

The Inside Story

Odds & INS



By Mike Conklin

Taking a stand: U.S. Attorney Anton R. Valukas, who successfully prosecuted sports agent Norby Walters in Chicago, said Tuesday he was disappointed the case didn't result in significant changes in college athletics. Speaking to the Center for Ethics and Corporate Policy, he specifically cited the Big 10, which considered restricting the opportunity for freshmen to compete, only to shelve the notion. Valukas added that, in one respect, he was appalled by the athletes he put on the stand and their lack of sophistication at completing such simple tasks as purchasing airline tickets.

On the other hand, one witness made him feel good. "There was a day when I knew we were on safe ground and someone upstairs was watching," said Valukas, referring to former Notre Dame President Theodore Hesburgh's testimony. "How does one cross-examine Father Hesburgh regarding his credibility? The judge asked, 'Do you think we have to swear him in?' I said, 'For appearance's sake we ought to do so.'" After testifying, he related, "Father Ted did something that was of some assistance [to the prosecution]. He looked at the jury and blessed them. I knew I was in good shape when six of them made the sign of the cross."

Bulletini CBS' "60 Minutes," the network's highly acclaimed investigative show, is coming to Wrigley Field. Actually, cohost Mike Wallace is coming to throw out the first ball Sept. 23 against Pittsburgh. Wallace also will be honored that night at the Museum of Broadcast Communications' dinner in the Chicago Hilton & Towers. The TV journalist sounded equally excited over both appearances in the town where he worked early in his career. Wallace said he feels the NL East is a lock for the Cubs. "They remind me so much



Hesburgh Wallace Hagman

of the Mets in '69, the way everything is going their way," he said. "I'm afraid we're dead." And who, pray tell, is Wallace's favorite team? "The Mets since '69," he said. "That's when I settled into the area [New York] and really started following a team."

He's back: In case you didn't notice—and, quite obviously, that would've been difficult—William Perry played in his first regular-season NFL game last Sunday since last Sept. 18. He got only two tackles, but he expects to improve. "Being out almost a year," he said, "it's had an effect on me. Some of my timing is still off. I feel good mentally, but I'm not there physically." The Fridge spoke Tuesday at The Tribune-WGN luncheon at the Schaumburg Marriott, where he also discussed his role on the Bears' kickoff team against Cincinnati. The thought of the huge lineman charging down the field as a wedgebreaker is frightening, indeed. Can we expect coach Mike Ditka, who unveiled Fridge as a ballcarrier, to find more new roles for him? Said Perry: "I can't really say what coach Ditka will do, but he has something on his mind, believe me."

At the races: It wasn't exactly J.R. Ewing getting his comeuppance, but Larry Hagman, who plays the villain on "Dallas," relates a story that's the next best thing. Said Hagman: "I was at the Breeders' Cup a couple of years ago and I was sitting behind a guy named Earl Scheib who paints cars and so forth. He had a horse running [Fran's Valentine] and I put \$100 on her and she came in at 70 to 1. I was so happy, and he was sitting in front of me and he turned red, jumping and hollering. I ordered about 10 bottles of Dom Perignon to celebrate. Just as the champagne was coming, they took her number down because she had hit everybody on the track. Earl turned white and my pocketbook was empty. Never order the champagne until you get the money in your pocket."

Secret weapon: Kip Jones, a member of Purdue's basketball team for four years, is on the football team as a split end. Jones didn't catch a pass in the opening victory over Miami of Ohio and he probably won't go down in annals with other Boilermakers—Roosevelt Barnes (1978-81), Lamar Lundy (1954-57), Len Dawson (1954-56), Bob Griese (1964-66)—who've played both sports. Nevertheless, coach Fred Akers got mileage out of his 6-foot-8-inch athlete in the opener. Lining up behind the line of scrimmage, Jones leaped high to block an early field-goal try by the visitors. "Kip looked just like he was going up for a rebound," said a Purdue official.

News, notes and nonsense: Ray Meyer hosts a Starter Hall of Fame Basketball Clinic Saturday morning in De Paul's Alumni Hall for youngsters ages 12-15. The clinic is one of a series throughout the country sponsored by Starter Sportswear, Inc., and among coaches participating are Georgetown's John Thompson, St. John's Lou Carnesecca, Southern Cal's George Raveling, Michigan State's Jud Heathcote, Detroit's Ricky Byrdson and Connecticut's Jim Calhoun. ... Proceeds from St. Coletta's 10th Kennedy Run this Sunday, an 8-mile race as well as 3-mile fun run in Palos Park, will benefit the school's Special Olympics projects. ... The College of Du Page's seventh Foundation Golf Day is Monday at La Grange Country Club. PGA Tour player Gary Koch is the featured golfer. ... SportsChannel and Loyola have signed a new four-year agreement that begins with 5 to 10 Rambler games to be aired this season.

