

Hurst ends holdout, signs 1-year pact

By STEVE CONROY

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Patriots cornerback Maurice Hurst ended his three-week holdout yesterday, although he didn't practice with the team.

"He had to take his physical and things like that," said vice president for football operations Patrick Forte, who confirmed that Hurst had arrived.



PATS NOTES

Hurst will accept the Patriots' one-year offer of \$495,000, but his agent, Doug Sunseri, reiterated the stance that 1993 will be Hurst's last season in New England.

"It doesn't matter whether it's a one-year contract or a three-year contract. He's going to play his ass off for the Patriots," Sunseri said yesterday. "But five minutes after the season's over, he'll be gone."

Had Hurst held out beyond Friday, the Patriots

would have had the option of placing him on the inactive list for the first game of the season. That would have cost him \$30,937.50, one sixteenth of his salary.

Agnew gives nose tackle a try

Coach Bill Parcells is doing a little tinkering with his personnel. Yesterday he experimented with Ray Agnew, regularly a defensive end, at nose tackle.

Agnew's never played the position before, but he's willing to give it a try.

"It's going all right. As a football player, you have to be a competitor no matter what position you play," said Agnew.

"Things happen much faster at nose tackle. You can get blocked from each side. When you're on the end, the only way you can get blocked from the outside is when the tight end is there. I think it'll help me out as a player, too. When I move back to end, things will be happening a lot slower."