Beckman still the team to beat in Class 3A playoffs

By Bob Denney Gazette sportswriter

Just because defending Class Beckman graduated 11 seniors off last year's title team doesn't mean their cupboard is bare entering tonight's opening round of the district tournament series. Far from it.

The third-ranked Blazers (21-8) have regrouped after three season-opening losses in the McDonald's Classic in Des Moines to win nine of their last 10 games. In fact, had Beckman been a member of the 4A Mississippi Valley Conference, it would have been lodged somewhere near the top. Beckman was 7-0 against 4A Dubuque schools and 15-7 overall against the large-school division.

The Blazers are 6-1 against teams in their own class, as they open their bid for a repeat crown by hosting Maquoketa Valley tonight at 7:30 in the first round of the district tournament.

A field of 27 Gazette area 3A teams will be involved in district competition, which opens at six area sites tonight. The 4A division begin district action Monday at four sites.

Sub-state play is July 25 and 27, with the state tournament scheduled July 30 through Aug.

2 in Marshalltown. Though Beckman was without its large stable of senior pitching, it remodeled its attack behind solid defense and the slugging power of third baseman Dennis Jaeger (.429 average, 33 RBI), catcher Tim Boge (.409) and second baseman Wayne Ruden (.404). Boge has also thrown out 15 of 27 baserunners at second base.

"I told the kids that we had a better year than I had anticipated," said Beckman Coach Tom 3A state champion Dyersville Jenk. "Our kids will be really pumped up tomorrow, like they have never been this year. I feel we're as ready as we can be, considering the schedule we've

Metro 3A representatives Cedar Rapids LaSalle (16-8) and Regis (13-16) tangle tonight at 7:30 at Marion's Les Hipple Complex, while host Marion (12-15) drew a first-round bye. The Indians are idle until Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., when they face the winner of tonight's Mount Vernon-Maquoketa meeting.

> Class 3A Districts Today's Pairings AT MARION

Mount Vernon vs. Maquoketa, 5:30 p.m.; Anamosa, bye; Maion, bye; Cedar Rapids Regis vs. LaSalle, 7:30 p.m.; Tueday - Anamosa vs. Regis-LaSalle winner, 5:30 p.m.; Marion vs. Mount Vernon-Maquoketa winner, 7:30 p.m.; July 23 — Championship, 7:30 p.m.

AT DYERSVILLE Today — Oelwein vs. Monticello, 5:30 p.m.; Maquoketa Valley vs. Dyersville Beckman, 7:30 p.m.; North Linn, bye; Cascade, bye; Tuesday - North Linn vs. Oelwein-Monticello winner, 5:30 p.m.; Cascade vs. Beckman-Maquoketa Valley winner, 7:30 p.m.; July 23 -

Championship, 7:30 p.m. AT VAN HORNE

Today - Independence vs. LaPorte City, 5:30 p.m.; Vinton vs. South Tama, 7:30 p.m.; Benton Community, bye; Grinnell, bye; Tuesday - Grinnell vs. Independ ence-LaPorte City winner, 5:30 p.m.; Benton Communi ty vs. Vinton-South Tama winner, 7:30 p.m.; July 23 -Championship, 7:30 p.m.

Today - Solon vs. Louisa-Muscatine, 5:30 p.m.; Wilton vs. Tipton, 7:30 p.m.; West Liberty, bye; Camanche, bye; Tuesday — Camanche vs. Solon-Louisa-Muscatine winner, 5:30 p.m.; West Liberty vs. Wilton-Tipton winner, 7:30 p.m.; July 23 — Champion

