

# Iowa's \$54,000 Question

## School investigates Harmon's ties to agents

Iowa City, Iowa (UPI) — The University of Iowa is looking into charges two New York-based agents gave more than \$54,000 in cash and loans to Buffalo Bills running back Ronnie Harmon during Harmon's last two years at the school. Harmon, a former star at Bayside High School, refused comment last night.

Lloyd Bloom said he and his partner, Norby Walters, broke no laws or NCAA rules by giving Harmon the money to entice him to hire them as representatives. Harmon used a loan from Bloom and Walters to purchase a Mercedes automobile.

Bloom said although he and Walters made payments to Harmon in 1984 and 1985, they postdated their con-

tract with him until Jan. 2, 1986, the day after Harmon played his final game for Iowa, in the Rose Bowl. Harmon was then selected by the Bills in the first round of the NFL draft.

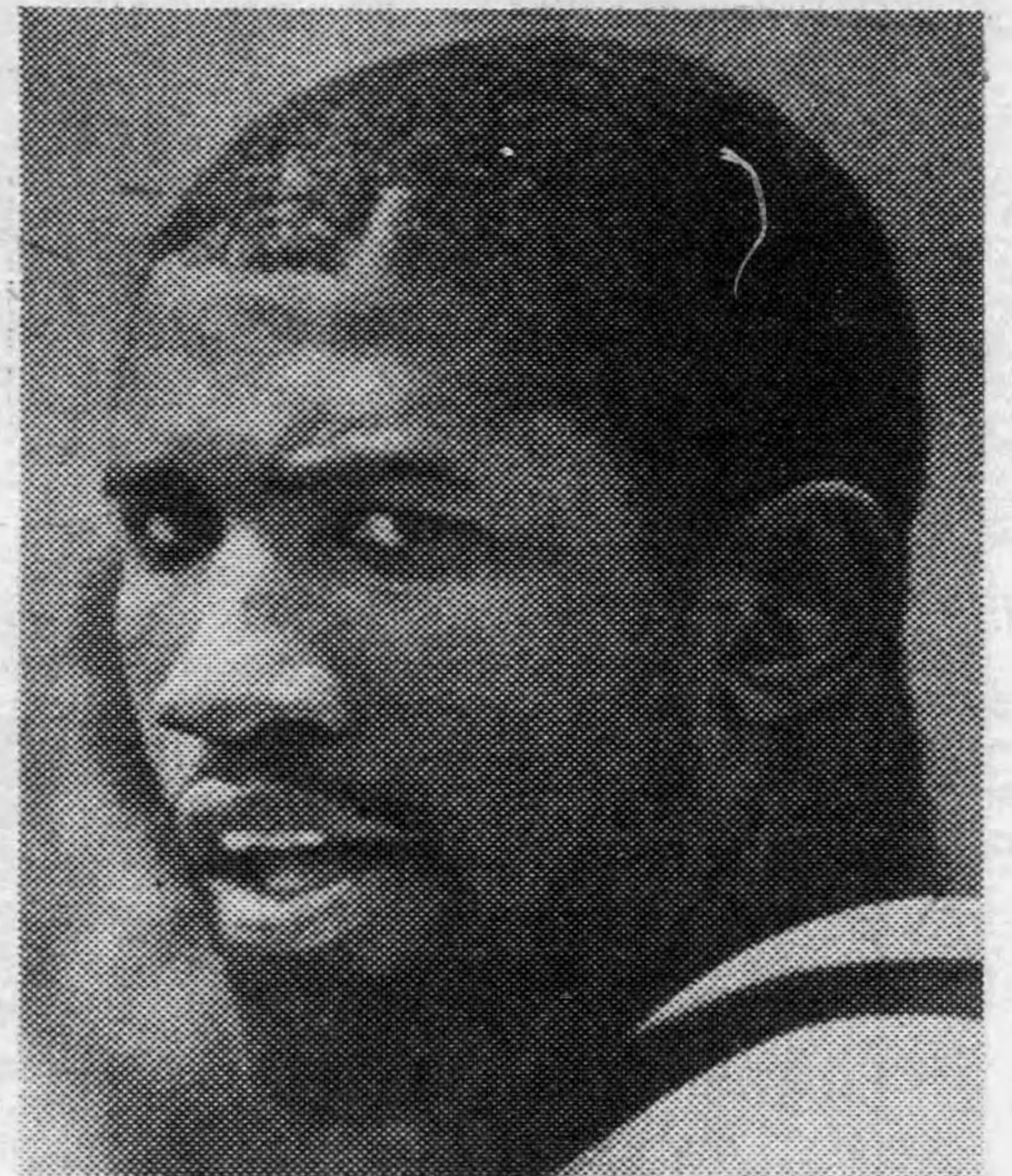
The agents' disclosure stems from a \$500,000 breach-of-contract suit they have filed against Harmon, who hired a new agent last year.

