Thurs., April 2, 1987

MARC HANSEN



Long spring for Reggie

PHOENIX, ARIZ. -- The game has been over almost two hours, but Reggie Jackson is still working. He is working at transporting his weary, 40-year-old bones from the trainer's room to his cubicle in the Oakland Athletics clubhouse.

It is a 15-foot trip at most, but he is laboring. Stiff, sore and spent after another day of the extra batting practice he takes after every game, Reggie is looking 50 and going 20, as in feet per hour.

When he finally reaches his destination, he slumps onto a stool and cradles his head in his hands. As the career gets shorter, the days grow longer for this Hall-of-Famer to be.

Reggie will play one more season, and here in the desert he is paying the price for longevity.

March and now April have been a struggle for Mr. October. He isn't even hitting Pee-wee Herman's weight. Worse yet he has no homers.

With the Angels last year he hit 18, settling into sixth place on the all-time list. With spring training almost over, Reggie has but six hits and three runs-batted-in 37 at-bats.

His problems aren't from want of effort. Reggie's hands are a mass of blisters aching to become callouses. Sometimes he hits till his hands bleed. Midway through camp, the pound-

ing took its toll. Reggie was out for more than a week and is still playing catch-up.

THE LAST thing he wants to do in his 21st and final big-league season is fall behind. And now, with afternoon yielding to dusk, the last thing he wants to see is a pair of reporters standing nearby, waiting to talk.

Reporters always want to talk to Reggie, of course, because Reggie is always good copy. When he wants to be. On this day he doesn't want to be. He wants to be alone with his sore hands, his suffering and his self-doubt.

Slowly he lifts his head, turns and stares at the reporter-interlopers. "You got questions," he says almost inaudibly, "ask them."

Reggie would rather be chewing cacti than fielding questions from strangers who jot down the answers.

"I don't have the interest," he says, "and I don't have the energy left to talk. If you had my workload can't think. I don't make sense. I have nothing positive to say."

And yet he complies. He doesn't enjoy turning people away.

"It bothers me," he says, "because I have human sensitivity. I care that people wait around to talk to me. . . . But I didn't play for about eight days, and I have to do double the amount of work. I don't have a lot of at-bats. I have to catch up."

So every day after these games that don't count, he heads off by himself and goes for the big inning. In batting practice, when the contact doesn't feel right, he curses himself, even on the balls he sends flying.

DURING THE games, when it is time to slide into second on a force play, Reggie slides in as if the year was 1968 and this was his first full season in the big leagues, not his last.

Earlier, Frank Howard, the manmountain who kept the Washington Senators knee-deep in homers 20 years ago, talked about Reggie.

"I've seen him hit a lot of homers," said Howard, now coaching first base for Seattle, "but the thing I'll remember is watching him hit a grounder

here and run the full 90 feet." Reggie isn't too tired to entertain that line of questioning. Though he is

warming to the audience now, his flame still couldn't get much lower without going out.

Howard, Reggie replies, never loafed a day in his life. "Guys who have been around the

game like him," he says, "know when people have substance, character. We've been losing, and I've got a job to do, an example to set. We're a good team, not a great team and we have to start things heading in the right direction. We have to establish a philosophy, an approach to the game."

For Reggie the idea is to be the designated hitter against right-handers.

"I don't know what it was like for an Aaron or a Mays," he says. "It's not the same for Pete Rose anymore because Pete doesn't have to play or get ready to play. I work hard, that's all. I put in a day's work. You shouldn't leave work hopping up and down. You should be drained."

At 10 minutes to six, Reggie leaves the clubhouse. He isn't hopping up and down. The game has been over for three hours, but a crowd awaits his exit. Pens and programs are

poised for autographs. Reggie slips out the other way. Stepping onto the field, he climbs slowly into a getaway car and zips off through the right-field gate. He looks as old as he feels.

Presidents may cut back on college sports today

By TOM WITOSKY

Register Staff Writer University presidents from across the country meet today to begin cutting big-time college athletics down

Members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Presidents' Commission are expected to approve a series of controversial proposals designed to reduce skyrocketing costs and the amount of time students must devote to athletics. The commission is meeting in Greenbelt, Md., a suburb of Baltimore.

