MARC HANSEN



Kemp eyes majors, again

To call minor-league magnate Steve Kemp "the million dollar man" is to flirt with understatement.

Kemp is the 1.5 million dollar man. We're not talking net worth here. We're talking salary, compliments of George Steinbrenner, benevolent despot of the New York Yankees.

Kemp is paid \$1.5 million a year this is the last leg of a five-year contract — to play baseball for the Oklahoma City 89ers of the American Association. The same American Association that Kemp barely tasted Association that Kemp barely tasted on his way up 11 years ago. That's triple-A baseball, where most of the laborers earn less than teachers.

At one time, Kemp deserved the fortune that accompanies baseball fame. When he was gaining converts at Southern California, there was never a question he'd someday make a major-league splash.

The first pick in the free-agent draft of 1976, Kemp spent half a season at double-A Montgomery, half a season at triple-A Evansville, and that was it for the minor leagues . until last season when he found himself with the Las Vegas Stars.

"When I started out," Kemp said during Oklahoma City's series with the Iowa Cubs, "I never, ever felt I'd be back down. I felt I'd get to the big leagues and kick ... "

FOR MUCH of his 10-year career Kemp could have been mistaken for Ray Guy, his foot was so full of life. With the Detroit Tigers, Kemp developed with the speed of a Polaroid snapshot, making the All-Star team in his third season and finishing with 26 homers, 105 runs-batted-in and a .318 batting average.

Though that was his best season, second and third best weren't bad. In 1982 after the Tigers sent him to the Chicago White Sox for Chet Lemon, Kemp hit .286 with 19 homers and 98

But that was the end of the uphill phase of his career. After signing with the Yankees in the most one-sided New York City deal since the Indians gave up Manhattan for a handful of dime-store jewelry, Kemp stopped doing what Kemp had always done best. He stopped hitting.

There were shoulder problems, a broken jaw, a nasty slump and a loss of confidence. Whatever the reason, after two years of futility, Kemp was shipped to Pittsburgh, where the downswing continued.

He wasn't traded the next time. He was released.

Though set for life at age 32, Kemp is still scrambling. The question is

"I know that a lot of people have to make the majors," he said. "They have families to feed, mortgage payments to make. For me, it's a matter of pride. I'd like to get back."

Not that minor-league life has been a nonstop nightmare of fourth-rate meals, third-rate accommodations and second-rate dressing rooms.

"Sometimes, things get old," he said. "Sometimes, I'm tired and I don't want to be at the ballpark. That's when I think about what I'd be doing at home. I'd probably be bored. I think it's nice to be here."

Nice to be in the minors? The last person who said that had just been beaned and was suffering from fuzzy reception.

"The bottom line," Kemp said, "is that baseball is baseball. It doesn't matter where you're playing."

KEMP CAN'T really believe those sentiments with all his heart. But that's what he kept telling himself earlier this season when the majorleague clubs glanced at his .400 average and yawned.

Though Oklahoma City is the Texas affiliate, any big-league team can sign him without compensating the Rangers. Alas, a slump has eaten more than 100 points off that average, but Kemp has had no nibbles. Nobody has expressed a need for a left-handed designated hitter who hit .188 in his most recent big-league season.

"Physically," Kemp said, "I'm more capable than I was at 23 or 24.' Mentally, he has a hearty appetite for the big leagues. He is energetic; he

is enthusiastic. "He's been a great influence on our young players," said Tom Grieve, the

Rangers' general manager. "He's busting his tail." After batting practice, he works up a sweat by shagging balls in the out-

field. Then he keeps his arm oiled by firing balls against the concrete wall below the Cub Club in left. "I'm not glad for everything that's happened to me," Kemp said. "But

being here does make me more appreciative of the big league atmosphere."

On Wednesday night, Kemp kissed Des Moines goodbye with a home run

Grand jury subpoenas Harmon, not Mitchell

By TOM WITOSKY Register Staff Writer

Only one of the two former Iowa Hawkeye football players represented by controversial agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom apparently has been subpoenaed to appear before a federal grand jury in Chicago.

Tim Pendell, public relations director for the Detroit Lions, said defensive back Devon Mitchell has not been contacted by law enforcement agents or served with a subpoena.

Pendell made his comments after published reports disclosed that Mitchell's teammate, Ronnie Harmon, had been subpoenaed to appear before a grand jury investigating Bloom and Walters for possible criminal activity.

