SECTION F

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1990

Bradley

With Dudley at the line, watch for flying bricks

Seventy minutes before tipoff, Chris Dudley is practicing free throws. When last Dudley played, he shot 18 foul shots. He missed 17. Of the 17 misses, only one was an air ball. Just try hitting the rim 17 times and having but one shot drop. Can't be done. Chris Dudley did it.

Chris Dudley is a bright guy — he went to Yale — and a passable ballplayer apart from foul shots. At foul shots, he's as pitiable as anybody you'll ever see. He has been in the NBA three years, has made but 39.5 percent of his free throws. Never, however, had he missed 17 of 18. So he comes out early Tuesday to practice.

And misses seven straight. Then hits one.

Then misses three more. Soon Dudley, 3-for-19 in his solitary workout, takes a well-deserved break. He walks over to where Bill Fitch, whose lot it is to coach Dudley and the rest of the New Jersey Nets, and begins a conversation. Duly buoyed, Dudley resumes shooting. He misses the first wide left. He makes four of his next six. Can this last?

A form from no known manual

Nah.

He misses three straight. He is 8-for-30 when he casts one that looks dead-on. Alas. teammate Chris Morris has taken to shooting at this goal, and his 24-footer knocks Dudley's shot off the rim. Talk about buzzard's luck.

A word here about Dudley's form: Unless Stephen King has taken to writing textbooks, it is from no known manual. Dudley's legs and arms don't work in concert. He bends his knees and starts to rise to his tippy-toes and then. . . . stops dead. A heartbeat later, his arm action, such as it is, kicks in. As delivered by Dudley, the ball has no backspin. It is less a shot than a malignant flick. The chief reason he misses so often is because the ball ker-rangs off the rim. Putting spin on the ball gives even bad shots a chance.

Another note: Dudley's jump shot is far better. (Indeed, in his 1-for-18 game he was 4for-7 from the field.) According to those noted purveyors of the free-throwing art, the Atlanta Hawks, Dudley should try shooting jump shots from the line. A man asks Glenn Rivers, seen speaking to Dudley during warmups, if he suggested as much. Says Rivers: "I didn't say anything about free throws. I figure everybody else already has."

Through 60 practice foul shots, Dudley has made 19. He takes another break, then comes back strong. He winds up hitting nine straight — somebody get Guinness on the horn - 31 of 77 all told. Pronouncing himself ready, Dudley trots off the court.

A pointless night at the line

With Sam Bowie out with a hurt foot. Dudley must start at center against the Hawks. He knows he'll be tackled whenever he gets the ball low. It takes the Hawks nearly the whole first half to send Dudley to the line, but finally he's fouled. The crowd buzzes in anticipation. Offering encouragement, Dudley's teammates pat him on the flank. No such luck.

He misses the first. In and out. He also misses the second, but the vicious hitch atop his shot renders the issue moot. The Nets' Anthony Mason is called for a lane violation.

Five minutes into the second half, Dudley is fouled again. His first shot has no chance, glancing off the flange. His second ... goes in! But wait! Another lane violation, this time a dual one. Wipe out the point.

Dudley looks away in disbelief. His last stand comes with 51 seconds left in the third quarter. Somehow he has made a basket despite being hammered by Alexander Volkov. Dudley gets one shot. And misses. But Dominique Wilkins has lurched into the lane. Dudley gets another. And misses again. Mercifully, he doesn't get another chance. Officially he's 0-for-3, the three lane violations counting as nothing.

Afterward, Dudley admits that he "wasn't feeling too comfortable" at the line. Had he heard the crowd? "You hear it a little. . . . But the noise on the outside doesn't bother me as much as what I'm feeling inside.... I can get in a groove. I'm just not doing it. My trouble is that I'm not doing the same thing on every shot. Once I do that, I'll be all right."

Perhaps. But down the hall, the Hawks' Jon Koncak, who has missed a free throw or three in his time, has this word for Chris Dudley's foul shooting. "Disheartening." Koncak says.

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

Agent probe targets son of George Allen

THEALLENFILE

Mame: Gerald Bruce Allen.

