum said Anheuser-Busch has committed \$5 million in advertising to promote the fight and that Ashton-Tate, a California software company, has committed \$2

If Leonard-Hearns is such a wondrous matchup, why are sponsors and promo tours necessary?

"Look, no fight sells itself," said Arum. "We're not dealing with finite numbers but infinite numbers. If we had only a live gate to sell, true, we wouldn't need this. But we have a whole vast audience to attract."

Arum said the New York stop on the 13city promo tour cost \$35,000 to produce. He said Atlanta was "not that expensive." Miami is next on the tour, followed by Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago, Pittsburgh and

As overblown as the promotional tour is, you could make a case that Hearns-Leonard II needs it. In one corner is Leonard, who turns 33 in May and has retired almost as often as he's fought since 1982. Retirements: three. Fights: four. Hearns, 30, was knocked out by Iran Barkley and needed 12 rounds to rid himself of James Kinchen in his last two fights. Hearns called the Barkley KO "an act of God." Sports bookmakers saw it as reason to install Leonard as a 4-to-1 favorite over Hearns when The War was declared.

Near the end of Wednesday's show, Emanuel Steward, Hearns's trainer, said the fight was not only a natural but a global happening.

"No other event on this planet will be as important as this fight on the night of June 12," Steward said.

With that, Leonard and Hearns walked slowly toward each other, stopped in front of Caesar and Cleopatra and bumped chests. The crowd cheered. The two boxers touched noses, glaring some more, all without cracking even the hint of a smile.

Braves, Yankees Talk 5-Man Deal

From Page 1E

Braves manager Russ Nixon reiterated that he would like to keep Blauser, who leads the club in six offensive categories this spring, including slugging percentage and batting average.

The need for immediate offensive help combined with Blauser's spectacular spring caused Cox to demand a player capable of joining a major-league lineup. The Yankees entered spring training with Kelly scheduled as their starting center fielder.

Blauser impressed Yankees manager Dallas Green and Quinn during last Saturday's exhibition game between the two clubs. After committing a pair of second-inning errors, Blauser rebounded with three hits and a sparkling double play.

Quinn is eager to improve the Yankees' shortstop situation. Santana committed 22 errors last year, third most in the American League to Milwaukee's Dale Sveum (27) and Seattle's Rey Quinones (23). Santana has been plagued by persistent shoulder pain.

Kelly hit .333 last year in 120 at-bats at Columbus. In 38 games with New York, he averaged .247. Overall, he struck out 44 times in 197 at-bats. The year before in Columbus, Kelly hit .278 with 13 home runs, 62 RBI and 51 stolen bases.

Santana and Velarde played exclusively at shortstop last year and offer less versatility than Blauser, who can play shortstop and second. Santana is a lifetime .246 hitter who drove in 38 runs in 480 at-bats in 1988. Velarde has hit .319 and .270 at AAA the last two seasons after being acquired from the Chicago White Sox in January 1987. □ Braves Notebook, Page 2E

THE EXHIBITION REPORT

Phillies 6, Braves 5 Philadelphia rallied for three runs with none

out in the ninth inning to give Atlanta its fourth loss in five games. The Braves, who led 5-0 after five innings, wasted a lead for the third game in four days. Philadelphia scored all its ninth-inning runs on four hits against relief pitcher Joe Boever. Boever entered the game with three saves and was unscored upon in 5% innings. A double by Von Hayes scored Chris James to draw Philadelphia within one before pinch-hitter Ron Jones singled home Rick Parker and Hayes with the game-winning runs. Atlanta scored its runs with only one hit and without an RBI. Four runs came in a bizarre fourth inning in which Phillies starter Bruce Ruffin walked the bases loaded before wild pitching four runs

The Promising

Braves starter Tommy Greene pitched four innings of one-hit ball, walking none and striking out two. Though not enough to return him to contention for the fifth starter's role, the appearance did justify the belief that he is capable of competing in the major

The Unpromising

This was the Braves' worst game of the Hayes. Sacrifices: Lake. Sacrifice files: Samuel. spring in many ways. Facing a hapless Phillies club, Atlanta set up its closers, but they collapsed. Paul Assenmacher gave up an unearned run stemming from third baseman Darrell Evans's error. Boever allowed four consecutive hits before getting an out in the ninth. This was the first time manager Russ Nixon had used his bullpen in a realistic situation, and it failed him. Dale Murphy struck out twice in four at-bats.