"There seems to be a strong commitment among a number of the chief executive officers to exert stronger institutional responsibility to bring balance to the interests of athletics

within an academic setting," said Kenneth Weller, president of Central College in Pella and a commission member.

The commission's recommendations, which are to be announced this afternoon, would form the agenda for a special NCAA convention scheduled for late June in Dallas. The convention could become highly controversial because there is growing opposition among some coaches and athletic directors, who claim such action is premature and unnecessary.

"We would like to see more study and better evaluation of what is being proposed," said Homer Rice, president of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics. "We also think there is not enough consensus to take some of these steps."

Rice, who is also athletic director at Georgia Tech University, said the athletic directors' association has asked the commission to delay deciding and to cancel the scheduled special convention. The request will be made formally today by Gene Corrigan, athletic director at the University of Notre Dame.

"Before the last two special conventions, there was strong consensus that something had to be done to

toughen enforcement and to raise academic standards. We just don't see that right now," Rice said.

Among other things, the commission is examining whether: To eliminate spring football

practice. To reduce the number of basket-

tall and baseball games by limiting competition to their traditional seasons.

 To further reduce scholarships awards in all sports, including gymnastics, swimming and wrestling, as well as in women's sports. In January, NCAA delegates voted to limit basketball scholarships to 13 and to reduce the awarding of football scholarships from 30 to 25 annually.

 To cut the size of coaching staffs and the amount of time allowed for recruiting and evaluation of high school athletes.

Weller said results of a survey of 291 Division I presidents indicates support for a number of changes designed to reduce costs for most major college universities. Weller declined to disclose the specific results, but said that "there really isn't any surprise in them."

"There appears to be support,

COMMISSION Please turn to Page 4S

Mets' Gooden tests positive for cocaine

Star pitcher to seek help; avoids disciplinary action

From Register Wire Services

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. — New York Mets star pitcher Dwight Gooden's steady decline from baseball's pinnacle accelerated further Wednesday as he voluntarily agreed to enter a medical-counseling program to evaluate a cocaine problem.

He will undergo treatment for perhaps two months, with the date of his return in doubt.

Baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth had threatened to suspend Gooden if he did not agree to enter the program. Ueberroth warned: "If there's a reoccurrence, there'll be no second chance."

Gooden was placed on the disabled list, but General Manager Frank Cashen said no disciplinary action would be taken against him at this time and he would continue to draw his \$1.5 million salary.

Gooden left the Mets' spring-training headquarters here Wednesday morning and was scheduled Wednesday night to fly to New York, where he will check into the Smithers Clinic for drug and alcohol abuse in St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital.

After Gooden left the Mets' camp, he returned to his home in Tampa but was unavailable for comment.

Tested Thursday

Cashen said the Mets learned there was an indication of use in results of a drug test Gooden took last Thursday.

"It's one of the saddest things I've ever had to do," Cashen said. "We're treating this as a disease."

Reached in Chandler, Ariz., Ueberroth said: "This young man sought help and he's going to get help, the best that there is. We'll let the medical people decide when he's recovered or has a good chance of recovery so he can play baseball again.

"He has one chance, if he seeks help. If he chooses not to seek help, there would be disciplinary action immediately." Rumors involving Gooden and

GOODEN

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. - April

Fool's Day is not the day to be making

player trades because, as Andy Van

Slyke, 26, discovered, it's difficult to

Slyke came to grips with the fact that

her husband, an outfielder with St.

Louis for four seasons, was headed to

The Cardinals on Wednesday dealt

Van Slyke, catcher Mike LaValliere

and minor-league pitcher Mike

Dunne to the Pirates for four-time

National League All-Star catcher

Pena, 29, has a career batting aver-

age of .286 in six seasons and finished

11th in the league batting race last

But after 10 minutes, Lauri Van

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convince one's wife.

