Box office bomb: Few want to watch Cooney-Spinks fight

Associated Press

"The War at the Shore" is a bomb at the box office. Tickets for the closed-circuit telecast of Monday night's heavyweight fight between Gerry Cooney and Michael Spinks in Atlantic City, N.J., are selling so poorly that some exhibitors are bailing out.

"It's a disaster," says Tommy Gallagher, who gave up his two sites in New York after failing to sell a single ticket. "Nobody's talking about this fight. Nobody cares."

A scheduled telecast at 20,000-seat Joe Louis Arena in Detroit was canceled Wednesday because fewer than 30 tickets had been sold.

"There's no magic with this fight," said Bob Fox, who is handling two other closed-circuit sites in the Detroit area. "Gerry Cooney can't create the spark, and Michael Spinks never had the spark to begin with."

Fox expects to break even on the fight because due to a lack of bids — he got the closed-circuit rights in Michigan free. Exhibitors who had to pay big money for their rights are not so lucky.

"I feel sorry for them," Fox says. "They could lose their shirts."

APATHY ABOUT THE fight apparently extends to Cooney's home area - the New York City suburbs on Long Island. At Nassau Coliseum, which can seat 14,000 for the closed-circuit show, fewer than 1,200 tickets had been sold by Wednesday.

"That's Cooney's backyard," says Gallagher, who trains and manages fighters. "If they can't sell the fight there, they can't sell it anywhere."

The promoter of the fight, Butch Lewis, cites two main reasons for the slow closed-circuit sales: concern that Cooney might pull out at the last minute, and the decision not to promote the fight as a black-white confrontation.

"Some people are mad at me for not playing up the

racial angle," he says. "But I refuse to stoop to racist tactics to sell tickets. I don't want to see any of my exhibitors get hurt, but I'm not going to sacrifice my ethics for anyone."

Lewis and his closed-circuit coordinator, Lou Falcigno, claim they aren't discouraged by the lack of advance sales because closed-circuit fights traditionally gain momentum in the final 24 hours.

"Normally, you do 50 to 90 percent of your business the day of the fight," Falcigno says. "I think when people realize this fight is actually going to come off, we'll start selling a lot of tickets."

The fight will be shown at about 550 sites across the country, about half the number that showed the Sugar Ray Leonard-Marvelous Marvin Hagler middleweight title bout in April. The Leonard-Hagler fight grossed more than \$60 million in closed-circuit revenue, tops in boxing history.

"That's one of our problems," Lewis says. "No matter

what we do, everyone is going to compare us with Leonard-Hagler. That's a hard act to follow."

OTHERS THINK THE main problem is Cooney, who has fought only seven rounds since Larry Holmes stopped him in the 13th round of their World Boxing Council title fight in 1982. Cooney's last fight was May 31, 1986, when he knocked out Eddie Gregg in the first

Because of his inactivity in the ring, Cooney's desire to fight has been questioned.

"Right now, his popularity is at an all-time low," says Joe Hand Jr., who owns the closed-circuit rights for Cooney-Spinks in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware and southern New Jersey.

Gallagher, who was Gregg's trainer for the Cooney fight, agrees.

"Cooney's a joke," he says. "He's trying to fool the public, but they're not buying it."

lowa gridder Smiley faces charge of willful injury

Gazette Johnson County Bureau IOWA CITY — A University of Iowa football player accused of women's volleyball team was re- ment of Corrections. ing a bond reduction hearing.

Keaton Smiley, 19, faces a charge of willful injury. Iowa City police accuse him of beating Cheryl Zemaitis, a sophomore from Downers Grove, Ill., about 7:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Police said Smiley, a sophomore defensive back on last year's football team, hit Zemaitis with his fists and threatened her with a knife. The threats included sexual ones, police said in documents filed in Johnson County District Court.

Doctors said Zemaitis, a part-time starter on last year's volleyball team, suffered a ruptured eardrum and possible fractured left cheek, Iowa City patrol officer Charles Singleman said in the court documents. Zemaitis also suffered swelling and bruises around her left eye, nose and left upper arm, Singleman

area, originally was held in the incident. A preliminary court hear-Johnson County Jail in lieu of ing on the charge is scheduled for \$10,000 bail. But Thursday, District June 19.

sometime in August whether former

Iowa running back Ronnie Harmon

can keep the \$54,000 he received

from agents Norby Walters and

Lloyd Bloom while an undergradu-

Culver, an arbitrator for the

Association, heard arguments in the expected in August.

