Peach State Champs in Nationals

By Karen Rosen
Staff Writer

The DeKalb Metros hated to see the inaugural Peach State Games end.

The Metros, a team of 15-and-under girls, needed a win Sunday over the Cobb County Georgia Jackets to force another game in the double-elimination tournament. At stake was a trip to the national AAU competition in Coral Springs, Fla., July 20-29 as the Georgia champion.

In a tight finish, the Georgia Jackets prevailed 70-68, and the Peach State Games came to a close at the Cobb Civic Center before about 250 people.

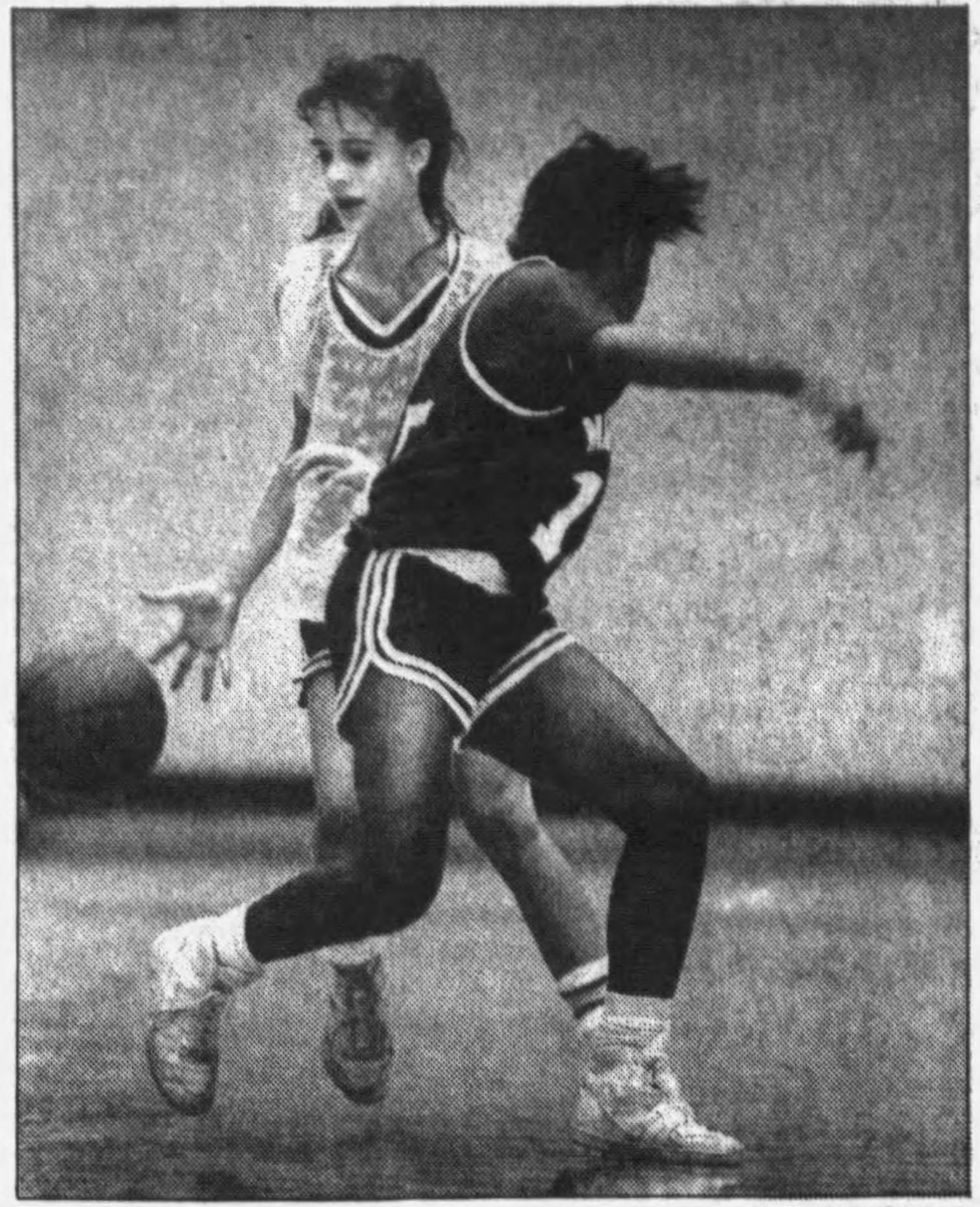
Mark Trail Center from De-Kalb County Parks and Recreation had three teams vying for championships Sunday, but only the third team advanced to national competition. The Mark Trail boys 14-and-under team defeated the Northwest Astros 66-63 to earn a trip to Las Vegas July 26-29. As 12-year-olds, the Mark Trail team finished 10th nationally in Orlando, Fla.

