

Sports

NFL enacts rule to limit steroid use

NEW YORK (AP) — It probably doesn't mean the return to the days of 240-pound linemen, but the NFL is getting tougher on the use of steroids, which for more than a decade turned some marginal players into near-300-pounders.

The league said Tuesday that players caught using steroids a second time could be subject to discipline by Commissioner Pete Rozelle. The warning was contained in Rozelle's annual drug memo sent to all NFL training camps.

"The discipline was not specified in the 15-page document and league officials sought to play down the change."

"Last year we tested the players for anabolic steroids for the first time, this year we are again testing," said NFL spokesman Joe Browne.

"The difference this year is that we have told the players that they could face possible disciplinary action. However I am not suggesting suspensions for testing positive for anabolic steroids at this time."

Doctors and other critics of steroids have long warned of their adverse side effects, including the long-term possibility of cancer, sterility and various other maladies or diseases.

The NCAA began a testing program two years ago that resulted in several football players, including All-American linebacker Brian Bosworth of Oklahoma, being banned from bowl games. Bosworth, who said he took them only once, now plays for the Seattle Seahawks.

Rozelle's first mention of steroids was in his 1987 message on prohibited drugs, which also include cocaine, marijuana and amphetamines.

"The League no longer merely condemns the misuse of these substances," he said in last year's memo. "They are prohibited in any quantity for any purpose."

That phrase was also contained in this year's message.

But Rozelle went further this year, noting that players in whom steroids are detected in camp-opening drug tests are subject to the random testing for "reasonable cause," similar to that imposed on those who test positive for other substances.

If that takes place at training camp, Rozelle said, the player will then be re-tested within four weeks. If that test turns up positive, he will then undergo a complete medical evaluation by the team physician and the NFL's drug advisor, Dr. Forrest Tennant.

"Each instance in which a second positive test for anabolic steroids is confirmed will be handled on a case-by-case basis," Rozelle wrote. "Involved players will be subject to appropriate discipline by the commissioner."

Rockets sign guard Woods on Houston club may go after Malone next



HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets signed free agent guard Mike Woodson to a five-year contract Tuesday, one day after trading popular Robert Reid to the NBA expansion team Charlotte Hornets.

New Rockets Coach Don Chaney said one of his immediate needs has been met with the signing of Woodson, who played under Chaney with the Los Angeles Clippers. His other need is for a forward to play alongside star center Akeem Olajuwon.

"One of my immediate needs for this team was to have a bona fide shooting guard. As far as I'm concerned, Mike will be the starting guard," Chaney said during an afternoon news conference at The Summit.

Woodson said deciding with which team to play was a new experience for him since being traded three times throughout his nine-year National Basketball Association career.

"I wanted to get out of L.A.," Woodson said who played for the Clippers the last two seasons. "The last two years has been very, very frustrating as far as winning ballgames."

"This is a team I think I can play for. I had it mapped out a list of teams I thought I could play for and this was probably the number one team. This is a big moment for me. I don't think when you play this game no one likes to lose."

Woodson, who is the first player signed by the Rockets under the new collective bargaining

agreement between the NBA and the player's association, said he also talked to Phoenix, Detroit and the Clippers.

Speculation continues that the Rockets may sign another free agent, Moses Malone, who earned NBA most-valuable player honors during a previous tenure with Houston.

The 6-foot-5, 198-pound Woodson led the Clippers in scoring the last two seasons, averaging 18 points and 3.4 assists in 1987-88 and 17.1 points and 2.7 assists during the 1986-87 season.

He established career season-highs in assists (273), free throw percentage (.868) and minutes played (2,534) last season. He has a career average of 15.1 points in 629 games.

Woodson was the 12th pick in the first round by New York in 1980 after an outstanding college career with Indiana. After one season with Knicks, he was traded to New Jersey for former Rockets' star Mike Newlin. Early in the 1981-82 season New Jersey traded Woodson with a first-round draft pick to Kansas City for Sam Lacey.

He spent five seasons with the Kings including

one in Sacramento before being traded to Los Angeles in August 1986 with Larry Drew, a first-round draft choice and a second-round draft pick for Junior Bridgeman, Franklin Edwards and Derek Smith.

Woodson has not averaged below 15 points a game in six of the last seven seasons, and he scored his career-high 48 points while with the Kings in 1983 — making 22 of 24 from the field in that game. He has not made less than .800 from the free throw line in each of the last five seasons.

The Rockets traded 10-year veteran Reid on Monday for guard Bernard Thompson and a second-round draft choice in 1990.

Chaney said the main reason Reid was released was that once they shed Reid's \$475,000-a-year salary, the Rockets had room under the NBA's \$6.7 million salary cap for Woodson.

Woodson, who was making about \$375,000 with the Clippers, will be paid a salary nearly identical to Reid's by the Rockets although exact terms of Woodson's contract were not disclosed.

"When you're making deals and trying to improve your team, you make business decisions," Chaney said. "Basketball is run like a business nowadays."

The Rockets now believe they have solved their problems at shooting guard with the addition of the 30-year-old Woodson and No. 1 draft pick Derrick Chievous of Missouri.

Tyson may be near agreement with manager

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawyers for heavyweight champion Mike Tyson and his estranged manager, Bill Cayton, said Tuesday they are hopeful they can agree this week to allow Tyson to face Frank Bruno on Sept. 3 in London.

The agreement, if reached, would also postpone until a fall trial the issue of whether Cayton will manage Tyson until 1992, when the contract which Cayton claims to have will expire.

During six hours of conferences and negotiations in New York State Supreme Court, the attorneys met twice with Justice David H. Edwards Jr.

