

SPORTSPEOPLE

Odds & INS



By Skip Myslenski & Linda Kay

He would hear people say Walter Payton had lost a step, and Lowell Weil would shake his head and laugh. Weil is the team podiatrist for the Bears...

For that feat...

... or feet, the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine gave Payton the Golden Foot Award at its annual convention in Chicago last month.

A blast from the (far) past

The Cooperstown Leatherstockings, led by Hall of Fame librarian Tom Heitz, took on the Hudson River Half Moons last Sunday on the lush fields of the Tarrytown, N.Y., estate of 19th century author Washington Irving.

A quiz

Guess where the largest athletic event in the world will be staged in 1987? Answer: South Bend, Ind., where the International Summer Special Olympics Games begin July 31.

Laughter now allowed

Levity was not a word linked with Walter Byers during his 36 years as NCAA head, but the word is that his successor, Dick Schultz, does indeed have a sense of humor.

"He's certainly serious as opposed to being a cutup, and he certainly isn't frivolous by any stretch of the imagination," said Lund, now head of Multimedia Entertainment.

News, notes and nonsense

For what it's worth, here is what Eagle coach Buddy Ryan had to say earlier this week on his radio show in Philadelphia: "The Bears talked to us before the last draft. We thought they wanted a little too much, but now we think [strong safety] Todd Bell may be an Eagle by training camp if everything goes well."

And finally: Only in America. You may recall us mentioning Wednesday that Butch Lewis, who is promoting Monday's War at the Shore between Michael Spinks and Gerry Cooney, has offered Fawn Hall \$25,000 to be a round-card girl.

Sundberg's scouting report: NCAA hired good man for its top job

The NCAA's appointment of Virginia athletic director Dick Schultz as its executive director was felt all the way to the Cubs' dugout.

On a summer day in 1969, Sundberg recalled, Schultz witnessed what "Sunny" calls his "best single day in baseball to this date."

of recommendation from, of all people, Sundberg's second-grade teacher who also happened to be an Iowa alumnus.

Sundberg a full scholarship to play ball for the Hawkeyes. Though Sundberg was soon to be drafted by the Oakland A's, he accepted the offer.

sincere and warm. "I'm glad to see him get that job because I know he'll excel at it. But to tell you the truth, I haven't even seen him since my college days."

