

AP photo

Edmonton's Jari Kurri shoots the game-winning goal past Philadelphia Flyers goalie Ron Hextall in overtime during Stanley Cup final action Wednesday. The Oilers won, 4-3, and hold a 2-0 edge in the series.

Gretzky: Oilers playing at their best now

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Wayne Gretzky says his Edmonton Oilers could not be playing better hockey than they are right now in the Stanley Cup finals, and he will get no argument from the Philadelphia Flyers.

"They are a tough team to beat," said defenseman Mark Howe, whose Flyers are still looking for their first victory in the championship

The Flyers are back home for Game 3 of the best-of-seven series tonight hoping to rebound from two losses in Edmonton.

"They just took it to us," Howe said of the 4-2 loss in Game 1 Sunday night and Wednesday night's 3-2 overtime loss. "They got a little fire in them and that's the advantage of playing at home."

goal from Ron Hextall. However, it did them little good as the Oilers did just what they had to do to win.

Trailing 2-1, the Oilers got a tying goal on a superb individual effort from Glenn Anderson in the third period. Then came the game-winner from Jarri Kurri on a textbook play in overtime. "That's what it takes to win Stanley Cups,"

said Gretzky. Gretzky was proud of his line's performance. Gretzky and Kurri did not do especially well in the Campbell Conference finals against the Detroit Red Wings, but they have done the job

against the Flyers. Gretzky had a goal and an assist in each of the first two games. And Kurri had a goal in each

"In the Detroit series it wasn't our time offensively," Gretzky said of his line. "We got a couple of big goals in that series, but the other The Flyers again got a solid performance in lines did extremely well and now it's our turn to do things offensively and we hope we can keep rising to the occasion."

The victory improved the Oilers playoff record

to 14-2, including six straight victories. They have won five straight games in overtime dating back to the regular season.

"It's a great feeling," Kurri said of the Oilers 2-0 lead. "I know Philadelphia can play well, especially at home, but we feel confident because we can play well on the road, too."

"We did some good things," defenseman Brad Marsh said Philadelphia's two last two games. "We slowed the tempo up a little bit. We had a lot of good scoring chances and perhaps we deserved a couple of goals.

e (Hextall) played great for 60 minutes. But we also played a great hockey game in front of him for 40 minutes and 10 minutes of the third period.

"We let Edmonton take it to us rather than play the same style we are accustomed to. We were trying to protect a 2-1 lead and against a team like Edmonton, that's tough to do."

The winning 2A team, following

two rounds Saturday, will advance

to the state meet May 28 at both

West Des Moines Dowling and

Urbandale's Walker Johnston Park.

The Class 1A team championship

will be decided at West Des Moines

Finals will be at Urbandale.

lowa's Ramirez named to all-Big Ten 1st team SCHAUMBURG, Ill. — Outfielder

Luis Ramirez of Iowa has been selected to the All-Big Ten baseball first team in a vote of conference coaches.

Ramirez batted .360 in Big Ten play for the Hawkeyes.

Pitcher Mark Boland was the only other Iowa player honored. Boland was picked on the second team. Illinois catcher Darrin Fletcher was named Player of the Year.

owa Conference

WAVERLY - William Penn's Jerry Kutzler was named to the all-Iowa Conference baseball first team for the second straight year and was voted Player of the Year by league coaches.

Kutzler made the first team as a pitcher, but he also played outfield and was used as a designated hitter for Penn.

Buena Vista's Todd Candor and Simpson's Brent Clark received allconference honors for the third straight year. John Sirianni, who directed Simpson to the league title, was voted Coach of the Year.

Luther second baseman Steve Stahle and designated hitter Rich Silliman were named to the first team. Dave Haughland and Kevin Pleasant of Luther and Edrick Cox of Upper Iowa were picked for the second team.

Midwest Conference

Three players from Cornell and two from Coe have been named to the 1987 Midwest Conference allleague baseball teams.

The Rams placed catcher Pat McKasson, second baseman Rick Willis and designated hitter Jim White on the 17-player South Division club. The Kohawks landed pitcher Dave Drahn and outfielder Mike Spellerberg on the team.

The league also named a 12-man North Division squad.

had four players honored.

Softball

Big Ten

Year.

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. — Three players from Iowa have selected to the All-Big Ten softball team in a vote of conference coaches.

Hawkeye outfielder Beth Kirchner was named to the first team. Iowa infielders Sally Miller and Carol Bruggeman were selected to the second team.