And finally: So what's the big deal about Alain Chevrier signing this week with the Blackhawks? This had to be a done deal when you learn the goalie closed Aug. 9 on a \$350,000 home in Wheaton.

Dancer's in fine form at Sportsman's

"Nothing beats a winner," proclaimed Stanley Dancer, the 62-year-old Hall-of-Fame harness driver-trainer who won his first race in 1946, "and the best one always is the last one."

His pulpit was the Sportsman's Park winner's circle, and "the last one"—in this case the latest—came Tuesday night, courtesy of Cumin, in the \$95,200 American-National 2-year-old trot.

As expected, Cumin easily won the nonbetting race. Clocking in 2:02, he prevailed by 8½ lengths over Meadowbranch Eddy, his closest competitor in the field of six.

Finishing fifth was Castleton Magic, trained and driven by 76-year-old Delvin Miller who won the inaugural American-National 2-year-old trot 42 years ago.

While Miller has sulky seniority, Dancer has the distinction of winning more American-Nationals

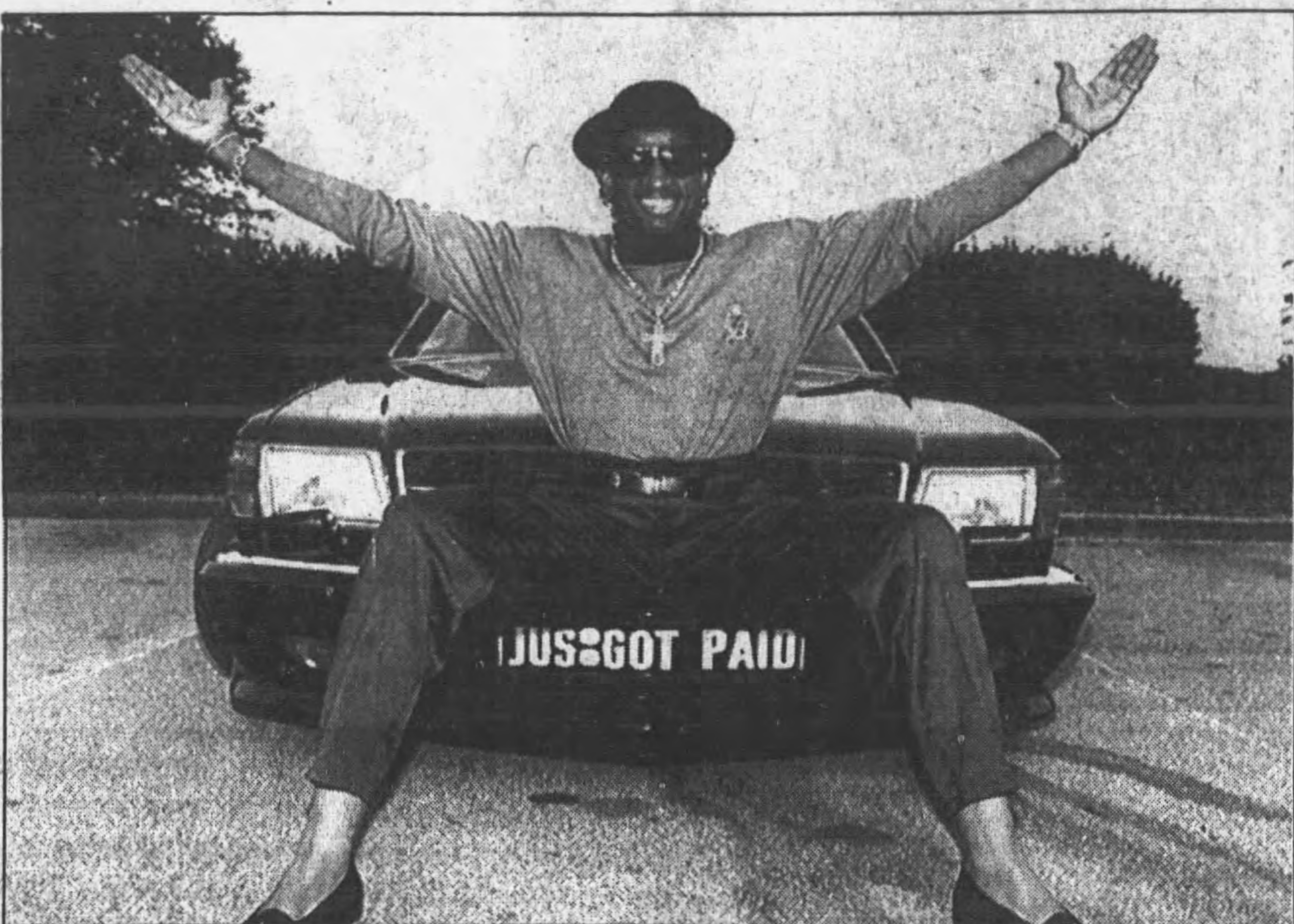
than any other driver. Tuesday's triumph was his 21st in the series that dates back to 1947.

