Financial

Weather





Gazette sports editor

Gambling on the local level

as Vegas books stand to lose millions this weekend because of the NFL strike, but bookies and bettors in far smaller cities also will feel the squeeze.

Gamblers in places like Cedar Rapids and Iowa City will get a little anxious without a parlay card to play or an over-and-under bet to

Pete Klismet, who has investigated several gambling operations in Iowa, figures the strike will affect betting in the state "very dramatically."

"A significant amount of money is bet in Iowa on professional football," he said. "It's almost the focal point for bettors. Monday Night Football is a big betting night. One place in Iowa City, a bar, where we investigated and looked at their records revealed about 15 thousand dollars in bets were placed on one game. And that was a game involving teams like Baltimore and New England."

Klismet is a special agent in the Cedar Rapids office of the FBI. His job covers a wide range of activities, sports gambling among them.

GAMBLING IN IOWA isn't nickel-and-dime stuff, either. Investigations in the past few years have been conducted in Des Moines, Iowa City, Dubuque and Davenport, with charges being filed against several people in each case.

"I've seen estimates in some of the research I've done that between 40 and 80 billion dollars is bet on pro sports nationwide each year," Klismet said. "And five billion a year is made in profits. One could make an argument that drugs and gambling are among the biggest businesses in America."

Professional sports are the big betting attraction nationwide. But in the Midwest, in places like Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, college games are popular picks.

Especially ones involving the University of Iowa. The Hawkeyes are a hot wager if only because fans are awfully familiar with the team and the opposition.

Iowa fans/bettors know full well the Hawkeyes are favored by either 41 or 42 points over Kansas State this week, depending on which line you read.

"It doesn't matter whether it's Iowa City or Los Angeles or Palo Alto, California," Klismet said. "The potential for gambling is there. In gambling operations we've investigated, there were a thousand to two thousand being bet on a given game. There were estimates as much as 50 thousand a week was being bet.

"A lot is bet on the Hawkeyes."

THE FBI HAS conducted sessions with college athletes across the country on the dangers of gambling, drugs and sports agents. Klismet has been heavily involved in that effort with University of Iowa football and basketball play-

He has held educational sessions with Hawkeye players the past several years. He also has interviewed former Iowa football players as part of the FBI's investigation into dealings of sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

"One of the things I've alerted the players to is that in a gambling operation, there is a need for information," Klismet said. "One of the main sources could be players and I've told them that if they're downtown, having a couple beers or something, they should watch what they say.

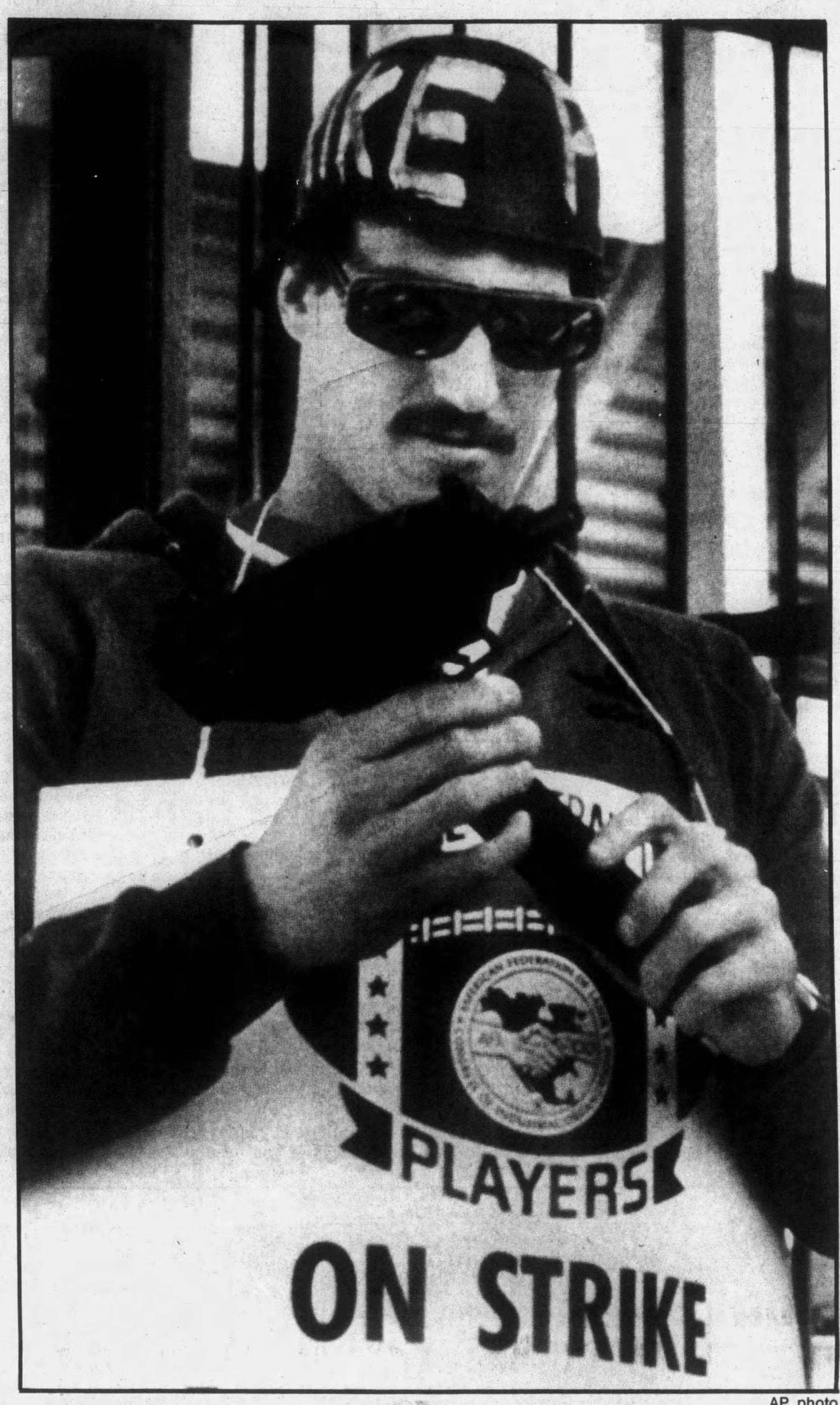
"If one of them mentions Chuck Hartlieb is injured to the wrong person, it could help only the other team and the gamblers.