Age: 33. a Background: Head football coach at Occidental College at age 22. . . . At 25, became youngest general manager of a pro football team, running Anzona Wranglers of the USFL. . . . Became sports agent when league foldBy Mike Fish and Len Pasquarelli Staff writers

Sports agent Bruce Allen, son of former NFL coach George Allen, is the target of a federal investigation into possible mail and/or wire fraud, signing college football players before their eligibility expired, and fraud in real estate deals, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution has learned.

FBI sources have said key witnesses

in their investigation include Sharon Salewski, a former secretary with Allen's Phoenix-based firm, GBA Sportsworld, and Derek Hill, a former University of Arizona wide receiver who plays for Pittsburgh.

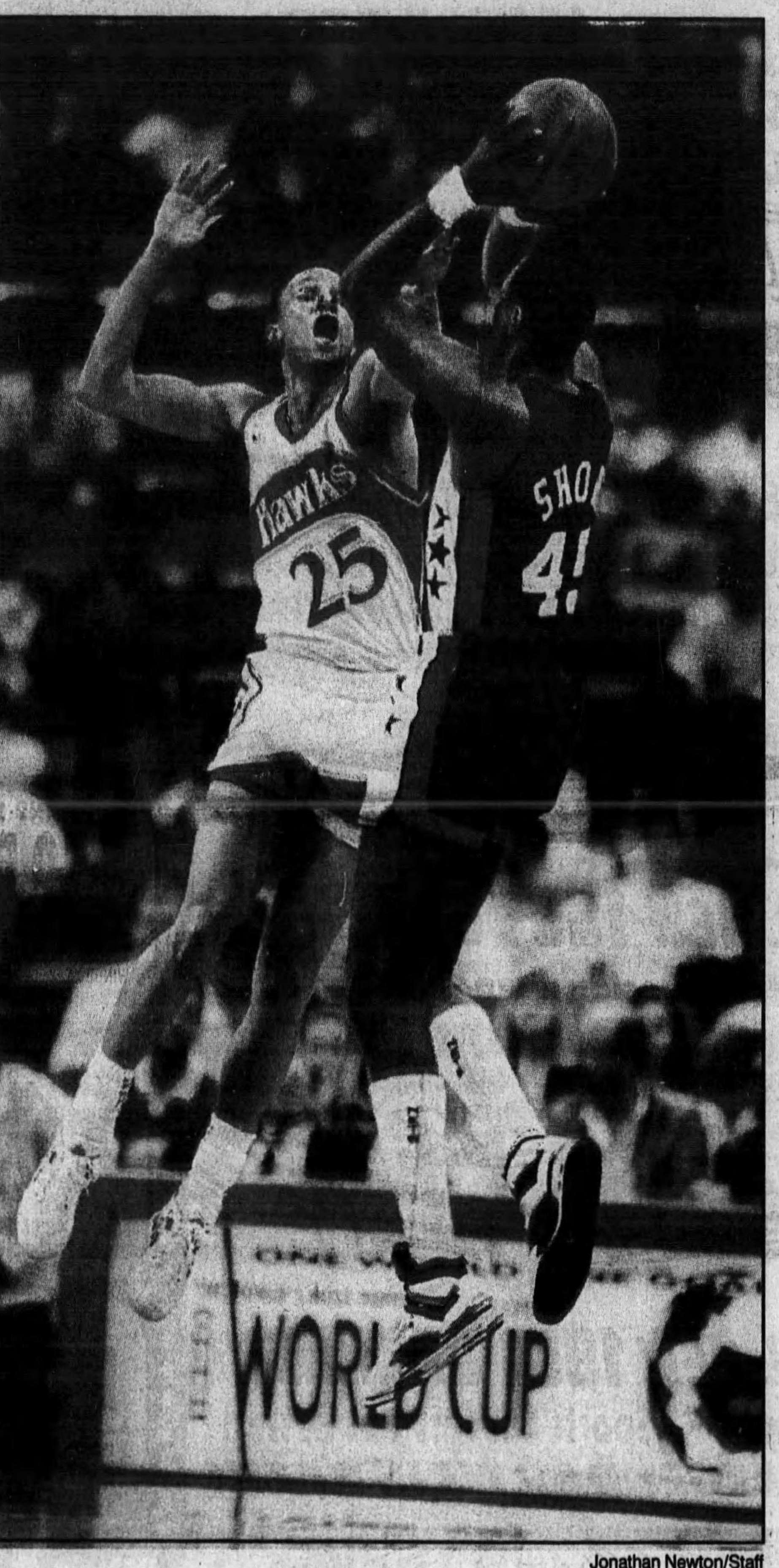
Salewski, sources said, was to be interviewed this morning in Phoenix by the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's office. Her attorney, William Morrison, said he is attempting to negotiate a grant of immunity from prosecution in return

