## NCAA probe of U of I would not surprise regent

universities.

By Rod Boshart Gazette political writer

DES MOINES - Marvin Pomerantz, chairman of the State Board of Regents, says he would not be surprised if allegations raised during a trial of two sports agents under way in Chicago trigger NCAA probes at Iowa and other schools implicated by testimony.

"I would say the NCAA has ongoing investigation activity going on and all this media attention likely will pique their interest and I would expect they might be over to take a look at things," said Pomerantz.

Meanwhile, Gov. Terry Branstad Monday took a hands-off approach to claims of academic shortcomings within the University of Iowa's football program, saying the matter is best handled by U of I President

Hunter Rawlings and the Board of Regents. Last week, Rawlings asked two high-

level university administrators to look into indications that the school's athletic department may have violated NCAA and Big Ten rules in the case of two ex-football players who have acknowledged they had not come close to fulfilling their degree requirements while at Iowa.

Branstad acknowledged he is not satisfied that the university is fully meeting its goal of providing every student an opportunity to receive a quality education. He expressed hope that an audit of regents' universities under way will identify and eliminate problems.

During testimony in Chicago last week in the trial of two sports agents, former Iowa football players Ronnie Harmon and Devon Mitchell said their pursuit of degrees took a

back seat to football. Agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom are accused of enticing Harmon, Mitchell and dozens of other athletes to sign contracts before their college eligibilty expired and of defrauding

Mitchell testified he went to class only to maintain his eligibility and Harmon's transcript indicated he took courses such as watercolor painting, billiards and bowling to remain eligible to play football.

NEITHER OF THE ATHLETES met the requirements for graduation, but U of I officials say no rules were broken regarding

vice president for finance and university services, and David Vernon, acting vice president of academic affairs, to probe the

the two former athletes' academic careers. Rawlings has asked Susan Phillips, U of I

matter and "determine whether a more extensive investigation is needed and, if so, what the extent or scope of that investigation should be."

He also said the university "will vigorously follow up on any statement or allegation regarding possible violation of NCAA or Big Ten rules or U of I policy. We will not tolerate any violation of rule or

Rep. Jack Hatch, D-Des Moines, cochairman of a joint legislative appropriations committee that oversees higher education, agreed with Branstad that the issue was one that best would be handled internally.

"I think they should be given the opportunity to make whatever adjustments or corrections that need to be made on their own," the governor said.



Marvin Pomerantz

#### Senate approves spending on delayed improvements

By Rod Boshart

Senate has approved nearly \$48 million in additional state spending this year to make capital improvements and repairs and buy equipment.

Monday's action likely assures that Iowans won't receive an income tax break through indexing.

The Senate, on a 44-2 vote, passed Senate File 363, which provides \$35.7 million for nonrecurring capital improvements for the capitol, corrections, regents' universities and juvenile institutions, and funds for the state Department of Human Services, the state auditor and the court system.

Senators also approved a companion bill, S.F. 369, that

sets aside \$12 million this year DES MOINES — The lowa for the state's conversion to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. The action means the state's year-end balance will be below the \$60 million minimum required to trigger income tax indexing.

Sen. Joe Welsh, D-Dubuque, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said the spending bill was designed to address fire safety problems and other capital projects delayed in recent years while the state weathered an agricultural credit crisis, the drought and other economic troubles.

He added that neither the Legislature's year-end balance nor the \$46.5 million proposed by Gov. Terry Branstad would trigger tax indexing.

Counties lose in road tax compromise He said the proposal is in line Under the proposed legislation,

By Bill Brewer

Gazette Des Moines Bureau DES MOINES — Iowa's primary highways would be given up to \$30 million more, while secondary and farm-to-market roads would receive nearly \$21 million less, under a road use tax formula to be proposed today to the House Transportation Committee.

The proposed revision was crafted into bill form Monday, capping weeks of talks between committee chairman Rep. Mike Connolly, D-Dubuque, and city

and county representatives. Under current law, 45 percent of the \$477 million in state gasoline tax, vehicle use tax and vehicle registration fee revenue is allocated to construction and maintenance of primary highways. Another 37 percent of the money goes for construction and maintenance of county roads, while the remaining 18 percent goes to cities for street projects.

the amount of money available among the jurisdictions would be raised to \$490 million by requiring \$13 million of road-related expenses now excluded from the distribution formula to be shared

among the three jurisdications. The proposal then would divide the larger fund by allocating 50 percent to state highways, 30 percent to county roads and 20 percent to city streets.

Early estimates indicate that, if enacted, the proposed change will provide an additional \$30 million next fiscal year to build and maintain state highways and \$12 million more for construction and maintenance of city streets. County secondary and farm-to-market road projects would receive approximately \$21 million less.

"The primary system will be the big winner, and I think that's where we wanted to go."

with a consultant's study last fall that determined the state should make more efficient use of its road funds by spending a larger percentage of its money on heavily used roads.

Cities also will be happy with the bill, while counties are "going to have to take a hit."

The proposed formula change also would reduce by one-half cent, the portion of Iowa's 20-cent gasoline tax revenue that goes into a special Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) fund. The

fund is used to finance county

road projects designed to encourage businesses to locate or expand

Instead of targeting the approximately \$9 million to county economic development road projects, the money would be added to the 30 percent of road money available for distribution to all 99 counties.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Hutchins, D-Audubon, said the House plan is "moving in the right direction" to bolster state and city road construction funds.