Next innovation: Clothes-optional Pray 'n' Putt

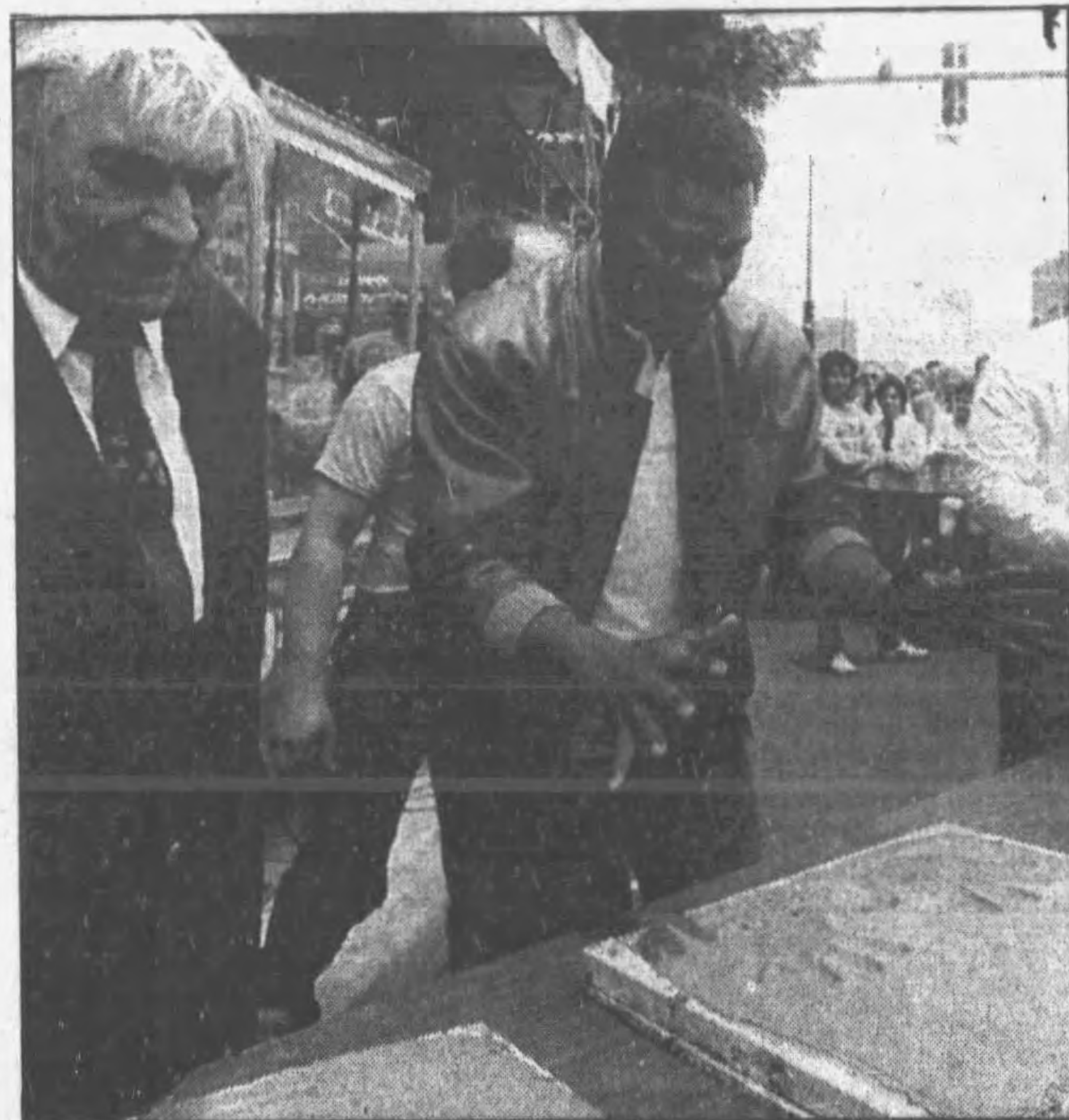
And you thought golf was boring:

Police in Rockford are expected to finish their investigation this week into allegations that a male officer of 10 years on the force golfed in the nude at a department-sponsored Golf Play Day.

"We want to separate fact from fiction and get rid of all the embellishments," said Chief William Fitzpatrick, who won't identify the suspect until the probe is completed.

Golfers in Brighton, Mich., who skip church to get an early start now can pray before they play. Nondenominational services are conducted by Rev. David W. Swink, a Baptist minister, rain or shine at 6:30 a.m. each Sunday on the first tee at Oak Pointe Golf Club.

"It's actually a rather beautiful experience, because so far we've had sunrises at 6:30, 6:35, and it's a quiet, peaceful time to be together," he said.



Walter Payton slaps his hands in a tray of wet cement, to be placed when dry in the Morrie Magas Wall of Fame.

2,130

Sachio Kinugasa, Japan's "Iron Man," tied a record set by Lou Gehrig of New York Yankees nearly 50 years ago by playing in his 2,130th consecutive Japanese professional baseball game Thursday night in Hiroshima.

Cry of Gladiators: We who are about to fly salute you

As if O'Hare Airport didn't have enough confusion, the new Arena Football League figures to really cause some scrambling.

home, pack their clothes and board their flights to the three franchise cities outside Chicago: Denver, Pittsburgh or Washington.

Haering said Friday's exhibition game might force changes in the roster. The league wants to balance its talent.

Final rosters for the four-team, experimental league will be drawn up after Friday night's exhibition game in Rockford.

The season begins June 19, when Pittsburgh plays the Washington Commandoes.

Haering said. "When we leave camp we want each team to be as balanced as possible.

Neither Executive Director Mouse Davis nor Pittsburgh Gladiators coach Joe Haering, who is the league's personnel director, want to tell the players their destinations.