for her cooperation.

Sources said Hill is also seeking immunity.

Allen, 33, also is the subject of one current suit by a former client stemming from a 1987 real estate deal, and may be named Thursday in a suit concerning real estate transactions, although Edward King, an attorney representing former Arizona State defensive end Kit Lathrop, said that Allen

Please see ALLEN, F9



Jonathan Newton/Staff

Hawks guard Doc Rivers challenges New Jersey Nets' Purvis Short as he goes up for a shot during the first half Tuesday night.

Hawks trounce Nets 118-95

Wilkins's 36 help avoid elimination

By Jeffrey Denberg Staff writer

There were two ways to handle the New Jersey Nets Tuesday night. The Hawks could run them out of the game early or they could dig in for a protracted struggle.

But they could not lose.

Earlier this season, the Nets obtained two of their 17 victories against the Hawks at the Meadowlands. To suffer virtual playoff elimination against them at The Omni would have been the ultimate humiliation.

However, the Hawks held off the Nets 118-95 to bolster their playoff

Thus, the Hawks had done their job, winning their 39th game. Still with a chance to finish with a spot in the playoffs, the Hawks can finish at .500 by

beating New York Friday and Miami here Saturday. "We can't accept anything less than sweep," Hawks coach Mike Fratello said. "We have to sweep and we have to

get a little help." They got no help Tuesday as Cleveland beat Milwaukee to maintain its half-game lead over Atlanta. The Cavs play the Nets in New Jersey tonight

After 5-for-12 field goal shooting in the first half, Dominique Wilkins went to work and sank eight of 10 after the half. The only consistent scorer the

Please see HAWKS, F8

INSIDE

- ► Cavs stay ahead by holding off Milwaukee F8 off Milwaukee
- ► Hawks' Smith struggling in his new role off bench

Draft deal on 'life support' as Falcons-Colts stalemated

Plan to swap No. 1 pick may still work, however

By Len Pasquarelli and Glenn Sheeley Staff writers

Trade talks between the Atlanta Falcons and Indianapolis, aimed at sending the first overall choice in Sunday's NFL draft to the Colts, stalled on Tuesday and may not be revived. Colts sources said.

"It looked like we were headed in a pretty decent direction for a while," said a source with the Colts. "But then things started moving away from a deal.

"I'm not saying things are dead, but they're certainly on life-support systems."

The Colts would use the choice to select Illinois quarterback Jeff George. an Indianapolis native. The Falcons have said they will take George, barring a trade, but have yet to begin contract

negotiations with his agent, Leigh Steinberg.

Colts general manager Jim Irsay indicated that Falcons officials were holding firm on their trade demands. Though he would not specify, Indianapolis sources had previously confirmed that the Falcons' request included sixtime Pro Bowl offensive tackle Chris Hinton, second-year wide receiver Andre Rison and a high-round draft

"They've told us again what it would take," said Irsay. "There are certain components to the package we'd consider, but we do have limits. If they stick to their [current] price, we're not going to meet it."

Asked Tuesday if he thought the Falcons were close to trading the pick, coach Jerry Glanville said, "I don't think so, not yet."

Glanville reiterated that it will take a blockbuster trade offer to get the Falcons' attention.



Illinois quarterback Jeff George is coveted by both the Falcons and Colts.

"Our thoughts," said Glanville, "are to draft [George] and keep him and play

Steinberg said that he had had "some communications" with Atlanta officials on Tuesday, but that the talks did not include Falcons chief financial officer Jim Hay.

formine electron and final electron in the Easier Combience playoffs. If the cams finish tied, the Cavallers would make the playoffs because of their 2-1 record against the Hawks.

