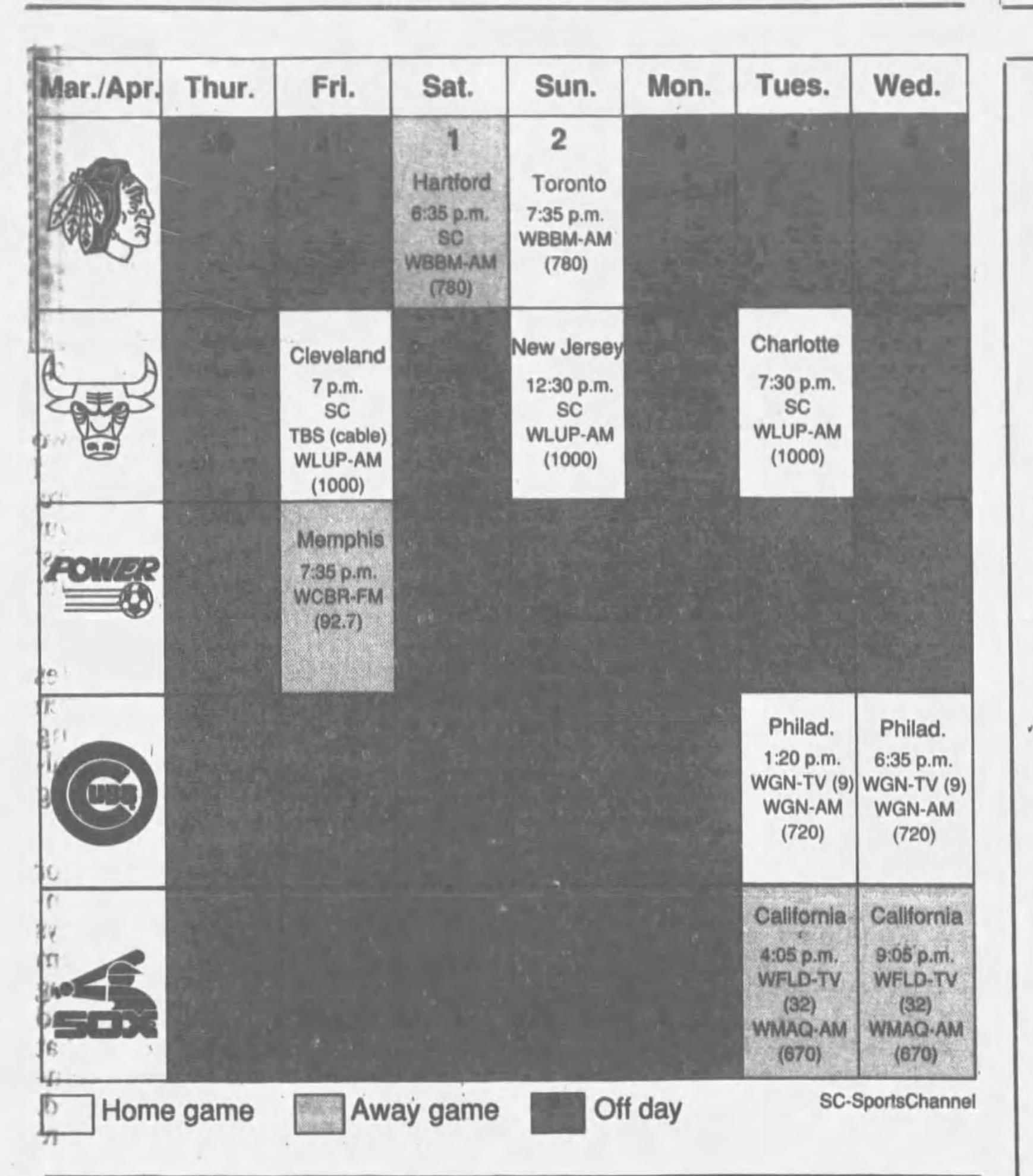
CALENDAR



Other local events

- Thoroughbred racing at Sportsman's Park, 1 p.m.
- Harness racing at Maywood Park, 8 p.m.

Thursday's sports on television

Baseball

WHITE SOX vs. Texas Rangers at Sarasota, Fla., 12:30 p.m. WFLD-TV (Channel 32).

Basketball

- NABC/Nike All-America Game at Seattle, 8:30 p.m. ESPN.
- "Indiana Highlights," 10:30 p.m. (tape). SportsChannel.

Boxing

IBF Featherweight Championship: Jorge Paez vs. Calvin Grove (12 rounds) at

Mexicali, Mexico, 8 p.m. USA. Professional bouts, 11:30 p.m. (tape). WCIU-TV (Channel 26).

LPGA Nabisco Dinah Shore at Rancho Mirage, Calif., 3 p.m. ESPN.

