

Bowl picture in focus; Sonics fined

NEW YORK (AP) — Alabama-Texas in the Cotton Bowl, Nebraska-Notre Dame in the Orange Bowl, Oklahoma-Penn State in the Sugar Bowl, Louisiana State-Tennessee in the Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl and Auburn against an unnamed opponent — probably Colorado — in the Gator Bowl.

Although the bids can't be extended officially until Saturday, The Associated Press has learned that the aforementioned match-ups are all set.

The Rose Bowl, which pairs the champions of the Pacific-8 and Big Ten, will have Saturday's Southern California-UCLA winner against Michigan, Ohio State or Purdue, with Michigan State still clinging to an outside chance.

Alabama is ranked second nationally behind Southern Cal, both with 9-0 records, and Coach Bear Bryant ap-

parently feels a meeting with seventh-ranked Texas offers the best chance for victory in the major bowls. Since there is no way for Alabama and Southern Cal to meet — ironically, they played each other in 1970 and 1971 — Bryant's job is to keep his team unbeaten and hope someone else knocks off the Trojans.

Southern Cal plays UCLA on Saturday and winds up the regular season Dec 2 against Notre Dame.

Oklahoma, rated fourth, will return to New Orleans to defend its Sugar Bowl crown against sixth-ranked Penn State, 8-1, which already has been to the Orange, Cotton and Gator bowls during Joe Paterno's seven-year tenure as head coach.

Since the Orange Bowl insists it opts for the highest available teams in The AP Poll, that leaves No. 5 Nebraska and No. 10 Notre

Dame. This still could leave the Orange Bowl with a whole of a game, since Nebraska has won the last two national championships in Miami and Notre Dame conceivably could come in as the conqueror of Southern Cal, which has been No. 1 in the ratings all season.

This week's Top Ten consisted of Southern Cal, Alabama, Michigan, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Penn State, Texas, LSU, Ohio State and Notre Dame. Teams from the Pac-8 and Big Ten can only go to the Rose Bowl.

NEW YORK (AP) — The Seattle SuperSonics were fined \$10,000 and ordered to give the Philadelphia 76ers their 1973 first-round draft pick for illegally signing John Brisker, National Basketball Association Commissioner Walter Kennedy announced yesterday.

Kennedy also said that Wendell Cherry, chairman of the American Basketball Association merger committee, had met with NBA owners for an hour yesterday but no formal merger vote was taken.

Kennedy said he made the ruling against the SuperSonics, "because Seattle has violated the principle of fair play."

Angry Sonics' owner, Sam Shulman, labeled Kennedy's action "outrageous, discriminatory and totally unfair." He said he considered the action continued retaliation for the Sonics' signing of Spencer Haywood two years ago.

"I intend to use every force at my disposal to correct what I consider to be a dishonest decision, even to the point of going to the courts if necessary, as did Atlanta," Shulman added, a reference to the Hawks' fight for Julius

Erving. Brisker, now in his first season with Seattle, was originally signed a three-year contract with the Pittsburgh team of the ABA beginning with the 1969-70 season.

During the next two years, it was reported to the 76ers and to the NBA through a representative of Brisker that the player desired discussions about a deal with Philadelphia.

Brisker's Pittsburgh contract was made available to Philadelphia for a look-see, Kennedy said. The commissioner said the 76ers' legal counsel reviewed the contract and was of the opinion that it was valid and binding for a three-year period ending

after the 1971-72 season. From mid-March this year, when Philadelphia was contacted by a Los Angeles attorney — then representing Brisker — who advised the star would like to play for Philadelphia and was legally free to do so, through early May there was a series of meetings between Brisker's representatives, Seattle and Kennedy's office.

Kennedy said that he talked to Sam Shulman, owner of the Seattle team, about Brisker and advised him that negotiating rights to the player belonged to the 76ers and that he should not negotiate with the 6-foot-5 forward without getting approval from Philadelphia.

Davis Cup 'bonuses' revealed

NEW YORK (AP) — Stan Smith, an Army specialist fourth class at the time, and his teammates were paid \$4,200 each for defending the Davis Cup last month in Romania.

The matches and the Challenge Round preparation covered three weeks, with each player receiving \$200 a day as expenses for hotel accommodations and meals, which required only a small fraction of that amount.

For the entire Davis Cup tennis campaign of 13 weeks, Smith and each other member of the team collected \$11,000 in graduated per diem payments ranging from \$50 against Jamaica to \$200 against Romania. They didn't have to pay for travel and incidentals.

"The enlarged per diem allowances were necessary because other countries were giving their players big bonuses," an official of the

U.S. Lawn Tennis Association said. "You couldn't expect these boys to sacrifice the money they could have made in tournaments."