Up Next

The Braves host the Los Angeles Dodgers today at 1:05 p.m. Zane Smith, unscored

upon in nine innings, will make his fourth start for the Braves followed by Derek Lilliquist and Bruce Sutter. Bill Brennan will start for the Dodgers. The Braves enjoy their only off day of the spring Friday.

-Joe Strauss

PHILA					ATLANTA					
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Dernier cf	5	1	2	0	LSmith If	3	2	1	0	
Ford If	2	0	1	0	Blauser 2b	3	1	0	0	
Samuel cf	2	0	0	1	Perry 1b	3	1	0	0	
Herr 2b	3	0	1	0	Murphy cf	4	0	0	0	
Barrett 2b	1	0	0	0	JDavis c	3	0	0	0	
Schmdt 3b	3	0	1	0	Mizerock c	1	0	0	0	
Bullock If	0	0	0	0	Gant 3b	3	0	1	0	
Thon ph	1	0	0	0	Lemke 2b	1	0	0	0	
Bedrosin p	0	0	0	0	Thomas ss	3	0	1	0	
CJames rf	4	1	2	0	Asnmchr p	0	0	0	0	
Jordan 1b	4	0	1	1	Boever p	0	0	0	0	
Parker ss	0	1	0	0	Justice ph	1	0	0	0	
Nieto c	2	0	0	0	Berroa rf	2	0	0	0	
Freemn p	1	0	0	0	Mercker p	0	0	0	0	
Hayes rf	1	1	1	0	Evans 3b	1	0	0	0	
Jeltz ss	3	1	1	0	Greene p	0	1	0	0	
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Assenmacher	2	1	1	0	0	1
Boever (L, 0-1)	1	4	3	3	0	1
Wild pitch: Ruffin 4.	Passed ball:	Nieto.	Time	2.2	4. Att	end:

Bears' Douglass Tried to Break Contract He Made With Agents

From Page 1E

of his scholarship in the spring of 1987 and, "I didn't get my Big Ten [Conference championship] ring."

Rivers, who said he accepted between \$7,000 and \$8,000 from Walters and Bloom during his senior season at Michigan in 1986, testified that he paid tuition and other expenses out of his own pocket to continue his education at the university.

Douglass and Rivers also testified that each received a "commission bonus" from Walters and Bloom for introducing teammates to the agents.

Douglass testified that he got \$1,500 for introducing the agent to Kentucky running back Mark Logan prior to Logan's senior season in 1986.

Rivers testified that he received \$1,000 for setting up a meeting with Michigan running back Robert Perryman. Rivers said he got the bonus when he and Perryman traveled to New York for a visit prior to their 1986 season. Logan and Perryman each signed pre-

maturely with the agents, in violation of NCAA rules. Like most of the athletes who signed early with Walters and Bloom, they entered a pretrial diversion program, agreeing to reimburse their universities for scholarship money, perform 100 to 250 hours of community service and report to a federal probation officer for one year.

The government contends the agents defrauded universities by inducing athletes to falsely certify scholarship and eligibility statements.

Douglass did not enter the pre-trial diversion program because he signed after his senior season at Kentucky in 1986.

Douglass testified that he first met Bloom on the sideline during the Blue-Gray all-star game on Christmas Day in 1986. He accepted Bloom's invitation to travel to New York two days later. Douglass, a starting free safety who is a

son, said he went to New York because Bloom had told him of the many entertainers "such as Luther Vandross and Patti La-Belle" that Walters represented. Because he had signed a representation contract with St. Louis agent Jim Steiner

after his final Kentucky game a month ear-

male stripper in Chicago during the off-sea-

lier, Douglass said he did not intend to also sign with Walters and Bloom. "But when they put that money in front of me ... if you put \$2,500 cash in front of any college kid, he's going to take it right now," testified Douglass. "They told me not to worry about my contract [with Steiner].

that they'd take care of it." Douglass was accused by defense attorney Dan Webb of "double-dealing" between Walters/Bloom and Steiner. Douglass took \$100 from Walters and Bloom five days af-

ter accepting his first money from Steiner. "Wouldn't you call that double-dealing?" Webb asked Douglass.

When Douglass and Webb started to argue, U.S. District Judge George Marovich said, "Whoa, whoa, Maurice. ... Time out. ... The whistle was blown."

Marovich instructed both men to resume orderly conduct.

"Time in," the judge said.