Burdett Park defeated the Mark Trail boys 13-and-under team 50-49 to advance to Indianapolis July 15-22, and the Cobb County Trojans defeated the Mark Trail girls 13-and-under team 43-26. They will also go to Coral Springs, Fla., July 21-29.

The Georgia Jackets had defeated Jerry B. Williams's Metros by 20 points Thursday night. The Cobb team had what appeared to be a comfortable lead at 65-56 Sunday with 3:06 remaining when Rachel Uvette Dabney (25 points) scored a basket and quickly followed it up with a three-pointer. Melinda Henderson added a three-pointer for 66-64.

Then the Jackets' Catha Cochran (14 points) hit a jumper with 30 seconds left. Dabney scored again with 55 seconds on the clock, but the Jackets' Ginny Coleman, who had made just two of nine free throws, hit a pair to clinch the title.

In the boys 13-and-under,



FRANK NIEMEIR/Staff

Rachel Baily (left) of the Cobb County Trojans drives around Andrea Kerr of the Mark Trail Center during the Trojans' 43-26 win Sunday in the Peach State Games girls 13-and-under final.

Mark Trail trailed by a point, but Elijah Thomas's team couldn't convert two free throws off a technical or two shots in the final eight seconds.

Burdett Park coach Elbert "Al" Outlaw said the technical, assessed because he called a timeout when he had none left, "could have been disastrous."

The same Burdett team was the state champ at 12-and-under and placed second in a national invitation tournament in Florida.

"They're used to national competition," Outlaw said. "They won't get stage fright."

Stage fright didn't strike the

Mark Trail 14-year-olds, either.
Ernest Wilkerson had 20 points in defeating Don Dollar's Astros.

"The thing that saved us was what we do best anyway: defense," said coach Ralph Bankston. "These kids didn't crack under pressure."

The Cobb County Trojans kept their cool in shutting down the Mark Trail 13-and-under girls. "We've had three-hour practices four times a week the past month and a half, and they've been moaning and groaning, but it paid off now," said coach Bruce J. Brown.

Cobb County was led by Amy Alexander with 16 points. Mark Trail's Afrieya James, daughter of coach Solomon James, scored 18 points, including five three-pointers.

Mark Trail, which had to play three games Saturday to get out of the losers' bracket, also suffered from the absence of its two top rebounders: April Walker, competing in the state TAC track meet at Emory, and Yvonne Gurnell, playing softball at the Al Bishop Complex.

"I thought we could get by," said James, "but that hurt us."

The War Eagles will play in the Orlando Invitational July 16-23.

□ Results, D6

Two Agents Face Sentencing

Walters, Bloom Can Receive Up to 55-Year Prison Terms

By Chris Mortensen

CHICAGO — Convicted two months ago of racketeering, conspiracy and mail fraud, former sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom will be sentenced here today by a federal judge.

Walters, 58, and Bloom, 30, face maximum penalties of 55 years imprisonment, \$1.5 million in fines and forfeiture of assets.

"Norby is devastated," said Robert Gold, his attorney. "He's feeling like a man who has a terminal illness with no prior medical history."

The conviction by a federal jury on April 7 stemmed primarily from the sports agents' dealings with college football players from 1985 to 1987.

signed athletes before their college eligibility had expired, postdated and concealed those contracts and threatened to harm the athletes for reneging on the contracts or refusing to repay "loans."

