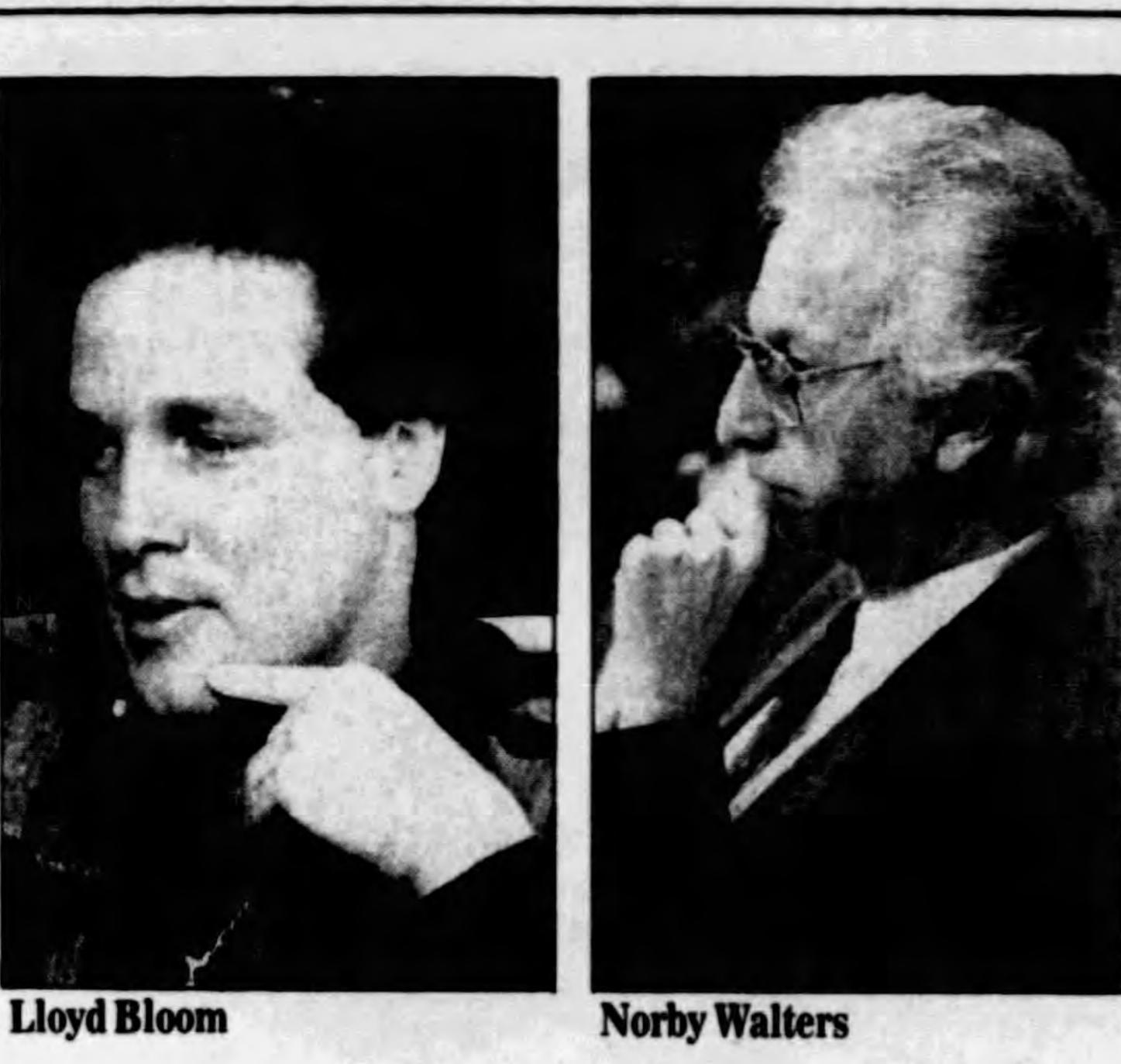
The Atlanta Journal AND CONSTITUTION

E-6



Walters, Bloom Allowed To Stay Free on Bond By Dan Weir would be upheld.

## Tech Reaches Crossroads in Academics, Sports

At the Georgia Institute of Technology, there are T-shirts that proclaim, "MIT is the Georgia Tech of the North."

