AT HE HATE

Tuesday, June 20, 1989

* *



Back to zero; Switzer done

as king of Oklahoma football was so unlike the rest of his life story.

fire him, he quit. The problems sapped his emotional resolve. So he resigned.

Six days before Christmas, the NCAA put his Oklahoma team on probation for three years. Scholarships were pared. Recruiting was restricted. Switzer was found guilty of "failure to exercise supervisory control."

Five players were arrested, three were charged with rape, one with selling cocaine to an FBI agent, one with shooting his roommate.

Editorials in Oklahoma City and Tulsa called for his resignation, but Switzer held firm.

That wasn't surprising, and not only because 75 percent of the state

Barry Switzer's college football is slowly becoming obsolete.

was behind him. It was surprising because Switzer had survived worse. Much, much worse.

When Barry was in college, his father, a bootlegger, went to prison and later was killed in a car crash. Before his senior year in high school, his mother committed suicide.

While growing up in Arkansas, he had no electricity in his house until junior high school. Switzer used to laugh about it. They lived like chickens, got up when the sun came up and went to bed when it got dark.

Switzer came from nothing. When players brought their problems to him, when they were frustrated and wanted to quit, he knew from experience the right words to say.

"I've had it worse than you," he'd tell them. "And I didn't quit."

Until Monday. Switzer, the magnificent motivator, left the game on a rising tide of changing mores. After 16 seasons, three national titles and a winning percentage of .837 - the best among active coaches - he could no longer blow with the winds of change.

College football changed, and Switzer failed to change with it. Every now and then, when the posse was closing in, he'd take a half-hearted stab at getting tough. But the new discipline never lasted.

Switzer had trouble adapting. He had trouble taking responsibility for every player's grades, every player's conduct away from Owen Field.

All programs have their skeletons and their runaways. In a family of 90, some delinquency is inevitable.

But Switzer stood in the midst of a crime wave and said he was coach, not parole officer or social worker. Anymore, they're the same job, but Switzer wouldn't accept it. In politics, as in big-time college

sports, a new wave of morality has set in. Barry Switzer is Jim Wright with a headset and a TV show. When he became Oklahoma's coach

in 1973, the rules weren't so complicated. Beating Texas was enough. Back then, probation was an em-

barrassment. Today, it can kill you. It's a small step to the electric chair. Graduation rates were the fine

print of college football when Switzer was a young coach. They rarely grew to headline proportions. Now they're the stuff of big type. Big, black attention-getting type.

"Cheat but Don't Get Caught" was the tune when Switzer took over for Chuck Fairbanks. Today, it's "Cheat and You're Gone" - and some university presidents actually follow the sheet music.

When Switzer was starting, schools whined when they were slapped with NCAA sanctions. The convicted denied responsibility, rarely admit-

ted guilt. Today the schools conduct their own investigations. Instead of stonewalling, they get to the bottom of the

allegations. Not every offender cooperates, but even a reprobate like Kentucky admitted its basketball guilt recently

and played along with the NCAA. The system isn't foolproof. Schools still cheat. Boosters still run amok.

But not like before. In the old days, everybody stretched the rules now and then.

Looking the other way was as much a coaching fundamental as never looking past the next opponent.

That was Barry Switzer's college football, a game he coached as well as anyone. The trouble is, Barry Switzer's college football is slowly becoming obsolete.

3Witzer resigns as 300ner coach

Rose files suit against The end of Barry Switzer's career Giamatti

Instead of waiting for the school to | Commissioner may think

By MURRAY CHASS © 1989 New York Times

NEW YORK, N.Y. - A lawsuit filed Monday by Pete Rose against the commissioner of baseball reveals for the first time that the commissioner's investigation has uncovered information that says the Cincinnati Reds' manager bet on baseball games involving his team.

If the charge were proved — and Rose has consistently denied it, and does so again in the suit — he could be suspended from baseball for life.

Rose's lawyers filed the suit in Cincinnati in Hamilton County Common Pleas Court, charging that the commissioner, A. Bartlett Giamatti, had prejudged the case and could not be impartial in hearing it.

The suit asks the court to block a hearing the commissioner had scheduled for Monday, and requests that the court, not Giamatti, decide the is-

Furthermore, the suit says that the commissioner's investigation of Rose's alleged gambling activities has been improper, and asks for monetary damages for Rose and punitive damages against Giamatti.

In addition, it says the report on Rose prepared for the commissioner by John Dowd, a Washington lawyer, contains false accusations that Rose bet on baseball.

Some lawyers in baseball see the lawsuit as an attempt by Rose, described in the suit as a "modern day legend," to avoid an inevitable suspension. They believe that, at best, he can gain plea-bargaining leverage with Giamatti.

The commissioner, on the other hand, is facing the sternest test of his brief tenure, they say.

