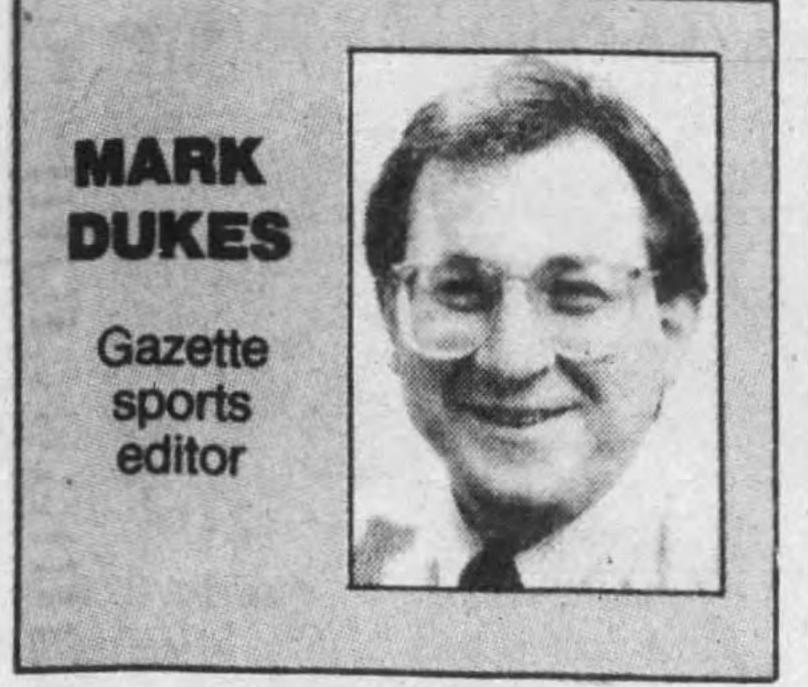
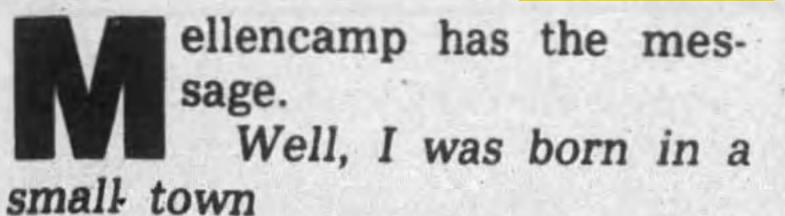


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### Small-town touch at lowa



And I live in a small town Prob'ly die in a small town Oh, those small communities

# Rhodes tops CBA draft; C.R. gets Hayes Topeka makes former Cyclone star 1st pick

#### By Jim Ecker

TOPEKA, Kan. — Lafester Rhodes was plenty disappointed last June when nobody picked him in the National Basketball Association draft after his stunning senior campaign at Iowa State.

All that was forgotten Wednesday night when the Topeka Sizzlers took Rhodes with the first pick in the Continental Basketball Association's college draft.