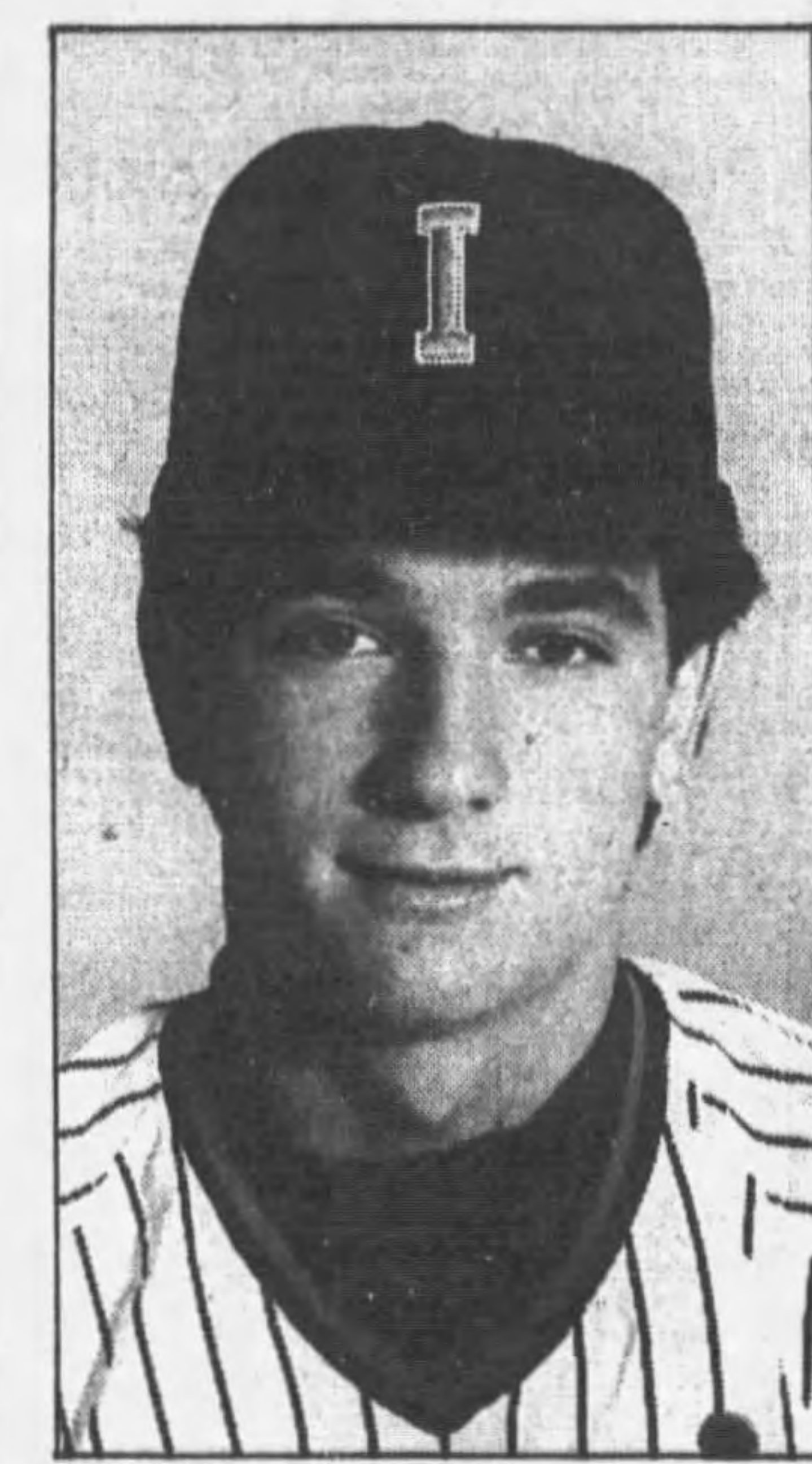
Haering and Davis have divided the players into four groups with assigned coaches. Barring any last-minute changes, the 16-man team rosters are all but selected.

One team might have the best quarterback, another team might have the best wide receiver and so forth. We'll see if one team has an advantage or disadvantage.