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That's not exactly true, for more reasons than you think. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with its rigid and narrow offerings of curricula, is not nearly so foolish as to try to compete in intercollegiate athletics at a high level.

At MIT, they concede that nerds as a group just don't seem to do well at outside linebacker or point guard, and leave it at that. Tech has long been schizophrenic in its mission: On the one front it would fight the MITs academically, and on the other the Alabamas athletically.

Other than the service academies, no institution competes in Division I-A athletics at a greater recruiting handicap than does Tech. And Army, Navy and Air Force go after the uniquely disciplined individual anyway. Tech goes after the same general population of athletes as Alabama and Georgia and tries to convince them it will all work out ... somehow.

So a case can be made that Tech has the hardest time recruiting of any major footballbasketball school in America. The fields of study offered to the athlete are just too narrow, too demanding.

Even at Duke and Stanford, you can major in phys ed, or myriad "humanities" programs that are escape routes from that scourge of most of mankind, math. The athlete arrives for his official visit at Tech to discover that he can either blast off to Nerd Nirvana (astrophysics, chemical engineering, etc.) or go the beaten path of athletes, "Industrial Management" (still no day at



the beach, for you still must face the Big C, calculus).

But now, if the faculty and administration will stop fighting over details, things may loosen up a tad at Tech. There may come a day when the kid from Hahira doesn't fear he'll be required to shoot lasers before he can shoot threepointers. That is, he — and all students — might get a choice of majors broader than Nerd Nirvana and Industrial Management.

Now granted, not all athletes arrive with plans to knock 'em dead in the classroom. But you've gotta show a kid something that at least LOOKS conquerable, or fun to dabble at.

The Bobbys, Ross of football and Cremins of basketball, are staying in the background during this unrest at Tech. Though athletics might benefit greatly, the academicians consider this an academic matter only. And Ross and Cremins don't want to turn off the professors with any hint of jock pressure. All on campus seem agreed that Tech should broaden its offering of majors. Now they're fighting over how to do it. Shall the president, Dr. John Patrick Crecine, chart the course? Or

should the faculty? Many of the teachers are whining that Dr. Crecine isn't letting them play as much as the late president Joseph Pettit promised them they could.

What the dissidents don't seem to understand is that Dr. Crecine has come up with a plan that has a chance of getting through Georgia's Board of Regents - a body occupied mainly by friends of the more liberal-arts minded schools of the state, not exactly friends of Tech.

The other state-supported institutions have a stake in keeping Tech's role concentrated - and limited — in academics. A nice by-product is keeping Tech manacled athletically.

But Tech itself struggles to break out of its own narrowness. It's fine to be tough academically, but do it broadly, like Stanford and Duke, who as a by-product of their openness have attracted some pretty fair football and basketball players in their time.

To broaden, Tech must run the broken field of Regents. And that won't happen if the faculty turns around and argues with the quarterback just before the snap.

Not that it matters to the academicians, but Tech's academic upheaval is also a watershed for the long-fought, two-front war. Tech must choose between the path of Stanford and Duke, and the path of MIT. Tech can broaden and continue to play, or it can remain rigid and quit playing intercollegiately. It is clear now that to continue playing, the Georgia Institute of Technology at last must differentiate between "a ramblin' wreck from Georgia Tech ... and a helluva engineer."

Special to the Journal-Constitution

CHICAGO - Citing the unprecedented nature of their convictions, a federal judge Wednesday allowed sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom to remain free on bond pending their appeals of racketeering and other charges, which arose from their dealings with college athletes.

U.S. District Court Judge George Marovich, who had sentenced Walters to five years and Bloom to three, said his decision Wednesday is not a matter of "whether they can prevail on appeal" but that "substantial" legal questions remain for a higher court to decide before the men should begin their jail terms. The defendants were to surrender to authorities July 19.

Walters, 57, and Bloom, 30, were convicted on one count each of racketeering, racketeerng conspiracy and consipiracy plus two counts of mail fraud after a five-week trial ending in April.

"Of course, I'm relieved, but I was confident the judge would be as fair as he has been all along," Walters said after the hearing.