Martin Rauch, Harmon's agent and lawyer, told the Chicago Tribune Thursday that his client had received a subpoena, but indicated that the Buffalo Bills' running back may not go agents in 1985 during their collegiate career.

before the grand jury for some time.

Meanwhile, Iowa Athletic Director Bump Elliott said he has not been interviewed by the FBI and has not been subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury. Two other athletic directors -Rick Bay of Ohio State and Ed Bozek of the University of Pittsburgh - acknowledged in published reports that they have been asked to appear in Chicago.

"I knew the FBI had been here, but I know nothing more than that," Elliott said.

Iowa Coach Hayden Fry, who was in his office Friday, failed to return telephone calls. Last week, a special University of Iowa com-

mittee said two former Hawkeye players identified by Walters as Mitchell and Harmon - received payments from the two New York

Such payments violate Big Ten Conference rules and NCAA rules, but aren't illegal.

But earlier this week, Iowa officials acknowledged that FBI agents had been on the Iowa City campus to interview several officials including Fry and David Vernon, chairman of the special committee probing the payments. Officials also said that FBI agents have subpoenaed records from the school's investigation.

The investigation apparently has targeted the activities of Walters and Bloom, who have acknowledged signing representation contracts with various collegiate athletes. In addition, FBI agents have been working in several states allegations that Walters and Bloom have threatened players who have tried to drop them as

Bloom and Walters have denied all allega-

tions. They insist they have become targets of a smear campaign put together by other agents and players.

U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas declined comment Friday on the investigation.

Asked through the Lions' public relations office if he had been subpoenaed to appear, Mitchell declined to comment. But Pendell said the Lions' office would be aware of such action.

"As an organization, we are generally aware of such things when they happen to members of this team," Pendell said. "We are unaware of any such request being made of Devon."

Pendell said Bloom represented Mitchell in his contract negotiations after the 1986 draft. Mitchell, a standout as a defensive back on the 1985 Big Ten Conference championship team, was the Lions' fourth-round draft choice.

15 Indy drivers wide open field

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. (AP) -Qualifying speeds are down, accidents are up and the field for the May 24 Indianapolis 500 is more open than usual going into the final weekend of qualifications.

In fact, the situation is so uncertain that there is even the slim possibility that there may not be enough cardriver combinations up to speed to fill the 33-car field.

Eighteen drivers put cars into the tentative field last weekend, leaving 15 spots to fill today and Sunday. That's the most since 1974, excluding four years when rain interrupted one or both of the first two qualifying sessions. The last two years, there were just three spots to fill on the last weekend.

The usual scenario is that the field is filled and the slowest qualifiers are bumped out before the close of qualifications at 5 p.m. CDT Sunday. There may not be much of that this year, although the slowest starter so far, former track record holder Pancho Carter, is more than 6 mph slower than what once figured to be needed to make the race.

"There just aren't that many cars out there," said Gordon Johncock, a two-time Indy winner who came out of a two-year retirement this week. 'What is there is good equipment, but I don't expect to see much bumping." **Epidemic of Accidents**

Michael Andretti, who qualified last Saturday, said, "I think there are enough cars to fill the field up, but there are some people out there would rather not see running in the

An epidemic of accidents has wiped out almost a dozen cars and eliminated at least three and probably four veteran drivers because of injury. There were eight accidents in the three weeks before the race last year, and there already have been 20

stone, who crashed Friday for the second time and probably cost himself any chance of driving in his sixth Indy. Firestone, who underwent surgery to repair two small broken bones in his left foot after crashing in virtually the same place in the fourth turn just 10 days ago, was dazed but conscious after Friday's incident. He was taken back to Methodist Hospital after the latest incident complaining of pain in his neck and shoulders.