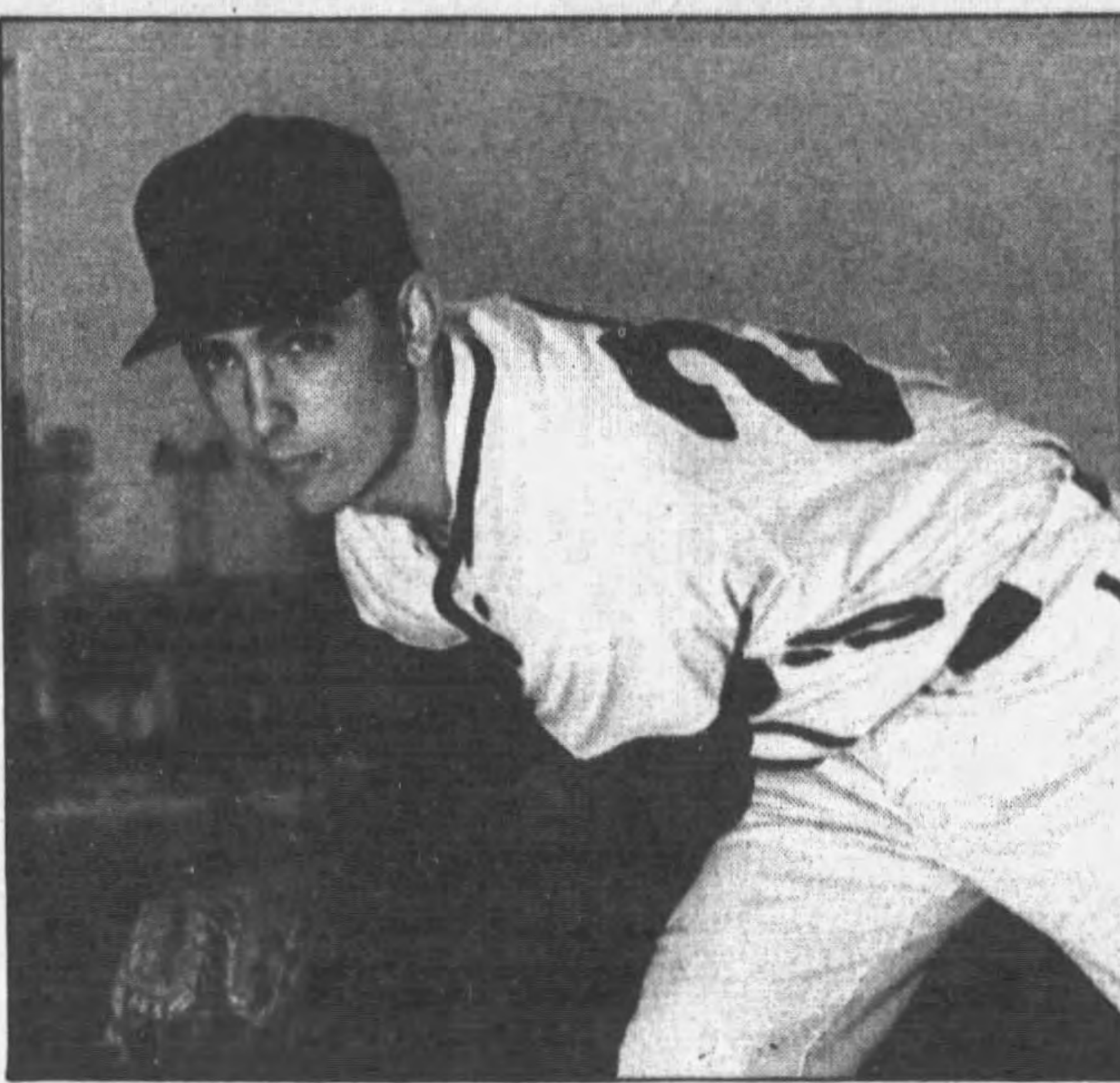
That will come Saturday morning. The players then will have enough time to call

The training-camp roster began at 120 and has been sliced to 77, meaning 13 players will be retained as part of a pool of reserves.