National Football League Players

ate with the Hawkeyes.

No ruling expected until

August in Harmon case

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Former dispute on Wednesday. Both sides

Iowa Sen. John Culver will rule have until July 24 to file post-

Court Associate Judge John Sladek dropped the bail and ordered Smiley released under the custody of beating a member of the U of I the Sixth Judicial District Depart-

leased without bail Thursday follow- Under the terms of his release, Smiley may not leave Johnson County. He also may not have contact personally or by telephone with Zemaitis, Sladek said.

> According to police records, a "hysterical, yelling female" called the emergency 911 number at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday and reported a police emergency. Then the phone was either hung up or went dead, records said.

Police traced the call to an apartment at 530 S. Clinton St., and went there. Smiley, who police said lives at the apartment, was arrested a short time later.

Shortly after the emergency call, police received an anonymous call from a person who reported hearing a man and woman fighting for a long time at Smiley's address, records

U of I Athletic Department offi-Smiley, from the Dallas, Texas, cials have declined comment on the

hearing briefs, and Culver has 30

days from that date to issue a

A ruling had been expected

within 30 days after the hearing, but

Mike Stevens, an associate of Cul-

ver's in the Washington law firm

Arent Fox, said a decision is now

SPORTS BRIEFLY

BASEBALL — 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 professional game Thursday night. The 40-year-old third baseman would become the most durable player in baseball history by playing Saturday . . . Gary Swanson, baseball coach at Northern Iowa, is considering an offer to become head coach and assistant athletic director at St. Andrew's College in Laurenburg, N.C. The move would result in a raise of about \$16,000 a year for Swanson, who has coached the Panthers on a part-time contract for the past three years.

FOOTBALL — Outspoken linebacker Brian Bosworth will be the principal prize today when the NFL holds its lottery-style supplemental draft. He enters today's draft having written letters to all 28 teams declaring that he will play only for five — the New York Jets or Giants, the Los Angeles Rams or Raiders and the Philadelphia Eagles . . . Athlon's magazine picks Iowa State to finish last in the Big 8 Conference this fall, and tabs Oklahoma to win the league title. The magazine tabs ISU's Chris Moore as the pre-season choice for all-Big 8 honors at middle linebacker . . . Federal authorities are investigating a possible link between a recruiter for sports agents and the cocaine-induced death of Cleveland Browns defensive back Don Rogers, Newsday reported Thursday. Rogers, 23, died of a cocaine overdose last June 27.

■ GOLF — Sandy Lyle of Scotland reeled off five consecutive birdies and shot a 6-under-par 65 that gave him a one-shot lead Thursday in the first round of the \$600,000 Westchester Classic in Harrison, N.Y. Lyle, a former British Open winner and the current holder of the Tournament Players Championship, held the lead over Loren Roberts and Spain's Seve Ballesteros . . . Deb Richard, who has never finished in the Top 15 in her two years on the LPGA tour, shot a 6-under-par 66 to take a one-stroke lead after one round of the \$350,000 Mayflower Classic in Indianapolis . . . Chi Chi Rodriguez, seeking his fifth straight Seniors title, shot a record 7under-par 65 to lead the \$400,000 Mazda Senior Tournament Players Championship in Ponte Vedra, Fla., by one stroke.

TENNIS — Tennis officials announced Thursday that no additional penalties would be levied against John McEnroe for leaving the court last month during a World Team Cup match in West Germany. After investigating the incident, the Men's International Professional Tennis Council determined that a back injury prevented McEnroe from finishing his match against Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia . . . Ivan Lendl, ranked No. 1 in the world, began his tuneup for the Wimbledon tennis championships with a 7-6, 7-5 victory over his coach, Tony Roche, in the quarterfinals of the \$160,000 Scottish grass court championships in Edinburgh, Scotland . . . Elise Burgin of the United States upset sixth-seeded Sylvia Hanika of West Germany 6-7 (3-7), 6-2, 6-3 in the Edgbaston Cup women's grass court tennis championships . . . Sweden's Stefan Edberg survived two rain interruptions and the formidable. challenge of Wally Masur to join two-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker in the quarterfinals of the \$300,000 Stella Artois grass court championships at Queens Club. Edberg rallied to beat Masur 6-7 (2-7), 7-6 (7-1), 6-4.