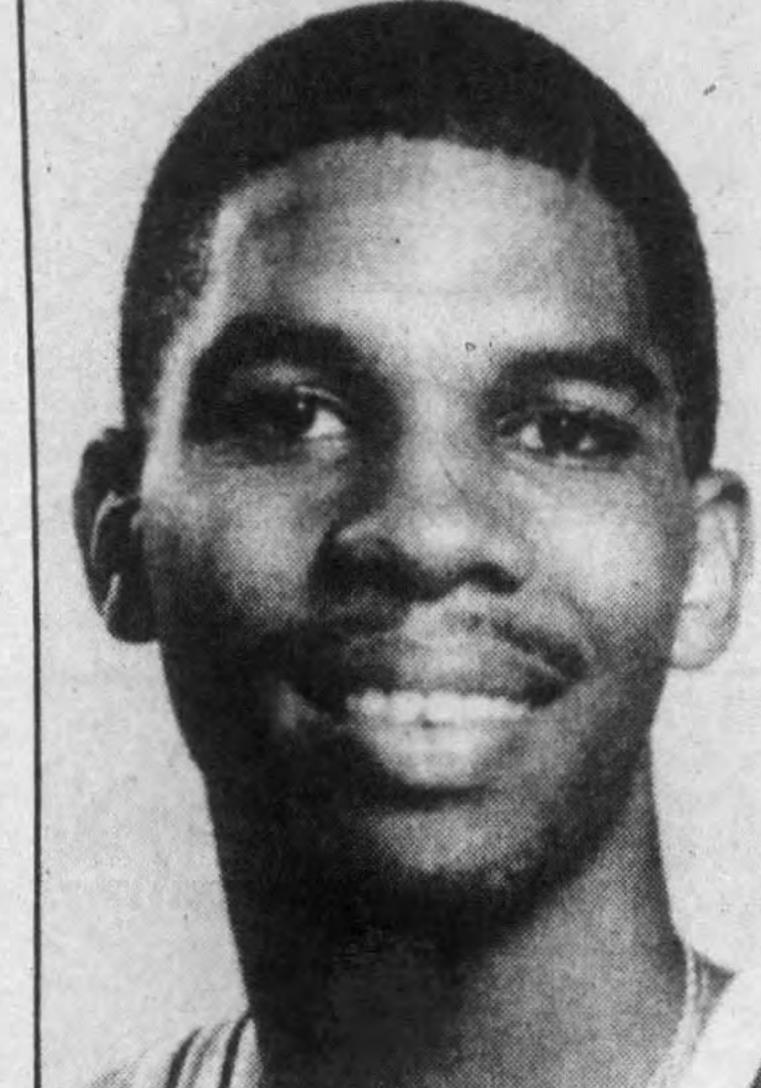
It's not the prospect of playing

The NBA took 75 players in its three-round draft. Apparently Rhodes ranked about 76.

"Yeah, I was a little disappointed," he said. "But I think I have something to prove. I am an NBA caliber player. And I think if I get that opportunity I will show them."

Rhodes attended two NBA camps this summer. Nothing came of his stay with the Houston **Rockets.** The Los Angeles Lakers were more promising.

"I think the L.A. camp went



## Silver Bullets trade for 7-foot NBA veteran

### By Jim Ecker

TOPEKA, Kan. — The Cedar Rapids Silver Bullets made one big trade and one harmless blunder at the Continental Basketball Association's college draft on Wednesday.

tion during a journeyman pro career.

figure to sign Starks as a free agent.

Cedar Rapids General Manager Kevin Krause and Coach Gary Youmans were at the center of Wednesday's activity from morning through night. They started things rolling by swapping their The big trade was for 33-year- first pick overall in the draft and a old Steve Hayes, a 7-foot center player to be named later to who has played for six teams in Topeka in return for the No. 4 the National Basketball Associa- spot in the first round and a second-round selection.

That gave Topeka the opportun-

John Cougar Mellencamp's "Small Town" is a song about the people and places near his Indiana home. You hear a lot of pride in his words. Anyone who lives in a small town can identify.

Iowa basketball coach Tom Davis knows about small towns and the people who live in them. He grew up in Ridgeway, Wis., another place where everybody knows your name, where you're going and why.

This presumably will be beneficial to Davis in the coming years, since his program is becoming a slice of small-town America.

Davis' roster for the 1989-90 season will include three players whose hometowns are mere spots on the map:

• Les Jepsen. He hails from Bowbells, N.D. (pop. 548).

 Troy Skinner. He's from Palmer, Iowa (pop. 264).

• Dale Reed. His mail is delivered to Baggs, Wyo. (pop. 300). Time was, Iowa basketball players came from Chicago and Detroit. Ronnie Lester. Kenny Arnold. Steve Krafcisin. Andre Banks. B.J. Armstrong.

