

# Graham move to speed up trial

## Athletics

Michael Phillips

Attorneys for Trevor Graham yesterday announced they are not calling any witnesses for the defence in his trial in San Francisco, opening the way for an early conclusion to one of the most controversial periods in the sport's history. The coach is accused of lying to federal agents in their investigation into performance-enhancing drugs taken by his athletes.

The trial began last week and during it, Angel Heredia, a Mexican who is an admitted steroids dealer, testified that Graham had asked him for substances for Marion Jones, the 2000 Olympic 100m champion

**Lawyers for the track coach Trevor Graham said yesterday they would not call any witnesses for the defence**



who is now doing six months in jail for lying to investigators about doping.

Graham has pleaded not guilty to three charges but the decision not to call any witnesses was expected to open the way for the start of the closing arguments. In 2003, Graham was the coach who sent a sample of tetrahydrogestrinone (THG) to the United States Anti-Doping Agency, sparking the Balco scandal.

A hair-testing service to detect the use of steroids in athletes was made available in Britain yesterday. Trimega Laboratories, who analyse hair to identify illegal drug abuse for the UK's judicial system, insists the test provide a reliable alternative to urine samples. The firm's managing director, Avi Lasarow, said: "From a practical point of view, hair is much easier to handle in the 'chain of custody' than urine, as it does not need to be stored under any special conditions. It also avoids the embarrassment of official chaperones observing urine collection. If a urine sample [result] is in any doubt, it is always possible to take a fresh, identical hair sample and eliminate any false positives or false negatives."