**Bloom** echoed his former partner's sentiments and added, "I think we will win on appeal. just want to get on with my life."

But the judge emphasized that he was not required to find that the convictions would be overturned, just that legitimate legal questions remained as a basis for appeal.

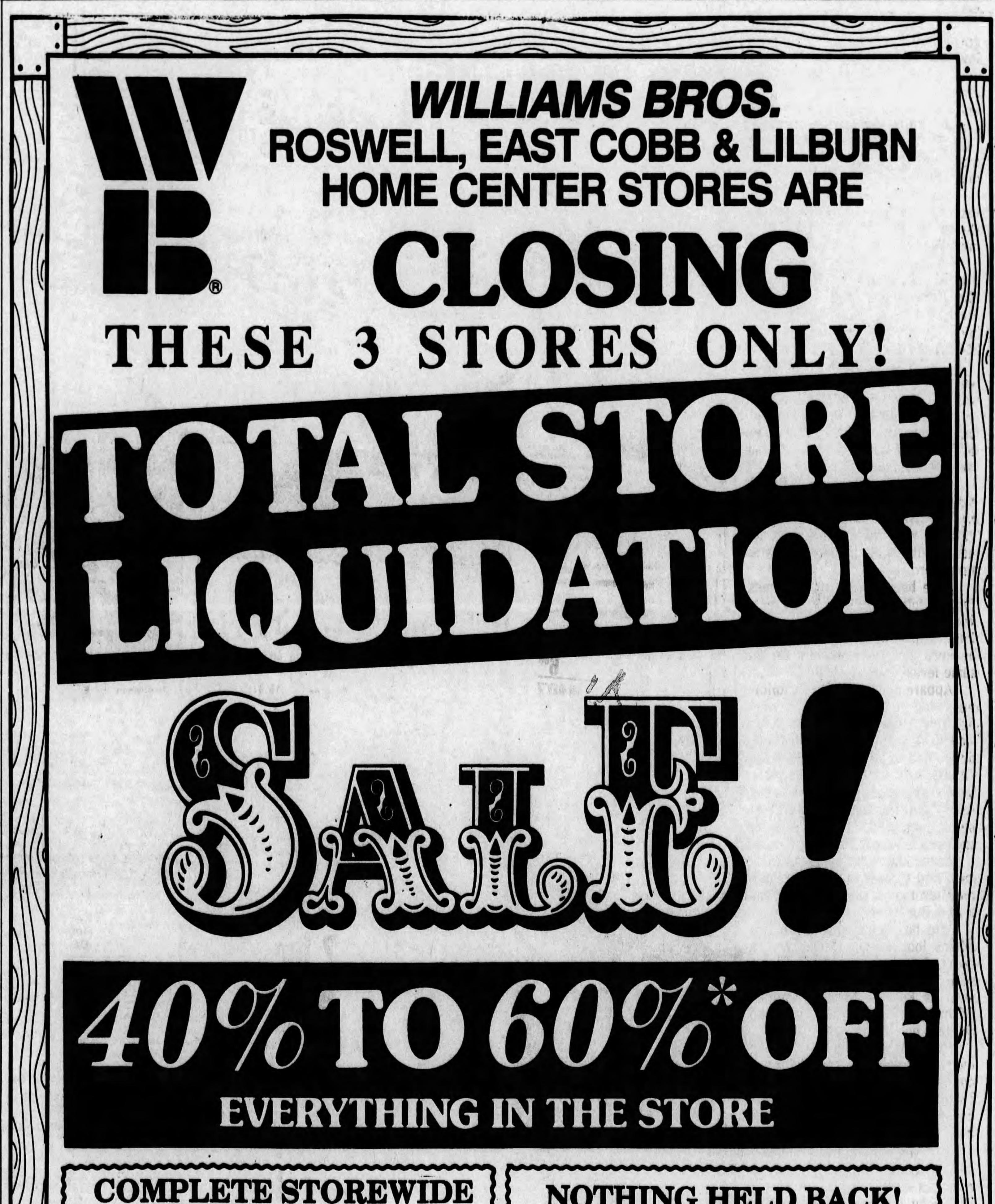
"I don't think they are going to win, but even my massive ego doesn't lead me to the conclusion that there is no likelihood they would," Marovich said.