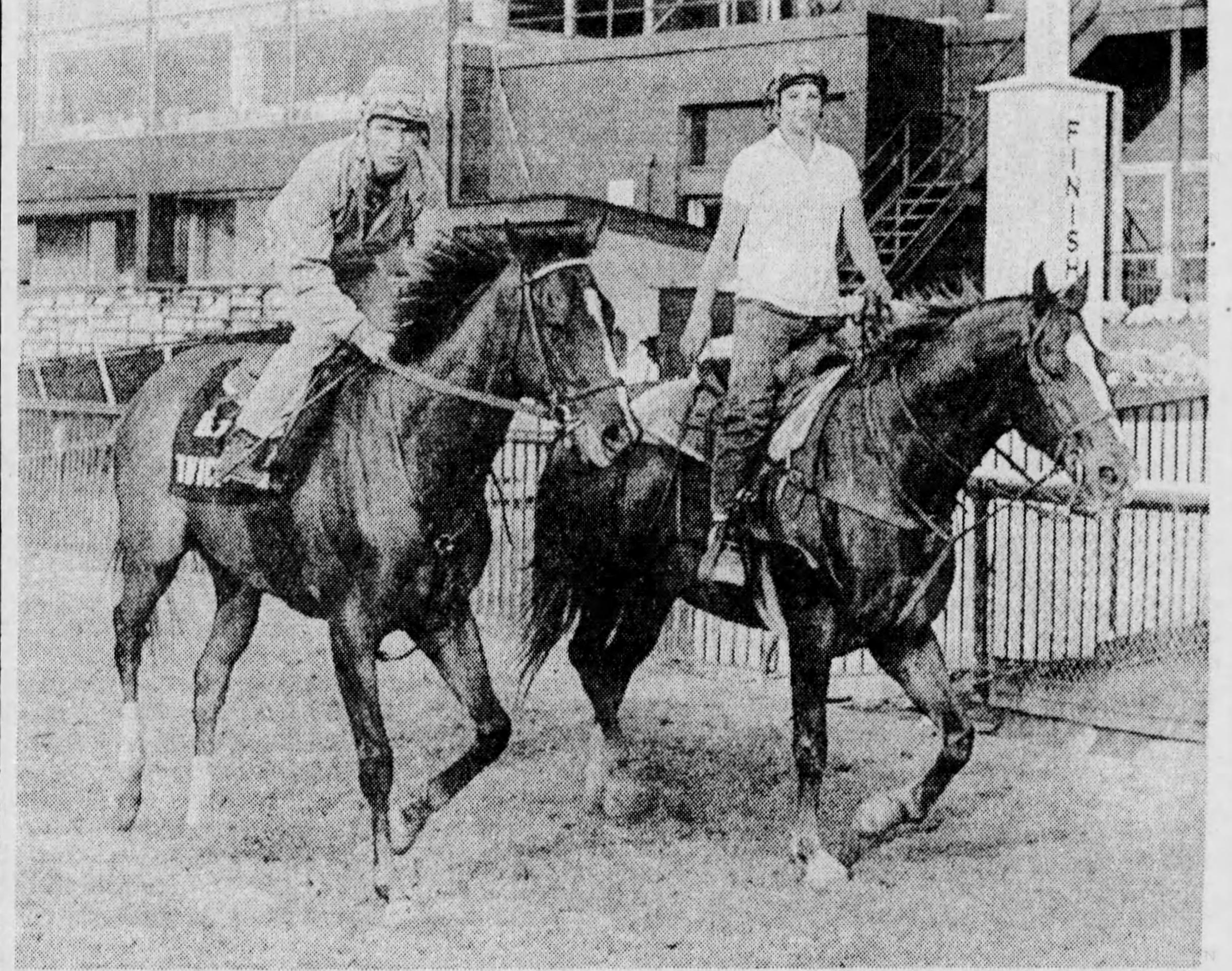
The three drivers out for sure are Jim Crawford of Scotland, who suffered severe leg and foot injuries in a crash last Saturday at the start of a qualifying attempt; Johnny Parsons, who broke his left heel and right ankle during practice Thursday, and Danny Ongais, ruled medically unfit while recovering from a concussion suffered during practice last week.

Still Hoping to Qualify

Among the top drivers still hoping to qualify are three former winners - Johncock, three-time winner Al Unser and 1983 winner Tom Sneva.

Sneva, who crashed both his cars last week without injury, said, "We're just lucky so few guys were able to qualify last week. The field is still wide open. Now all we have to do is find some speed."

Also looking for a spot in the race Please turn to Page 3S



Bet Twice, the second-place horse in the Kentucky Derby, takes a trip around the Pimlico track at Baltimore in

preparation for today's Preakness Stakes. Bet Twice drew the No. 1 post position for the race.

plan to return integrity

DALLAS, TEXAS (AP) -- A committee studying the role of athletics at Southern Methodist University Friday recommended that the school remain in the Southwest Conference, but urged further reforms to prevent any repeat of the scandal that will keep the school from playing football for the next two seasons.