"It's a volunteer thing and I enjoy it because you get an opportunity to know the coaches and the players a little. You know, a lot of people think of Coach (Hayden) Fry as the riverboat gambler-type. But you couldn't find a person more law

enforcement-oriented. "When Tom Davis came in to coach the Iowa basketball team, I met him one spring and he was very enthusiastic about us talking to the basketball team again. We've done that for about six years now. owa has been very aggressive in

requesting the sessions." Klismet said the NFL strike doesn't have any particular affect on him or his office because "it's not like I'm out running around looking for people placing bets."

But if he was, he'd likely keep



AP photo

STRIKE FORCE: Eagles linebacker Jody Schultz presents an imposing picture with his "Uzi" water gun and a combat helmet while walking the picket line in Philadelphia Wednesday.

Burning the midnight oil

Owners, players locked in marathon session as NFL strike enters day 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Full-scale talks aimed at quickly ending the NFL strike began Wednesday as players stayed on picket lines and, at some camps, hurled eggs and pounded buses carrying substitutes to workouts.

Among those reporting for work were two union defectors - Randy White of the Dallas Cowboys and Mark Gastineau of the New York Jets.

The NFL, meantime, said Sunday's games still had not been officially canceled.

Negotiators sat down at 2 p.m., Iowa time, midway through the second full day of the strike. Four hours later, they were just starting to discuss what was expected to be the most critical item of business — free agency.

"Free agency is the key issue. There is dialogue and discussion but no sense that a settlement is at hand," John Jones, a spokesman for the NFL Management Council, said at a 6 p.m. press briefing.

After an 8 p.m. dinner break, union president

Marvin Powell of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers said: "Nothing major has been accomplished, but we're

From 2 p.m. until 6 p.m., the two chief negotiators, union executive director Gene Upshaw and management head Jack Donlan, met twice faceto-face and twice reported back to their respective executive committees.

"I'm hoping we can get it done. That's why we're here," Upshaw said before the bargaining session started. "There is no time-frame. Our agenda is to reach an agreement, however long it takes."

Said Donlan: "The next two days are critical. If there's no movement after two days, we're looking at a long one."

THE UNION IS demanding free agency for players with four years' experience. Owners, so far, have refused to modify the current system under which teams are compensated if a player signs with another team. Only one player in 10 years has changed teams under that system.

In addition to Donlan, owners were represented by two team presidents — Tex Schramm of the Cowboys and Dan Rooney of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Please turn to 2C: Strike

Burt's back, and the Hawks are beaming

By Mike Koolbeck Gazette sportswriter

or someone whose college football career was in serious doubt six months ago, Iowa senior strong safety Kerry Burt is having quite a year.

Burt, one of six Iowa co-captains, has intercepted a pass in each of the Hawkeyes' first three games. He has broken up two passes and made 15 tackles, two of which went for losses.

Not bad for a fellow who spent spring practice in a body cast, recuperating from a debilitating lower back injury that had cast a serious shadow over his future playing prospects.

"I felt it would be all right," Burt said. "You wish and you pray and you try not to let in any negative thoughts. I just think positively and positively, and positive things will happen."