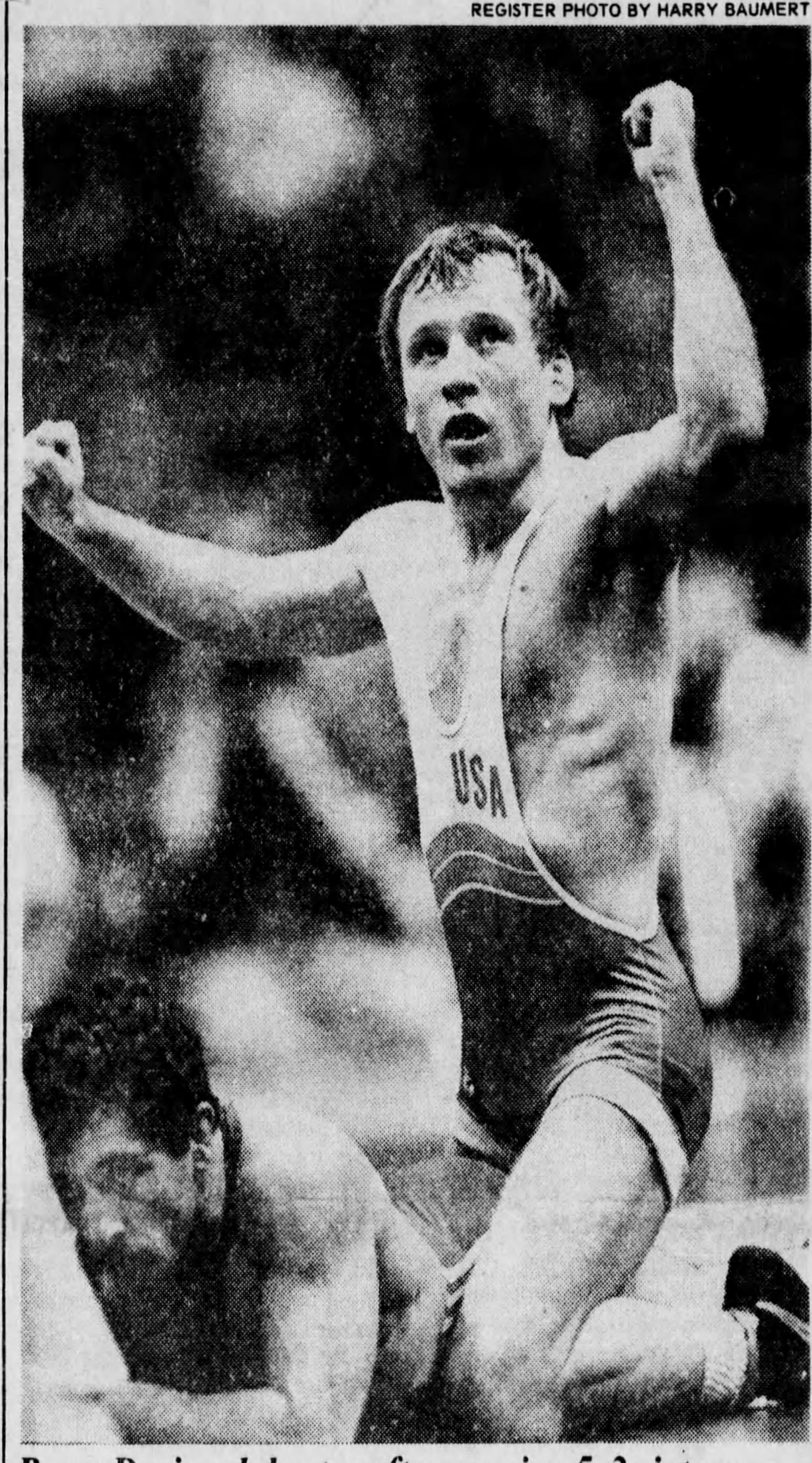
Pittsburgh.

Tony Pena.

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No fooling: Gards get Pena

for Van Slyke, two others



Barry Davis celebrates after earning 5-2 victory

Soviet wrestlers remain dominant over U.S., 7-3

By BUCK TURNBULL Register Staff Writer

IOWA CITY, IA. — Wrestlers from the Soviet Union proved to be just as strong as ever here Wednesday night, beating a United States all-star team, 7-3, before a crowd of 5,138 in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

The Soviets have never lost a dual meet to the United States since the two superpowers began head-to-head competition in 1970.

season with a .288 average.