The committee's recommendations include major revisions in admissions policies for athletes, a requirement that athletes live in campus housing, and a possible return of football to Ownby Stadium on campus.

Proposed reforms cannot com-The latest involved Dennis Fire- | pletely prevent athletes from being given money improperly, but they will tighten controls, according to William Stallcup, the interim president of the school.

"What we're talking about is strong internal control as opposed to control over the outside. We want the dog to start wagging the tail," Stallcup said. He said the athletic director and

students would be held accountable for any infractions. Athletes taking money would be discharged, Stallcup

Committee members said the goal of the reforms is to restore integrity to Southern Methodist "We think the integration of athlet-

ics into the academic life of SMU is important but what is more important is academic integrity," said Dr. Eugene Bonelli, who chaired the com-

Bonelli and Stallcup said that winning will no longer be paramount at the school. "We desire to continue the best pos-

sible athletic program," Bonelli said. "But that does not necessarily mean winning. It is only one goal and should not be allowed to dictate all standards and procedures." The committee voted, 7-3, to rec-

ommend continued participation in

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stun Michigan at Big Ten meet

Special Dispatch to The Register

ANN ARBOR, MICH. - Iowa upset defending champion Michigan, 9-4, Friday in the first round of the Big Ten Conference baseball tourna-

Michigan, the Eastern Division champion, jumped out to a 3-0 lead before Iowa, the Western Division runner-up, scored nine runs.

Hawkeye pitcher Mark Boland went the distance, scattering seven hits and giving up only one earned run while raising his record to 7-3.

Brian Butz knocked in three runs for the Hawks with a double and a single. Lewis Ramirez drove in two runs with a home run and a double. Purdue beat Minnesota, 9-3, in the

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El Paso seeks explanation for hero's death

By PETER H. FRANK © 1987 New York Times

DALLAS, TEXAS - A medical examiner's finding provided few answers for the people of El Paso as they continued to search for the reason behind the death of one of Texas-El Paso most personable and well-known basketball players.

The toxicology report, however, did verify what the police had said and what many residents here refused to believe: that Hernell Marcell "Jeep" Jackson had used cocaine the night before he died.

According to the report, Dr. Juan U. Contin, said traces of a cocaine byproduct had been found in Jackson's urine. But the direct cause of death has yet to be determined, Contin said, because of the presence of abnormalities in an artery feeding Jackson's heart and "very small scars in the muscle of the heart."

"No cocaine was present in the blood, ruling out its use shortly before death," the report said. "The presence of the cocaine byproduct in the urine indicates cocaine use many hours prior to death."

The statement said that it would be several weeks before a specific cause of death was determined.

Jackson died on the afternoon of May 2 during a charity basketball In the days following, El Paso resi-

dents were stunned by reports that cocaine had been involved. "He had this town fascinated," said Bobby Joe Hill, a friend of Jackson's and a guard on the university's national championship team in 1966.

"He was a symbol for everybody. He

was a spark plug. His personality

overflowed to the fans and the team."

easy smile - combined with his emotional enthusiasm as the team's playmaker - came to symbolize a highspiritedness that was otherwise muted in this self-proclaimed "Biggest Little City in Texas." Jackson, born and raised in Carson,

People here said that his quick and

Calif., had just finished his final season with the Miners. He had been instrumental in his school's four consecutive Western Athletic Conference championships.

His final game as a Miner was a loss to Iowa in the second round of the NCAA tournament. Seven weeks after that game, Jackson, another teammate and a number of service-

Please turn to Page 3S

Nine colts set to race in Preakness

Superstitious Van Berg leaves nothing to chance

BALTIMORE, MD. (AP) - Jack Van Berg, trainer of Kentucky Derby winner Alysheba, believes his horse can win the Preakness today at Pim-

But Van Berg is leaving nothing to chance.

Katrina Owens, Miss Preakness of 1984, attended the annual Alibi Breakfast Friday at the request of Van Berg because 1984 was the year he won the race with Gate Dancer.

Alysheba also is staying in stall 18 in the barn housing Preakness horses instead of stall 40, where the Derby winner traditionally stays at Pimlico. Gate Dancer stayed in stall 18.

Van Berg also plans to wear the same brown suit today that he wore on Derby Day May 2 at Churchill

"That's the only coat he's got," quipped trainer D. Wayne Lukas, who will try to win the Preakness with Lookinforthebigone after finishing out of the money in the Derby with the entry of Capote, War and On The

"I thought his race in the Arkansas Derby, when he ran second to Demons Begone, was a big one," Lukas said.

