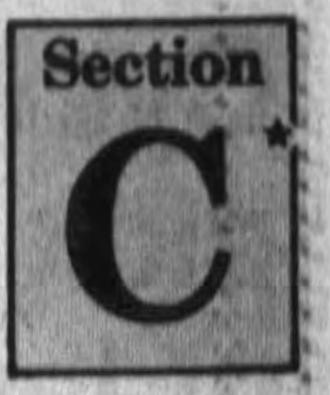
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U of I study: Overreaction

he 13-page report issued Tuesday afternoon at the University of Iowa is called "The Education of Student-Athletes — A Preliminary Look."

It ought to be titled, "Overreaction To An Isolated Case of Poor Publicity — A Bad Idea."

The three-member committee of Annette Fitz, Susan Phillips and David Vernon has done some laudable work, but you have to wonder if U of I President Hunter Rawlings would have even ordered the internal study if not for allegations that surfaced at the

There was no indication of plans for a study like this until Ronnie Harmon and Devon Mitchell, former lowa football stars who now toil in the NFL, submitted under oath details of their academic experience at Iowa — details that were unkind to the university.

Testimony at the trial hurt the university like a swift kick in the ribs, although it should have only felt like a slap in the face. The report attempts to downplay it, but healing the wounds seems to be the focus of the effort.

Consider:

 Rawlings ordered the study only after Harmon and Mitchell testified at the trial in Chicago.

 In the opening paragraph of the report, the committee writes, "Recent publicity has raised serious questions in the minds of many persons . . . about the soundness of the University of Iowa's educational program as it relates to student-athletes."

• Fitz requested that Sam Becker, Iowa's faculty representalive, submit a report about "the validity of allegations being made about the University of Iowa in the trial of the two sports agents." Becker delivered seven pages of counterclaims.

Coaches, not to mention athlets, can not be happy about implementation of recommendations submitted by the committee and approved by Rawlings.

In essence, athletes at the University of Iowa will be subjected to academic requirements not only more demanding than those of "normal" students, but also those of athletes at other Big Ten schools.

Will Hayden Fry, Tom Davis, Dan Gable, Vivian Stringer et al be under more pressure than ever to field competitive teams? It's quite possible.

The new guidelines specify that student-athletes must take 14 credit hours per semester, including two required general education courses. An athlete may reduce the load to 12 hours during a semester, but the two hours must be made up in another semester.

Athletes at Iowa and elsewhere will tell you they already reduce their classloads during a season because time is so demanding. Most will make up for it later, and most will graduate.

The university has concluded - in this report and others that Hawkeye athletes graduate at a higher rate than non-athletes. Sometimes, it is a substantially

higher rate. So if the system and the athletes have been so successful, why invoke higher standards?

The committee says they are necessary "not because of the spotlight on athletes, or because they receive grant-in-aids," but because of the "special circumstances that surround the academic experience of studentathletes."

Those "special circumstances" are, according to the committee, the tension over the desire to stay eligible and the desire to graduate, and the time pressures that

require more careful planning. Somehow, it doesn't seem to fit, though.

When you boil it all down, what you have is the committee saying athletes generally have done well in the present system, and under more pressure than non-athletes.

- particularly Rawlings - focus on raising the graduation rate of non-athletes to at least the level

of athletes? Maybe if Walters or Bloom had been representing a famous singer or actor from the U of I, it would have been different.

GE ATHLETICS

Walden minces no words about robbery

Gazette staff report MES - Not only did Iowa State football coach Jim Walden warn his entire team to keep their noses clean two weeks ago, but Levin White's noticeable attitude problem prompted Walden into a one-on-one discussion with the defensive back March 24.

Six days later. White and Iowa State basketball player Sam Mack allegedly robbed a Burger King in Ames before being shot by Ames police.

The Iowa State registrar's office confirmed Wednesday that White and Mack no longer were enrolled at the university. However, the office did not disclose if the two had dropped out or were expelled.

"When these two guys walked into that Burger King, they weren't football or basketball players. They were individuals, and as far as I'm concerned they were public enemies No. 1 and 2. 33

ISU coach Jim Walden

The athletes were suspended from their teams immediately after the incident. At that time, Iowa State President Gordon Eaton said the school

would review White's and Mack's status as students.

Walden returned Tuesday to Ames from Seattle, where he had been attending alumni

gatherings and coaches meet-

Wednesday, he made no effort to hide the fact that White's alleged involvement in the March 30 armed robbery leaves him with one overriding emotion - anger.

