Farm

Weather





Fine Print is where it's at

his sports section, like almost all others, has an agate section.

Ours is called "Fine Print." That's a good name. A lot of papers call their agate sections "Scoreboard." That's a dumb name.

"Fine Print." It's beautiful, if you think about it long enough.

Anyway, there's always something for everybody in "Fine Print." Boxscores, rankings, dog racing results, bowling scores, television information, airplane departure times, stock market quotations, garage sale locations, and best of all, Major Indoor Soccer League standings.

In Tuesday's Gazette, the very first team listed in the very first department of "Fine Print" caught my eye. After I read and re-read the World Boxing Association junior featherweight rankings, of course. That Julio Gervacio! What a great champion.

Oh, and before we proceed, the Holiday Bowl is Dec. 30, folks. Dec. 30. DECEMBER 30!!!! At 6:30 p.m., our time. 6:30 P.M.!!!!! It's in "Fine Print" almost every day, but you people who call to get the date and time don't read "Fine Print," do you? DO YOU?????

Also, the Super Bowl is Jan. 31, the Winter Olympics are in February, the Summer Olympics are in September, and next year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade will be held at a date and site to be determined.

Incidentally, was John Cougar Mellencamp's version of "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" the least bit necessary?

Ah, Christmas is coming. You can tell, because lines are already forming at the exchange counters in the malls.

WHERE WAS I? Oh, the firstitem, first-team, "Fine Print" thing. Well, under the heading "Pro Football," sub-heading "NFL," subsub-heading, "American Conference," sub-sub-heading, "East Division," the first team listed is Indianapolis.

The Dolts, er, Colts! In first place! With one week left in the season! In the words of Perry Como, it's impossible.

And get this. The Indianapolis Dolts, er, Colts, have allowed fewer points this season than any team in the National Football League. In the words of Perry Como, it's impossible.

And get this. All the Indianapolis Colts (ah ha! got it right this time), have to do to reach the NFL playoffs is beat Tampa Bay Sunday at Indy. In the words of Perry Como, ah, you get the picture.

How did all this happen? The Colts were the laughing stock of professional sports very, very recently. It's just plain strange.

Then, go down the NFL list and you see the New Orleans Saints are that be? They've never been to the playoffs. Ever. They've never even had a winning record before. Ever.

How did Indianapolis and New Orleans get where they are this season? I don't know, but I do know one thing.

YOU'VE GOT TO pay attention. If you ignore something in sports for very long, they'll slip you a mickey and you won't know what

hit you. The Dallas Cowboys and Los Angeles Rams have both been eliminated from playoff contention. How is this possible? It's possible because not enough people were

paying attention. The Los Angeles Raiders, the mighty, evil Los Angeles Raiders, have lost nine times. Nine times! How can this be true? Not enough

people have been paying attention. The New York Giants, the defending world champion New York Giants, have lost nine times. Nine times! Do you know why you looked up and found the Giants 5-9. You weren't paying nearly enough

attention! As a result, the Saints and the Colts are in the playoffs, and the whole world is a screwier place as a

result. Please, people, don't continue to neglect your "Fine Print" section. It's there for a good reason. To maintain sanity in our world of

sports, puh-leeze pay attention. By the way, if you haven't been paying attention, the Holiday Bowl is Dec. 31 at 4:30 a.m. Enjoy the

Sooners find backup in baseball uniform

Class A player gets grid call Nov. 11

MIAMI (AP) - On the evening of Nov. 11, nine games into the University of Oklahoma's 11-game season, the telephone rang in Glenn Sullivan's apartment.

It was assistant coach Charley North asking if Glenn could come out and play.

Play college football, that is, for the nation's No. 1-ranked team.

So after spending the summer as a first baseman-outfielder-designated hitter for the champion Geneva (N.Y.) Cubs in the Class A New York-Pennsylvania League — he hit a team-leading .301 and was second in the league with 22 doubles in a 78-game season and most of the fall as a college student, Glenn Sullivan suddenly became a football player again — a designated quarterback.

And when No. 1 Oklahoma meets No. 2

Miami in the Orange Bowl on New Year's night, Sullivan, who has not been in a football game since last season, will be the Sooners' No. 2 quarterback behind Charles Thompson. Eric Mitchel, the backup in the final two regular-season games, has been moved to halfback.

"When I signed with the (Chicago) Cubs, there was an agreement that I could play football in the fall if I wanted to," the 6-foot-3 senior said Tuesday during the second of Oklahoma's three consecutive days of two-aday workouts.

"But I decided against it because I was going to be third-string (he finished spring practice behind Jamelle Holieway and Thompson) and I didn't want to risk an injury playing in the fourth quarter.

"But I told the coaches if they'd keep me on scholarship that I'd play if somebody got hurt and they needed me. Well, Jamelle got hurt (a serious knee injury Nov. 7) and they called, so I went out and played. I was just surprised they called me that late in the week."