Burt has been a positive influence on an Iowa secondary that was supposed to be one of the Hawkeye weak spots entering the season. Instead, it has proved to be a strength.

"We've been extremely pleased with the secondary," said Iowa Coach Hayden Fry. "Five interceptions, no TD passes, we've had two passes of over 30 yards completed.'

BURT ALSO HAS liked what he has seen.

"I think we can only get better and better in that the younger guys are gaining experience," he said. "Who draws the line where you are no longer inexperienced, to become a veteran?

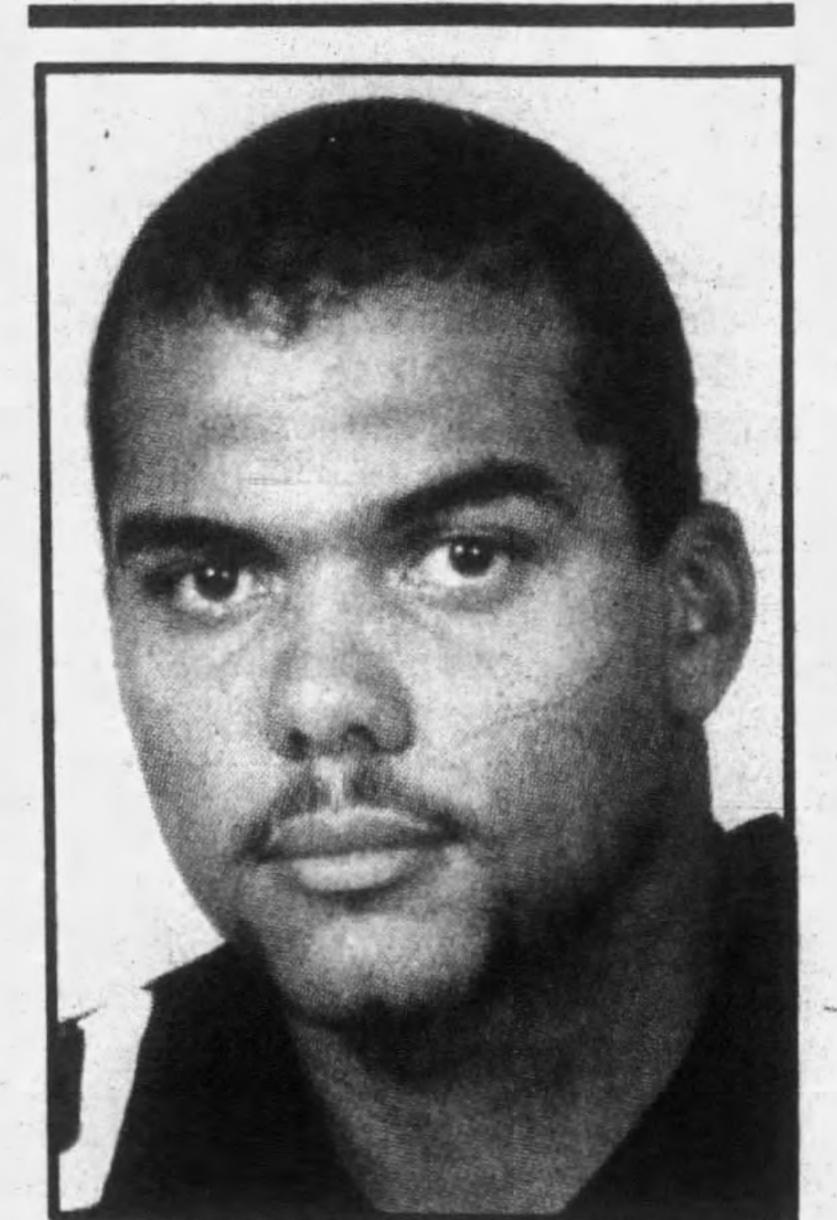
"I think they're coming along and coming along quickly. I see our team, at least the secondary, doing nothing but improving."

Fry has been impressed with Burt's contributions.

"Burt doesn't work out much during the week," Fry said. "We just kind of save him for the games.

"He's played three games now for us and made three interceptions very similar to what he did last year, before he was injured. thought he'd be all-Big Ten last year."

"I started out having an all-Big Ten season but with the injuries lost some motivation," said Burt, who was Iowa's defensive player of



et I felt it (his back) would be all right. You wish and you pray and you try not to let in any negative thoughts. I just think positively and positively, and positive things will happen. "?

> Iowa safety Kerry Burt

the week in two of the Hawks' first three games last season.

"I doubted some things," he said. "I tried to get up and tried to play. I was in pain a lot of times and it just kept me from really getting into what football is all about."

It was a humbling experience for the former all-state wide receiver from Waterloo West.

