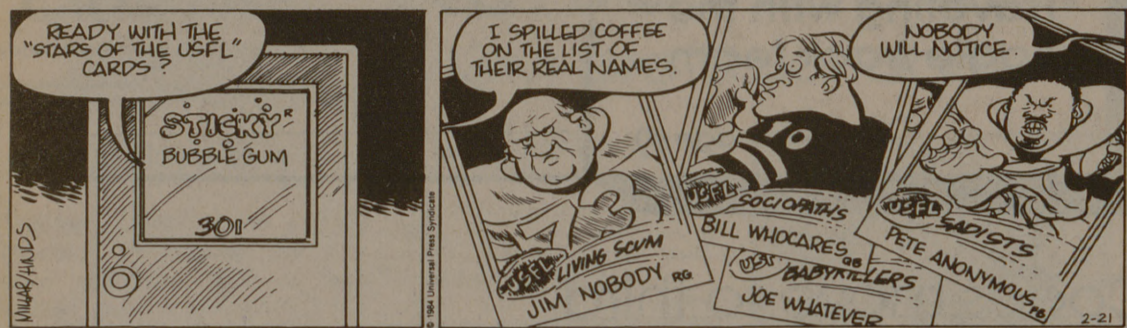


TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Duran may face Hearn's

United Press International
 PANAMA CITY, Panama — Roberto Duran's manager opened talks with a spokesman for Thomas Hearn's concerning arrangements for a bout which would put Duran's World Boxing Association middleweight title on the line, officials said Monday.
 Duran's manager, Luis Spada, has not come to an agreement with Hearn's counterpart, Bob Arum, but June was mentioned by sources close to the talks as a possible month for the fight.

UIL draws official's ire

United Press International
 TYLER — The superintendent of a high school whose girls basketball team was ousted from the playoffs by a judge's eligibility ruling said Monday the situation is typical of recent disputes with the University Interscholastic League.
 Texarkana's Texas High team had traveled to Waco Saturday for the District 13 5-A playoff game with Bryan.
 But a judge in Tyler earlier that day reinstated the record of Tyler's Robert E. Lee High School, which had been ordered to forfeit nine games because Coach Candi Harvey accidentally left a player's name off the eligibility list.
 State District Judge Harold Clapp said he based his ruling on the fact the girl really was eligible and called the mistake a paperwork goof.
 That returned to the Lee team its status as district runner-up behind Longview and its eligibility to play in the tournament.
 Still and all, it was Bryan that came out on top, beating Lee 78-46.
 Hugh Hayes, superintendent in Texarkana, Monday expressed bitterness about the whole episode.
 "Probably neither one of us could have beaten Bryan, even under optimum conditions," Hayes said. "But with the trial business going on, with the kids upset and everybody involved in it, I'm surprised it was as close as it was."
 "And the results would have been the same if Texarkana had been in the game. I'm sure the Tyler Lee girls had other things on their mind besides playing basketball, right up until game time. That had to have an impact on the way they played."
 He said the fact Tyler went to court set a bad example for students on how to get disputes resolved.
 "I think this sends a very poor message to youngsters that if you have a problem with the rules and a decision is made that you're not satisfied with, then go out and hire yourself an attorney, find a judge, and get your decision and have that changed," Hayes said.
 Hayes said the problem with interpretation of the eligibility list rule was "just one in a long list of disputes that have occurred over the last several years within the (University Interscholastic League) that I hope will generate some changes."
 "Really the superintendents across the state are the governing body of the UIL and we're charged with the responsibility of making the rules and enforcing them."