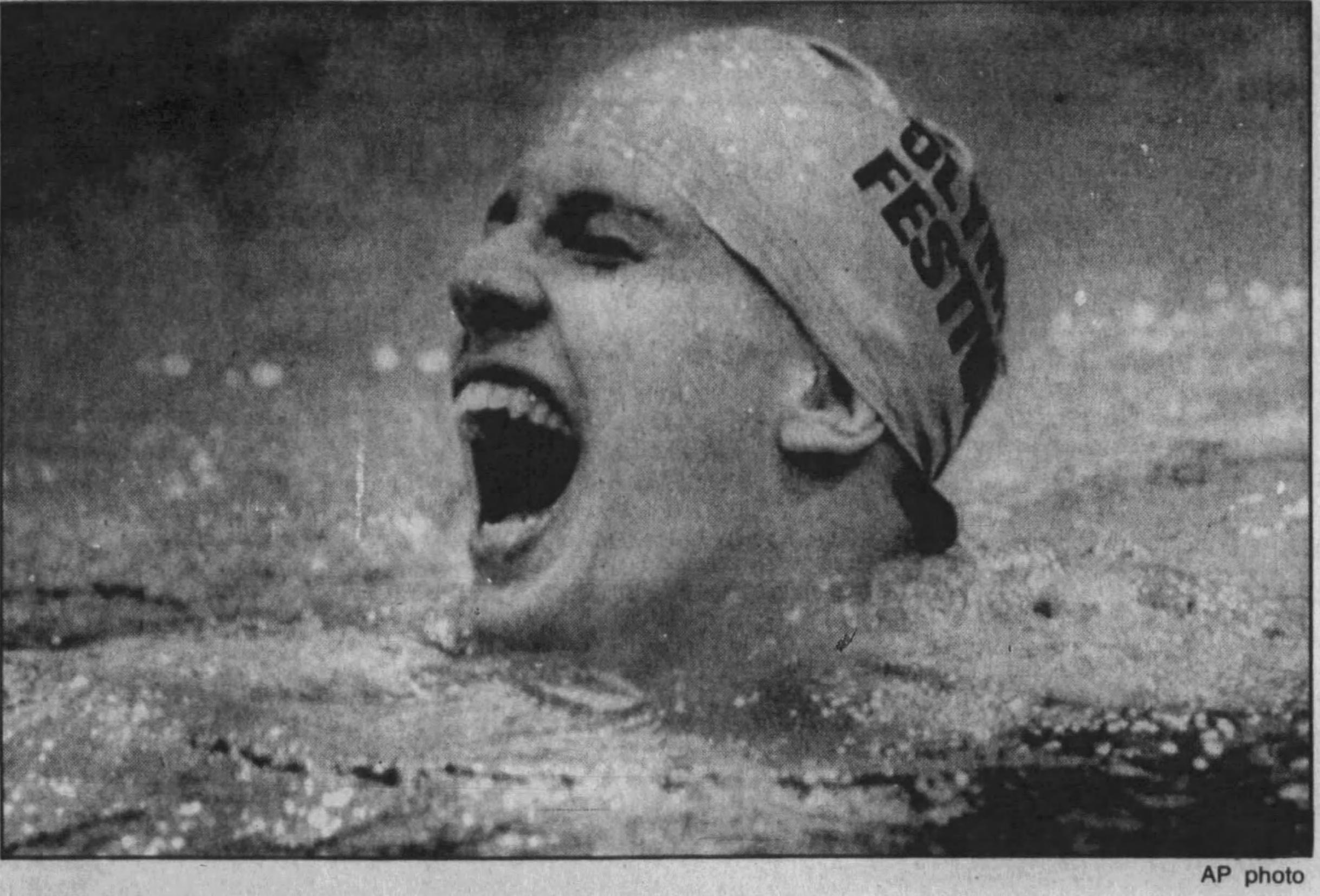
AT WILTON

AT WASHINGTON

Today - Mediapolis vs. Columbus Junction, 5:30 p.m.; Williamsburg vs. Mid-Prairie, 7:30 p.m.; Washington, bye; Central Lee, bye; Tuesday - Central Lee vs. olis- Columbus Junction winner, 5:30 p.m.; Washington vs. Williamsburg-Mid-Prairie winner, 7:30 p.m.; July 23 - Championship, 7:30 p.m.