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Braves fall in battle of losers 5-3

Lowly Astros shell Smoltz for 11 hits

By Joe Strauss Staff writer

HOUSTON — They have lost twice to the defending National League champions and been swept by baseball's hottest team. Tuesday against the woebegone Houston Astros, the Atlanta Braves couldn't use their opponent as an excuse.

The Astros flogged Braves starter John Smoltz (0-2) for five. runs in 43/3 innings to win a showdown of a young season's worst records 5-3. The Astros rose to 2-5 while the Braves lost their fifth consecutive game to fall to 1-6, six games behind first-place Cin-

Given 41/3 shutout innings from the bullpen, the Braves did too little with 11 hits. They stranded seven runners from the sixth through the eighth innings, including a bases-loaded situation in a pivotal seventh.

Dave Smith closed out the last two innings to gain his second save. The effort preserved a gutty performance by Astros starter Mark Portugal (1-1), who plagued the Braves repeatedly Tuesday.

Smoltz allowed 11 hits, including two home runs, before being driven from the game by Portugal's RBI single. There is growing concern over Smoltz's condition. He allowed the league only a .212 batting average in 1989, but has so far been cuffed for 16 hits and a .444 average in 63/3 innings.

"I'm not worried a bit. I've got 33 or 34 more starts. I'm going to win a lot of games. I guess it's going to take getting past that first game," said Smoltz. "I'm a timing pitcher. I'll get in a groove. Right now, I haven't found it. It won't take 10 starts but maybe it will take three."

Please see BRAVES, F6

PROBALL

Smith sits as his role diminishes

Minutes fall off while Fratello turns to vets

By Ailene Voisin Staff writer

Kenny Smith acknowledges that the Atlanta Hawks are barely gasping in their quest for a playoff berth, so when he looks on the court and sees John Long and John Battle, he understands.

He doesn't like it, but he understands. "It's the coach's perspective," said Smith, obtained from the Sacramento Kings Feb. 13. "He [Mike Fratello] doesn't know me as a player yet. But as a player, you don't like it. It's very disappointing."

Smith, a 6-foot-3 point guard, can remember the last time he played a reserve role. "My sophomore year — in high school," he said Tuesday night after the Hawks scored a 118-95 victory over the New Jersey Nets. He played well enough at Archbishop Molloy High in Queens, N.Y., to attract the attention of North Carolina coach Dean Smith, and after four impressive seasons with the Tar Heels, he was drafted in the first round (sixth pick overall) by the Sacramento Kings.

He didn't sit very long in Sacramento very long, either, although near the end of his stay his minutes diminished.

But not like this. Nothing like this.

After starting five games alongside Doc Rivers, Smith has been used sparingly, and in -the two games prior to Tuesday night's contest, not at all.

Against the Nets, Smith played 10 minutes — well below his 21 minutes average with the Hawks — contributed eight points, two assists and a rebound. "Kenny's been a victim of circumstances," said Fratello. "... when it gets down to a close game, they have to have someone in there who knows the plays."

Fratello hastens to add that "He's a good guard. He'll be a different player next year, after a training camp. He'll come back with a clear head and knowing the system."

Smith concurs. But the adjustment has been difficult, he says. He has played for three coaches this season (Jerry Reynolds, Dick Motta, Fratello) and been asked to fill uniquely different roles.

Consequently, he has had occasional bouts with sagging confidence disilluand stonment.

"The hardest part is sitting." said Smith. "You sit there and watch other people playing against guys you played, and had some success against, and it's tough.

I know I can help this team. Next year, I'll prove what I'm capable of doing. Nothing is going to stop me."



Todd Green/Phoenix Gazette

Arizona sports agent Bruce Allen, shown in his Phoenix office, is a former football executive and coach.

Allen: Ex-NFL coach's son investigated

Continued from F1

and his representatives were attempting to reach a settlement Tuesday night.

In addition, the attorney for another client says he withdrew a suit against Allen last month after reaching a \$25,000 settlement.