"I made some big plays," he said. "I played with everything I had but I just could never produce as well." Motivation is not a problem for Burt this season.

"Anytime someone sits on the sideline and has to envision themselves being out there, if they were healthy, it draws something from within to help motivate when you do have the chance again," he said.

• Please turn to 2C: Burt

Heavy preparations paying off for Botkin

Ex-Linn-Mar prep beefs up to help protect UNI QBs

> By Bob Denney Gazette sportswriter

Four years ago, Northern Iowa's Mark Botkin didn't expect to play much college football. Now, he literally has tipped the scales in his favor.

A former 205-pound all-state guard at Linn-Mar High School, Botkin is now a seasoned 260-pound UNI offensive left tackle. His mission: protect quarterbacks, and also fill in as deep snapper.

How more important can he be? UNI's offense revolves around the effectiveness of its passing game. The 1-2 quarterback combination of Mike Smith and Kevin Willard is like a precious gem. And, it takes a gem of an offensive line to keep the jewelry safe.

"Our offense is centered around us on the line," said Botkin, a finance major. "If we play good, the entire offense will have a good game. If we play bad, it goes the other way."

Botkin alternates with senior Ken Kolthoff of Waterloo at left tackle on every series. "Most quarterbacks are right-handed, and have that blind side to protect," said Panthers

Please turn to 2C: Botkin

Alexander remains perfect as a Tiger

BOSTON (AP) — If Reggie Jackson is "Mr. October," just call Doyle Alexander "Mr. Septem-

Unbeaten since being acquired from Atlanta on Aug. 12, Alexander won his eighth game for Detroit Wednesday night, blanking the Boston Red Sox 4-0 with the seventh two-hitter of his career.

The victory kept the Tigers onehalf game behind Toronto, which beat Baltimore 6-1, in the American League East. Detroit and the Blue Jays begin a four-game series tonight in Toronto.

"I wish I knew what happens in September," Alexander said after raising his lifetime record in September to 20-3, including 5-0 with Detroit. "If I knew, I'd do it all year. As it is, I just go out each time and do the best I can."

After a no-decision in his first

start for Detroit on Aug. 15, Alexander, 37, has won eight starts in a row, fashioning a 1.40 earned run average. He has three shutouts, including two over Boston, which has been blanked only three times all year.

"I'm very fortunate that things have worked my way," Alexander said. "Things have gone very well since I came over here."

AGAINST THE RED SOX in little Fenway Park, Alexander said he "just mixed up my pitches - fastball, slider, sinker, and relied on my defense." He threw only 89 pitches, retiring the last 22 batters he faced.

Bill Madlock got his 2,000th career hit and Tom Brookens had a two-run double as Detroit finished the season 12-1 against Boston. Bruce Hurst, 15-12, took the loss.

The races

AL EAST 93 59 .612 Toronto 92 59 .609 Detroit AL WEST

82 70 .539 Minnesota Oakland 77 75 .507 75 77 .493 Kansas City* 73 78 .483 81/2 Texas

W L Pct. GB

NL EAST W L Pct. GB St. Louis 89 62 .589 -New York 87 65 .572 21/2 85 66 .563 Montreal

NL WEST

W L Pct, GB San Francisco* 82 69 .543 75 76 .497 * - Wednesday's late games not included

Carter, Candelaria lead Mets by Expos

NEW YORK (AP) — It's a situation Gary Carter has been in before. The game on the line in a pennant race.

Carter went 4-for-4 and drove in three runs as the New York Mets beat the Montreal Expos 4-3 Wednesday night.

The Mets moved to within 21/2 games of first-place St. Louis in the National League East as the Cardinals dropped a 2-0 decision to Pittsburgh.

"It may not be number one on my list, but it sure ranks up there," Carter said of his sixth-inning tworun single that gave the Mets a 4-3 lead. "Considering this stage of the pennant race and the importance of the hit, I would have to admit that it was the biggest one this

John Candelaria, obtained from California on Sept. 16, pitched six innings and allowed three runs and

season."

five hits for his first win as a Met. Terry Leach pitched 13/3 innings, Randy Myers 1-3, and Roger McDowell pitched the ninth for his 25th save.

The Expos had runners on first and third with two outs in the ninth, but McDowell struck out Mitch Webster to end the game.

IN HIS FIRST START for the Mets last Friday in Pittsburgh, Candelaria was chased in the second inning after allowing five

Trailing 3-1, the Mets sent eight batters to the plate in the sixth inning, scoring three times on four hits and a walk.

Keith Hernandez singled off starter Bryn Smith, 10-8, to start the rally and advanced to second on a single by Darryl Strawberry. Kevin McReynolds doubled, scoring Hernandez. Carter singled to score Strawberry and McReynolds.