Or at least they came from Springfield or Wichita or Cedar Rapids, those places too big to be small and too small to be big. It was unusual when a big scorer from Mapleton, Iowa, showed up. Now, Iowa will have three players whose hometown population — combined — is half that of an inner-city high school. They don't play basketball in small-town America, do they? Oh, yes.

in the state capital of Kansas that has Rhodes excited. It's what could lie ahead.

"I think it's a great opportunity to be the No. 1 pick," said Rhodes, who attended the draft at the CBA's invitation. "It's a stepping stone to work on my game and move up to the NBA. That's my goal: to make an NBA team."

Rhodes was joined in the first round by the University of Iowa's Bill Jones when the 6-7 swingman was taken by the Quad City Thunder with the ninth pick overall.



CHICAGO (AP) — Three agents and NFL player Cris Carter were indicted Wednesday on charges including racketeering and perjury following an 18month investigation into illegal payments and threats used to sign dozens of athletes to contracts. Agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom, the original targets of the investigation, were indicted on charges of racketeering, mail fraud, wire fraud and extortion. The third agent, Dave Lueddeke, was charged with perjury and obstruction of justice.

great," said Rhodes. "He (a Lakers assistant coach) said I need some experience with my ballhandling skills."

Clay Netusil, a former punter on the Northern Iowa football team who works for a management firm in Florida, is Rhodes' agent.

Rhodes became a national phenomenon last season when he blitzed Iowa for 54 points, the second-best output in the country all year. He averaged 22.5 after being a deep reserve his first

### Lafester Rhodes

three years with the Cyclones.

Five Big 8 players, include ISU's Jeff Grayer, were taken on the first round of the NBA draft. Also selected were Danny Manning, Harvey Grant, Mitch Richmond and Derrick Chievous.

"I think I can hold my ground with them," said Rhodes. "A lot of people tell me I have the body and the speed to play in the NBA." Rhodes can make no more than Please turn to 2C: Rhodes

The Silver Bullets got Hayes from the Rapid City Thrillers for the 13th pick in the draft.

The small blunder cost Cedar Rapids a shot at drafting John Starks, a 6-5 guard from Oklahoma State, on the first round. The Silver Bullets were surprised to learn Wednesday that Starks, who earlier attended three junior colleges, was ineligible for the CBA draft because he still has college eligibility remaining, although he won't use it.