"But the Senate will be tougher on maintaining the counties' share than the House," he said.

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### 3 killed in traffic accidents on lowa roads

Associated Press

A Glenville, Minn., woman died Monday in a two-car accident on Highway 63 just south of Northwood in Worth County.

Dianna Lynn Sanderson, 40, was killed when the car she was driving collided head-on with with a car driven by Korey Kisner, 19, of Northwood, authorities said.

Sanderson's 7-month-old daughter, Brianna, was injured in the crash. She was taken to a Northwood hospital where she was listed in stable condition.

Kisner was treated and re-

leased. Scott Michael Richey, 17, of rural Corning died of injuries he suffered early Sunday when he lost control of his car and it crashed while being pursued by a state trooper.

Authorities said the chase began when the trooper attempted to ticket Richey for speeding.

 A Columbus City man died Saturday night and three of his passengers were hurt in an accident on Louisa County Road X-17 about four miles northwest of Columbus Junction.

John Errol Redlinger, 20, apparently lost control of his car on a curve shortly after 11 p.m. and the car went into a ditch.

Injured were Robert Schwab, 18, Ed Clark, 21, and Arvid Shane Morgan, 17.

#### THE GAZETTE

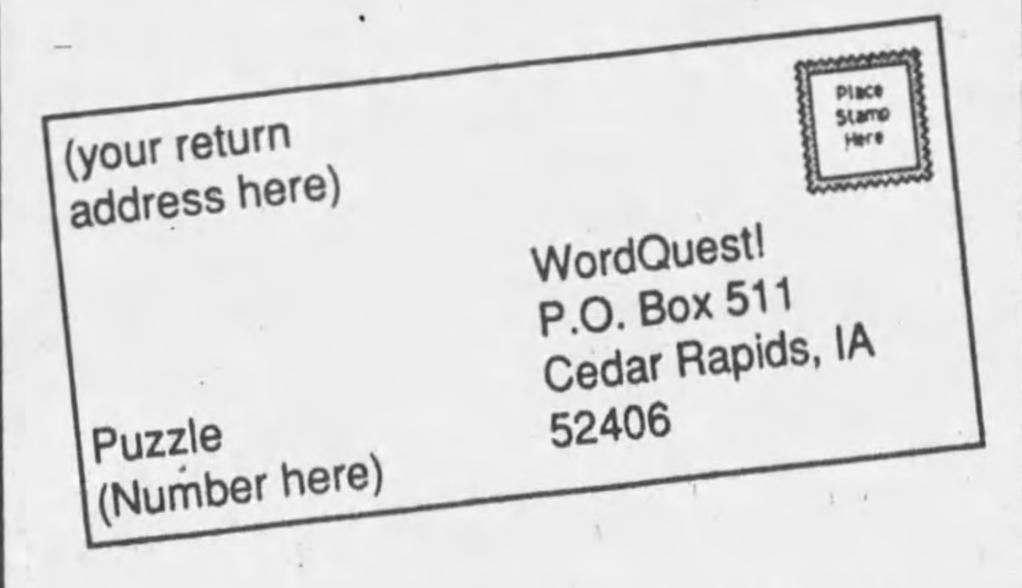
# By Tolli Underwood

You could win

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The new Gazette WordQuest is a chance for you to share in thousands of dollars in cash and prizes. Just complete the WordQuest puzzle you'll find in The Gazette on Monday and Tuesday each week. Send it in and you're eligible for weekly prizes or the big cash grand prize of \$500. Dozens of readers will win \$50 weekly cash prizes from The Gazette or gift prizes furnished by Hy-Vee.

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Entries can either be mailed to The Gazette (see information above) or dropped off at any Cedar Rapidsarea Hy-Vee store. The weekly deadline for entries is Friday following publication of the puzzles. The winners will be announced in The Gazette on Wednesday after the entry deadline.

Join the fun and enter today for your chance to win!

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contains a number of words reading from left, right, diagonally, up or down. Some words start with letters you've already used in other words. ALL TWELVE WORDS MUST BE CIRCLED TO MAKE AN ENTRY VALID.

address and telephone number. Print the puzzle number on the lower left corner of your entry envelope. Mail entry to WordQuest, The Gazette, P.O. Box 511, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406, or deposit it in the container you'll find at any Cedar Rapids-area Hy-Vee

2. You must use the puzzle that appears in the Gazette or a reasonably accurate hand drawn facsimile. You don't have to buy The Gazette in order to enter. Copies may be examined at the Gazette office. Machine duplicated entry forms will NOT be accepted.

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Deadline for entries is Noon Friday following publication of the puzzle.

PUZZLE #2

### RULES:

Each Monday and Tuesday The Gazette's WordQuest

. Clip the complete puzzle and include your name,

3. Contestants may submit as many entries as they wish with ONLY ONE ENTRY PER ENVELOPE. No registered mail will be accepted.

4. All entries must be received at the Gazette or Hy-Vee by Noon on the Friday after publication of that week's WordQuest puzzles.

5. The weekly winners will be determined by a random drawing from valid entries received on or before the entry deadline. The \$500 grand prize winner will be drawn at random from all entries received by the end of the weekly contests.

6. Weekly winners will be announced on Wednesday following the weekly entry deadline. The names of these winners will appear in The Gazette and prize money will be mailed to the winners within 10 days of

the announcement. 7. The decision of the judges will be final.

8. Employees of The Gazette Company, Hy-Vee stores and their immediate families are not eligible to win prizes in the contest.



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