SPORTS BRIEFLY

■ FOOTBALL — St. Louis Cardinals owner Bill Bidwill has been presented with an offer aimed at trying to lure the NFL club to the Phoenix area. Brent Brown, an Arizona State University vice president, said he was well received by Bidwill when he presented a proposal Monday for leasing Arizona State's Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe. Bidwill has indicated that he will leave St. Louis after the season and is known to have been in contact with officials in Memphis, Tenn.; Baltimore; and Jacksonville, Fla. . . . ESPN's first regular-season NFL telecast received lower ratings than three of its four preseason telecasts. The New York Giants' 17-10 victory over the New England Patriots Sunday night received a cable rating of 7.2 — 1.3 points lower than the network's preseason average . . . Houston Oilers running back Mike Rozier is undergoing treatment after checking himself into an alcohol abuse treatment center, a Houston television station reported Tuesday.

BASEBALL — More than one-third of the major league teams have little or no interest in signing free agents from other clubs, according to general managers and other club officials. Those clubs that expressed interest in interviews with The Associated Press said they would proceed slowly and did not attempt to contact agents for the premier free agents on Tuesday, the first day contracts could be discussed. Seventy-six players became free agents in the 15 days following the World Series . . . Roland Hemond was named the Baltimore Orioles vice president of baseball operations, Cal Ripken Sr. was rehired as manager and Frank Robinson was given a front office job with the club Tuesday

. Buck Rodgers has signed a new three-year contract to manage Montreal through the 1990 season. Terms of the pact were not disclosed, but the Expos described it as being a "sizable" increase in salary. Rodgers earned approximately \$200,000 in 1987 and was assumed to be seeking about \$1 million for a three-year pact . . . A judge who placed New York Mets star Dwight Gooden on two years' probation after an altercation with Tampa police is seeking more information on periodic drug tests the pitcher is taking under the supervision of major league baseball. Circuit Court Judge John P. Griffin told attorneys for Gooden on Monday that he is concerned that the results of the tests are not being sent to probation officials in Florida or New York . . . Infielder-outfielder Mickey Hatcher has agreed to terms with Los Angeles for the 1988 season, the Dodgers said Tuesday. Hatcher, 32, joined the Dodgers last April 10, signing as a free agent after being released by the Minnesota Twins. He played the infield and the outfield for the Dodgers and hit .282 in 101 games.

MISC. — Jack Nicklaus Jr., the son of golfing great Jack Nicklaus, has failed in attempts to qualify for next year's European PGA Tour, officials said Tuesday. Nicklaus, 26, had a two-round total of 162, 18-over par and two strokes above the cut of 160 on the El Saler course at the tour's pre-qualifying school near Valencia, Spain, last week . . . Duke and Kentucky, who played in the first Basketball Hall of Fame Tip-Off Classic, will face each other again next November, officials announced Tuesday. The rematch will mark the 10th anniversary of the annual benefit game. Associated Press

NCAA to consider raising yearly scholarship limit By Jim Ecker Gazette assistant sports editor

AMES — Jim Walden, who has staged a season-long campaign to change the NCAA's scholarship rules, is getting his wish.

A proposal to raise the yearly limit from 25 to 30 football scholarships will be on the agenda for the NCAA convention in January. Walden wants more than 30 to restore his

depleted ranks, but the Iowa State coach said it's a start. He feels a letter he sent to Division coaches and presidents has attracted support for aware of your problems," he said. the issue.

"I think it's great. I really do," said Walden when asked about the proposal for 30 scholarships, which is being sponsored by the Big 8 Conference.

Walden said the response to his letter "has just been phenomenal."

Walden distributed a copy of his letter to the media on Tuesday. It begins by stating "The purpose of this letter is to ask your help in trying to correct an inequity."

"There are a number of us who feel that the initial limit of 25 must be dropped, or at least pushed back to 30, with a formula for additional recovery for programs in distress," he added.

"Believe me when I tell you that coaching 58 scholarship athletes and dealing with injuries while competing against those with 95, and knowing it will take years to recover, is not fun for me and certainly not for my players.

"I have heard from a number of coaches in similar situations and the situation is worsening. I believe with all my heart that asking young men to compete when they don't have a chance is not what fair play or college football is all about."