"I'm as high on Cumin as any trotter I've ever had as a 2-year-old," said Dancer. "There hasn't been a 3-year-old win the trotting Triple Crown [the Hambletonian, Kentucky Futurity and Yonkers Trot] since his sire, Super Bowl, in 1972, and I think he has a great shot."

Summer Squall, the nation's top-ranked 2-year-old, will be resting on his laurels at his new home on the Arlington backstretch Wednesday when six members of his local peer group run in the \$35,000-added Arch Ward Stakes.

The 7-furlong Arch Ward is a prep for the Oct. 1 running of the Grade 1 Arlington-Washington Futurity.

Neil Milbert



Am I great or what?

Atlanta's Deion Sanders, who had a 68-yard TD punt return in his NFL debut Sunday, poses on the front bumper of his Mercedes-Benz Monday at the Falcons' complex.

SPORTS OF SORTS

NBA awards dinner Saturday at Hyatt

National Basketball Association players will say their final farewells to Los Angeles Lakers great Kareem Abdul-Jabbar Saturday at the ninth NBA Players Awards dinner at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Abdul-Jabbar, who retired after last season, his 20th in the NBA, will receive the NBA Players Association's National Spirit of Love Award.

Seventeen other awards also will be presented, including the Most Valuable Player award, to the Lakers' Magic Johnson; the league's scoring trophy, to the

ETCETERA

Fleming to run doubles clinic

Peter Fleming will conduct a doubles clinic for adults at 7 p.m. Friday and for juniors at noon Saturday at the SCORE Tennis and Fitness Center in Countryside.

Fleming, who won four Wimbledon doubles titles and three U.S. Open doubles titles playing with John McEnroe, will be joined by current pro Brad Gilbert. Call 482-4800 for more information.

SPORTS PEOPLE

Irish basketball star Ellis becomes academic casualty

NOTRE DAME, Ind.—LaPhonso Ellis, who had an outstanding season last year as a freshman on the Notre Dame basketball team, was declared academically ineligible Tuesday for at least part of the upcoming season.

Ellis apparently fell below the required 2.0 semester grade-point average after taking summer classes.

Final exams for the current semester end Dec. 21 and his eligibility cannot be re-instated until the final semester grades are turned in and certified.

That means Ellis will probably miss at least six games, including contests with Louisville, Indiana and UCLA.

At 6 feet 9 inches, 238 pounds, Ellis was being counted on to play a dominant role for the Irish.

He averaged 13.5 points and 9.4 rebounds last year and blocked 53 shots for a Notre Dame single-season record.

Coach Digger Phelps was out of town on a recruiting trip and unavailable for comment.

Football fullback Kenny Spears also was declared academically ineligible.

Joseph Tybor

NEWSMAKERS

Becker has \$10 million of kidnap insurance



Becker

Tennis star Boris Becker has taken out a \$10 million insurance policy against being kidnapped, Lloyds of London said Tuesday.

A Lloyds spokesman who requested anonymity said Becker, who won the U.S. Open Sunday, is paying \$160,000 a year for the policy.

Tuesday's edition of the Today newspaper said Becker's manager, Ion Tiriac, was upset that details of the policy were released. According to the paper, Tiriac said knowledge of the ransom insurance increases the likelihood of a kidnap attempt.

Slumping Indians fire Edwards as manager

The Cleveland Indians fired manager Doc Edwards Tuesday, hoping to reverse a late-season swoon that dropped the team out of its first pennant race in 15 years.

The Indians were 54-54 on Aug. 4, only 1½ games out of first. But before Edwards' firing, they went 11-24 to fall 14½ games back.

Edwards was replaced on an interim basis by John Hart, former coach and minor-league manager in the Baltimore organization.



Edwards

Report: Spitz dreaming of '92 Olympics



Spitz

Mark Spitz, who won a record seven gold medals in the 1972 Olympics, will try to qualify for the 1992 Games in the 100-meter butterfly, according to a published report.

A story in Tuesday's editions of USA Today quoted the 39-year-old Spitz as saying he is training for the U.S. Olympic Trials, to be held in 2½ years.

Spitz, who will be 42 when the next Olympics are held in Barcelona, Spain, has been involved in real estate and the manufacturing of children's clothes in recent years.

Bits & Pieces on Chicago's teams



Sanderson starting: Scott Sanderson will start Wednesday night against the Expos' Kevin Gross. It will be Sanderson's first start since Aug. 18, when he allowed two runs in four innings of a loss in Houston. He's 2-3 with a 2.66 ERA lifetime against Montreal, his team until 1984.