Walters's conviction for racke-

The agents were found to have

teering and conspiracy included his dealings as an entertainment booking agent and his use of an organized crime leader to "settle disputes" with discontented clients.

Bloom was found guilty of extor-

tionate acts against football players under the racketeering conviction.

The agents were linked to orga-

File

Norby Walters was convicted in April of racketeering, conspiracy and mail fraud.

ranzese, the government's star witness. Under immunity from prosecution, Franzese testified that he provided money to the agency as a silent partner and was assigned to settle disputes between the agents and their clients.

Due to the history of threats and organized crime influence, U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas has indicated he will ask presiding judge Geogre M. Marovich for a stiff sentence.

It also is possible Valukas will ask Marovich to immediately send Walters and Bloom to federal prisons, according to Justice Department sources.

Defense lawyers have said they will ask Marovich to grant a bond that will allow Walters and Bloom to remain free pending the outcome

of an appeal.

Bloom also filed a motion for a new trial, alleging numerous errors by Marovich during the five-week trial

Dan Webb, Bloom's lead counsel, cited a remark by Marovich in front of the jury on the second day of the trial. In sustaining a government objection, Marovich stated that "this inquiry was something that he supposed Bloom or Walters could testify to when they took the stand."

Neither Walters nor Bloom testified. Webb has argued that Marovich's statement was prejuducial and infringed upon Bloom's fifth amendment right to remain silent.

On Bloom's behalf, Webb also argues in his motion for a new trial that the court erred in not allowing the defense to question Franzese, regarding "prior murders and conspiracies to commit murder."

Marovich is expected to rule on the motion prior to sentencing Walters and Bloom.

Braves, Top Draft Pick Agree to Terms

By Joe Strauss
Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — The Atlanta Braves and their first-round draft choice, catcher Tyler Houston of Las Vegas, agreed to terms during Sunday's game with the Dodgers.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed. However, it was learned the deal will make Houston the highestpaid draftee in club history.

Houston will get more than the \$230,000 bonus received by pitcher Andy Benes of the San Diego organization, last year's overall first pick in the draft.

The previous high bonus for a Braves draftee was \$211,000, given last year to left-handed pitcher

Steve Avery, the No. 3 pick in the draft.

Houston was this year's second pick overall. He will be assigned to Idaho Falls of the rookie-level Pioneer League.

"You always wonder if you could have gotten this much more," said Houston's father, Sam, holding his fingers inches apart. "It's the first time I've ever been in this position. You just want to do what's right for him."

The deal doesn't become official until approved by Houston's agent, Jeff Moorad of San Francisco. Braves general manager Bobby Cox unsuccessfully attempted to reach Moorad several times Sunday.

PIZZAHUT®

PERSONAL PAN PIZZA®

Houston is a second-generation Braves signee. Sam Houston also signed with the franchise at the age of 17, and advanced as far as Class AA before pulled hamstrings ended his career.

The younger Houston is a 6-foot-2, 210-pound left-handed hitter. He batted .485 with 13 home runs and 66 RBI as a senior this year at Valley High School in Las Vegas. Although primarily a catcher, he also has experience at third base and shortstop.