This revelation is not too startling in this enlightened age of open tennis but it could provoke some eyebrow-raising among the Davis Cup nations, who have striven to maintain some posture of amateurism.

The huge expense allowances, which U.S. Davis

Cup authorities acknowledge are camouflaged bonus payments, also are unique in the case of Smith, who on Oct. 31 ended his two-year military service in the Army.

The Army assigned Smith, America's No. 1 tennis player, to the Special Services, as it traditionally does with outstanding athletes and placed him at the beck and call of the U.S. Davis Cup Committee.

"The Army made Smith available to the Davis Cup Committee for voluntary duty," Maj Richard Lake of the Army Office of Information said.

"Under regulations, he could not receive prize money except what he might win during his leave period. Any prize money he won other than that was supposed to be placed in the Davis Cup Fund."

Smith did not confine himself to the Davis Cup but played the rich Grand Prix international circuit, winning more than \$100,000 last year and reportedly well over that this year. He also, according to his business manager, earned around \$100,000 each year from endorsements and personal contracts.

Conigliaro A's property?

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Outfielder Billy Conigliaro, who left the Milwaukee Brewers last June 25, was traded four days later to the Oakland Athletics in a transaction not announced that way, it was reported yesterday. The report by Larry Whiteside of the Milwaukee Journal came after Jim Wilson, who succeeded Frank Lane as Brewers' general manager last month, said Wednesday

the Brewers have given Oakland permission to negotiate with Conigliaro.

The report said Conigliaro was traded to Oakland June 29 for outfielder Ollie Brown. At the time, the Brewers said they had obtained Brown for the \$20,000 waiver price.

According to the report, Conigliaro was not eligible to be traded because it was past the June 15 trading deadline and because Conigliaro already had been placed on

the disqualified list. A team may not trade a player not on its roster.

Wilson said Wednesday Athletics owner Charles O. Finley didn't ask the Brewers permission to talk to Conigliaro until four days ago.

"If Lane and Finley did talk about this, it was before I became general manager," Wilson said. "But there is nothing wrong with it."

"Conigliaro is still our property, and if any club chooses to sign him we will have to be compensated, probably cash," he said.

Garrett suspended

FOXBORO, Mass (AP) — Halfback Carl Garrett was suspended without pay for the remainder of the season yesterday by the New England Patriots of the National Football League.

Garrett, the team's leading ground gainer this year with 418 yards in nine games, was suspended by interim head coach Phil Bengtson and general manager Upton Bell after Garrett missed yesterday's practice.

Earlier in the season Garrett was fined by head coach John Mazur when he missed two practices and offered no excuse. Mazur resigned on Monday and was replaced for the remainder of the season by Bengtson.

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn announced Mexican Hand Embroidered Shirts & Blouses



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Thursday that following the World Series he fined Oakland pitcher John "Blue Moon" Odom \$500 for his conduct during the Series.

Odom was fined for bumping umpire Bob Engel while protesting a home plate decision during the sixth game and using abusive language against umpire Jim Honochick during the seventh contest.

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Gary Player of South Africa, overcoming tough greens with precision putting, carded a four-under-par 65 yesterday for the first round lead in the \$24,000 Brazil Open golf tournament.

Britain's Doug McClelland was two strokes off the pace at 67. Chuck Thorpe of Detroit, Steve Melnyk of Jacksonville, Fla., Juan Quinteros of Argentina and Brian Barnes of Er... were in a tie for third with par 69s.

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NBC-TV in Chicago says this about The Valachi Papers:

"Is it as good as The Godfather? The answer is...no, it is better."
—NBC-TV (Chicago)

"Is it as good as The Godfather? The answer is no. It is better. The two films, however, do not compete. The Godfather was a romantic movie made from a romantic novel. THE VALACHI PAPERS is a cold, hard reenactment of the confessions of an underworld soldier. THE VALACHI PAPERS lacks the polish of The Godfather. It is even awkward at times as it shifts between prison confession scenes and Valachi's recreated memories. But Charles Bronson and a cast of lesser known actors give you reality. There is no cheering for good killers, no laughter at clever butchery.

The audience is simply garrotted by these men who calmly murder and maim and shrug their shoulders. THE VALACHI PAPERS is a history lesson. It is a nearly half century of ugly Americana with Genovese, Maranzano, Luciano, Anastasia and the others. You may even recognize some scenes because many of the killings mimic old newspaper photographs. Producer Dino de Laurentiis and Director Terence Young manage to handle globs of violence without close-ups of exploding flesh. The emphasis is on the story and the story is powerful enough to start a swing to non-fiction films.

If you have seen The Godfather, see THE VALACHI PAPERS. If you have not seen The Godfather, see THE VALACHI PAPERS."

—PHILLIP WALTERS, WMAQ-TV (NBC), CHICAGO

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