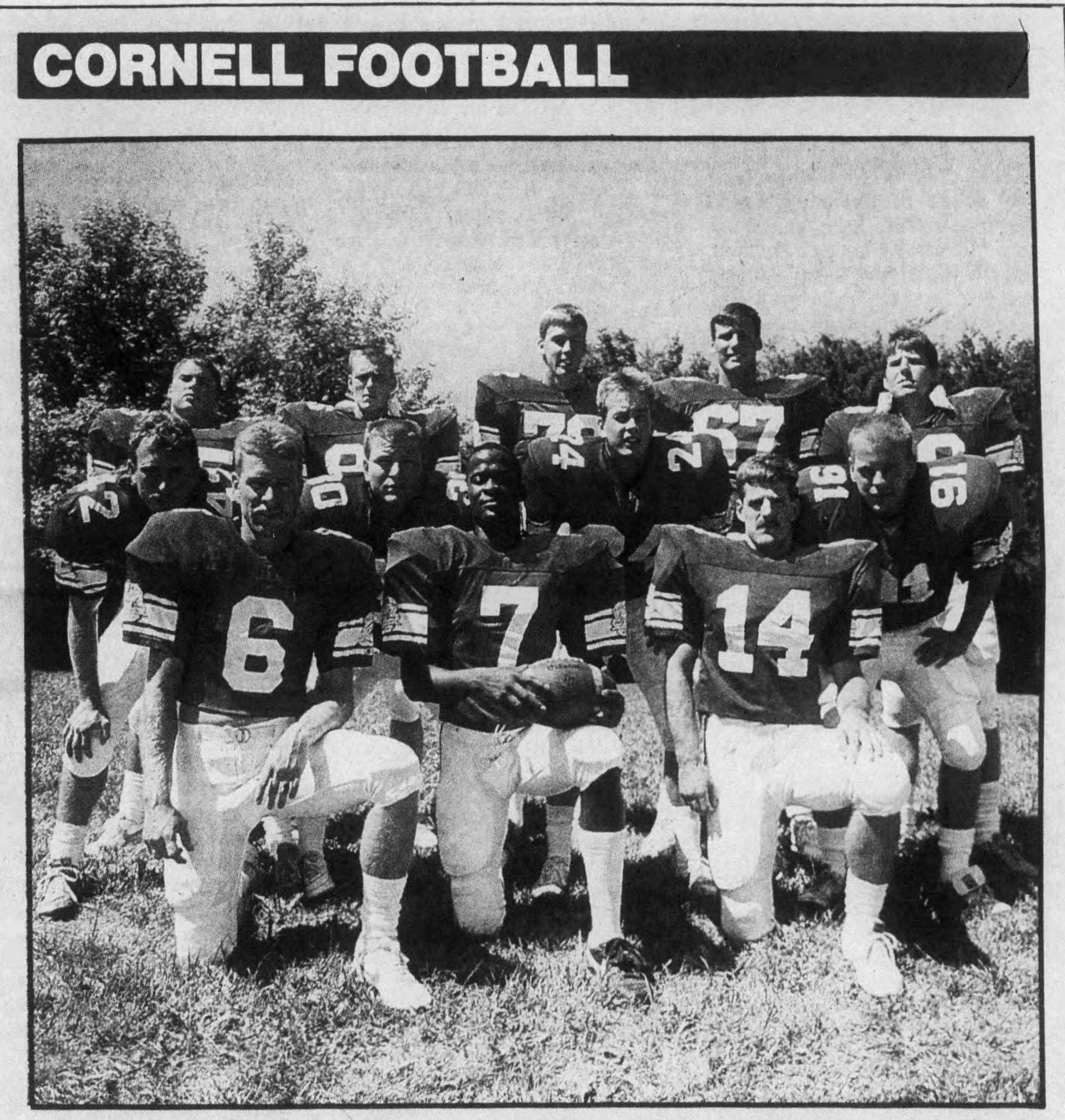
That mistake shouldn't hurt, though, as the Silver Bullets now

ity to make Iowa State's Lafester Rhodes the No. 1 selection in the Barry Mitchell, a 6-6 forward, and entire draft. Cedar Rapids then took 6-3 guard Byron Larkin of Xavier with the fourth pick overall. Larkin is the 13th leading scorer in NCAA history with 2,696 points.

> The Silver Bullets took Tom Domako, 6-10, of Montana State in the second round and took Carl Curry, 6-8, of Mississippi Valley State in the third round.

But the big news for the Silver Bullets was getting Hayes, whose

• Please turn to 2C: Silver Bullets



### Hawks top Tribune's grid poll

By Mark Neuzil Gazette sportswriter

Just when you think expectations for Iowa's 1988 football team could not get any higher, the Chicago Tribune has decided to pick the Hawkeyes as the No. 1 team in the country in its preseason poll.

The Tribune becomes the second nationally-known publication to tab Coach Hayden Fry's team as best in the land. In July, Sport magazine selected Iowa No. 1. The newspaper's poll is due out in its Friday editions. Florida State, which sits atop the Associated Press preseason poll, is No. 2 in the Tribune, with Auburn, Oklahoma and defending national champion Miami of Florida rounding out the top five. Clemson, Nebraska, UCLA, Texas A&M and Michigan finish off the top 10. Picking Iowa No. 1 doesn't mean the Tribune thinks the Hawks are the best team in the country, said Ed Sherman, the paper's national college football writer. "They're not necessarily the best team in the country, but they have the best schedule," Sherman told The Gazette Wednesday in a telephone interview. "I look at the schedule and I see a possibility of an undefeated team going into the Rose Bowl. "They may not break a sweat until the Rose Bowl. Their toughest game is at Michigan State (Oct. 1), with Indiana being somewhat of a sleeper (Oct. 29 in Bloomington). But they've got Michigan and Ohio State at home, and that's a good place to play those guys." Among lowa's non-conference opponents, only Colorado (7-4) had a winning record last year. Hawaii, Kansas State and Iowa State won a total of eight games in 1987. "We're talking 12-0 going into the Rose Bowl, and assuming a miracle happens, they can win the