"I think there is a lot of jealousy," Allen said by phone Tuesday from his Phoenix office. "A lot of misinformation from people who don't even know the characters. wouldn't do anything wrong. To hear some of these things is

The portion of the FBI investigation that deals with possible early signing of college football players centers on Hill, Pittsburgh's third-round draft choice in 1989. Hill originally signed with Allen in 1988, but changed agents before the draft.

The Journal-Constitution has documented through four sources that Allen and former associate Bob Owens bought Hill a \$34,000 black BMW the night before the player's final college game. Such a transaction would have placed Hill in violation of NCAA rules and made him ineligible for Arizona's game the next night against Arizona State. He did play, and had two touchdown receptions in a 28-18 win.

Ken Nichols, a salesman at Linda Brock Auto in Scottsdale, said the bill of sale for a 1988 BMW M3 is dated Nov. 25, 1988. The bill of sale shows the car was purchased for \$34,578.14.

"I sold the car, not to Derek himself," Nichols said. "He had representatives. Two gentlemen did the negotiating for him — Bob Owens and Bruce Allen. They both came in here and negotiated

the sale." Allen denied negotiating the sale of the car. "We didn't purchase it if Derek purchased it," he said. "He could have bought cars when he was a freshman. I

don't know." Hill, on advice of his current agent, Steve Zucker of Chicago, declined to discuss his dealings

with Allen. Joe Gerlardi, a Tucson, Ariz., bar owner, told The Journal-Constitution he recruited Hill on Allen's behalf. Gerlardi said he provided Hill with use of a car earlier in his senior year and gave about \$16,000 to the player during his final college season.

Asked if he ever gave Gerlardi money for Hill, Allen said no. "He [Gerlardi] never worked with

Gerlardi said Allen paid for

his health insurance and had agreed to reimburse him for money spent recruiting Hill, although he alleges he received only \$1,500 to \$2,000 and is owed about

Asked if Hill signed a contract with GBA Sportsworld before his eligibility expired, Allen responded, "That's not true."

Joe Tigert, an insurance agent, said he was also present and confirmed Gerlardi's account of the contract signing. Tigert said he had written disability and life insurance policies for Hill to sign, so the player could receive a loan to purchase the car. Hill put no money down on the car, according to sources.

"It was a matter of, 'We're going to loan you this and we're not going to ask for any payment until after the draft," Tigert said.

Bob Berg, former loan officer at the First National Bank of Phoenix, said GBA "brought [the players] to the table." Berg said he handled GBA Sportsworld's account. He said the athletes were generally written loans

to comment.

Perkins said he was first contacted by Ralph Carr, whom he identified as a recruiter for GBA Sportsworld, last summer. He denied receiving money from Carr during the season.

few beers." Allen, a former general manager with the USFL's Arizona Wranglers, became a sports agent when the league folded after its 1985 season. At age 25, he was the youngest general manager of a major professional football team. He had also been one of the youngest head coaches in NCAA history, taking over at Occidental, an NCAA Division III program in

The most prominent included

Owens, a former assistant coach

at Arizona State and Nevada-Las

Vegas, and Merle Makings, one-

time promotions director with the

Wranglers. Makings, who recently

joined George Allen on the Long

Beach State staff as promotions

director, aided in the procure-

recruiting players, sources said,

are Bruce Metz, a Pittsburgh-

based insurance agent, and Har-

vey Hyde, former head coach at

Others who have assisted in

ment of players.

network of football people in setting up his sports agent business.

Gerlardi, who says he has had

a falling-out with Allen, said he was a witness when Hill, two weeks before his final college game, signed with Allen's firm. He said the signing was orchestrated by Owens in GBA Sportsworld's office. Allen was not present.

based on their pro potential.

Arizona State running back Bruce Perkins said he and wide receiver Lynn James, both Allen clients, were able to purchase new Toyota Celicas with loans authorized by Berg. James refused

"All we did was talk," Perkins said. "I saw him like twice a week. It was just chit chat, maybe have a

Los Angeles, at 22.

Using contacts made during his tenure as a team executive and a coach, Allen assembled a

UNLV and now an assistant at Long Beach State.

One NFC player who played at UNLV and is represented by Allen identified Makings as a conduit for supplying money to players at UNLV.