AT DECORAH

Today - North Fayette vs. Turkey Valley, 3:30 p.m.; Decorah vs. Cresco Crestwood, 5:30 p.m.; South Winneshiek, bye; Waukon, bye; Tuesday — Waukon vs. North Fayette-Turkey Valley winner, 3:30 p.m.; South Winneshiek vs. Decorah-Crestwood winner, 5:30 p.m.; July 23 — Championship, 5:30 p.m.



HE'S HAPPY: Swimmer Mike Johnson of Ankeny shows his elation after winning a gold medal in the men's 200-meter butterfly Thursday at the U.S. Olympic Festival. Johnson won four golds in the competition, being held in Durham, N.C.

Louganis, Mitchell win diving prelims

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Two familiar athletes, divers Greg Louganis and Michele Mitchell, continued their U.S. Olympic Festival domination Friday by winning the preliminary rounds of platform div-

There was little competitive action as the Festival staged its opening ceremonies at Carter-Finley Stadium in Raleigh. The ceremonies, which featured entertainment by the Charlie Daniels Band and Roberta Flack, were sold out.

Louganis, holder of 41 national titles, two gold medals from the OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

1984 Olympics and all but two of the golds in Festival diving since 1979, led the preliminary round off the 3-meter springboard on Thursday. He moved into first place in the platform event on Friday with a late

That still was far better than Bruce Kimball, who was second with 578.25 points, well behind Louganis' total of 645.90. Mike

Wantuck was third with 577.56 points. Former Cedar Rapids Washington standout Kent Ferguson, who was second to Louganis after the first round of preliminaries, was fourth with 555.63.

Mitchell is particularly good on the platform, where she won the 1984 Olympic silver medal. She won both the platform and springboard events at the last two Festivals.

Genna Weiss, the youngest diver in the field, was second, more than 78 points behind. Lori Rizzuto of Cincinnati was third.

Butteris alive in mat meet

12 lowans remain in junior tourney

CEDAR FALLS - Greg Butteris of Lisbon won four matches Friday to remain undefeated at the National Junior Olympic Freestyle Wrestling Tournament being held in the UNI-Dome here.

Butteris, winner of his first two matches on Wednesday, is the only Gazette area wrestler still alive in the tournament, which concludes

Cedar Rapids Kennedy's Lance Paulson, Cedar Rapids Washington's Jamie Byrne, Lisbon's Vance Light and South Tama's Stacy Hand all fell by the wayside in the second day of action, one in which saw the 34-man Iowa contingent whittled to

Butteris, wrestling at 178 pounds after winning the state freestyle championship at 191.5, will face Adam Mariano of New York in his first bout today at 9 a.m.

His wins Friday came against Ken Naccarato of Pennsylvania, 15-4, John Tripp of California, 11-2, Steve King of Minnesota, 17-2, and Ron Coffel of Indiana, 14-6.

Hand's elimination from the tournament was especially heart-breaking as he suffered his second loss of the tourney to Iowa teammate Pat Kelly of Britt.

Today's first session gets underway at 9 a.m. with a second session at 2 p.m. The finals will begin at approximately 7:30 p.m. following the 7 p.m. grand march.

Dolan's out-of-this-world driving pays off again

Hawkeye Downs win the 21st of the season for driver from Lisbon

> By Al Hall Gazette sportswriter

Sometimes it seems like veteran stock car driver Roger Dolan is racing on another planet. Or to another planet.

Whatever the case, people are having trouble keeping up with him.

"I can hardly do any wrong," Dolan said after winning his second straight Hawkeye Downs Late Model feature Friday night.

The victory was Dolan's 21st in regular weekly racing action around the area. Last year he totaled 27 for the season.

FRIDAY'S PERFORMANCE was a typical one for Dolan. He patiently stalked the leaders for eight laps, picking off a competitor here and there along the way. By lap nine, he was in serious contention and on the 10th, he jumped from fifth to second between the first and second turns. As he entered lap 11, the lead was his and he spent the remaining 15 laps running away from the field.