Harmon's current agent, Martin Rausch, a labor lawyer based in Buffalo, said there is no question the two made payments to Harmon. He said he believes the two misled Harmon into believing the payments were permissible. On Thursday, Iowa president James Freedman appointed a three-member committee to investigate whether payments actually were made

to Harmon or other Iowa athletes, and whether university officials knew about them.

The NCAA could penalize the university if an investigation shows school officials knew or should have known payments were made. NCAA regulations prohibit players from receiving any financial assistance during their eligibility, except for tuition, books and room and board.

Walters has come under the scrutiny of the National Football League Players Association, which says two college seniors eligible for the NFL's draft in April called the union last week to report Walters had threatened to "break their legs" for firing him.



AP Photo

Bayside's Ronnie Harmon purchased a Mercedes with the money he received from the agents in question.

# Caps Blast Leafs, Tie For Third

Combined News Services

Landover, Md. — Mike Gartner and David Jensen each scored twice during a seven-goal third period last night to power the Capitals to a 10-2 victory over Toronto. The win put Washington in a third-place tie with the idle Rangers in the Patrick Division.

The Capitals broke the game open by scoring five times against Toronto's substitute goalie, Allan Bester, during an extended power play that resulted from major penalties against Wendel Clark and Bob McGill in the last 4:36. Four of the goals came with the Capitals enjoying a two-man advantage.

Gartner scored his 37th goal as Washington snapped a losing streak at three.