WALDEN SAID THE letter was necessary to fully inform coaches like Oklahoma's Barry Switzer, Nebraska's Tom Osborne and Penn State's Joe Paterno how guys at the bottom are doing. "A lot of people have no reason to be

Walden noted that TV revenues have dropped 37.9 percent since a court decision a few years back ended the NCAA's monopolistic television contract. There are now more games on TV, but smaller audiences, and Walden feels a system that keeps teams like ISU from competing equally hurts everyone.

"Financially, they're being hurt," he said. Bringing in 30 new players per year means 120 over a four-year period, when only 95 are

allowed. But Walden does not feel coaches will run off players they don't want. He said attrition solves part of the numbers problem, and added that schools will voluntarily

limit their freshman classes to 18 or 20 or 22 per year once they reach 95. Walden said Tuesday he is telling his peers

"Don't be so selfish."

He predicted a great public awareness for his campaign.

Walden said he faced a similar problem in his early years at Washington State, when as the fourth head coach in four years there he fought a

numbers problem in the Pac-10 Conference. "I've been in this choir, men," he said. "This

isn't a new church for me." "The system has to be changed," he insisted. "Why do I have to play the University of Iowa with 57 players? And why do I have to think

about playing them next year with 69? "I'm not afraid. I'll go. But is it fair?"

WALDEN RAISED other points in his letter: · Geography, tradition, won-loss record, academic status and population blend to create diverse attrition rates. Schools with the lowest attrition have the best winning percentages.

 Football is the only NCAA-sanctioned sport with a yearly scholarship limit.

 No additional expense would be involved in lifting the annual scholarship cap. The overall number would remain 95.

· Coaches trying to survive with not enough players are pressured to cheat.

· Limiting initial scholarships keeps "down" schools from recovering.

Walden predicted it will take him five years to fully recover to 95 scholarships if the rules are not changed.

"And my fourth year I'll get the same message I got when I faced this (at Washington State)," he said. "We're tired of waiting."

Schmidt not shy about disclosing terms of his new contract

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Mike Schmidt signed a two-year, \$4.5 million contract with the Philadelphia Phillies Tuesday, and, contrary to the usual practice, he had no qualms about everyone knowing the figures.

"It's for the benefit of my fellow players for the word to get out and for it to come right from me," the third baseman said.

"I'm saying to other players, their agents and their owners, this is what the top dollar is now. I want people to know that the Phillies were willing to pay me that. I hope it means something in other players' negotiations."

Schmidt, 38, cited money, good

health and a belief he could reach another World Series as the reasons for his signing.

Schmidt said for each year of the contract he would earn \$2.15 in salary and \$100,000 would be donated to a charity of his choice.

The charity clause enabled his agents and Phillies president Bill Giles to settle the money portion of the contract, Schmidt told a news conference. "We took the difference

between what I wanted and what the Phillies wanted to pay and donated it to charity."

The other hangup was hard bargaining over what would be guaranteed in the second year.

Schmidt said that was settled by giving the Phillies an option for 1989, and requiring the club to buy him out if it no longer wanted him.

Neither Giles nor Schmidt would

LOW TIRE PRICES EVERYDAY

disclose the amount of the buyout.

don't want you anymore,' and pay him off. We see that only if he's hurt. or played poorly," Giles said.

"We have the right to say, 'we

The contract also contains an MVP incentive starting at \$200,000 and dropping to \$150,000, \$100,000, \$75,000 and \$50,000 for finishing from second to fifth in the balloting.

He expressed optimism on the Phillies' chances to reach the playoffs and World Series in 1988.



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Spartans favored in Big Ten showdown

League's coaches like MSU's odds against Hoosiers

CHICAGO (AP) — Indiana and Michigan State are battling for the Big Ten championship and Rose Bowl bid this week, and most conference coaches said Tuesday they favored the Spartans of Michigan State.

- In their weekly telephone interview, most Big Ten coaches said 13th-ranked Michigan State might have the edge on 16th-ranked Indiana because of the home-field advantage and the Spartans' outstanding defense.

"Both teams have strong points," said Iowa's Hayden Fry. "Indiana has outstanding balance and Michigan State has the running and defense. I would say with the homefield advantage and the kicking game, Michigan State has a slight advantage."

