

# Ross denies agreeing to team with Brister

From staff, wire reports

PITTSBURGH — Sportscaster Karie Ross denied Monday she agreed to be co-host of a proposed TV show with Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Bubby Brister that the show's executive producer said would generate "an undertone of sexual nuances."

Larry Magen of Pro Sports and Entertainment said he hired Ross not just for her football knowledge but because she is "hot-looking," remarks Ross called "offensive and demeaning."

"I have categorically not been hired to co-host a show with Bubby Brister. My attorney is looking into appropriate legal action against the producer of the show for unauthorized use of my name in connection with the show," said Ross, a former ESPN sportscaster who works for cable's Sports News Network.

"I would never even consider appearing in a program whose purported orientation is to generate 'an undertone of sexual nuances.' I am a professional sports journalist who has worked very hard to establish myself as a credible reporter.

"The very idea of the kind of show that is being proposed for Bubby Brister is offensive and demeaning to all women sportscasters who have had to overcome a number of obstacles and this kind of stereotyping in their careers."

Magen said his Los Angeles-based firm has a contract signed by Ross and her agent, attorney

## Notebook

Burt Shapiro. Ross even flew to Pittsburgh for a photo shoot with Brister after signing the deal, he said.

"Why would she attend a photo shoot if she wasn't going to do the show?" Magen said.

### Bengals

CINCINNATI — Cincinnati signed seventh-round draft choice Craig Ogletree and eighth-round pick Doug Wellsandt on Monday — the first two 1990 draft choices to agree to contracts with the club.

Ogletree, a 6-foot-2, 236-pound linebacker, was a first-team All-Southeastern Conference choice at Auburn.

Wellsandt, a 6-foot-3, 248-pound tight end, caught 76 passes for 825 yards and five touchdowns at Washington State.

### Oilers

Dee Thomas, a defensive back from Nicholls State, agreed to terms with Houston on Monday. He was a 10th-round draft pick.

Thomas played at Abramson High and Central Catholic of Morgan City.

Agent Doug Sunseri said Thomas accepted a "market value" contract. "We wanted him to get into camp and prove himself," Sunseri said.

The Oilers also agreed to terms with defensive tackle Doug Smith but lost starting cornerback Steve Brown for at least six weeks with a foot injury.

Brown, who led the team with five interceptions last season, will undergo surgery on his right foot for an inflamed tendon that has failed to respond to treatment.

Brown led the Oilers with five interceptions last season and was fifth on the team with 63 tackles. He defended 22 passes and had three sacks.

Smith, the Oilers' starting nose guard in last year's 3-4 defense, agreed to terms of a multiyear contract. Smith started 15 games last season.

### Raiders

HOUSTON — Former Texas A&M linebacker Aaron Wallace, the Los Angeles Raiders' second-round selection in the 1990 NFL draft, signed \$1.75 million three-year contract Monday.

Wallace's agent Tom Condon confirmed the contract includes a \$300,000 signing bonus.

"Outside linebacker is a money position," Condon told KRIV-TV in Houston. "The Raiders will pay to get the kind of player they want, and we believe Aaron got a very good deal."

### Rams

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Mark Herrmann, Los Angeles' backup quarterback for two years, signed a one-year contract Monday in time to take part in specialized practice.

"I didn't want to delay this too much," Herrmann said. "I just wanted to get out here as soon as possible."

Herrmann joined the Rams' No. 1 quarterback, Jim Everett,