"He'd come up with the money," said the player, referring to Makings. "From what I can remember, most guys usually used the money to go to the casinos and stuff. It was pretty much known that it was play money. You know, spending money."

The player also linked both Allen and Owens to payments.

"You just made a call to Bruce or Bob or one of those guys down there [in Phoenix]," the player said. "They took care of it."

Makings denied that he or anyone else with GBA Sportsworld provided money to players, adding "I didn't have access to any money."

"We basically every year had as many clients as we could handle," Makings said. "We didn't have to buy clients. If you're looking for a Norby Walters-type sto-

ry, I don't think you're going to find one here."

Walters and his partner Lloyd Bloom were convicted of racketeering, conspiracy and mail fraud stemming primarily from the sports agents' dealings with college football players from 1985 to 1987. They were sentenced to prison, but are free pending appeal.

FBI sources said the investigation of Allen and his practice is part of an emphasis to "seek solid prosecutorial cases" against sports agents, "in light of the Walters and Bloom convictions."

King, the attorney for former Allen client Lathrop, says he has documentation indicating Owens had an interest in apartment buildings that were sold to Lathrop. King said Lathrop has retained his firm to file suit against Allen for more than \$200,000, although Allen was attempting to reach a settlement Tuesday night.

"It's all unlawful securities, unregistered sales of securities," King said.

A current suit against Allen raises a similar issue. It was filed last December in Maricopa County (Ariz.) Superior Court by Vince Amoia, a former Arizona State running back.

Amoia alleged that in 1987, Allen bought a house in Tempe for about \$100,000, transferred it to another company, then sold it to Amoia three days later for \$170,000.

The suit also alleges that Salewski, the former secretary with Allen's firm, forged Amoia's signature on sale documents.

"There wasn't any disclosure to Vinny on who owned the house," said Charles Franklin, Amoia's attorney.

Said Allen, "I can't talk about other people's business. I didn't do that and Sportsworld didn't do

"You mean to tell me if Donald Trump buys a building, he can't sell it for what he wants?" Allen says the lawsuits are a

product of his success. "I like enemies," he said. "That doesn't bother me.

"If Vinny Amoia wins in court, he's right. If I win in court, I'm right. If Las Vegas was to put odds on it, I know which side they

would bet."