"Right now, we just don't want anyone to make plans. "We're just going to tell them at one time, so they don't have to make changes."



The last Illinois baseball player to be a first-team All-American before catcher Darrin Fletcher (left) did it this year was his father, Tom, an All-American pitcher in 1962.



Holding a World Cup is a dirty job, but U.S. would do it

If the U.S. Soccer Federation is successful in its bid to play host for the 1994 World Cup, some games probably will be played in the Midwest.

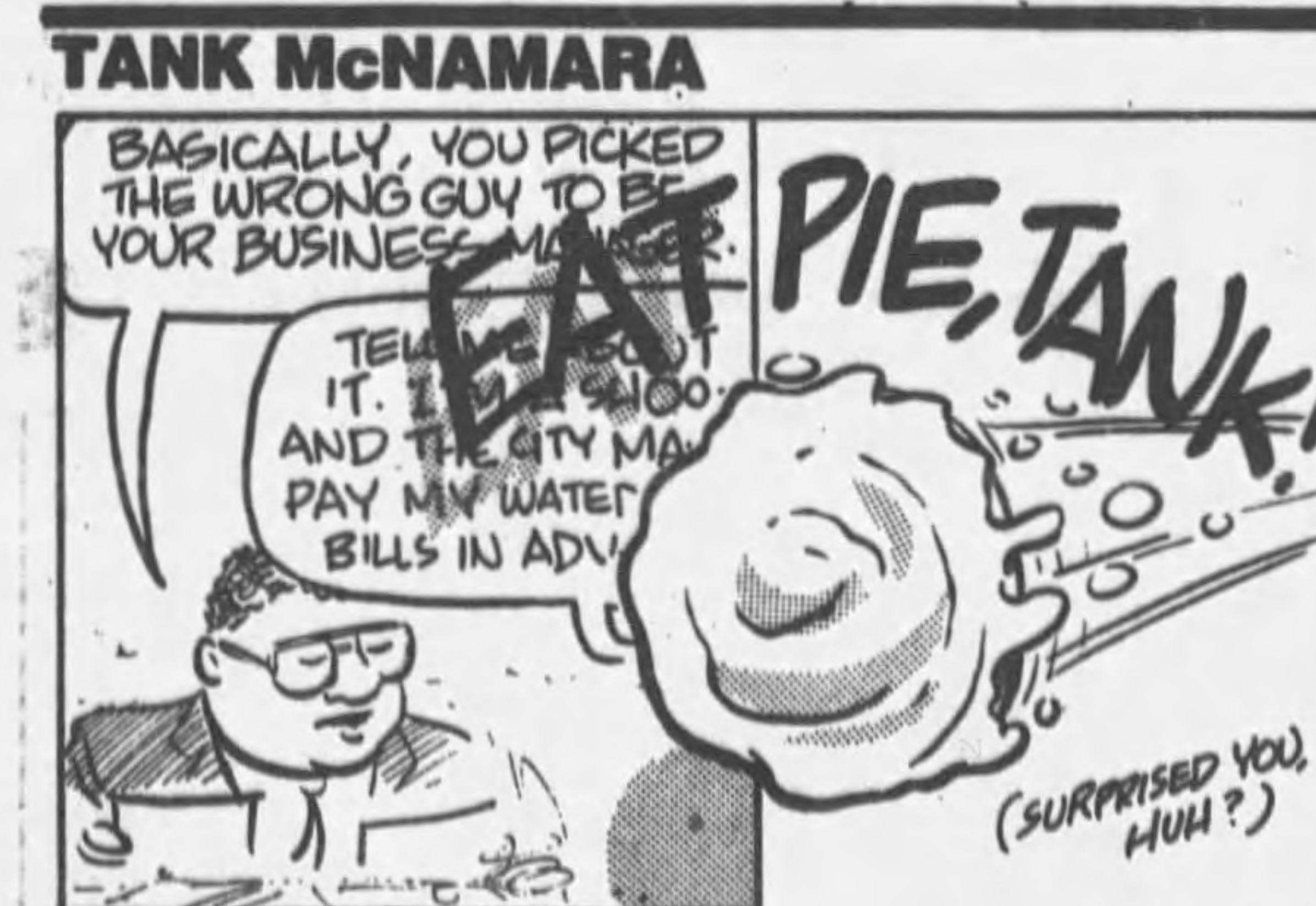
So what will be done about the need to play World Cup games on natural grass?