Small towns win state championships. Small towns get together and win national tournaments. And they occasionally whip up on a touring Russian Junior team, like Iowa's did this summer.

Got nothing against a big town Still hayseed enough to say Look who's in the big town But my bed is in a small town Oh, and that's good enough for

Davis has received word that Reed, a 6-foot-3 guard, plans to accept a scholarship at the University of Iowa. He has another year of high school competition remaining in Wyoming.

It's interesting that none of lowa's coaches has seen Reed play in a high school game. We're fairly certain of that because the people in Baggs know when a stranger shows up in the gym on Friday night.

**Reed is from Little Snake River** Valley High School (it takes all of halftime to cheer, "Give me an L, give me an I, give me a T . . ."). LSRVHS won a state title in Wyoming last season and Reed averaged 28 points a game.

Reed is coached by his father, Ed, who knows the pros and cons of being an athlete in a small town.

"I think one of the benefits is that there is an excellent opportunity for success," Ed Reed said. "In Dale's case, he has competed three years in the three sports we offer — cross country, basketball and track. "The big problem is when kids get bored and have nothing to do. And it's a problem getting exposure in small schools. Dale attended seven basketball camps this summer because the competition just isn't here. You have to go get it."

Carter, who left Ohio State with a year of eligibility left and now plays for the Philadelphia Eagles, was charged with obstruction of justice for not telling the federal grand jury investigating the case about a \$5,000 payment from Lueddeke.

Carter, who also had dealings with Walters and Bloom, also was charged with mail fraud.

Forty-three professional athletes who signed with Walters and Bloom avoided prosecution with pretrial agreements to perform community service and to reimburse some portion of their scholarships to universities they attended. Ex-Iowa stars Ronnie Harmon and Devon Mitchell and former Cedar Rapids Jefferson and Iowa State standout Lester Williams were among the 43.

U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas said Walters and Bloom "told some players they had partners from California and Las Vegas who would come down and ensure the players never played again . . that if they tried to back out, they would visit the athletes and break their legs."

Among the athletes who made pretrial agreements are NBA basketball player Brad Sellers of the Chicago Bulls and NFL football players Brent Fullwood of Green Bay, Paul Palmer of Kansas City and Harmon of Buffalo, the indictment said.

IF CONVICTED, Walters, 58, and Bloom, 29, each face 70 years in jail and \$2 million in fines. Carter, who has agreed to cooperate with authorities, faces 10 years and a \$500,000 fine. Lueddeke, 37, faces 15 years in jail and \$750,000 in fines.

Photo by Greg Williamson, Cedar Rapids

These 12 returning starters, taking a break during Wednesday's press day, hope to help Cornell's football team to better fortunes this year. In the front row (left to right) are Craig Furnish, Eddie Moore and Jeff Sharpe. Glenn Cline, Chris Lentz, Mike Martin and Hans Kraaz make up the second row. In the back row are Doug Pipolo, Lance Van Gundy, Eric Neessen, John Burkholder and Matt Lindaman.