Gymnastics UIC at Northern Illinois (women), 7 p.m. (tape). SportsChannel.

Horse racing

Chicago Racing Report," with Gerry Gallitano and Phil Georgeff, 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. (tape). SportsChannel.

"Chicago Harness Racing," with Mike Paradise and Eleanor Flavin, 5:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (tape). SportsChannel.

Tennis

Lipton International Players Championships at Key Biscayne, Fla. Women's semifinals, noon (live), 11 p.m. (tape). ESPN.

Miscellany

The Weight Room," 4 p.m. (tape). "Great American Outdoors," 4:30 p.m. (tape). "Midwest Outdoors Magazine," 5 p.m. (tape). "Winning Is Everything," 6:30 p.m. (tape). "Sports Nightly," 10 p.m. (live). SportsChannel.

Thursday's sports on radio

Morse racing

"The Thoroughbred report with Frank Brabec, 5:05 p.m. WAIT-AM (850). "Harness Racing Wrapup," with Tony Salvaro, 12:15 a.m. (WBBM-AM (780).

Miscellany

"Athletes Feats," with Bob Verdi, 8:10 a.m. and 5:10 p.m. WXRT-FM (93.1).

Coppock On Sports," 7 p.m. WLUP-AM (1000).

C-Country Fishing and Outdoor Show, 8 p.m. "On The Bench," with Paul Reis, 9 p.m. WCCQ-FM (98.3).

For results call 976-8383

BRIEFS

College football: Bob Waters, who for five years has been fighting the effects amyotropic lateral sclerosis, a degenerative nerve disorder known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, has been fired after 20 years as Western Carolina coach. "The decision should have been left to me," said Waters, who is confined to a wheelchair and requires a portable respirator to assist his breathing. Sports information director Steve White said, "Water is not being fired; he's being reassigned."

Pro football: The Buffalo Bills have matched the five-year, \$7.5-million contract offer All-Pro defensive end Bruce Smith received from the Denver Broncos.

Tennis: Top-seeded Ivan Lendl beat No. 10 Aaron Krickstein 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 in the quarterfinals of the International Players Championships in Key Biscayne, Fla. No. 12 Yannick Noah beat Carl Uwe-Steeb 6-4, 6-1, 6-4 and No. 13 Kevin Curren topped No. 11 Emilio Sanchez 6-3,

6-1, 6-4. No. 7 Thomas Muster beat Jim Grabb 7-5, 7-6 (8-6), 1-6, 6-0.

Pro hockey: Former Detroit Red Wing Bob Probert has pleaded innocent to a federal felony charge of bringing cocaine across the U.S.-Canadian border.

Olympics: The 1994 Winter Games will begin a week earlier than planned to make them more attractive to U.S. TV networks, according to the Norwegian Olympic Committee. The starting date of the Lillehammer Games will be moved to either Feb. 12 or Feb. 13 so the entire event can take place during the "sweeps" in the United States, when viewer surveys are conducted at network affiliates. The ratings are then used to determine advertising rates charged by the stations. The Games had been scheduled from Feb. 20 to

Horse racing: Three hundred and ninety-four thoroughbreds have been nominated for the Triple Crown races.

FROM PAGE 1

Continued from page 1

mad when the Bears didn't protect me," said the 6-foot, 5-inch, 270pound Harris. "I was a little surprised, but I knew they had to keep the players that are in their immediate future plans.

"Actually, the Bears kind of did me a favor. This allowed me to negotiate with other teams. The Eagles have more of a dire need for me than the Bears."

The Bears are banking on a full recovery for Dent and could line up Sean Smith at the other end. They also have three first-round picks in the April 23 college draft, one of which could be used for a defensive end. Bears coach Mike Ditka has said that Perry will switch from end to tackle this sea-

"We like Al Harris very much, and we'll miss him," Bears vice president of player personnel Bill Tobin said. "If they offer him a lot

of money, Al has to do what's right for him. Sean played very well for us and would be first in line. I don't know what's going to happen in the draft."

Wagner, the NFC's secondleading punter last season, is being most closely pursued by Cleveland, whose punter Max Runager signed with Kansas City.

"We've had him in and worked him out and talked to him," Browns executive vice president Ernie Accorsi said. "We have a chance to sign him. I can only tell you we made an offer and his agent [Gil Scott of Toronto] is considering it."

Gayle has told his agent, Steve Zucker, that he is leaning towards remaining with the Bears. Minnesota is among several teams that have shown an interest in him.

"He understands why the Bears didn't protect him," said Zucker of his client who missed most of 1988 with a neck injury. "The Bears let us know they care about him and want him back."

Lawyers testify they gave agents wrong information

By John Gorman

Three attorneys from a prominent New York law firm testified Wednesday that they advised Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom that signing college athletes before their eligibility expired did not violate criminal law.