Van Slyke hit .270 last season with

13 home runs and 61 runs-batted-in.

During four big-league seasons, the

left-handed hitter has compiled a

career average of .259, hitting an

He became expendable because of

the strong spring by rookie outfielder

Jim Lindeman, who is hitting .379

Another factor is Willie McGee's

rehabilitation from a knee injury.

Cardinals Manager Whitey Herzog

expects to get the 1985 MVP into the

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with six home runs and 19 RBIs.

average of 10 homers and 51 RBIs.

three American winners, rallying from a 2-0 deficit in the final period to whip Ruslan Karaev, 5-2, in the 125.5-pound bout.

Heavyweight Bruce Baumgartner,

the reigning world champion and 1984 Olympic gold medalist, finished the meet with a flourish for the U.S. by pinning Aslan Khadartsev in 3 minutes 18 seconds. The other American winner was

former Oklahoma star Andre Metzger, who scored a 6-3 decision over Adbulla Magomedov in the 149.5pound match.

Davis, a Cedar Rapids native and WRESTLING

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The Results

114.5 — Sergey Zambalov (USSR) beat Mark Schwab, 6-2 125.5 — Barry Davis (US) beat Ruslan Karaev,

136.5 - Victor Alexeev (USSR) beat Jim Jordan, 6-2 149.5 - Andre Metzger (US) beat Adbulla Magomedov, 6-3

163 - Adlan Varaev (USSR) beat Nate Carr, 180.5 — Aleksandr Tambovtsev (USSR) beat Wayne Catan, 5-2 198 — Makharbek Khadartsev (USSR) beat

Dwayne Goldman, 8-0 220 - Akhmad Atatvov (USSR) beat Kuri Trost, 4-0 286 - Bruce Baumgartner (US) pinned Aslan

Khadartsev, 3:18

Fry: Allegations made against Harmon part of a national scandal

By BUCK TURNBULL Register Staff Writer

IOWA CITY, IA. - Iowa Coach Hayden Fry said Wednesday he thinks the revelations that former

Hawkeye Ronnie Harmon and others accepted money from agents while still playing college football are just the beginning of a national scandal. "When the smoke

clears, whether it's next week, two months or two years from now, I HARMON think it will be unbelievable," Fry

"And I've selected that word," he continued. "It will be unbelievable. I'm talking about nationwide.

RONNIE

"When the National Football League, the FBI and investigating committees on college campuses around the country dig into this, it is going to make a lot of copy for a long time to come."

Fry said he has not talked to Harmon since two entertainment agents in New York City revealed several weeks ago that they gave the former Iowa running back \$54,000. The payments allegedly covered Harmon's final two years with the Hawks in 1984-85.

was complete shock upon learning of the disclosures by agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom. They are suing Harmon for backing out of the alleged deal with them after he joined the Buffalo Bills. A number of other players, includ-

The Iowa coach said his reaction

ing several still in school, such as Lorenzo White at Michigan State and Cris Iowan Barry Davis was one of the | Carter at Ohio State, have been implicated in similar disclosures.

Fry said conversations with other coaches and investigators leads him to believe the problem was widespread.

He added, however, that he is not convinced Harmon is guilty of what the agents are saying. If Harmon did accept money

before completing his eligibility, Fry said, it would not have been because he wasn't told to stay away from agents seeking to sign him prema-

"We couldn't do any more than we've already done since I've been here," Fry said about informing players of the rules. "If any rule has been broken, it wasn't because he didn't have knowledge of it.

"But I don't have any information 105.5 - Mikhail Kusnir (USSR) beat Tim Van- at this point that Ronnie broke the rules. The university's investigating committee has been looking into

Fry said he didn't want to comment further on the Harmon situation. He and his assistant coaches are to meet with the investigating committee

He said he believes the committee plans to release a statement on its findings next week.

had an inkling of illegal payments, if they were made, and that he's never been aware of any of his players ac-

Fry said he and his coaches never

Kickoff Classic is moved up a day

IOWA CITY, IA. - Iowa's Kickoff Classic football game against Tennessee in August has been moved up a day and will probably be televised nationally by ABC, Hawkeye Coach Hayden Fry said Wednesday. The kickoff for the game in Gi-

ants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., now is set for noon CDT on Sunday, Aug. 30. It originally was scheduled for the evening of Aug. 31. The early game means Iowa's

practices will start Aug. 8 or 9, Fry said. Freshman are to report about Aug. 4.