## Ram gridders may be better but record may not show it

By Bob Hilton Gazette sportswriter MOUNT VERNON — Eddie Moore and Dave McGill have become "real good friends" as Cornell football teammates. Last fall, they rotated at quarterback. They were elected offensive co-captains for the coming season. But Coach Steve Miller says the two seniors won't rotate. One will start. The other will be the backup. And, Miller adds, "neither will be happy not playing. Both are very competitive.' "I feel real good about (the competition)," Moore said during Media Day at historic Ash Park on Wednesday. "It makes me work hard, gives me something to shoot for. "Dave and I are real good friends. I think we can handle one starting and the other being

backup. I feel good about this season. I feel comfortable with the position and the guys, more relaxed. I've got some games under my belt."

The only Gulf Coast native among nine Floridians on the Cornell roster, Moore played running back as a Punta Gorda prep.

Ed Reed knows Skinner and the Palmer success story because they met at the Iowa basketball camp.

"I asked Troy about the size of his school because I'd heard all different numbers," Reed said. "He said Palmer had 34 kids in school and I told we were a little bigger. We have 47."

Basketball travels will take them to big, faster-paced cities, but the Jepsens and Skinners and Reeds surely will keep those precious small-town thoughts.

No I cannot forget where it is that I come from

I cannot forget the people who love me

Yeah, I can be myself here in this small town

And people let me be just what want to be

**Prosecutors claimed Walters** and **Bloom** made payments to star college athletes in exchange for

• Please turn to 5C: Agents

"I came to Cornell to play quarterback," he says. "This is a dream come true."

McGill said he thinks the quarterback competition will be "hard for us. We're friends, and we're strong competitors.

"By any standard, we're still a young team. If we pull together like last year, we can have a good season. We're pretty close-knit."

• Please turn to 4C: Cornell

Rose Bowl," Sherman said.

"I'm not saying they don't have a great team. They do. But if they played Ohio State's schedule of Syracuse, Pitt and LSU we wouldn't be talking about them going undefeated."

Iowa, 10-3 last year, was picked No. 9 in the preseason Associated Press poll released on Sunday. The Hawks open their season Sept. 3 at Hawaii.

## Puckett, Gladden homer as Twins rip Detroit

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota year, it's us. For the last three years or so, we Twins would rather enjoy it than explain it. used to go into Toronto, knowing somehow we And the Detroit Tigers are just glad the nightmare is over.

as the Twins defeated Detroit, 8-2, Wednesday with two outs in the sixth. night and finished the season series with 11 consecutive victories over the Tigers.

The Twins had five extra base hits in the second, one short of the club record for an inning, off Frank Tanana (14-8). In winning 11 of 12 from Detroit, the Twins outscored the meeting this season 7-0.

"It's what I've been saying all along,"

were going to lose. For Detroit, that's us." Twins starter Fred Toliver (5-3) pitched 72/3

Dan Gladden and Kirby Puckett each hit innings and allowed seven hits. He lost his home runs to highlight a six-run second inning shutout when Matt Nokes hit his 14th homer

> After Toliver yielded Dave Bergman's RBI single in the eighth, Juan Berenguer came on to finish the game.

Puckett went 4-for-4, adding a double and two singles to his 19th home run. Minnesota double.

they can't seem to beat, and for Detroit this hits against the Tigers in the Twins' 7-0 47-37 against the East in 1988.

victory Monday night. In the three-game series, Puckett was 9-for-14 with six runs scored and four RBI.

"Puckett is just wearing us out," Tanana said. "Before you know what's cooking, the ball game's over. I was going to change speeds, that was my game plan, but I got a couple of my pitches up and they started hitting them. I made mistakes and they made me pay for them."

Coupled with Oakland's 7-6 loss Wednesday added two runs in the fourth on a run-scoring afternoon to the New York Yankees, the first-place Tigers 65-18 after dropping the first single by Gladden, who scored on Puckett's second-place Twins moved to within six games of the Athletics in the American League West. It was Puckett's 26th career four-hit game Minnesota plays only West Division competi-Puckett said, "Every team has another team and his sixth this season. Puckett also had four tion for the rest of the season. The Twins went



**Kirby Puckett**