

← Back

KUP ON SUNDAY

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A Reporter's Report: President Bush is waiting for the decision in the Oliver North case before he goes public with a denial of one of the more damaging charges against him in the trial. That was the charge that he visited Honduran President Jose Simon Azcona Hoyo to promise more U.S. economic aid if Honduras would allow the Nicaraguan contras to maintain their forces in that country. Bush is expected to deny that he ever made such an offer during the period when it was a violation of our law to provide military help to the contras. THAT TODDLIN' TOWN: Operation Greylord still lives. You'll be reading about more charges involving lawyers in a few days. . . . Melanie Kosar, a Board of Trade member, was depicted in the Wall Street Journal as a government informer in the sweeping investigation of commodity trading practices. Melanie admits she underwent intensive questioning by the FBI, but firmly denies being an informant. As a result of the WSJ story on Thursday, she reports she was treated "like a pariah" on the trading floor and declined to show up for work Friday.

NOW HEAR THIS: Now that strike three has been called on former baseball commissioner Peter Ueberroth's effort to buy Eastern Airlines, he's expected to turn his attention to politics. Ueberroth, whose popularity is highest in California because of his success with the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, is expected to seek the Republican nomination for senator in

that state. A vacancy will occur because the current Republican senator, Pete Wilson, has announced he will run for governor.

THE WASHINGTON WHIRL: Democrats who fear the worst for House Speaker Jim Wright on the ethics charges already have started looking at Rep. Tom Foley (Wash.), the majority leader, as his likely successor, if and when. Foley, an intellectual as well as adroit politician, probably would be a more popular leader than the aloof Wright. . . . Representatives of United Airlines called on the Illinois congressional delegation to make a plea for support for more air traffic controllers at O'Hare Airport. The airlines maintain the shortage of controllers is slowing traffic.

THE HEADLINERS: Mayor-elect Rich Daley is following a family tradition by inviting U.S. Judge Abraham Lincoln Marovitz to swear him in April 24. Marovitz, a favorite of former Mayor Richard J. Daley, swore in the elder Daley for each of his six terms. . . . The death of Sugar Ray Robinson brought forth this interesting tidbit: Pianist David Green, who delights the late-night crowd at Toulouse with his torch tunes, once was a boxer and served as Sugar Ray's sparring partner for five years. . . . Comedian Jay Leno headlines the Advertising Age awards dinner on April 27 at the Chicago Hilton and Towers, then returns the following week to appear on the David Letterman show from the Chicago Theatre.

THE GENESIS: How an innocent and unrelated phone call led to the investigation and then conviction of sports agents **Norby Walters** and **Lloyd Bloom** may now be revealed. It started with a phone call by my wife, Essee, to sports agent Steve Zucker. She was seeking his client, Bears QB Jim McMahon, for one of her many benefits. The phone at Zucker's office was answered by a police officer. "Why are you answering Steve's phone?" she asked. The officer then explained that Zucker's assistant, Katie Clements, had been beaten by a stranger in the office.

ONE MORE TIME: Essee, with a better, if shorter, nose for news than her husband, promptly called Sun-Times crime reporter Art Petacque and suggested he investigate. Petacque informed the FBI, which led to the allegation that Katie's assailant was connected to Zucker's rivals, **Walters** and **Bloom**. That's how it all started. (P.S. - Essee didn't get McMahon for the benefit.)

ONCE OVER LIGHTLY: Humor columnist Art Buchwald, in addressing the convention of the American Society of Newspaper Editors in Washington, "explained" why newspapers are more important than TV: "When there's a commercial on the air, everyone gets up and goes to the bathroom. And they always take a newspaper with them."

FRONT AND CENTER: WLUP's Jonathon Brandmeier, the latest Chicagoan soon to burst on the network TV scene with a major buildup, will be brought along slowly by NBC entertainment chief Brandon Tartikoff and independent producer Fred Silverman, two former Chicagoans who will be guiding his new career. They foresee the day when the multi-talented Brandmeier will host a show that will follow "Saturday Night Live."

CURTAIN GOING UP: Three famous Chicagoans will be united in a new movie, "Crazy People," with John Malkovich and Daryl Hannah co-starring and Bill Butler doing the cinematography. The movie has a wild premise - Malkovich, playing an advertising executive, is committed to a mental institution for printing the truth in his advertising. Madison Avenue will have fits. . . . This is a gala day at the Briar Street Theatre. "Driving Miss Daisy" will celebrate its first anniversary. During that time, three leading ladies - Sada Thompson, Ellen Burstyn and currently Dorothy Loudon - have starred opposite Bill Cobbs.

NEWS YOU CAN USE: The White Sox home opener Friday was a sad day for Jimmy Gallios of Miller's Pub. The popular restaurant was shut down after a fire, which caused Gallios to miss his first Sox opener in 45 years. (The restaurant's building is scheduled for demolition this summer, with Miller's Pub moving around the corner to Wabash Avenue.) . . . The Rev. George Clements will accept a check from the Knights of Peter Claver today, at which time the model of his new Holy Angels Church will be unveiled by the architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill.

TOWER OF BABBLE: Gigi Pritzker, daughter of Jay and Cindy Pritzker, becomes the bride of Boston attorney Michael Pucker on June 18. Gigi is involved in moviemaking in New York. . . . Aer Lingus, the Irish airline, is resuming flights from Chicago after a lapse of five years. And among the first passengers will be the Bears' Ed McCaskey and his wife, Virginia. They'll holiday in the Old Sod shortly after McCaskey celebrates his 70th birthday on April 27 with a tent-covered gala in Soldier Field.

WEEKEND BIRTHDAYS: State Rep. Lee Daniels, Henry Mancini, Peter Ustinov, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Carmelita Pope, Bud Rukeyser, Marshall Patner, Elizabeth Montgomery, Morgan Murphy, Edie Adams, Bobby Vinton, Channel 9's Milt Rosenberg, pianist Al Fisher and photog Mike Rotunno. And anniversary greetings to Monsignor Dan Cantwell, who was feted at Old St. Pat's Church on his 50th year as a priest.

THE DEADLINE DASH: Rush Street's long-shuttered Sweetwater has been completely

renovated and reopens in May with new owners and a new name, Gibson's. . . . A new beer, Baderbrau, brewed locally in Elmhurst at the Pavichevich Brewery, made its debut at the Eccentric, which, incidentally, is now open for Sunday dinner. . . . The Sports Lodge hosts its annual lox-and-bagel luncheon today at the North Shore Hilton. . . . And for a closer: Remember when baseball fans said there should be more Steve Garveys? Now there will be.

Chicago Sun-Times

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Page: 10

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