"Let the record show that the attorneys for the parties have been in conference with the court this afternoon in an attempt to resolve some of the differences," Edwards said from the bench.

Tyson's lawyers agreed that until the court reconvenes he will make no attempt to negotiate sites for himself. Cayton had already been restrained by the court from making deals for Tyson.

"The only thing that happened today was that we agreed to preserve the status quo," said Peter Parcher, a lawyer for Tyson.

Tyson did not appear at the hearing, which consisted only of brief statements from Justice Edwards and an agreement by the lawyers to continue negotiating until Thursday.

Tyson claims that he terminated his contracts with Cayton and is not committed to Cayton and his company. Cayton, who co-managed Tyson with Jimmy Jacobs until his partner's death on March 23, alleges that upon Jacobs' death he became Tyson's sole manager into 1992.

The litigation over Tyson's manager has put on hold his plans to defend the title against Bruno in London. Thomas Puccio, Cayton's lawyer, agreed with Parcher that successful negotiations in the next 48 hours could allow that fight to take place.

"I think it's fair to say that the parties have made it possible for the Bruno fight," Puccio said. "We'll have to see whether that can be worked out."

If they can agree on the Bruno fight and a method to ensure that the \$21 million Tyson earned for knocking out Michael Spinks can be safely frozen, then the overall issue of whether Cayton is Tyson's manager would be postponed several months until a full trial can be held.

Earlier in the day, Puccio filed a 46-page response to Tyson's order to show cause and more than 100 pages of affidavits and news clippings in an attempt to show the court that Tyson considered his contract with Cayton valid until shortly before the Spinks fight on June 27.

Skins' Schroeder wants starting job or trade

CARLISLE, Pa. (AP) — Jay Schroeder, displaced as the Washington quarterback in last year's Super Bowl season after a Pro Bowl year in 1986, said Tuesday that he would prefer to be traded rather than remain a backup to Doug Williams.

"I've had a blast playing here," Schroeder said. "But then again, if you're not going to play, it's not the place to be. You'd rather start somewhere else and take your chances on getting to the (playoffs) with somebody else."

Schroeder led the Redskins to the NFC Championship game in 1986, his first full season.

But last season he was benched twice due to ineffectiveness, the last time for good. Williams replaced him in the regular-season finale and went on to lead Washington to a 42-10 Super Bowl victory over the Denver Broncos.

Schroeder and Redskins Coach Joe Gibbs had a one-on-one talk late Monday night to discuss the situation. Gibbs categorized the conference as "a good talk," but Schroeder said the discussion did little to make him feel better about his situation.

"I walked out feeling the same as I did when I walked in," he said. "Nothing's new."

Schroeder, who is 27 to Williams' 33, replaced an injured Joe Theismann in Week 11 of the 1985 season. He helped the Redskins win that game and four of the next five. In 1986 he threw for 4,109 yards and 22 touchdowns to help Washington move to within one game of the Super Bowl.

"This situation is hard because I've been there, I like the feeling of being there and I want it again," Schroeder said. "Nine time out of 10, once the young guys go out there and play, they find out it's fun. They want to be out there all the time, and when they're not, they say the things I'm saying."

Schroeder said there "have been

talks" between his agent and officials of the Los Angeles Raiders concerning a possible trade. Asked when such talks last occurred, he replied, "I don't want to answer that."

There were reports before the draft that the Raiders were attempting to put together a package of draft choices for Schroeder and San Diego also expressed interest. But both said they thought the Redskins' asking price was too high.

With Williams coming off knee surgery and third-string quarterback Mark Rypien still waiting to see his first minute of NFL action, it would appear that the Redskins would be reluctant to trade Schroeder.

'Wrist watch' may be over for rejuvenated Danny White

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Second-string quarterback Danny White threw a series of 50-yard passes and walked to the sidelines with a big smile.

"The wrist watch is dead and buried," he said. "You can burn it."

The 36-year-old White was plagued throughout the 1987 season by calcium deposits in the wrist of his right arm which kept him in pain. His performances suffered accordingly as he suffered 17 interceptions

with only 12 touchdowns passes.

The heralded "wrist watch" developed because nobody, including White, knew how he would pass in a game because of the wrist's condition.

White hopes his 13th year in the NFL will be his lucky one. He dreams of a scenario where he wrests the starting job from Steve Pelluer and finally gets the Cowboys into the Super Bowl.

"I feel I can regain the consistency

I had in the past and get my job back," White said. "My wrist is no problem. The pain is gone. This year there is no ice, no tape and no braces. Last year it was painful everytime I played."

Pelluer turned in back-to-back mistake-free performances as Dallas knocked both St. Louis and the Los Angeles Rams out of the NFL playoffs in the final two games of the season.

But Coach Tom Landry was im-

pressed with White's early performance in training camp this week.

"He's been looking good but we'll find out," Landry said. "Two-a-day workouts take their toll."

The Cowboys were 6-2 in the 1986 season before White was sacked by the New York Giants' Carl Banks. White's wrist was broken and so were the Cowboys' hopes of a playoff season.

"It has been one of the toughest things to get over," White said.

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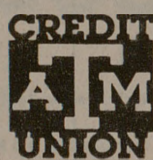
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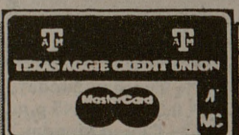


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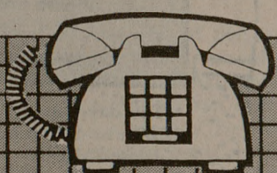
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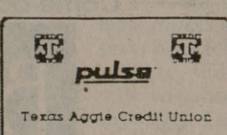
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