- Buck Turnbull

cepting money before it was time for them to turn pro.

Harmon, who rarely fumbled the ball, fumbled four times in his final game for the Hawks, a 45-28 loss to UCLA in the 1986 Rose Bowl.

This has led to speculation that if Harmon had been willing to take illegal payoffs, he might have also accepted money to throw the game.

Asked to comment on those rumors, Fry told a questioner at his news conference: "You've got to be out of your mind."

Big question for Hawkeyes: Who's at QB?

By BUCK TURNBULL

Register Staff Writer IOWA CITY, IA. — Iowa's football team has three No. 1 quarterbacks, Coach Hayden Fry said Wednesday, and the wide-open battle probably will remain that way for the rest of spring practice.

Tom Poholsky, who started half the games last season in place of injured senior Mark Vlasic, is not beginning with any edge over Chuck Hartlieb and rangy freshman Dan McGwire.

Fry said. "They are competing for the No. 1 position, and we want to be fair and give them all a chance." Fry has always been high on McGwire's potential, and he called

"All three are on the same line,"

the 6-foot 8-inch Californian "very gifted, with the strongest arm we've ever had here." Hartlieb, a senior, didn't get much of an opportunity to show his stuff

last season because of a thumb injury, and before that, like Vlasic and everyone else, he was behind all-American Chuck Long. Poholsky, a junior, had several

good games as Vlasic's replacement, but not good enough to make him the

FOOTBALL Please turn to Page 3S

ball banquet, to be held April 17 in Iowa City, is the Iowa Memorial Union, had to be moved to the Holiday Inn because of extensive renovations to the union. The banquet will honor a Hawkeye team that won an unprecedented 30 games under first-year coach Tom Davis and

HAWKS ON TV. The company that will produce University of Iowa basketball games next season selected on Wednesday three of the local television stations to carry the games. Rassmussen Communications Management, Inc. notified Cedar Rapids station KGAN (channel 2), Davenport station KWQC (channel 6)

and Sioux City station KCAU (channel 9) their bids were selected. Stations for the Des Moines, Mason City and Omaha markets have not been chosen. Rassmussen officials declined comment until all stations are announced, but the selection of KGAN would appear to mean that this year's play-by-play announcer, Bob Healey, will not be retained. He works for a rival station in the Cedar Rapids-Waterloo market.

TRADE

mated more than \$2 million over the last two football seasons to syndicate football games, in a contract that expired at the end of the last season. Tim Allen, Big Eight service bureau director, said Wednesday Raycom will retain the rights to Big Eight basketball syndication over the next three years. Big Eight teams are hoping the conference can land more TV appearances via the College Football Association's package, which next year will be composed of games on CBS and ESPN. television screens. Big Eight conference offi-

LEFTY'S DECISION. University of South Alabama athletic officials confirmed Wednesday that former Maryland basketball coach

Lefty Driesell has been offered the head coach-1987 football season, and let each school "fend ing job, and Driesell is upbeat about a possible for itself." Raycom paid the Big Eight an estireturn to courtside. "They've given me a great package," Driesell said. "They really want me bad." The school wants to name a new coach to replace the fired Mike Hanks before the April 8 prep signing date.

> ANOTHER HONOR FOR ROBINSON. Navy's David Robinson was a runaway winner of the 11th annual John R. Wooden Award, presented annually to the nation's top college basketball student-athlete. The 7-foot 1-inch center, who averaged 28.2 points and 11.8 rebounds, beat out Steve Alford in the voting by sports writers and sportscasters throughout the country.

MORNING REPORT

TOUGH MEAL TICKET. The Iowa basketalready a sellout. The banquet, usually held in got to within one game of the Final Four.

CYCLONES OFF TV. Big Eight football fans may be seeing less of their teams on their

cials have decided to drop their weekly syndicated package with Raycom, an independent sports syndicator in Charlotte, N.C., for the