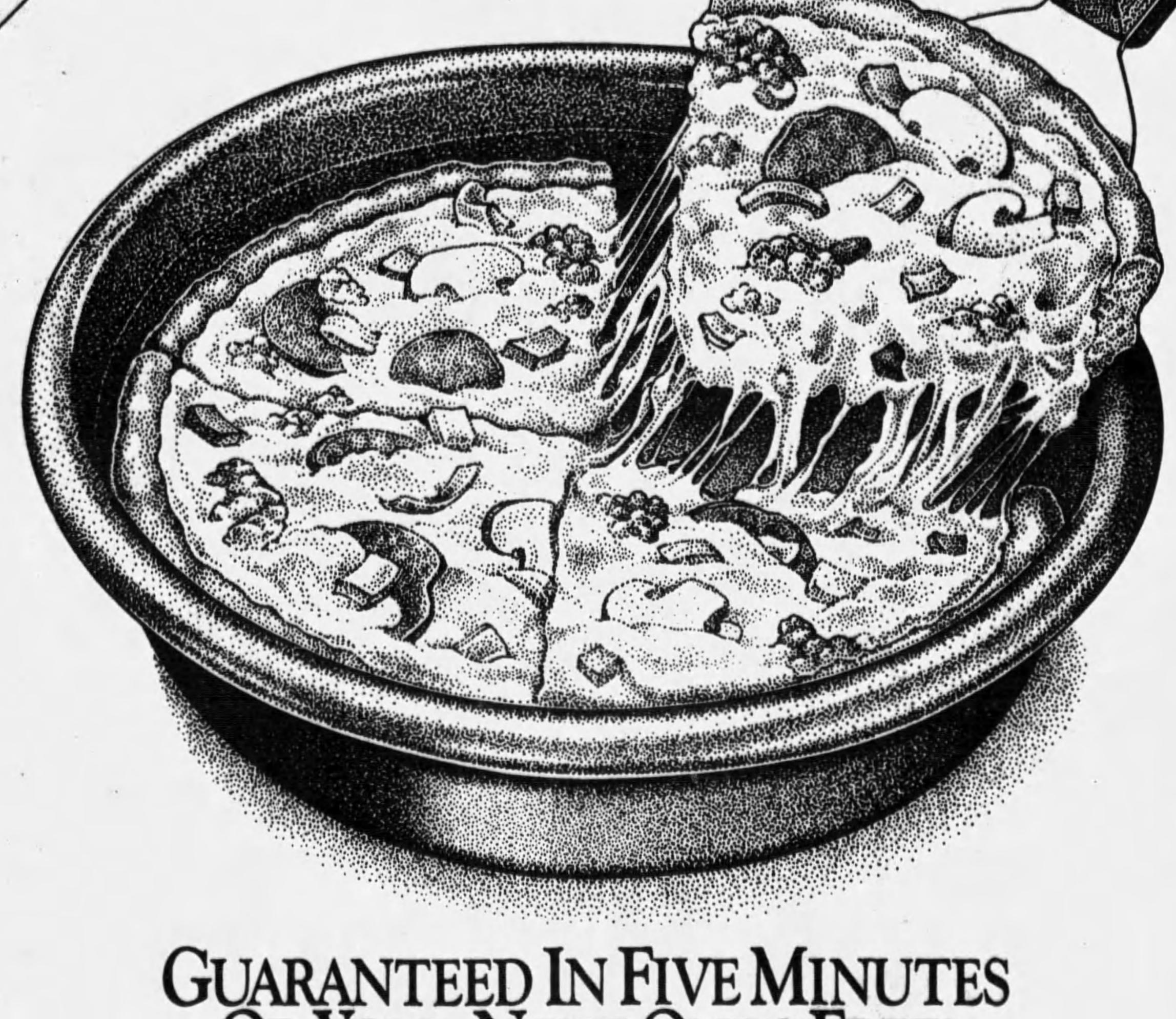
Houston has been scouted by the Braves since his sophomore year. Between his junior and senior high school seasons, he gained 20 pounds through a weightlifting program.



YOU BUY THE BEER,

COOLS BUYS THE

(GOLDEN) CHIPS!!!



OR YOUR NEXT ONE'S FREE!

Tired of burgers and the drive-thru rut? Make the switch to Pizza Hut's Personal Pan Pizza's for lunch. It's made with fresh dough daily, served hot and delicious, the way real pizza should be. Dine-in or carryout, it's fast and convenient. Guaranteed! Use the coupon below for special savings on America's favorite lunchtime pizza. Pizza Hut's Personal Pan Pizza'. A delicious fast lunch, not just fast food.

Pepperoni Personal Pan Pizza® Just \$4.59

(Add 25¢ each for Supreme Personal Pan Pizza°)

Dine-In/Carryout

Pizza-Hut.

Offer good through 7/31/89. Personal Pan Pizza' available Monday through Saturday 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. 5-minute guarantee applies 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Monday through Friday on orders of 5 or less. Available at participating restaurants only. Personal Pan Pizza is a registered trademark of Pizza Hut, Inc. 1/20th cent cash

redemption value. ©1989 Pizza Hut, Inc.