Michigan's Vicki Morrow was named Player of the Year and Northwestern's Chinazo Opia was Newcomer of the Year. Sharon Drysdale of league champion Northwestern was picked Coach of the

ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS

owa Conference

WAVERLY - Laurie Sutten, who pitched Central College to a national tournament berth, has been named Most Valuable Player in the Iowa Conference in a vote of league softball coaches.

Sutten, a junior, had a 7-3 record and 0.84 earned-run average this

Last year's MVP, Darsi Doyl of Luther, was named all-conference first team for the fourth straight year. Central second baseman Kelly Gould also was named for the fourth year in a row.

Betty Hoff, who guided Luther to its third consecutive league championship, was voted Coach of the Year. Luther outfielder Sarah Lentz also was named to the first team.

Midwest Conference

Cornell garnered three spots and Coe earned two berths on the 1987 Midwest Conference all-league softball team.

Shortstop Deanna Dittmer, center fielder Jean Anne Robins and catcher Julie Houser from Cornell made the 10-person South Division team. Pitcher/first baseman Sharon Lorber and pitcher Kris Phearman of Coe also made the club.

An 11-player North Division squad also was named. Cornell, Monmouth and St. Norbert all claimed three berths on the combined 21-player team.

All-sports champs

St. Norbert and Knox are the all-sports champs in the Midwest Collegiate Athletic Conference for the 1986-87 school year.

St. Norbert dominated the wom-Monmouth, Ripon and Knox all en's standings with 87 points, based on championships in volleyball, soccer, cross country, basketball and track. Knox captured its first men's crown with 89.5 points.

Cornell and Coe placed in the topthird of the 12-team league in both men's and women's athletics. Cornell finished third in the men's standings with titles in wrestling and indoor track, and took second in the women's rankings. Coe tied for fourth in the men's results and took fourth in the women's competition.

All-Sports standings

1. Knox (89.5), 2. Lawrence (80.5), 3. Cornell (79), 4. (fie) Coe and Grinnell, 76, 6. Manmouth 73.5, 7. Chicago 70.5, 8. Ripon 69, 9. St. Norbert 65.5, 10. Beloit 52, 11. Illinois College 46, 12. Lake Forest 44.5.

St. Norbert (87), 2. Cornell (72.5), 3. Chicago (69), 4. Coe (66.5), 5. Lawrence (55.5), 6. Monmouth (54.5), 7. Lake Forest (52), 8. Beloit (49.5), 9. Grinnell (48.5), 10. Knox (45.5), 11 Ripon (42), 12. Illinois College (19.5).

SPORTS BRIEFLY

FOOTBALL — The defense rested its case Thursday in the sexual assault trial of James Lofton after presenting seven witnesses who testified during the afternoon on behalf of the former Green Bay Packer football player. The case could go to the jury as early as today . . . A woman who said Mossy Cade was just like a son told a Brown County Circuit Court jury Thursday that the Green Bay Packers defensive back raped her three times in his De Pere home. The woman, a 44-year-old operator of a day care center in Houston, Texas, was the prosecution's first witness in the seconddegree sexual assault trial of Cade . . . The battery trial of Indianapolis Colts quarterback Jack Trudeau that had been scheduled Thursday in Marion Municipal Court was postponed until July 2, court officials said . . . A University of Miami football strength coach was arrested Thursday on charges of trafficking in bodybuilding steroids as U.S. Customs agents launched a nationwide crackdown on a smuggling ring. Coach Pat Jacobs was among 34 people indicted in San Diego on charges related to the distribution ring, which began in Mexico and was headquartered in

MISC. — Gene Shue has signed a multi-year contract to become head coach of the Los Angeles Clippers, the NBA club announced Thursday. Shue is returning to the Clippers, having coached them from 1978-80, when they played in San Diego . . . FBI agents have asked several college athletes if they were offered drugs and prostitutes as an inducement to sign with two sports agents who are being investigated by a federal grand jury, a newspaper reported Thursday. About 60 former and current college athletes have been subpoenaed to testify before the grand jury in Chicago, which is looking into the dealings of agents Norby Walters

Wash girls heavily favored in sectional tennis tourney Cedar Rapids Washington is a Cedar Falls NU High.

Valley.

heavy favorite to dominate girls' sectional tennis tournament play today, as competition opens at area sites at Iowa City's Kinnick Stadium Courts and Kennedy High School.

Boys' sub-state team competition, meanwhile, will be held Saturday at 9 a.m. at Washington's courts.