Although baseball rules give the

ROSE Please turn to Page 2S



Barry Switzer wipes his eyes Monday as he announces his resignation as head football coach at the University of Oklahoma after 16 seasons.

He vows never to coach in college ranks again

NORMAN, OKLA. (AP) - Barry Switzer resigned Monday as football coach at the University of Oklahoma, placing part of the blame on the NCAA.

Switzer said he was frustrated by NCAA rules that do not "recognize the financial needs of young ath-

Switzer, who had been pressured to quit since the football program was penalized by the NCAA in December and after several players were charged with crimes, is among the most successful coaches in college football history.

He said he was not asked to resign. "It is my decision," he said. "I thought what is best for the program is what I am doing today."

Through With Colleges

He also vowed to never again coach college football.

"I will never coach at another institution," Switzer said. "I will never coach at another college level. I promise you that.

"It's no fun anymore. I'm drained. I don't have the energy level to compete in this arena today."

Switzer, 52, said the resignation was effective immediately. He said he would accept another job with the Oklahoma athletic department.

The Sooners were placed on a three-year probation by the NCAA, which named Switzer in four of 20 rules violations. Switzer denied knowledge of violations and was not penalized by the university.

Criticizes Rules

Switzer said he wanted to be a spokesman for changing NCAA rules that he said did not allow coaches to treat athletes humanely.

"I am not making excuses but simply giving an explanation when I say it was difficult to turn my back on these young men when they needed help," he said. "We have created a system that does not permit me or the program to buy a pair of shoes or a decent coat for a player whose family can't afford these basic necessities.

"How can any coach stick to these rules when a young man's father dies many miles away and the son has no money for a plane ticket home to the funeral?"

Switzer was under fire even before the action by the NCAA.

Bosworth Book

In August, a book by former Oklahoma linebacker Brian Bosworth said players used cocaine and fired guns at the football dormitory. Bosworth, who left the team after the 1986 season, also wrote about NCAA violations and said the Oklahoma football program bordered on anarchy.

Switzer had called Bosworth's claims sensationalism.

But Bosworth's book started a controversy that escalated early this

One player was charged with shooting another player in an athletic dormitory. Three players were charged with first-degree rape. Another player pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiracy to distribute cocaine after he was accused of selling cocaine to an undercover FBI agent.

The criminal allegations after the probation from the NCAA caused furor — the state's largest newspapers called for Switzer to resign — but the university's interim president, David Swank, expressed confidence that Switzer could restore order.

Receives Bonus

The school's board of regents deferred action on Switzer's contract earlier this month. Last year, Switzer received a \$12,500 bonus and a \$5,000

Switzer had not indicated his plan to resign after Oklahoma completed spring practice in April. At that time, he talked about next season.

Switzer became the Sooners' coach in 1973. Oklahoma was voted the No. 1 team in the nation in 1974 and 1975 and won 37 straight games from 1973 to 1975. The 1985 team was also finished the season ranked No. 1 in the country.

Switzer, a native of Crossett, Ark., played football at the University of Arkansas. He was an assistant coach at Arkansas before joining the Okla-

> **SWITZER** Please turn to Page 4S

Strange, Hogan similar in at least one category

By JOE GREENDAY

Ben Hogan?

© 1989 Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Is it a sacrilege to compare Curtis Strange to

Whether people want to hear it or not, the comparison was being tossed around after a determined Strange won the 89th U.S. Open Sunday and became the first repeat champion in 38 years. Hogan had been the last man to win consecutive Opens, in 1950 at Merion Golf Club in Ardmore,

Birmingham, Mich. "Move over, Ben," Strange said proudly after his final round of par-70 gave him a 72-hole total of 2-under 278 and a one-stroke victory over Chip Beck, Mark McCumber and England's Ian Woosnam, who was playing in his first Open.

Pa., then in 1951 at Oakland Hills in

Another shot to the rear was Brian Claar, at even-par 280. Former champion Scott Simpson and Japan's Jumbo Ozáki finished at 281.

The loudest crash came from the tour's leading money-winner, Tom Kite, who held a one-shot lead over Simpson after the third round. Kite skied to an 8-over 78, finished five shots off the pace and self-destructed with his first major championship right within his grasp.

The victory for Strange was the

17th in a PGA Tour career that started in 1977, and it made him the 16th player to win the U.S. Open at least twice. But, more significantly, it put him in a class reserved for only five others who have won it in consecutive

"I don't know Mr. Hogan and I have never met him," Strange said. "As great a player that he was, it's not so much what he did winning two Opens in succession, but what others have not done. Great players like Arnold Palmer never did it, neither did Jack Nicklaus nor Tom Watson. It just hasn't been done for such a long, long time."

Strange will have to put more numbers together to become the equal of Hogan, yet there are more than a few similarities. The most notable are Strange's determination and bulldog tenacity. They match Hogan in every way. Strange is relentless when a victory is in sight, almost like a shark smelling blood.