Associated Press

Clinton's Pena cools Reds, 6-2

By Al Hall Gazette sportswriter

When Clinton pitcher Jim Pena stripped, he wasn't teasing in Cedar beat them." Rapids Memorial Stadium Thursday night.

The 23-year-old left-hander from Manhattan Beach, Calif., started the Midwest League game against the Cedar Rapids Reds with a longsleeved shirt under his uniform top. On a humid Iowa night, it didn't take long for the perspiration to weigh him down.

And so, he took off the undershirt, got stronger as the night went on and cooled off the red-hot Reds,

"The first couple of innings I had sleeves on and they were just soaked," Pena (6-5) said. "They weighed about 10 pounds. After took that shirt off, I felt a lot better out there."

THE CLINTON WIN snapped five-game Cedar Rapids win streak. The Central Division-leading Reds still have won 14 of their last 16 and hold a four-game edge on Clinton.

"That guy pitched a good game," Cedar Rapids Manager Paul Kirsch said. "He threw real well. He had good location with his pitches and kept the hitters off balance."

Clinton had all the offense it needed in a four-run third inning off losing pitcher Scott Scudder (5-5).

The two-out rally opened when John Toal walked and Tod Ronson doubled him home to erase a 1-0 Cedar Rapids lead. Dave Patterson then walked and Mark Leonard's sixth home run of the season capped the rally.

That was plenty of room for Pena, who came on strong after a shaky start. He finished with a sevenhitter, walking three and striking out eight.

"It felt real good except for the

first inning," Pena said. "I've been doing that lately . . . I lacked concentration. I knew we had to

He also helped himself by picking two runners off first base.

"In the last three games, I've picked six off," Pena said. "Early in the year, they were calling balks on me. We've had these umpires quite a bit and they've seen me. They warn me if I start to fudge a little."

"He's got about the best move in the league," Kirsch said.

Brian Robinson led off the Cedar Rapids first with a triple to the right field corner. He scored on Keith Lockhart's groundout to the right

Robinson provided the only other scoring for the Reds when he homered with one out in the fifth inning, his ninth of the season. "I had a big lead and I relaxed,"

Pena said with a smile. "I got bad location and he turned on it. It was a batting practice fast ball." Clinton added an unearned run in

the fifth on Ronson's double and an error by Lockhart at third base.

And Lloyd Jackson, playing his first game this summer with Clinton, homered off Reds' reliever Joe Bruno with two out in the eighth. Jackson had a strong debut with the Giants, rapping three hits in four trips, but he also made an error in center field.

REDS NOTES: C.R. catcher Don Wakamatsu gunned down three of the four Clinton runners who tried to steal second. "He's really doing a good job behind the plate right now," Kirsch said. "He's getting rid of the ball quick and his throws look strong."... Dusty Rogers (3-1) will take the mound when the Reds open a two-game home stand with Beloit tonight at 7.

KOHAWKS

From page 1B

informality," Brown said. "You can bring your camp chairs and umbrellas." Then, facetiously, he added, "I've already offered the governor a seat in my box."

"I FEEL VERY good about (the return to campus," Thurness said. "We will have a true home field

"A certain portion of our student body did not go to our games at Kingston and in Marion because of transportation. We never had an opportunity to practice on our home field. We had to dress here, then bus to Kingston or Marion. We often got hung up in traffic. And after the games, we had to bus back to our dressing and training rooms.

"There's also a nostalgia element. think team morale will get a big boost. I feel it will be a big plus." And, Thurness said, with free admission, "it will be one of the best

deals in the country." Coe, 9-0 before losing the Midwest Conference championship playoff in a 14-10 thriller at Lawrence last fall, opens its 1987 slate at

home against Simpson Sept. 12. Its three other home games are with Ripon Sept. 25, an Oct. 17 homecoming date with Illinois Col-

lege, and Oct. 31 against Knox. And should the Kohawks repeat as Midwest Conference South Division champions, they'll host the league playoff game Nov. 14.

FROM THE beginning of Coe football in 1891 until 1937, the Kohawks' home field was located east-to-west behind the college buildings that fronted on First

Avenue. In 1930, Coe introduced night football to Eastern Iowa with the installation of 48 floodlights on a dozen 62-foot poles. After a gala dedicatory program featuring the Coe military band, the Kohawks defeated Parsons, 34-0, in the first game under the lights.

