

Agreement Is Reached On Agents' Settlement

Federal prosecutors and attorneys for **Norby Walters** and **Lloyd Bloom** agreed yesterday on profits the New York-based sports agents will forfeit to the government now that they have been convicted of **racketeering** charges. The amount of the settlement was not disclosed, but U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas, who led the prosecution team, had said the government would seek a minimum of \$250,000 from **Walters** and \$125,000 from **Bloom**. Under federal **racketeering** law, the government can recover any profits of an illegal scheme. The agreement requires final approval from U.S. District Judge George Marovich.

Walters, 58, and **Bloom**, 29, were convicted of **defrauding** two universities by using cash to persuade athletes to sign improper representation contracts, and of threatening to harm clients at other schools if they tried to renege. Sentencing is scheduled for the week of May 23. Each agent faces up to 55 years in prison and \$1.25 million in fines.

Lopez 'Fires' Caddy, Ties for Lead

Nancy Lopez, having "fired" her caddy, shot a 5-under-par 67 Friday to share the first-round lead in the \$450,000 Ai Star-Centinela Hospital Classic in Los Angeles.

Lopez, the defending champion, was tied with Susan Sanders and Colleen Walker. Lopez' caddy of recent weeks, her husband, former Met Ray Knight, is not with her this week.

"He's home with the kids," Lopez said. The player-caddy relationship was "not working very well," she said.

She and Knight, who began caddying for her after he retired from baseball this year, had some differences of opinion during the recent Dinah Shore tournament. Knight erred on a couple of pin placements, and, according to Lopez, sometimes second-guessed her club selection.

Stewart, Perry Remain Tied for Lead

Payne Stewart and Kenny Perry shot 67s and remained tied for the lead after the second round of the \$800,000 Heritage Classic in Hilton Head Island, S.C., while Masters champion Nick Faldo shot a 77 and just made the cut at 145. Stewart and Perry, who shared the first-round lead, led at 10-under-par 132. Mark McCumber birdied seven of the last 12 holes for a 64, the best round of the tournament, and advanced to a tie for third with Rocco Mediate at 135. Mediate shot a 68.

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Gary Player shot a 3-under-par 69 to tie Gene Littler for the lead at 8-under 136 after the second round of The Tradition, a new \$600,000 Senior PGA event in Scottsdale, Ariz. Littler shot 70.

Sex Discrimination Suit Settled

Long Beach (Calif.) City College has agreed to pay \$85,000 and hire a women's athletic director and three full-time women's coaches as part of the settlement of a sexual discrimination lawsuit. The settlement ends 4½ years of litigation brought by the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California on behalf of Donna Prindle, the City College women's basketball and volleyball coach, and Peggy Grigonis, former gymnastics and track coach.

Romance Behind Cornell Rift?

The rift between Cornell head football coach Maxie Baughan and his top recruiter stems from a romantic relationship between Baughan and the assistant coach's wife, the Ithaca Journal reported yesterday. The newspaper said several unidentified sources had confirmed that Baughan and Cathy Noyes, wife of Cornell's assistant head coach, Peter Noyes, were involved in a "longtime romantic relationship." Noyes has been on leave with pay from the coaching staff since early March. "I cannot and will not return to work until the situation is resolved," he said.

Zvereva Gets a U.S. Ally

Natalia Zvereva, the Soviet Union's top tennis player, has hired ProServ, a U.S. sports marketing firm, to help pressure the Soviet Tennis Federation into letting her keep her earnings. The money now goes to the federation and she gets \$1,000 a week, plus expenses. She won \$361,354 in 1988 and \$60,000 so far this year.

Furthermore . . .

Olympic superheavyweight silver medalist **Riddick Bowe** (2-0) of Brooklyn stopped **Tracy Thomas** (5-5) of Pontiac, Mich. at 1:57 of the second round in Atlantic City . . . The Vikings have waived free safety **John Harris** and announced the retirement of defensive linemen **Barry Bennett** and **Stafford Mays**. Bennett played most of his 11 seasons with the Jets . . . Former WBA junior featherweight champion **Louie Espinoza** (33-3, 28 KOs) will challenge IBF featherweight champ **Jorge Paez** (30-2-1, 25 KOs) in a 12-round title fight May 21 in the Phoenix metropolitan area . . . **Mary Decker Slaney**, the world record-holder in the women's mile, has entered the women's 10-kilometer L'eggs Mini Marathon, scheduled for June 24 in Central Park. She finished fourth last year.

Edited by Marshall Reed

Topps Reviving Old Adversary

Bowman. The name just drips with nostalgia. It's umpire Charlie Berry peering back at you from the wooden frame of a 1955 color television.

Although the kids who bought Bowmans at a penny a pack are fortysomething by now, most still remember Willie Mays' rookie card, a horizontal portrait of the Say Hey Kid batting against an orange canvas. The year was 1951. Ballcard purists remind you that it was the same season that Bowman produced the true Mickey Mantle rookie card, beating Topps by a year.

The words Los Angeles and San Francisco never contaminated the front of a Bowman baseball card. The Bowman name was laid to rest two years before the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants moved west.

But now, after 35 years of restless slumber, Bowman is coming back from the dead.