STEVE BOLEY OF LeClaire was the early leader, jumping from the outside of the first row to hold the lead for seven laps. Terry Gallaher of Hannibal, Mo., assumed the lead on the eighth lap but couldn't hold off Dolan.

Gallaher hasn't been a regular at Hawkeye Downs, but has made a good impression. He was fourth a week ago and held off the field for second Friday night.

Independence drivers swept the third-throughfifth spots with Gary Crawford, Curt Martin and Dale Fischlein finishing in that order.

Mike Frieden of Swisher slipped past Rich Smith of Davenport on the fourth turn of the final lap for the victory in the Modified division and Scott Buckner of North English won the Pro Stock feature.

Cedar Rapids driver Eric Spaw got a surprise shortly after winning the Bomber feature. His brother, Pro Stock racer Johnny, rand others threw buckets of water on him as he climbed out of his car.

SPORTS BRIEFLY

FOOTBALL — The NCAA Friday lost its first appeal of an order to pay \$1.16 million in damages to Paul Hornung for barring the pro football Hall of Famer as an announcer of college football telecasts. A three-judge panel of the Kentucky Court of Appeals ruled unanimously that the NCAA had a duty to act in good faith, but failed to do so in exercising a contractual right to refuse announcers chosen for the telecasts by Atlanta-based WTBS in 1982

. . Running back Paul Palmer, college football's leading rusher last year and the Kansas City Chiefs first-round pick in April's NFL college draft, signed a series of four one-year contracts with the club Friday. Palmer, a runner-up in Heisman trophy balloting last fall, is the sixth 1987 draft choice to sign a contract . . . Notre Dame wide receiver Alvin Miller, declared unable to play this year because of a knee injury, actually was ineligible because he signed with sports agent Norby Walters, according to a copyright story in today's editions of The Atlanta Journal and The Atlanta Constitution.

BASEBALL - New York Mets pitcher Terry Leach will miss his scheduled start Sunday against Cincinnati because of a cartilage irritation in his right knee, the club announced Friday. Leach, 8-0 this season with a 2.44 earned run average, suffered the injury last Saturday against Houston . . . The Baltimore Orioles on Friday reactivated pitcher Mike Flanagan, who has been on a rehabilitation assignment in the International League, and scheduled him to start today's game against the Kansas City Royals Former Atlanta Braves slugger Bob Horner was the sole foreign

games in fan balloting, but he is not sure if he will participate because of an injury. MISC. — NBA scoring champion Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls escaped injury but was ticketed for failure to yield at

baseball player chosen Friday to play in the Japanese All-Star

a stop sign when his car was involved in a collision at a Kenosha County (Wis.) intersection Thursday . . . Teofilo Stevenson, a three-time Olympic heavyweight champion, has been charged in connection with the death of a motorcycle driver in Cuba two months ago. A government spokesman said Stevenson was the driver of an automobile that collided with a motorcycle near Stevenson's hometown of Victoria de Las Tunas in eastern Cuba

. Defending champion Bruce Crampton shot a 7-under-par 65 Friday to take the first-round lead at the \$250,000 Syracuse Senior Pro Golf Classic.

Associated Press

Dull defeat

BURLINGTON - Mike Dull's home run and RBI single were all Burlington needed as the Expos beat the Cedar Rapids Reds, 2-1, Friday night in the Midwest League.

The 1-hour, 53-minute game extended Burlington's win streak to five. The Reds are on a five-game slump, including three losses to Burlington and two to the Quad-City Angels.

Tony Welborn (10-4) pitched his seventh complete game of the season for the win.

Losing pitcher Scott Scudder (6-9) gave up four hits and both runs. Scott Willis pitched the eighth inning in relief.

The Reds scored their only run in the first inning. Francisco Tenacen tripled to the right field corner to open the inning and scored on Greg Lonigro's groundout.

Burlington made it 1-1 on Dull's solo homer in the fourth inning. The game-winning single came with two outs in the sixth inning. Dull singled to right to score Gary Weinberger, who doubled with one out.