Coached by Eby and quarterbacked by one of Coe's first All-

Americans, Ed Hines, the Kohawks that season won their third straight Midwest Conference championship and finished 6-0-2. But night football was not a

popular innovation. A coed writing in the student

newspaper, Cosmos, lamented, " . . . we can't find anything in Emily Post's book on 'What to Wear at a Night Football Game.' . . . It is rather disconcerting to discover how pale everyone appears under the lights. The teams appear posi-

"Those lights are going to force at least the feminine members of the cheerleading squad section to use more powder, rouge and lipstick."

tively ill. . . .

The October 30 Cosmos reported that the Carleton game had been changed to daytime at the request of students and alumni, and added that "townspeople have complained about the cold in the evenings."

Construction of Greene Hall forced a shift in 1938 to a northwest-to-southeast field just north of the original site.

The following year, the field was relocated east-to-west in front of Moray Eby Fieldhouse, and named Poe Field in honor of Arthur Poe, a Princeton University football All-American who became general manager of Quaker Oats in Cedar Rapids. Poe was an avid Coe sports fan and served as a Coe trustee from 1930 until his death in 1951.

Princeton has an all-purpose play-

ing field named for Poe. In 1952, Coe moved its home football games to Cedar Rapids' new, 15,000-seat Kingston Stadium. It shared Kingston with Cedar Rapids five prep teams until 1981, when it began its five-year tenure at Marion's Thomas Park Field.

"We anticipated moving back to the campus when we went to Marion," Thurness said. "Marion was very good to us."

"We very much appreciate what the communities of Cedar Rapids and Marion did in permitting us to use their facilities," Brown said."

No TV expected for

IOWA CITY (AP) - Plans for a and promotion Jeff Elliott. University of Iowa non-conference basketball game on national television next season have apparently fallen through, according to Big Ten Conference director of television

Elliott, who had been negotiating with ABC for an Iowa matchup, said it is almost definite that the Dec. 12 Iowa-Arizona game in Iowa City will not be on network television.

Local boxer Brown advances

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. -Vincent Brown was the only Cedar Rapids Boxing Club member to advance through Thursday afternoon's round of the U.S. Amateur Boxing Federation 1987 Western Olympic Festival Trials.

Brown won his 147-pound match over Thomas Howard, of Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, 5-0.

In other matches, Cedar Rapids' Todd McMurrin dropped a 165pound decision to William Guthrie of St. Louis, 5-0.

The only other lowan in the session, Tony Luna of Des Moines, lost 5-0 to Ysaias Zamudio of Blythe, Calif.

U.S. women win world bowling title

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) - The United States women's team rolled a record final game of 1,063 to capture their third straight gold medal in the 11th World Bowling Championships.

NEWS NOTES/AREA SPORTS

Parcells at VIP

IOWA CITY - Bill Parcells, who coached the New York Giants to the NFL Super Bowl championship last winter, will be a guest at the Amana VIP golf tournament June 29 at Finkbine Course.

Parcells is appearing in Iowa City in conjunction with the National 19-Under AAU Junior Olympics Basketball Tournament, which will run June 27-July 4 at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Parcells will make the trip, Amana officials said, along with basketball coach and friend Bob Knight, head coach of the NCAA champion Indiana Hoosiers.

Amana officials said Parcells will not compete in the VIP, but will be a guest on the course during the pro-amateur tournament.

Cornell Shootout

MOUNT VERNON — Cornell College will host the Shootout '87 for high school boys' basketball teams Saturday and Sunday at the Sports Center on campus.

Teams are coming from Cascade, Earlham, Grinnell, East Central, Louisa-Muscatine, Montezuma, New London, Marion, Central City, Western Dubuque, Mount Vernon, Pella, Edgewood-Colesburg, Waukee, North Polk and Cedar Rapids Ken-

91 commit to Hardee's

DAVENPORT (AP) — Two-time champion Scott Hoch heads a list of 91 professional golfers who have committed to play in the Hardee's