The Cubs wanted to start a right-hander to take advantage of Montreal's shabby 50-53 record against righties. Manager Don Zimmer went with Sanderson instead of Les Lancaster or Jeff Pico.

Coaches coming back: Zimmer has asked his coaching staff to return next season: pitching coach Dick Pole, batting coach Joe Altobelli, third-base coach Chuck Cottier, first-base coach Jose Martinez and bullpen coach Larry Cox.

Slumping: Andre Dawson, who went 0 for 4 and left three runners in scoring position, is hitless in his last 15 at-bats.

On a roll: Ryne Sandberg is the first second baseman to hit 30 homers since California's Bobby Grich hit 30 in 1979. Sandberg hasn't committed an error since June 20, a stretch of 73 games.

Everything all right: The Cubs have the best record in baseball against lefty starting pitchers (31-16-.660), but they have won 10 of the last 12 games started by a right-hander. And the Cubs are 42-31 against the East, the best mark in the division and a vast improvement over last year's 40-50.

Bat men: The Cubs are in contention for their second straight National League team batting title. They came into Tuesday night batting .256 as a team, second in the league to the .259-hitting Cardinals. The Cubs led the NL with a .261 average last season.

.500 club: The Cubs are guaranteed their third season above .500 since 1972.

Andrew Bagnato



Frustration: Left-hander Steve Rosenberg, yanked Monday night in the second inning behind just 3-2, and manager Jeff Torborg had a one-on-one chat Tuesday. Rosenberg, confused by the quick hook, declined to give details of the conversation. "We had a good talk," he said.

But Torborg conceded he was upset by two straight poor outings. Rosenberg has given up 7 runs (6 earned), 12 hits and 3 walks in 5½ innings over the two starts.

"I'm not happy with him," said Torborg, who probably will leave him in the rotation for now. "I'm trying to be patient. My patience is tried. He's had experience, he should be more comfortable in the [starter] role; he should be more effective. I'm frustrated right now with him. And I know he is, too."

Golden votes: Torborg and the Sox coaches have submitted their votes to the Sporting News for the annual Gold Glove awards for defensive excellence: New York's Don Mattingly at first base, Toronto's Tony Fernandez at shortstop and Kansas City catcher Bob Boone were the only unanimous picks. Other top vote-getters: Wade Boggs at third; Frank White and Harold Reynolds (tie) at second; outfielders Gary Pettis, Devon White and (tie) Kirby Puckett and Roberto Kelly; and pitcher Jimmy Key.

Ventura walks in: Third baseman Robin Ventura made his major-league debut Tuesday night, and in his first at-bat took all five pitches thrown to him. The first three and the last one were balls. It was an appropriate beginning: At Double-A Birmingham, he walked 93 times this season. "I've always walked a lot," he said.

Speaking of kids... Rookie right-hander Gregg Olson's 25th save Monday night added to this little statistical gem: The Orioles are the first team to get a combined 25 victories and 25 saves from rookies since saves became official stats in 1969. Olson, by the way, has an earned-run average of 0.86 at home.

Where's Lyons? In right field. Torborg gave Steve Lyons a rare (this year) outfield start Tuesday night against right-hander Pete Harnisch. Lyons, swinging well lately, was delighted. "I can play there," he said. "As long as I get a chance to play somewhere. I feel defensively I'm as good as any outfielder we've got on this team."

Alan Solomon



Tight-lipped drill: Left wing Everett Sanipass worked out for the first time at this training camp when he practiced Tuesday morning. He broke his jaw when he fell during a power-skating drill last week. How soon he can play in the preseason is uncertain, coach Mike Keenan said. "We'll have to see how well he can breathe," he said.

Sanipass is eating all his meals through a straw. "When you're driving down the street all you see is everyone eating. The pizza signs look this big," he said, holding his hands wide.

Waite'll wait The Hawks would prefer that rookie goalie Jimmy Waite plays a lot this season, which isn't likely to happen if he backs up Alain Chevrier. But if the team gave Waite a choice, he'd stay in the NHL.

You can't blame Waite, 20, for being in a hurry. He is still waiting to win his first NHL game. A record of 0-7-1 last season and a 5.22 goals-against average has him anxious to show the talent that made the Hawks choose him as the eighth player overall in the 1987 draft.

Waiting for Czech: With relaxed visa restrictions in Eastern Europe, the Hawks hope that Czechoslovakian goalie Dominik Hasek, drafted by the Hawks in 1983, will be free to come to Chicago next spring and join the club. The Calgary Flames are on a tour of Europe this month and were recently beaten 4-2 by Hasek and his Czech national teammates. "A very good goalie, one of the best," said Soviet winger Sergei Makarov, a new addition to the Flames, about Hasek.

Mike Kiley

TANK McNAMARA



GIL THORP