bob
caster

Track team: I-10 cruising

"Hey, can the goatroper music," somebody hollered.
 Joe Kopec, the driver, popped in a more comprehensive tape and the massive Trailways bus rolled out of the Kyle Field parking lot. We were on our way to Baton Rouge.
 I had not travelled with a major university athletic squad since I was knee-high to a high hurdle so when I found I had a seat on the bus, I jumped at the chance.
 But as I was throwing my toothbrush and a change of clothes into a hanging bag Friday morning, I began to think about the situation a little more. And the more I thought about it the more apprehensive I became.
 After all, Texas A&M's track team has some darned good athletes on it. What if they were a bunch of prima donna something? What if they didn't like the idea of spending a weekend with a live-in sports reporter?
 But my fear subsided when hurdler Chappelle Herndon, walked up to the front of the bus, saw me sitting in my seat and announced: "Hey, we've got ourselves a newspaper person going with us. We're big-time now."
 Before long we were cruising through the piney woods southeast Texas and the roar of wisecracks and "profound" statements settled to an easy chatter. Things were going real smoothly.
 I soon found myself in a friendly card game with jumper Chuck Perry, Aaron "Animal" Ramirez and Herb "Freshman" Treat. I finally felt like I was beginning to get just to things. We played and listened to an endless repertoire of R&B-folksy-cowboy-ballad-type rock songs pointed out of the guitar of Ethan Glass as the miles rolled by beneath us.
 I finally realized that these guys, aside from some special athletic ability, are basically no different from anybody else at A&M — they are college students.
 True, they may spend a few more weekends on the road than most students, and their daily lives are probably structured a little differently, too. But they're not all superstars or household names. When you get right down to it, they're just students — and they're human just like anybody else.
 That may have never fully dawned on me had the bus not broken down east of Houston on our return trip.
 As it was, the boys were restless for Joe to make a stop pit stop having just covered quite a few miles of Louisiana swampland. When the bus finally rolled into the convenience store, the engine died, the lights went out, the Kyle Nelson tape ground to a halt and everybody was too eager to get on with their business to notice.
 Once the throng had gotten their goodies they realized their dilemma. If the bus didn't start, the team didn't go anywhere — and the bus wasn't starting.
 That's when Aggie ingenuity stepped in.
 Have you ever seen the track team trying to push-start a Trailways bus down the sloping driveway of a convenience store in a tiny town on the outskirts of Houston in the middle of the night? It didn't work. The piece de resistance was when they decided to push it back up.
 But it was a futile effort — and neither Coach Thomas nor Coach Nelson would admit to having anything to do with the situation.
 After several cups of coffee for myself and a great deal of relief for the two ladies working in the store, we were on the road again. Our bus eventually rolled back into the Kyle Field parking lot at 5:30 Sunday morning and I gathered my belongings and drove home to the comfort of my bed — a tired but wiser sports writer.

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Cribbs war ends

United Press International
 BUFFALO, N.Y. — The NFL Buffalo Bills and USFL Birmingham Stallions Monday ended their court battle for the services of running back Joe Cribbs.
 U.S. District Judge John Elfin, in a rare President's Day session, heard closing arguments in the legal battle to determine whether the running back can jump from the Bills to the Stallions.
 Elfin did not indicate when he would issue a decision, but it is likely to be made before Sunday when the Stallions open their season against the New Jersey Generals.
 Cribbs, an all-pro with the Bills whose contract has expired, has signed a 1984 pact with the Stallions and is currently working out with the team. The main issue in the dispute is a controversial right-of-first refusal clause in the contract Cribbs signed as a rookie out of Auburn University in 1980.
 The Bills claim the clause, which gives them the right to match any contract offer Cribbs receives, pertains to all professional football teams.
 Cribbs and the Stallions contend the clause covers only NFL teams, since the USFL was not in existence when Cribbs signed with Buffalo.
 Fuzak said the contract and the right-of-first refusal clause was written by Halpern, who did not testify during the hearing.
 "This is the language that was written by Mr. Halpern for the Bills," Fuzak said, adding that contracts with players the Bills have written since 1983 include the phrase "whether or not with an NFL team."

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NHL in Canadian court

United Press International
 OTTAWA, Canada — The Supreme Court of Canada reserved decision Monday on a motion by the NHL to quash a subpoena requiring the league turn over files on the sale of the St. Louis Blues to federal anti-trust investigators.
 NHL lawyer Arthur Gans told Justices Brian Dickson, Jean Beetz and Julien Chouinard a lower court erred when it ruled the league had no legal means of challenging a subpoena order. Gans asked the court to intervene to spell out the league's rights.
 Federal investigators are looking into the circumstances surrounding the NHL's decision last year to block a Saskatchewan group from buying the Blues' hockey franchise. The group was to later relocate the St. Louis team in Saskatoon, Sask. A majority of the 21 teams in the league voted against the Saskatoon sale because the NHL owners felt the city of 100,000 people could not support a major league team. The NHL owners voted against the Saskatchewan sale citing increased travel costs for the league as the deciding factor. Harold Ballard, owner of the Toronto Maple Leafs, said the only thing in Saskatoon were "dog sleds and snow."
 The NHL later approved the sale of the Blues to California businessman Harry Ornest, who kept the team in St. Louis.
 "There are no provisions challenge subpoenas under Combines Investigation (anti-trust act)," Gans said in an appeal application, adding it limited an individual's right to protection from self-incrimination, especially during a prosecution hearing.
 Investigators ordered every NHL club to produce documents pertaining to the Blues' sale. The league said federal combines branches thousands of documents.
 The NHL maintained subpoenas violated guarantees against unreasonable search and seizure in the Charter Rights and Freedoms.

Harold Ballard, owner of the Toronto Maple Leafs, said the only thing in Saskatoon were "dog sleds and snow."

The Canadian probe mirrors a court battle that is currently being fought in the United States. Last week, a U.S. District Court in St. Louis gave each of

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