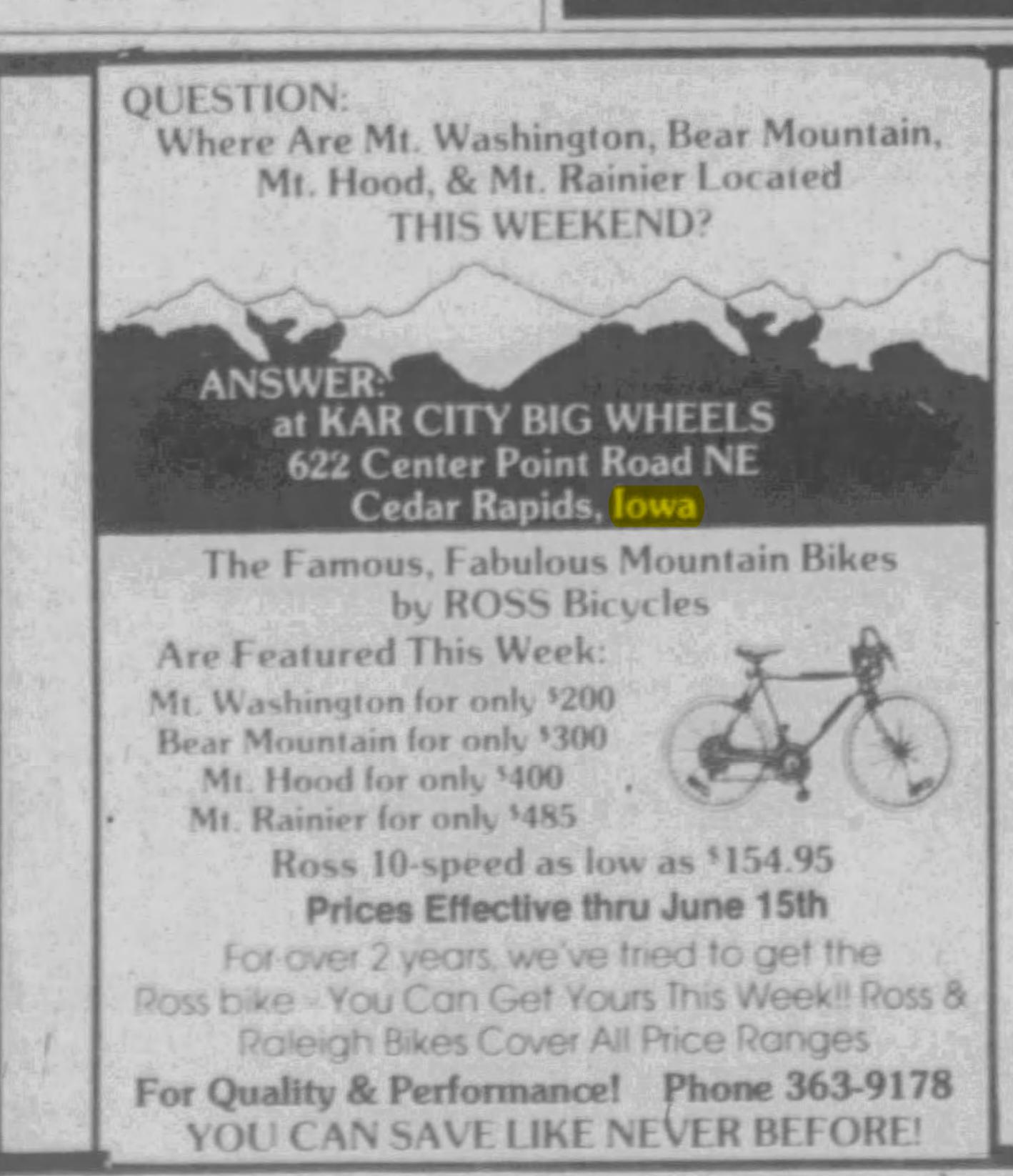
Golf Classic July 16-19.

Former tournament champions already committed are Dan Forsman, D.A. Weibring, Dave Barr and Victor Regalado. Tournament chairman Jim Epperly said he expects 1986 champion Mark Wiebe to return.

The tournament will begin with the pro-am July 15. The 72-hole competition runs from July 16-19 with golfers vying for a purse of \$500,000.

Other celebrities who will play in the pro-am include race car driver Cale Yarborough, former New York Yankees pitcher Sparky Lyle, former Detroit Pistons and Milwaukee Bucks center Bob Lanier, University of Iowa Athletic Director Bump Elliott and University of Iowa Basketball Coach Tom Davis.







Bob Vavra's SOUAW CREEK

Sizes S-XXL

3-MAN BEST SHOT Sunday, June 14th