That became evident early in the inal round when Kite, who was sailing along with a three-shot lead, stumbled at the fifth hole. Kite drove

> CURTIS Please turn to Page 3S



Curtis Strange waves to the crowd lining the 18th fairway while winning his second straight U.S. Open.

Agents Walters, Bloom sentenced to prison terms

CHICAGO, ILL. (AP) — A federal judge on Monday sentenced sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom to prison terms, saying he hopes their punishment helps bring the rule of law to big-money college sports.

Walters and Bloom were convicted in April of signing athletes before their college eligibility had expired, and of threatening some of the athletes with harm if they sought to break the agreements.

U.S. District Judge George Marovich said the involvement of the agents, particularly Walters, with an organized-crime figure weighed heavily in his decision to sentence Walters to five years in prison and Bloom to three years. "I wouldn't dream of breaking the law. That's not who I am," an almost

inaudible Walters told the judge before sentencing, at times choking back "I am deeply sorry for what I've done. If I can be given a second chance, I'd

like it," Bloom said. Walters, 57, and Bloom, 29, were convicted April 13 of racketeering, conspiracy and mail fraud after a five-week trial. One charge of which they were cleared was a charge that they had perpetrated mail fraud upon the University of Iowa. Jurors said, after the trial, that they felt the university itself had committed the fraud, by certifying players Ronnie Harmon and Devon Mitchell as academically eligible. The jury foreman said the certification "was a travesty of higher education."

The judge ordered each to serve five years' probation after leaving prison. Bloom also was ordered to finish paying back \$145,000 to Paul Palmer, a running back with the Kansas City Chiefs who had sought to invest the money with Bloom. Walters was ordered to forfeit \$250,000 to the government.

After the sentencing, Walters and Bloom were released on bond for 30 days, pending appeals. Lawyers for both agents said they would appeal the convictions and sentences.

The agents were accused of:

• Paying athletes thousands of dollars to sign secret representation contracts before their college eligibility had expired, a violation of NCAA rules. • Threatening some athletes with harm, including broken legs, to keep them

from breaking the agreements.

• Cheating major universities out of scholarship money through the NCAA violations, which made the athletes ineligible to play.

MORNING REPORT

Baseball

Roston	at Chir	
AMERICAN	LEAGUE	

Boston	at	Chicago
Detroit	at	Oakland
Baltimore	at	Seattle
Milwaukee	at	Minnesota
Toronto	at	California

NATIONAL LEAGUE

5 Montreal New York at San Francisco Houston at San Diego Los Angeles

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION at Toledo Nashville 4 Buffalo Pawtucket 2 Louisville Richmond at Indianapolis Denver Okla. City at Omaha Rochester at lowa

MIDWEST LEAGUE

- Burlington 2 Kenosha South Bend 5 Peoria Springfield Wausau 8 Appleton Clinton at Waterloo at Beloit Quad City at Madison Rockford
- STEROID ADMISSION. A Maryland man, John L. Carter, pleaded guilty Monday in a plea arrangement to charges stemming from the alleged use and distribution of steroids within the University of South Carolina's athletic department. Meanwhile, ex-South Carolina assistant football coach Jim Washburn testified he became worried in the mid-1980s that the use of steroids by players "had gotten out of hand." Washburn also said he and ex-assistant coach Tom Gadd, whose trial began Monday, arranged for a Gamecock player to obtain steroids.
- MORE STEROIDS. A former "steroid guru" told a federal inquiry on Monday that more than 90 percent of elite Olympic sprinters like Ben Johnson use banned drugs. Dr. Robert B. Kerr, a 54-year-old California physician who once claimed he had 20 Olympic medalists on banned substances, described a nightmarish world in which stars were treated like laboratory animals.
- MORE MANDARICH FIGHT TALK. Boxing promoter Don King and billionaire Donald Trump have shown new interest in a proposed fight between Tony Mandarich, the Green Bay Packers' top draft pick, and heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, an agent says. Agent Vern Sharbaugh, who represents Mandarich,

said he met for migra than 2 hours last week with King.

TV Today

8 a.m. (ESN) Golf U.S. Open Championship, Final Round. (Tape)

6:30 p.m. (WGN) Baseball Chicago at Pittsburgh.

6:35 p.m. (TBS) Baseball Cincinnati at Atlanta. 8 p.m. (ESN) Boxing Myron Taylor vs. Ed Pollard, Featherweights.

Quotes of the Day

"I want to give fair warning to people who violate the rules. You may be playing in a different ballgame now, and it may be hardball. There's a new player on the field - the rule of law." -U.S. District Court Judge George M. Marovich, in sentencing sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

"Repeating was just one of those things that happened. Trying to duplicate something you did the year before is almost impossible. We'd all like to duplicate all of it." - Golfer Ben Hogan, on his consecutive U.S. Open vie tories.