Michigan's Bo Schembechler also gave Michigan State a slight edge, "but I wouldn't underestimate Bill Mallory or the Indiana team at all. They made a great comeback against Illinois after losing their quarterback."

Michigan State is 5-0-1 in the conference and Indiana is 5-1-0. If Michigan State wins, the race is over. If Indiana wins, the Hoosiers would have to defeat Purdue in their final game to clinch. And if Indiana should defeat Michigan State and lose to Purdue, Michigan State would win it by defeating Wiscon-

THE ONLY OTHER possibility is Iowa. Because of its victory over Indiana, Iowa could sneak in for the

Conference champion Benton

Community dominated the all-Wa-

mac Conference football team an-

nounced this week with eight first-

Runner-up Cedar Rapids LaSalle

placed six on the first team and

Benton Community's Reese Mor-

The coaches voted 10 players to

Unanimous picks included quar-

terback Ross Junge of Benton

Community, LaSalle center Joe

Fandel, running back Matt Young

and defensive lineman Ladd Wes-

sels and West Delaware punter Art

gan was voted Coach of the Year.

the team unanimously.

third-place West Delaware had five

team selections.

first-teamers.

title and Rose Bowl by winning its last two games if Indiana defeats Michigan State and both Indiana and Michigan State lose their final

But that's so far-fetched that the possibility didn't come up as the conversation centered on the outcome of the Indiana-Michigan State "The key to the game, like all

championship games, will be turnovers, fumbles, interceptions and the kicking game," said Michigan State Coach George Perles. "It will be a close game and breaks will play a big part in it, but it will be won or lost in the trenches."

"Michigan State will be the best team we've played this year," Indiana Coach Bill Mallory said. "They've had exceptional defense all year, one of the best in the country. They are playing their best now. We'll have to play our best for four quarters. We have to come out and play well right away."

Mallory conceded Indiana has been somewhat of a team of destiny. "We've been able to do the things

we've had to do to win," said Mallory. "We're not a team of too many great strengths but we're not too shabby, either. We seem to find the key. We're not fancy and we're not the most talented but we hang in there."

Illinois' Mike White tied Michigan State and had Indiana down 16-0 last week before the Hoosiers rallied for a 34-22 triumph.

"I have to give the advantage to the home team," said White while conceding Illinois played its best game in that 14-14 tie. "I feel Michigan State's defense is the best in the league and they have the home field advantage.

"But Indiana seems to find ways to get the job done. We had them down 16-0 and they never wavered. Whoever comes out of it will be a good representative for the Big Ten in the Rose Bowl."

Harmon: 'What's past is past'

IOWA CITY (AP) — Iowa Tuesday he's putting allegations of payments by agents behind him and turning his attention back to football.

"What's past is past," Harmon said. "You can't dwell on the past."

National Collegiate Athletic Association and Big Ten Conference officials cleared him of any wrongdoing in connection with allegations he took money and airplane tickets from sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom.

NCAA and Big Ten officials said Monday Kevin Harmon may have shown bad judgment but

tion," Harmon said. "I'd rather not talk too much about it right now. It's over with. It's gone. I'd rather talk about football."

Harmon said he is turning his Iowa's game Saturday at Ohio State, which last week lost to

"They just lost to the last

running back Kevin Harmon said

Harmon said he is happy

Benton Community places 8 on all-Wamac squad

Antons and defensive end Tim

Other unanimous picks were In-

dependence running back Tony

Merfeld, defensive lineman Dave

Ritchie and linebacker Rich McCar-

Rounding out the first-team of-

Wegmann.

place team in the Big Ten. They'll be ready for us," Harmon

Cedar Rapids Regis and Troy Bos-

sler and running back Doug Buch of

Also on the first-team defense

were backs Mike Kane and Brian

Strauss of LaSalle and Jason Ecken-

rod of Benton, end Kevin Kimm of

Benton Community and linebackers

Benton Community.

violated no rules.