In girls' sectionals at Iowa City, Washington will be led by No. singles player Holly Harris and the doubles unit of Jamie Harder and Heidi Houghton. Matches are scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. The Warriors will be challenged by Iowa City High, Iowa City west, Musca-

sectional play at 8:30 a.m., with the host Cougars joined by Regis, Linn-Mar, Marion, Prairie, Jefferson and Mount Vernon.

The top team will advance to district competition, to be held Tuesday and Wednesday at Kenne-

The singles champion and runnerup, along with the doubles champion and runner-up unit will advance to regional competition - also Tuesday at Kennedy's courts.

The Washington boys' team, which won its first district title last week, meets Waterloo Columbus Saturday in the 2A sub-state, while Linn-Mar faces Iowa City High.

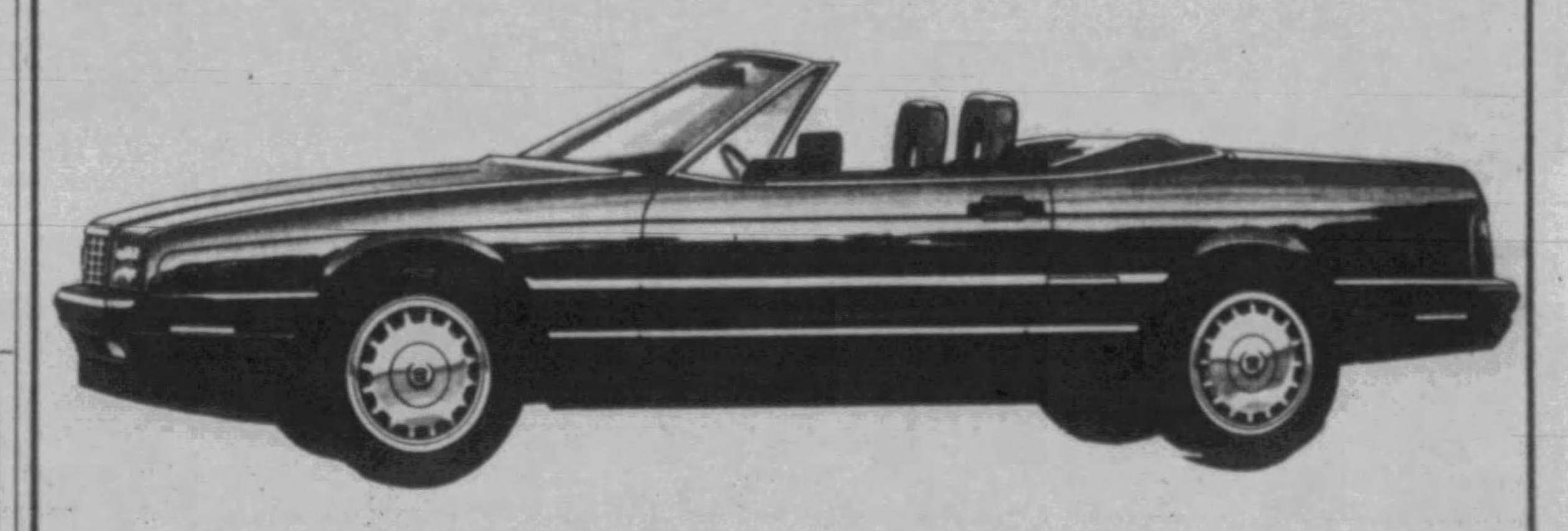
In 1A sub-state action Saturday at Cedar Falls Northern University High, Oelwein tackles Waverly-Shell Rock, and Camanche meets

On the fast track

The first 15 runnings of the Kentucky Derby were held on fast tracks. The first muddy track was in 1890 when Riley romped home a winner.

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Southern California. tine, Davenport Assumption, Davenport Central and Davenport West. Kennedy courts also will open

and Lloyd Bloom.

Associated Press

NEWS NOTES/AREA SPORTS

AAU track meet

IOWA CITY — An AAU Junior Olympic track and field preliminary meet will be held Saturday at Iow City West High School for boys and girls age 14 and under.

The top four placewinners in the preliminary meet will qualify for the state AAU meet June 6 at Des Moines East High School. The top three finishers from the state meet Washington girls' track banquet will be eligible for the national meet Tuesday at Bever Park.

July 30-Aug. 1 at Riverside, Calif. Entry fee is \$6. Registration is from 8 to 9:15 a.m. For more information, call Mark Kluber (354-2993) or Jon Meskimen (351-5364).

Wash track awards Senior Jamie Preston and sophomore Gloria Shorty were selected most valuable performers by their teammates at the Cedar Rapids

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