The loss drops the Reds two games behind Clinton, a 9-8 winner over Appleton.



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Wilt says he'll give the discus a shot

NEW YORK (AP) - Former pro basketball star Wilt Chamberlain says he wants to make the 1988 U.S. Olympic team as a discus thrower.

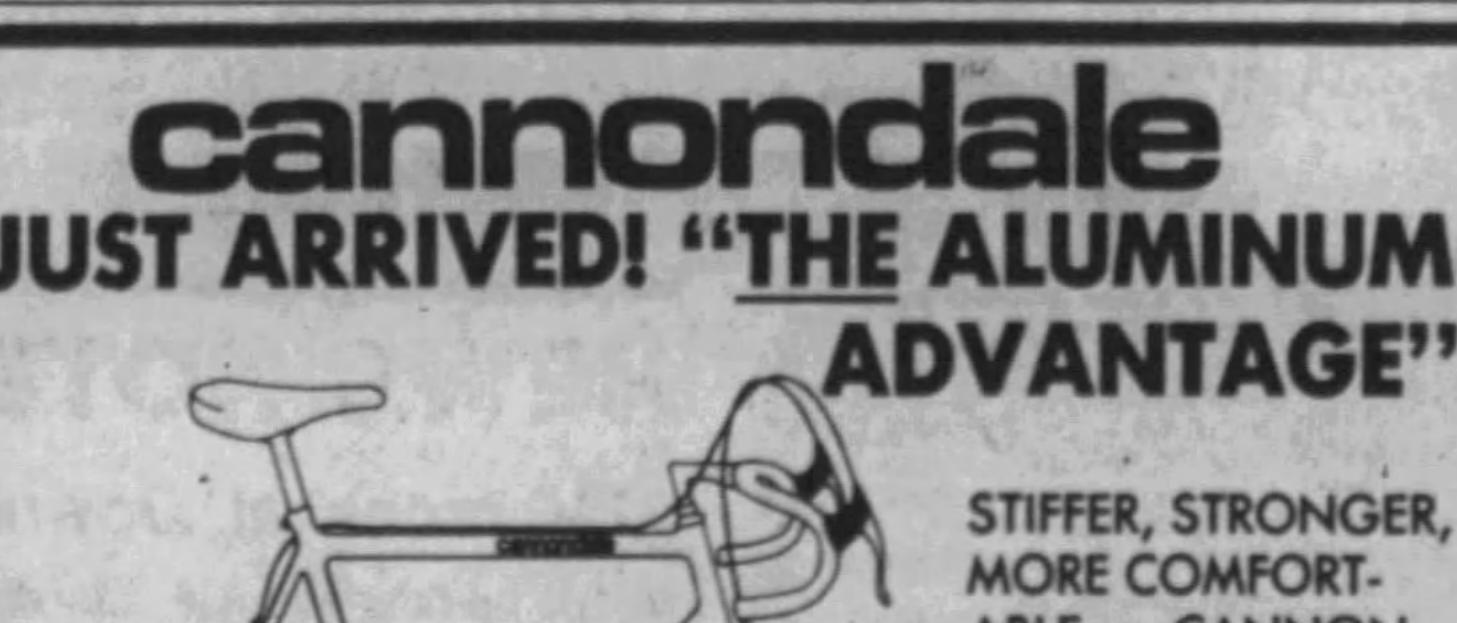
"I just bought three discuses and I'm going to start working out at UCLA for the next few months to see what I can do," said Chamberlain, who was a basketball and track and field star at the University of Kansas. "Right now, it's just something nice to do. But I do want to can (make the Olympic

jumper, triple jumper and shot putter at Kansas. Al Oerter, who went on to win four Olympic gold medals in the discus, was one of his teammates.

"Every once in a while in pracshot put," Chamberlain said. "I wasn't as good as he was, but I wasn't that bad.'

Chamberlain has stayed in excellent physical condition since retiring from the NBA after the 1972-73 season. He now weighs about 250 pounds, about 30 pounds under his

playing weight.



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