"Obviously it was a distrac-

attention to getting ready for Wisconsin

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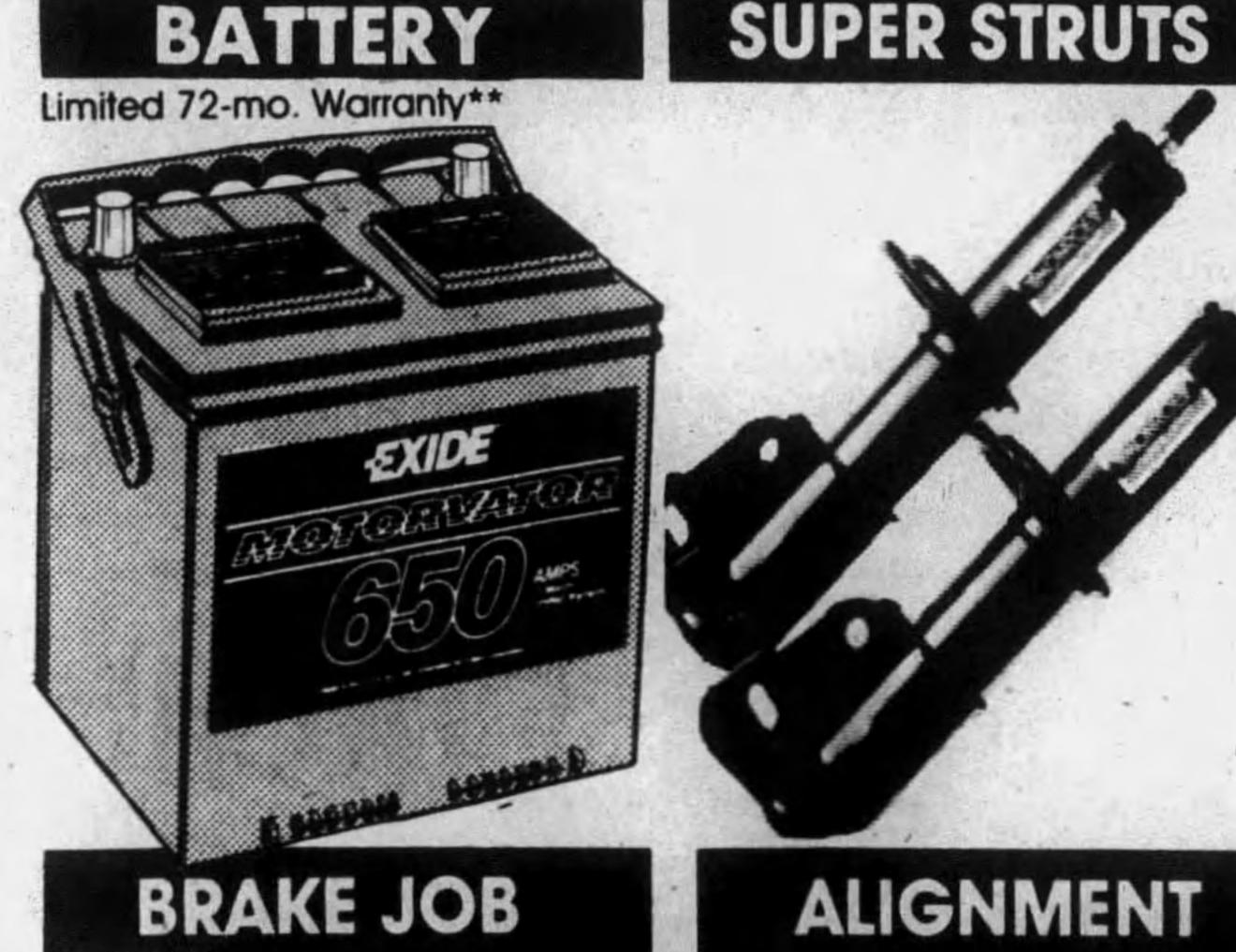
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many cars*.

Monaghan, defensive lineman Dan 2 from Iowa State honored by Big 8

Iowa State football players David Heyn and Todd Schulting are honorable mention selections for the Big 8 Conference all-academic football

team. Heyn, a junior center from Iowa City, has a 3.18 grade point average in industrial engineering. Schulting, a senior wide receiver from Walnut Creek, Calif., has a 2.90 GPA in management.

Rob Mesch of West Delaware and fense were guards Rob McComas of Marion and Rick Stanek of LaSalle, Chad Wauters of Benton Communitackles Mike Cole of West Delaware and Chad McDonough of Benton Community, ends John Thinnes of

Benton Community's Jason Seabolt was the all-Wamac placekicker.

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