The trainer felt, however, that Lookinforthebigone was not seasoned enough to start in the 11/4-mile Derby. The Preakness is 1 3/16 miles.

Last Triple Crown Winner

Pleasant Colony, 1981, was the last winner of both the Derby and Preakness. He then finished third in the 11/2-mile Belmont. The 11th and last Triple Crown winner was Affirmed in

year-olds today. If all start, the 112th Preakness will be worth \$543,600, with \$412,100 to the winner. ABC will televise from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. CDT, and post time is 4:33 p.m.

Alysheba will face eight other 3-

It rained Friday, but the forecast was for mostly sunny weather today, with the temperature in the 70s.

Alysheba, who won the Derby by three-quarters of a length over Bet Twice, is the 7-5 early favorite. Bet Twice is 3-1, with Cryptoclearance, fourth in the Derby, next at 3-1. Avies Copy, third in the Derby, is 15-1.

Also entered were Gulch, No More

Flowers, Phantom Jet and Harriman. Gulch finished sixth in the Derby, while No More Flowers was 15th. Harriman was scheduled to arrive at Pimlico about 10 a.m. today from owner Bayard Sharp's farm at Middletown, Del.

"I don't think you've seen the best of him yet ... knock on wood," Van Berg said of Alysheba, who will be racing for the third time since undergoing throat surgery March 24 to correct a breathing problem.

Alysheba will be allowed to race on Lasix, a diuretic given to horses who bleed. No Preakness starter will race on Butazolidin, an anti-inflammatory medication, which is legal in Kentucky, but not in Maryland. No medication is allowed in New York, the site of the Belmont Stakes June 6.

In his first start after surgery,

PREAKNESS Please turn to Page 3S

MORNING REPORT

COLONIAL POSTPONED. The second round of the Colonial National Invitation golf tournament in Fort Worth, Texas, was rained out, and a double round was scheduled Sunday. Following today's second round, the 106man field will be cut to the low 60 scorers, instead of the usual 70, for the 36-hole finish.

HOAX REVEALED. A former Southern Methodist University student says he spread bogus rumors of organized prostitution and academic cheating in the the athletic department as part of a "disinformation campaign." Kevin Lerner, 30, told the Dallas Times Herald he was the anonymous caller who began calling news organizations in March. That came after Gov. Bill Clements disclosed

that he and other SMU trustees had authorized continued illicit payments to football players.

SCOTT RECANTS. Former Phoenix Suns forward Alvin Scott is now saying James Edwards didn't supply him with drugs, contradicting what he had told authorities. On March 30. Scott told Phoenix police and county prosecutors he used marijuana and cocaine with Edwards, who supplied the marijuana. Edwards has been indicted on drug-trafficking charges.

WHAT A BET. An unidentified bettor won \$451,250 Thursday in the Super-Trifecta jackpot at Detroit Race Course, the largest payoff in Michigan racing history. It surpassed the \$200,139 a bettor won at the track in 1985. Winning the bet is easy: You simply pick the first three finishers in the fourth race and the first four finishers in the sixth race.

STEPHENSON SIDELINED. Two undiscovered broken ribs she sustained in an auto accident last month will keep Jan Stephenson off the LPGA Tour for six weeks. Stephenson, who has been complaining of continuing pain, was re-examined Thursday in Los Angeles, and the injury was discovered.

ALL-REGION. University of Iowa softball players Carol Bruggeman, Beth Kirchner, and Sally Miller have been named to the National Coaches Association Mideast all-region

second team. Bruggeman, a senior from Charter Oak, leads Iowa with a .311 batting average. Kirchner, a Sioux City native, leads the Hawkeyes with 31 RBIs and 19 extra-base hits. Miller, from Urbandale, boasts the top fielding percentage of the Hawkeye infield.

DOUBLE PLAY. Buddy Herrera, 61, who had never had a hole-in-one in 40 years, had two this week, three holes apart at the Riviera Country Club in Coral Gables, Fla. Witnesses who confirm feats like this are sometimes doubted, but Herrera had the fortune to be ac-

companied by three Roman Catholic priests - Xavier Morras, Cyril Hudak and the pastor of Miami's St. Peter and Paul Church, Gilberto Fernandez.

and single. For good, he hopes.