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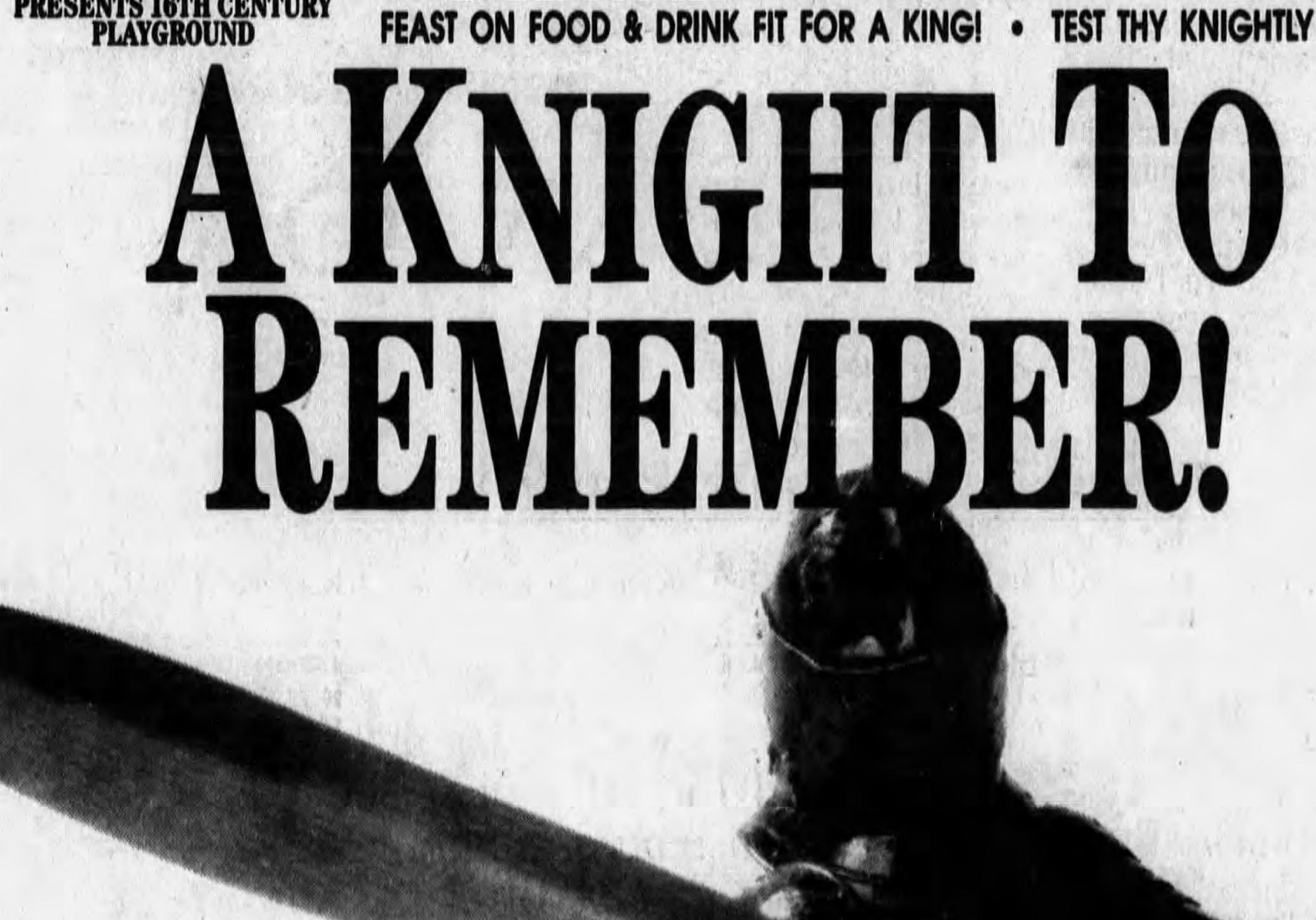


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Hockey

Bruins beat Whalers 3-1, move into 2nd round

Lowly Flyers fire popular GM Clarke

PHILADELPHIA General manager Bobby Clarke, described by team president Jay Snider as the ultimate Philadelphia Fly-

er, paid the ultimate profes-

sional price for the club's

worst season in 18 years. "We had the same goal, to win the Stanley Cup. We disagreed on how to get there," Snider said late Monday night in firing Clarke, Flyers' career leading scorer and one of the most popular figures in club history in his playing

career. Clarke didn't attend a hastily called news conference to announce his firing.

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Sparked by the surprising return of Ray Bourque and the goaltending of Andy Moog, the Boston Bruins advanced to the second round of the NHL playoffs with a 3-1, seventhgame victory over the Hartford Whalers on Tuesday night.

Bourque, who had been expected to miss his fifth straight game with a left hip bruise, played a regular shift, nad one assist and was on the ice for all three Boston goals.

Moog stopped 27 shots. He lost his bid for his first career playoff shutout in 56 games when Ron Francis made the score 3-1 on a power play at 13:48 of the third period.

The Bruins open the best-of-7 Adams Division final at home Thursday night against Montreal. Boston avoided becoming the first team since the 1970-71 Bruins to lose in the opening round after compiling the best regularseason record.

Boston led 2-0 after one period. on goals by John Byce, in his second NHL game, and Craig Janney. Cam Neely made it 3-0 at 15:22 of the second period on a give-and-go play with Janney. Janney, Boston's top playmaker, missed the first, second and

shoulder. Hartford was aggressive in the first period, when it had 18 shots on goal, and Moog made some outstanding saves. It had just 17 in winning the first game of the se-

sixth games with a sprained left

ries 4-3 in Boston. Briefly . . .

In Bern, Switzerland, Shawn Burr and Greg Adams scored two goals apiece as Canada rallied from a 1-3 deficit to beat the United States 6-3 in the World Hockey Championships. The loss was the second in two games for the Americans. Canada probably lost Joe Nieuwendyk for the rest of the tournament when he injured his left knee halfway through the first period.