One attorney, Lonn Trost, of the firm Shea & Gould, testified that he told the agents such action was not criminal, but that lending money to athletes would violate NCAA regulations.

The best Trost could do to pinpoint the time of that advice was early 1985. Such a date is key to the defense of Walters and Bloom. Former University of Iowa running back Ronnie Harmon testified earlier that he had signed with the agents on March 10, 1985, five months before the beginning of his senior year.

After Harmon lied on an affidavit that he was eligible before the season began, university officials mailed affidavits certifying Harmon was still eligible. That, the government contends, was mail fraud, one of the charges against Walters and Bloom.

Two other Shea & Gould attorneys, Martin Shelton and Michael Feldberg, also said they told the agents they had violated no law.

All three attorneys also testified they told Walters and Bloom they would be foolish to sue some athletes who changed agents, backing out of contracts allowing

the agents to represent them in ne-gotiations with National Football League teams after the NFL draft.

"I said that when you're continuing in this business, you don't sue your bread and butter," Trost said. The agents sued Harmon and several other athletes.

Under cross-examination by U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas, who is prosecuting the case with Howard Pearl and Helene Greenwald, Trost said he had no notes to reflect that he advised the agents they were not violating any laws by their signing of the

Bloom, 29, and Walters, 58, are charged with defrauding several schools by persuading athletes to sign representation agreements in violation of eligibility rules and concealing the agreements from their schools. They are also charged with using threats on athletes and entertainers who balked at continuing their agreements with the two.

In earlier testimony, the manager of the New Edition singing group testified that he was not threatened by either Norby Walters or a crime syndicate chieftain at a meeting held to discusss a movie deal for the group.

Steven Machat also testified that he did not know who the convicted mobster, Michael Franzese, was when he met with him and Walters in New York in October, 1985.

Indiana's Edwards to enter NBA draft

By Bill Jauss

Indiana's Jay Edwards, the Big 10 Player of the Year as a sophomore, will turn pro this spring and forgo his final two seasons of college basketball.

Edwards announced Wednesday through Indiana Associate Athletic Director Steve Downing that he will declare "hardship" and enter next month's National Basketball Association draft.

Timing and the lure of NBA money were reasons for Edwards' decision. Coach Bob Knight was grooming Edwards, a 6-foot-4-inch guard, to become his team leader next year.

"Jay told me yesterday he felt he had nothing more to accomplish at Indiana," Downing said. "He felt he'd never be any 'hotter' than now, after being voted Big 10 Player of the Year."

Edwards declined further comment. He said he intends to continue working toward his college degree between pro seasons. He said he will hold a news conference after this weekend's NCAA Final Four.

"I wish Jay the very best," Knight said. "I hope his decision works out well for him."

Edwards, a deadly shooter from three-point range, becomes the second of Knight's players at Indiana to turn pro before finishing his college eligibility. Isiah Thomas turned pro after he led the Hoosiers to the 1981 NCAA title as a sophomore.

Thomas eventually graduated from Indiana, finishing his degree requirements while a member of the Detroit Pistons.

Knight made it clear during the recent NCAA West Regional that he was looking to Edwards to succeed senior John Hillman as next year's team leader. Knight loves to have a leader, such as Hillman, who

can take criticism from his coach and, in turn, dish out criticism to his teammates.

Financial considerations played a big role in Edwards' decision. His parents are separated. He lives with his mother and brother in Marion,

Edwards averaged 20 points, 4.3 rebounds and 3.7 assists this season for Indiana's Big 10 champions. He fired a remarkable .448 (81 of 181) from beyond the three-point line.

Edwards drilled a three-point basket with two seconds to play to tie the score in a late-season game against Illinois in Bloomington. If Nick Anderson had not hit a long three-pointer as time expired, IU may have been seeded No. 1 in the NCAA Midwest Regional.

Some Hoosier fans got the impression during Edwards' two-year career that he sometimes loafed on the floor. Knight corrected that impression during the recent playoffs in Tucson.

"I've come to believe he plays at full tilt more than it appears, because he's so effortless a player," Knight said.

Edwards' career at Indiana had its rough moments. Knight revoked his scholarship last year after a university testing program detected drug use. Edwards enrolled in a chemical dependency program. Knight restored his scholarship this year.

The loss of Edwards will dampen enthusiasm at Indiana, where fans are already talking of the 1990 Final Four and NCAA title. Standouts Lyndon Jones, Eric Anderson and Jamal Meeks return. They will be joined by a superb band of recruits: 6-10 Chris Lawson, 6-9 Lawrence Funderburke, 6-6 Calbert Cheaney, 6-4 Chris Reynolds, 6-5 Pat Graham and 6-3 Greg Graham.