A jury decided that Walters and **Bloom** had committed mail fraud when officials at the University of Michigan and Purdue Univierstiy mailed forms to the NCAA and Big Ten claiming that players who had dealt with the agents were eligible to compete.

Pearl, contending that the mail fraud charges were a minor part of the government case, said threats made by **Bloom** against two athletes who tried to back out of their deals and Walters's association with admitted mobster Michael Franzese would bolster the convictions. Franzese testified that he gave Walters \$50,000 to start World Sports and Entertainment and used the implied threat of mob retaliation to keep Walters's clients in the

But Bloom's attorney, Dan Webb, said the case was weak without the mail fraud allegations.

And the racketeering charges balance on "a hope and a prayer and a stretch," Webb added. "You are not going to see the open 'racketeering' stand." Webb said the judge had made numerous errors in rulings concerning evidence and testimony allowed into the case.



Walters, 57, and Bloom, 30, were convicted on one count each of racketeering, racketeering conspiracy and consipiracy plus two counts of mail fraud after the trial ended in April. Marovich previously had

ruled the agents were not dangerous or likely to flee. Defense attorneys also

ments last August.

strenuous objections of assistant in revenue. U.S. attorney Howard Pearl, who contended the men should begin ney in Chicago, said he expects serving their sentences next the appeal to be resolved in nine week because the convictions to 18 months.

They remain free on \$250,000 claimed from the beginning that bonds secured by property that the universities were not dewas posted after their indict- frauded because they got exactly what they paid for: star players Marovich dismissed the that attracted millions of dollars

Webb, the former U.S. attor-

## **OB** Danny White Retires After 13 Years as Cowboy

## The Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Danny White, haunted for most of his 13-year career by the shadow of Hall of Famer Roger Staubach, retired Wednesday from a Dallas team suddenly stocked with young quarterbacks.

White, 37, made the decision after a meeting with head coach Jimmy Johnson. White said Johnson made it clear he did not figure prominently in the team's plans for 1989.

sion on who gets the repetitions, /// who gets the practice time."

White played at Arizona State, then had two seasons with Memphis of the World Football League before joining the Cowboys in 1976. He was the most accurate passer in club history and holds 11 club reords, but was constantly compared to Staubach, who quarter-

**NOTHING HELD BACK!** 

"But this is his (Johnson's) team, and one thing I know is that he's the boss," White said. "The direction they wanted to take was to give the young guys as much work as possible. If I was going to be in the role I wanted to play, I needed as much work as possible.

"That opportunity was not going to be provided."

The Cowboys selected UCLA quarterback Troy Aikman with the first pick in this spring's NFL draft, then picked Miami guarterback Steve Walsh in Friday's supplemental draft and are high on Scott Secules, who is entering his second season.

They also have Steve Pelluer, the starter last season, who is holding out, and journeyman Babe Laufenberg.

White said he was not interested in playing a role as a backup and tutor to the young quarterbacks. Asked if he believed he could be the starting quarterback heading into this season, White answered, "Yes."

"Danny is such a competitor that he wanted to be a key figure," Johnson said. "The job was wide open, but we have to make a deci- going to remember most."

five Super Bowl appearances and two world championships.

backed the Cowboys to four of their

"That's just something that's been overdone," White said. "I never tried to live up to the expectations they had of Roger. I consider it an honor to follow him."

White quarterbacked the Cowboys to five playoff appearances and two division titles. His record as a starter was 67-35.

But Dallas fans most remembered him for the team's losses in the NFC championship game in the three seasons immediately following Staubach's retirement. After that, the team began to slip as the level of personnel declined, hitting bottom at 3-13 last season.

In May, White signed a new contract, but his role already had diminished with Pelluer's emergence over the past two seasons.

White's retirement leaves center Tom Rafferty and defensive end Ed Jones as the only players remaining from the Cowboys' 1978-79 Super Bowl team.

"I'm grateful to the Cowboys for the opportunity they've given me to play football," said White, his voice shaking and tears welling in his eyes, "but more than that for the opportunity to have an effect on people's lives. That's the thing I'm . .

