

Hawks' star finds security in contract

ATLANTA (AP) — Atlanta's Dominique Wilkins, the NBA's top scorer last season, Tuesday signed a two-year contract with the Hawks without the help of his agent. "We're happy to announce that we've secured the Hawks' future for the next five years," Hawks' President and General Manager Stan Kasten said. "Dom will provide Lifetime security."

The 26-year-old Wilkins, who came to the news conference with his mother, Gertrude Baker, said his signing without an agent was "not a big deal." He said he had discussions with his agent, Patrick Healy, but "it's not unusual." Wilkins said "Guys are getting much smarter after they've been around a few years."

The former University of Georgia star, who has become known for his exciting drives to the basket and recording 24.1 points in four years, including 30.5 last season when he led the league in scoring and was named the Eastern Conference All-Star team.

Hurricanes' coach lauds own team

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) — Just like last year, University of Miami Coach Jim Johnson believes his football team is superior to the top-ranked Oklahoma Sooners. "I have no opinion on that," Johnson said. "I'm just a coach and I know the team I'm coaching is the best." Johnson said Tuesday, "I feel like we have the better football team this year."

Johnson then offered further praise comments about this clash between the No. 1 and No. 2 teams in the country. "We're going to be a very, very close game because of the talent on both sides. It's going to be a game in which team makes the fewest mistakes," he said. "This is only the 20th time the two top-ranked

teams in The Associated Press poll have met. The Sooners are No. 1 and the Hurricanes are No. 2. Johnson said that game 12-10, giving the top-ranked team a 1-2 record in the matchups. "I'm a coach and I know the team I'm coaching is the best," Johnson said. "You have the defending national champion playing the team that's been the only team to beat us in the last 10 years. I know the adrenaline will be flowing for everybody."

Johnson changed his tune just moments later. "I just want our fourth game," he said. "We've won three and we're looking to win four. Sooner or later we're going to slow down the Wisconsin attack directed by sophomore quarterback Jamelle Hollie."

Landry moves tackle Pozderac to backup role after Atlanta loss

IRVING (AP) — Phil Pozderac lost his job as the Dallas Cowboys' starting left offensive tackle Tuesday as a result of the NFL club's stunning 97-55 loss to the Atlanta Falcons. Coach Tom Landry said Howard Richardson would likely start at the position in place of Pozderac against the St. Louis Cardinals with Mark Tuinei as the backup.

Pozderac, who had two costly holding penalties and was responsible for a sack of quarterback Danny

'Forgotten man' becomes savior for Bears

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Quarterback Dan Fouts, the "forgotten man," helped the Green Bay Packers beat the Green Bay Packers in a game he didn't even expect to be a part of. Chicago Coach Mike Ditka, with his offense sputtering under second-quarter stringing, called on Fouts to take the field. Fouts' first-throw pick to Mike McMahon sidled in with a shoulder separation, called on the veteran Fuller late in the quarter of Monday night's NFL game.

Fuller didn't expect the call, but he stepped up to the plate. "I really wasn't expecting to go in. The things that were causing us to stall on offense weren't (Tomczak's) 14 passes for 109 yards and a fourth-quarter touchdown to wide receiver Keith Ortega. Frustrating," Fuller said. "I felt I could come in where I was needed and try to help the team."

TANK MCNAMARA



by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds

American League owners veto intent to sell Rangers

The television company already owns one-third of the team and the club broadcasting rights, which it has held since two years ago from Chiles. To pass, the sale would have to be approved by a majority of the AL club owners and a majority of the National League team owners. "It's a reputable company," Brant said. "If they sold jeans or automobiles, there would be no problem whatsoever. But the potential controversy of the owners could agree upon."

The American League has taken a very definite stand about television combination is just not going to be acceptable to them. "The vote was taken by the AL team owners at the Four Seasons Hotel in this Los Angeles-area beach community. There are two baseball teams already owned by television companies — the Atlanta Braves, which are owned by the Chicago Cubs, and the Chicago White Sox, which are owned by the Chicago Tribune Corp."

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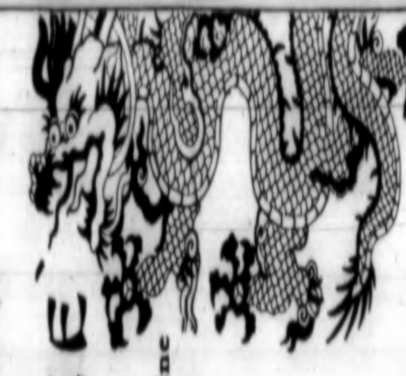
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