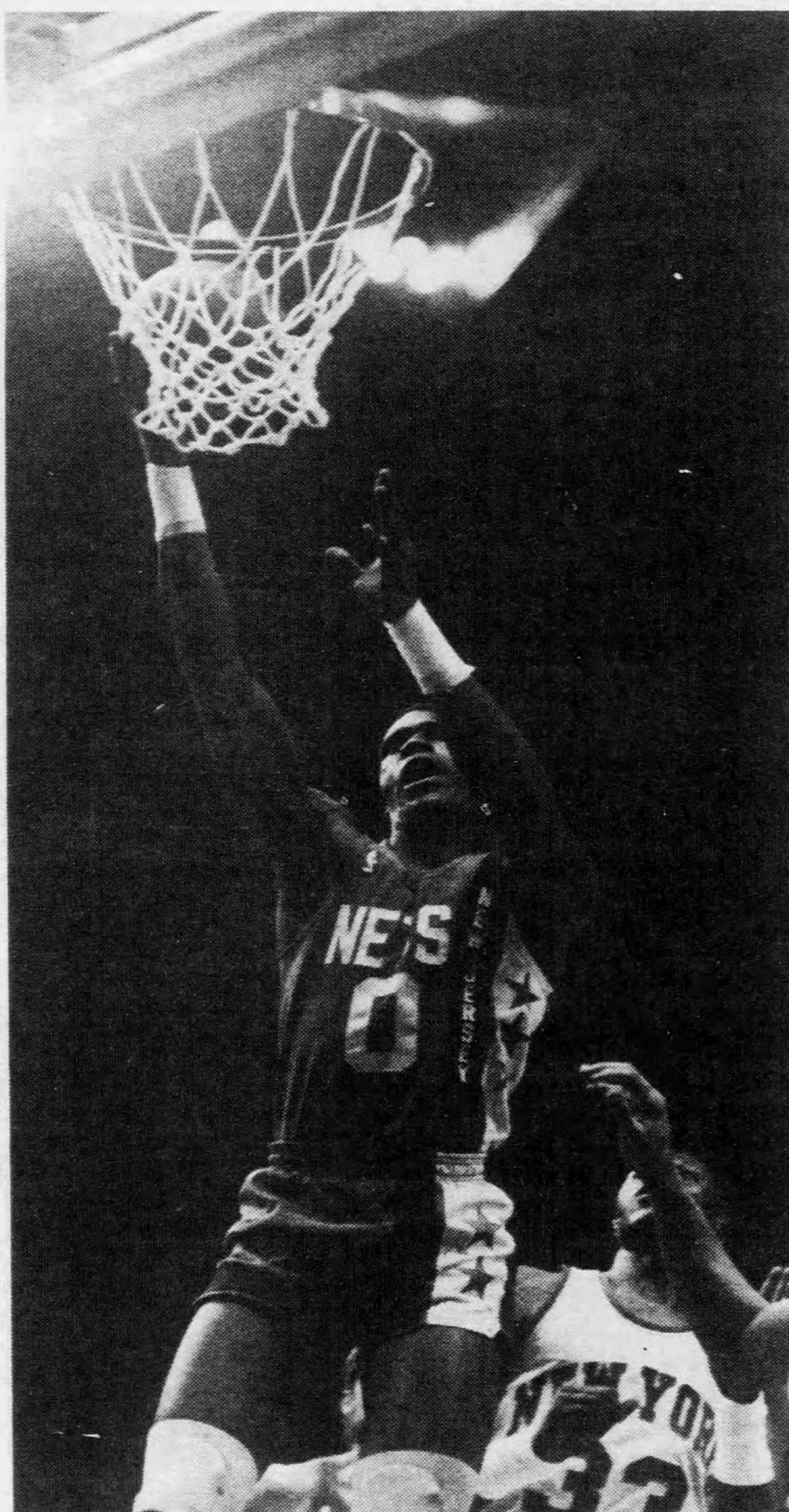
### Whalers 3, Jets 0

Winnipeg — Hartford goalie Mike Liut stopped 36 shots to gain his fourth shutout of the season and Paul Lawless set up two goals as Hartford opened an eight-point lead over second-place Montreal in the Adams Division.

Bob Mason was in goal for Washington, making his first start in 10 games. The victory was his first since Jan. 23, breaking a personal seven-game winless streak. Sylvain Turgeon scored for Hartford in the first period and Lawless assisted on goals by Ray Ferraro in the second period and John Anderson in the final period.

### Veteran Team Canada Beats Soviets

Hamilton, Ontario — A goal by Brad Park with 3:43 remaining enabled Canadian NHL veterans to edge the Soviet Union, 6-5, last night in a "Relive the Dream" replay of the first NHL-Soviet series in 1972. The old Philadelphia Flyers' line of Bobby Clark, Bill Barber and Reggie Leach inspired Team Canada and a crowd of 12,114 with Barber scoring twice.



Newsday / Jim Cummins

Orlando Woolridge gets 2 of his 38 points in Nets' 126-121 win over Knicks at Garden last night.

# Maryland: All Freshmen Are Eligible

College Park, Md. (UPI) — Maryland chancellor John Slaughter has ruled that all freshman athletes who are eligible by NCAA standards will be eligible to play on intercollegiate teams, regardless of their academic records.

On Thursday, Slaughter rejected the recommendation of a task force that athletes who need remedial courses be forced to sit out their freshman year.

The task force was formed by Slaughter last summer following the cocaine-induced death of basketball star Len Bias in an effort to find ways to improve the education of student athletes.

Slaughter, who has been a vocal proponent of a nationwide ban on freshman competition in intercollegiate sports, said he was unwilling to have Maryland become the first school to restrict the participation of freshman athletes.

The chancellor said such a move would "make it very difficult for some of our intercollegiate programs to have successful teams."

"It's a judgment call," Slaughter told the Baltimore Sun. "It is tied up with the question, 'Are we, in fact, going to remain a [NCAA] Division I institution? Are we going to be competitive and stand in the fray with the other institutions in this conference?'"

In its 43-page report, the task force criticized campus officials for failing to ensure that all athletes receive a college education. It specifically noted the harm of intercollegiate play on the classroom performance of freshman athletes, who are "academically at risk."

Slaughter's decision on freshman eligibility was attacked by several faculty members at a special meeting of the Campus Senate.

"You seem to be beating a retreat from the very minimal recommendations of the task force report," Barton Ingram, an associate professor of criminology, said. "That does not look good."

# Byers Asks for Proof of Clements' Claims

Mission, Kan. (AP) — NCAA executive director Walter Byers challenged Texas Gov. Bill Clements yesterday to back up his claim that high-level approval is given to recruiting violations at many schools.

Byers also labeled as "preposterous" Clements' charge that the NCAA approved of a "phase-out" of illegal payments to Southern Methodist University football players.

Clements, who resigned as chairman of SMU's board of governors in January after being elected governor last year, has been embroiled in a simmering con-

trovery with NCAA officials since SMU's football program was hit last month with the first "death penalty" for repeated violations.

"If Gov. Clements believes that it is common in major athletics programs for governing boards, and university executives or university athletic management, to condone improprieties, he should name the university and examples of their transgressions," Byers said in a statement released by his office. "That would be the fair and expeditious way of resolving that allegation."

SMU, the most-penalized school in

NCAA history, already was serving a three-year football probation when a joint SMU-NCAA probe found cash payments had continued to players.

The NCAA Infractions Committee then ordered the Mustangs' 1987 season canceled. SMU will be allowed to play only seven games in 1988, and additional penalties will last into 1990.

The case took a new twist when Clements said the board of governors decided to honor commitments to players and "phase-out" the illicit payments. Clements said that NCAA officials knew of the plan and approved it.

"It is preposterous to suggest that the NCAA Committee on Infractions, the NCAA staff and the institutional [SMU] representatives who participated in the hearings had agreed to a "phase-out" of illegal payments to student-athletes either for alleged humanitarian reasons or otherwise," Byers said.

"No such suggestion was made by SMU representatives. They did, however, testify to the committee that the institution had taken every available means to deal seriously with all improprieties that did exist, and the individuals responsible."