"I told the coaches if they'd keep me on scholarship that I'd play if somebody got hurt and they needed me." Glenn Sullivan

It didn't take Sullivan long to change his thinking from 90 feet between bases to 10 yards between first downs.

"I was a little rusty when I first went out there," he said, "but it started coming back to me. I knew what to do because I ran the same offense for about three years. It wasn't that big a deal.

"My legs were getting tired because you do a lot of running in the wishbone and the mechanics were a little rusty. It took about two or three days, but I got those down, so it

was a pretty smooth transition."

When Oklahoma recruited Sullivan out of Irving, Texas, in 1983, the Sooners had switched from the wishbone to the I-formation because of tailback Marcus Dupree.

"They said they were going to drop back and throw the ball," Sullivan remembers. "Well, after my first semester they said they were going back to the wishbone and I said I'm just going to stick with football and go play baseball and see what happens."

What happened was that in three seasons, Sullivan held the ball on placements, carried it all of 31 times for 147 yards and two touchdowns and completed two of four passes for 38 yards.

But he also "got through with school — I've got three more hours left and I should

graduate just before I go to spring training and it's worked out. "I wouldn't trade it for anything in the

world. I'm getting to spend two weeks in Miami and play for the national championship. I think I came out about the right time."



Marion, 108-47 By Bob Denney Gazette sportswriter The Cedar Rapids area doesn't have Amtrak servicing its citizens, (47 of 76) effort. but how do you explain the train

running through Marion High School Tuesday night? Actually, it was the LaSalle

Lancer Express, a proud Class 2A second-ranked outfit fresh from a 108-47 Wamac Conference boys' basketball rout. The 108 points is believed to be

the second-highest Metro scoring effort since LaSalle posted a 124-59 romp past Independence on Feb. 26, Ironically, Marion had 107 against

Prairie (107-53) on Dec. 14, 1976, and Linn-Mar tied that on Jan. 28, 1983 against . . LaSalle (107-68). But this is the new LaSalle, and

Lancers Coach Hurley Bassett whose past teams often had to endure huge losses - is enjoying being on the other side this time. LaSalle is 5-0 heading into the Christmas break, and 2-0 in the Wamac. Marion is 1-5 and 0-2.

"Our pressure defense was outstanding, and gave us countless scoring opportunities," said Bassett, who was suffering from a bout of flu. "We had so many people contributing out there. Greg Kear- 56). ney's pressure on the ball put a world of hurt on them.

"We don't talk much about rankings, but at this particular time it is deserved. The kids have been great. It's a great Christmas present."

The Lancers' record night was courtesy of a stunning fullcourt press, which helped force most of 30 Marion turnovers.

Then, a rapid-fire fast break

keyed by guards Sean Greenwalt and Matt Young helped LaSalle finish with a 61.8 percent shooting

SENIOR POST Brian Strauss scored 30 of his season-high 34 points the first half before Bassett benched four of his five regulars after three quarters. Strauss also collected 13 rebounds, eight assists, eight steals and had three blocks.

Strauss had two red-faced moments, both on dunks. He missed his first breakaway slam, and later came back with a dunk but was assessed a technical foul for hanging on the rim.

"Oh, I missed one last game, too," said Strauss, the Metro scoring and rebounding leader. "We work extra hard on defense. Mr. Bassett stresses it a lot more. He said we had the most potential of any team he's had, and he didn't want us throw it away. The big difference this year is we're

LaSalle sophomore Greenwalt finished with 18 points, while Kearney added 12 and Young 11. Young had nine assists.

Marion was led by Ken Miell's 10 points, as the Indians managed just 33.9 percent from the field (19 of

C.R. LASALLE (108): Greg Kearney 5-8 0-0 12, Brian

Struass 14-20 6-6 34, Ladd Wessels 4-9 0-0 8, Matt Young 5-8 1-3 11, Sean Greenwalt 8-13 1-2 18, Jim Doyle 0-3 0-0 0, Mark Goedken 3-3 0-0 6, Doug Schulte 1-4 0-0 2, Pat Davis 3-3 0-0 6, Todd Kilpatrick 1-1 2-2 4, Matt Meter 0-1 0-0 0, Pablo Garcia 1-1 1-2 3, Tom Wacker 2-2 0-0 4. Totals: 47-76 11-15 108. MARION (47): Ken Miell 5-8 0-2 10, Todd Hutchins 0-0 0-0 0, Jeff Weaver 0-0 2-2 2, Jay Brandt 4-14 0-0 8, Carey Bender 3-1 2-3 9, Roy Bowers 0-4 0-0 0, Tom Henderson 3-10 0-0 8, Scott Ditch 3-4 2-2 8, Shane Ehresman 0-1 0-0 0, Mike McGrew 0-2 0-0 0, Sam Caldemeyer 1-2 0-0 2, Rob Bowen 0-0 0-0 0, Dan Covington 0-0 0-0 0. Totals: 19-56 6-9 47. Half — LaSalle 66, Marion 30. Fouls — Marion 12, LaSalle 12. Fouled out - Wessels. Technical foul - Marion bench; Strauss. 3-point goals — Kearney 2, Greenwalt, Bender, Henderson. Rebounds — LaSalle 41 (Strauss 13), Marion 21

(Miell 7). Turnovers — Marion 30, LaSalle 20.