Cup bid. It takes about four weeks and costs approximately \$50,000 to put 8 to 12 inches of soil over the artificial turf.

Phil Woosnam of the federation has just concluded a survey of 27 potential sites for the Cup, which will require 12 stadiums. Soldier Field is on the list. He also inspected Michigan Stadium, Ohio Sta-

dium and Spartan Stadium in the Big 10, Busch Stadium, Arrowhead Stadium and Notre Dame Stadium.

"It's like putting down dirt for motocross races," he said, "and we do it all the time."



Chicago rules the waves—at least that's the hope of 3 yachtsmen

Buddy Melges and his "Heart of America" may have washed out in last winter's America's Cup, but by golly, that doesn't mean Chicago has been left without an international sailing challenge.

Later this summer, Insatiable, a 45-foot boat based in Chicago and owned by Fred Krehbiel, Deane Tank and Tom Lee, will represent the U.S. in Admiral's Cup competition near Cowles, England.

Skipped by Gary Weisman, Insatiable earned its place by finishing No. 1 in the Breton Reef Regatta last weekend at Newport, R.I., ahead of Sidewinder of San Francisco and Blue Yankee from New York.

Just as Dennis Connor wrested the America's Cup away from foreign interlopers, Insatiable will be attempting to take the Admiral Cup from West Germany.

BRIEFS

Federal authorities reportedly are investigating a possible link between a recruiter for sports agents and the cocaine-induced death of Cleveland Browns defensive back Don Rogers. The investigation stems from inquiries by the FBI and a federal grand jury in Chicago that is looking into the activities of New York sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

Court documents filed in the Phoenix Suns drug case indicate that a witness has recanted statements that led to the indictment of three defendants. Alvin Scott, a former player who works in the front office, has recanted statements that led to the charges against ex-Sun Garfield Heard, current player James Edwards and Kim Lesure of Phoenix.

Iowa football player Keaton Smiley has been charged with willful injury in the assault of a women volleyball player. He was being held in lieu of \$10,000 bond. Smiley is accused of beating Cheryl Zemaitas, from Downers Grove, with his fists and threatening her with a knife at his apartment.

Fewer than half of the 673 male athletes on scholarship at Florida in the last 10 years have earned degrees within five years at the school, according to the Gainesville Sun. In some sports, fewer than 20 percent graduated.

Stefan Edberg survived two rain delays and Wally Masur to join Boris Becker in the quarterfinals of the Queen's Club tennis tournament in London. Edberg won 6-7 (2-7), 7-6 (7-1), 6-4. Becker beat John Sadri 6-4, 6-4. Jimmy Connors led Nduka Odior 7-5, 2-3 when play was suspended because of darkness.

The hiring of ex-Notre Dame football coach Gerry Faust contributed to dissension and negativism in the Akron athletic department, says Arkansas Athletic Director Frank Broyles, who was hired by the Zips as a consultant to conduct a two-month evaluation. Faust was hired last year.

Arson investigators say a barn fire that killed 15 standardbreds at Hazel Park Harness Raceway was deliberately set. Oakland County (Mich.) Sheriff's Department arson investigators found a burn path made by an accelerant.

The U.S. women's team rolled a record final game of 1,063 and won its third straight gold medal in the World Bowling Championships in Helsinki. The U.S. had a record two-day, six-game total of 6,011.

Ron Kline of New Trier High School was one of six coaches chosen to be the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Cycling star Greg LeMond, recovering from a gunshot wound suffered in a family hunting accident April 20, says it will be at least next summer before he regains top form.

The Pittsburgh Steelers have waived former Iowa linebacker Larry Station, who was drafted in the 11th round last year.

Compiled by Mike Conklin, Mike O'Donnell and Rich Lorenz from staff, wire reports.