The Topps Co., which has owned the rights to the Bowman name since 1956, when it bought out the competition, plans to issue a card set under the Bowman brand this summer. But details are being kept secret.

"The 1989 Bowman series will have its own distinctive size, format and design, and is expected to be very attractive to the hobby," Topps announced. Spokesman Ken Liss would not elaborate on the number of cards in the set, or if current players or old-timers would be featured. "I won't be able to say anything else until May," Liss said.

This much is known: The Bowman cards will come with bubble gum.

History 101: Card Wars

Bowman was responsible for issuing the first major post-war baseball card set, a 48-card series in 1948. The black-and-white cards, slightly smaller than 2½ inches square, included players ranging from Yogi Berra and Stan Musial to Ray Poat and Dave Koslo. What a deal; bubble gum and a

BASEBALL CARDS

Norm Cohen

ballplayer for a penny. Color was introduced in 1950.

Topps appeared in 1951 with a number of test sets, and took on Bowman the next year, when it rolled out its classic 1952 set.

This gave the youth of America a clear choice — the nearly 2½-x-3½-inch size that Bowman adopted for 1951, or the Topps cards, which seemed to be twice as large. Bigger was perceived as better and Topps became tops.

Bowman tried to bounce back in 1953 by pumping up its cards to Topps' size and added the 1-2 punch of two entirely different sets — 160 cards made from Kodachrome photographs, and 64 in black and white. Both sets are much more popular today than they were back then.

Bowman went all color for 1954 and began pushing Topps again in 1955 with an infamous set that featured the color TV motif and a number of umpire cards — a novel idea that went over like a lead balloon. Even then, the public wanted Willie, Mickey and the Duke, not Nestor Chylak, Frank Umont and Augie Donatelli.

Bowman was ready to do another TV set series for 1956 when Topps decided that the best competition was no competition, and purchased the company. It marked the end of Bowman — and an era.

Rookies?

A card that bears watching is a 1982 Fleece (No. 640) entitled Pete and Re-Pete. Listed at less than \$1 in recent price guides, it pictures Pete Rose and his preteen son, now a prospect in the Orioles organization. If Pete Jr. makes it to Baltimore next year, his "rookie" card would have preceded his major-league debut by eight years.

Another curio priced around \$1 is the 1961 Topps card of the Reds' Jim Baumer, a man who waited 13 years to see his picture on a piece of cardboard. Although he was up long enough to have a cup of coffee with the White Sox in 1949, his only card (No. 292) carries the 1961 rookie star. His big-league career spanned three decades, but he played only 18 games.

Dispersal Faces Major Test

By Paul Moran

Ten years after he won the Blue Grass Stakes on the way to the Kentucky Derby with Spectacular Bid, Bud Delp is at Keeneland with what he says is the second-best 3-year-old he has ever trained. This time, though, the 9-furlong Blue Grass is more than a stop on the way to Churchill Downs for Delp's colt. Dispersal is undefeated in a brief career going into today's race and, according to his trainer, has vast potential. But, said Delp: "He's got to win the Blue Grass — big time — to go to Louisville. I'll know about a minute after they cross the finish line."

Spectacular Bid, 2-year-old champion of 1978, was the last odds-on favorite to win the Kentucky Derby. He also won the Preakness before faltering in the Belmont Stakes; He ended the year as 3-year-old champion and was Horse of the Year the following season. Dispersal has a long way to go to catch the best horse Delp ever trained.

Like Spectacular Bid, the precocious Dispersal is owned by Harry Meyerhoff, who paid a fairly modest sum (\$45,000) for the colt at a Keeneland yearling auction. Spectacular Bid cost Meyerhoff only slightly more. But the similarity ends there.

After powerful victories in the Swale Stakes at Gulfstream and the Gotham last week at Aqueduct, Easy Goer, 2-year-old champion of 1988, is the overwhelming favorite to win the Derby, and the field of challengers is thinning quickly. Delp's

colt, meanwhile, is virtually unknown outside Louisiana. Dispersal's entire racing career spans 26 days, during which he won three races, the last of which was the Louisiana Derby Feb. 12.

Not only is Dispersal's undefeated record insufficient to assure his presence in Louisville next month, but neither has it caused him to be designated the favorite among the Blue Grass' six starters. That role is filled by Western Playboy, who won the Jim Beam Stakes at Turfway Park in his last start and was second to Mercedes Won in the Florida Derby. Western Playboy's presence at Churchill Downs also depends upon today's effort, according to trainer Harvey Vanier. "I'd like to see him win impressively if he's going to go up against Easy Goer," Vanier said. "If he's not first or second, I'd think he wasn't Derby caliber."

Martial Law in Oaklawn Handicap

The \$400,000 Oaklawn Handicap today in Arkansas has drawn Santa Anita Handicap winner Martial Law, Gulfstream Park Handicap winner Slew City Slew, Razorback Handicap winner Blushing John and five others, including Proper Reality and Stalwars.

At Aqueduct, Claim, making his first start in New York for trainer Shug McGaughey, heads a closely matched field of six sprinters entered in today's 6-furlong, \$100,000-added Bold Ruler Handicap.