Agents to stay away from Big Ten

ATLANTA (AP) — Sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom have agreed not to contact athletes in the Big Ten Conference under a deal in which the conference dropped a lawsuit against them.

The Atlanta Constitution, in today's editions, reported the consent

decree has been signed by U.S. District Judge William T. Hart of the Northern District of Illinois.

The decree also requires the agents to turn over to the conference all original documents pertaining to their past contacts with athletes.

you see the New Orleans Saints are 11-3 and have clinched a playoff berth. The Saints? 11-3? How can that he? They've never been to the

By Bob Hilton Gazette sportswriter

basketball game.

It was a stunning start, but connecting on three successive 3point goals for a 9-0 advantage soon proved Cedar Rapids Regis' undoing in a 42-37 loss to Washington in their pre-holiday girls' basketball finale Tuesday night at Wash.

"Those 3-pointers took Wash out of its zone (defense) into a man-toman, we couldn't handle the man-toman, and that was the ballgame," asserted Royals' Coach Tom Lilly. In avenging — sort of — its 68-63

season-opening Metro Tournament loss to Regis, 9th-ranked Washington improved to 7-2. The loss ended a five-win streak for the 5th-ranked Royals. With three-year veteran point guard

Laura Strathman on the bench because of a severe left ankle sprain, they slipped to 6-2. Strathman suffered the injury during Regis' 69-45 win at Benton

Community last Friday. Asked how

long she'll be sidelined, she said, "I don't know - it's bad." Regis sophomore center Leslie Pink made her first appearance coming off the bench - after two weeks on the injured list. She

returned to practice Monday. After Mary Holmes swished two 3-pointers and Lori Oujiri one, Wash outscored the Royals, 22-2, for a 22-11 lead with 4:44 left in the half. During that span, Regis committed 13 of its 26 turnovers.

The Royals did not score a field goal in the second quarter, which ended with Wash ahead, 24-15.

Regis closed to 26-23 midway in the third period, but trailed by seven to nine the rest of the way, although Wash scored the last of its two fourth-quarter goals with 5:59

Horne Tuesday night. His high school jersey was retired during the halftime of the Benton-Vinton boys'

"Our game plan was to take the Frese girls out of the game," Lilly said. "We did. But our offense stayed home. We missed Laura's leadership."

Wash senior Brenda Frese scored a team-high 12 points — six in each of the two middle quarters - and her sophomore sister, Marsha, finished with four. They were averaging 26.9 and 15.3, respectively. Holmes led Regis with 15.

"I would have bet my house that if we held Wash to 42 points on its home floor, there was no way we could lose," Lilly said. "We can be pretty proud that our defense was right on target, without our best defensive player (Strathman).

"But we were not ready to play all-out, and when you play away, you have to be ready. We had only an hour and 15 minutes to prepare. That's not enough time to prepare for a team of Wash's caliber.

"Our pride is hurt, but we're still 3-0 in the (Wamac) conference." "It was a pretty intense game,"

offered Wash Coach Paul James. "Neither team shot very well (Regis 14-of-37, Wash 19-of-51). Both played very aggressive defense.

ball-handling (19 turnovers, 12 in the second half)." Lilly said the presense of three

• Please turn to 2B: Wash-Regis

"I was not very happy with our

Drake's Ascherl returns to lowa



AP photo

Drake University wrestler Tim Ascherl waves to well-wishers Tuesday, shortly after arriving at Younkers Rehabilitation Center at Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines. Ascherl was paralyzed by an injury Dec. 12 while wrestling in a tournament in Stillwater, Okla.

Injured Drake University wrestler Tim Ascherl returned to Des Moines on Tuesday to begin rehabilitation from a neck injury that left him paralyzed from the chest down. Wearing a Drake cap and

Oklahoma State University Tshirt, Ascherl was able to raise his right hand to wave at wellwishers as he arrived at Younkers Memorial Rehabilitation Center, which is part of the Iowa Methodist Medical Center complex.

His neck and both arms were in braces.

Ascherl, a 118-pound freshman from Fort Dodge, was injured Dec. 12 when Joey Pangelinan of Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo rolled him over with a legal half-nelson hold during a match at the Oklahoma State Duals.

He was taken to Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City, where surgeons fused two damaged cervical vertebrae to help stabilize his spinal cord. Ascherl, accompanied by his parents, left the Oklahoma hospital Tuesday morning.

"Tim seemed to be in good spirits according to the people who talked to him," Iowa Methodist spokesman Quinn Turner said. "He appeared to be as optimistic as could be expected.