

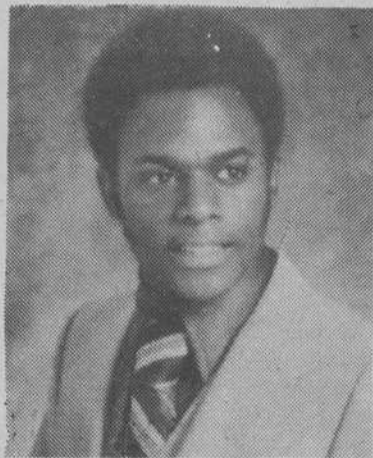
# SPORTS BOARD

SPORTS, GAMING, HORSERACING

April 25, 1985



## KEN'S COMMENTS



By Ken Wilson

For the last several weeks a point-shaving scandal at the University of Tulane has been the focus of headlines around the nation.

The unfortunate incident had come at a time when college basketball is one of the biggest news makers around, yet Green Wave hoopsters have managed to send shock waves throughout the sport.

New Orleans has recently watched three Tulane players and others indicted on some 29 counts surrounding alleged money bribes and drugs accepted by athletes to sort of throw games.

Games in question include Tulane's 64-63 home victory Feb. 2 against Southern Mississippi and a 60-49 home defeat Feb. 20 to Memphis State.

The magnitude of the point-shaving scheme is so far reaching that Green Wave athletic department officials have already made plans to drop the basketball program as a result of additional NCAA violations being uncovered by various other investigations.

Those concerned with the welfare of interscholastic athletic activities have worried about the age old problem of gambling for years without finding any solution and had hoped the issue would not surface for a time.

The last major scandal to rock the sport occurred

during the 1978-79 season when three Boston College players were implicated in a point-shaving scheme. Former Eagle, Rick Kuhn was convicted and sentenced to 10-years in prison, Jim Sweeny testified as a government witness, while Ernie Cobb was found not guilty.

Just this past week, Tulane's Board of Administration unanimously voted to permanently drop men's basketball on the recommendation of university president Eumon Kelly.

Though students and the

community rallied in an attempt to save the program, approval of the abolishment of a 72-year-old tradition at the school, was the end result and punishment for charges of fixing games and drug payments along with drug usage by players.

So outraged by this latest fiasco, National Collegiate Athletic Association officials have discussed and intend to adopt a set of severe measures to restore the integrity of intercollegiate athletics in our country.

The proposed crack-down could take effect right away if approved by NCAA member schools, and according to the NCAA Council would distinguish between major and secondary violations and set minimum penalties for each.

Additionally, first time violations and repeat performers would be viewed differently, as penalties for repeated major violations include bans on competition, recruiting, and scholarships for two years.

Apparently, the problem of cheating in college sports has gotten so totally out of control that the NCAA has been forced to take this type of action.

## NO. 1 FEATHERWEIGHT TWO TOURNEY BOUTS HEADLINE CARD THURSDAY, APRIL 25

Undefeated Bernard Taylor, the World Boxing Association's No. 1 ranked featherweight, headlines the monthly ESPN card Thursday, Apr. 25, at the Showboat Hotel, Casino, Country Club and Bowling Center.

Also on the card will be two ESPN National Championship Tournament Western Regional semi-final bouts in the junior middleweight division.

Taylor, who drew with current WBA featherweight champion Eusebio Pedroza in their 15-round title fight in 1982, meets Benji Marquez in a 10-round

bout.

In the two ESPN National Championship Tournament fights, Donald Bowers faces Tomas Perez and Las Vegas Jihad Karriem takes on Zack Hewitt. Both bouts also are 10 rounds.

The three-fight undercard features five Las Vegas.

The card, promoted by Bob Arum's Top Rank, Inc., in association with the Showboat, starts at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m.

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