Okla. St. expects Sanders to go

From Chicago Tribune wires

STILLWATER, Okla.—Heisman Trophy winner Barry Sanders will announce his decision on whether to turn professional Saturday, and Oklahoma State officials indicated Wednesday he will try to join the National Football League.

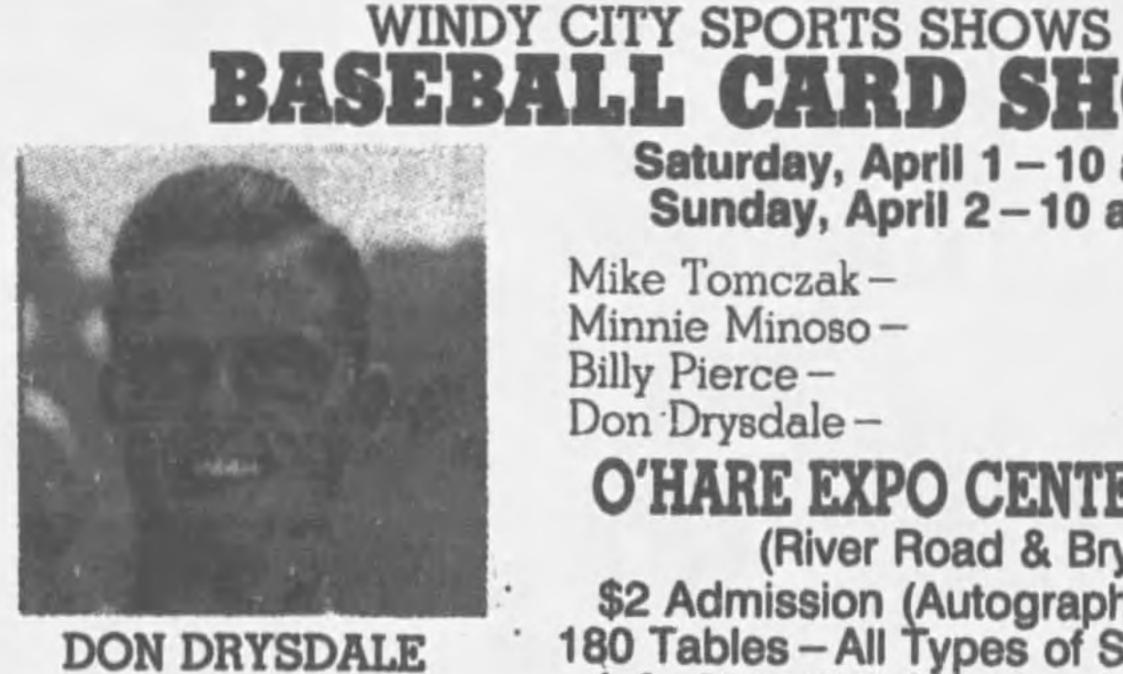
NFL rules prohibit teams from drafting underclassmen before they or their original class has graduated, but most legal experts maintain the league can't prevent anyone from playing.

Sanders, a junior who has never redshirted, wouldn't be eligibile for the regular NFL draft next month unless he decides to challenge the

legality in the courts or unless the league changes its policy of not drafting underclassmen. He would be the first true junior to join the league without first having been dropped from his team.

"I am not saying I know what is going to be said," coach Pat Jones said. "We will let him say it."

"I think that's true [that Sanders is going pro]. I think that's the direction he's going," said Jack Mills, an attorney and sports agent in Denver. "I did have a discussion with him in Stillwater on March 13 and I spoke with his father on the phone, but I don't think I'm going to be the guy [the agent]."



BASEBALL CARD SHOW Saturday, April 1-10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday, April 2-10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mike Tomczak -Sat. 11-1 Sat. Noon-2 Minnie Minoso -Billy Pierce -Sat. 2-4

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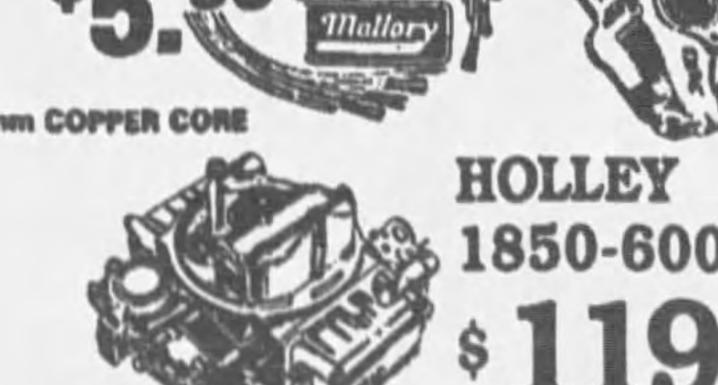
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