"I don't try to hide my feelings," said Walden, whose team opened spring drills Tuesday. "I'm concerned about my players that have to deal with this. I'm concerned about the young people (White) scared half to death down there (at Burger King). There will come a time when I'll be remorseful for (White). But now, with all these other concerns, finding compassion for Levin White just isn't Please turn to 5C: Walden



Jim Walden

trial of sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom. "All is not well' says new Big Ten commissioner

HICAGO (AP) — James E. Delany, __named Wednesday as commissioner of the Big Ten Conference, called for fresh ideas to keep sports from overpowering the academic life of student-athletes.

"At this unique time in college athletics, all is not well," said Delany, a 41-yearold lawyer completing his 10th year as Ohio Valley Conference commissioner.

"I think it's important to find a better balance," he said. "There's got to be a way to make sure education is first. And I

don't think that's the case in all institutions today."

Delany will take over July 1 for Wayne Duke, who is retiring after 18 years as commissioner.

"He is a person of unquestioned integrity, who has demonstrated exceptional ability," said Stanley Ikenberry, president of the University of Illinois and head of the Big Ten's governing board. "We look to him to provide leadership not only to our conference, but on the national level as well."

Delany said the problem of boosters

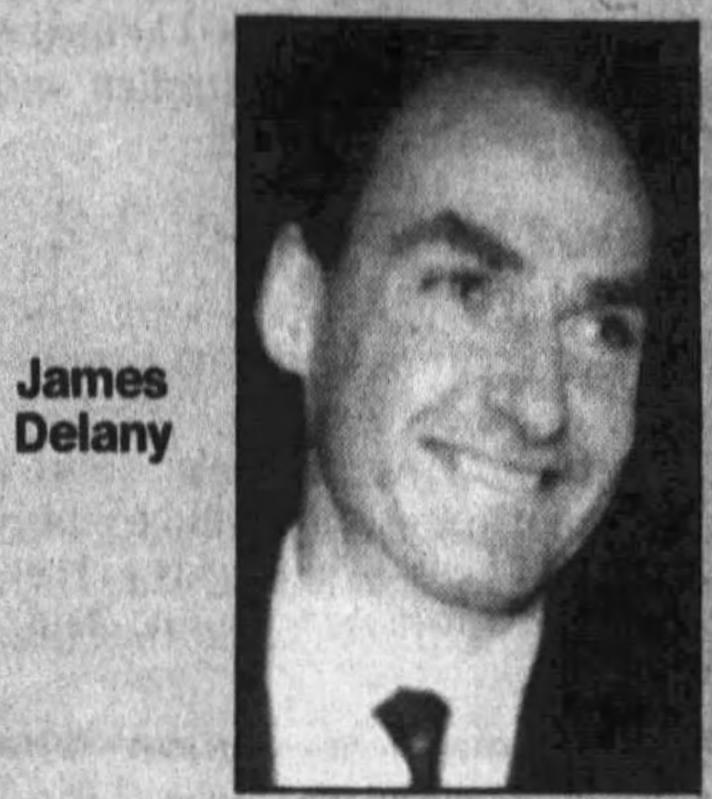
and sports agents corrupting studentathletes with money is worse now than it was 10 years ago.

"Sometimes the values of pure capitalist competition are in conflict with educational values," he said.

The pressures of big-time sports, television and national championships can be too much for some young men who enter college to play football or basketball, Delany said.

"There has been tinkering with NCAA rules . . . but in my opinion there has not

• Please turn to 5C: Delany



Hershiser loses scoreless streak; ball game, too

CINCINNATI (AP) - Orel Hershiser lost his magic and record shutout streak in his first inning of the season and later lost the game Wednesday night when the Cincinnati Reds beat the Los Angeles Dodgers, 4-3.

Hershiser's string stayed at 59 innings and was

Photo, major-league roundups, Page 2C

stopped when Todd Benzinger hit an RBI single with two outs.

Hershiser, who did not allow a run in his final six regular-season starts last year, pitched seven innings and gave up four runs, only two of them earned, on seven hits.

The Reds' lineup, batting .323 lifetime against Hershiser, came out swinging. Barry Larkin opened with a single up the middle and advanced when Hershiser made a wild pickoff throw.

Hershiser then struck out Chris Sabo and Eric Davis before Kal Daniels walked on four pitches. Benzinger, facing Hershiser for the first time, singled sharply on a 2-0 pitch and Larkin scored easily ahead of right fielder Mike Marshall's throw.

The crowd of 20,964, held down by temperatures in the upper 40s, responded with a standing ovation for both Hershiser and Benzinger, a hometown player acquired from Boston in the off-season.

Hershiser, working quickly on the chilly night, got nicked again in the third on hard singles by Davis, Benzinger and Paul O'Neill.

Ron Oester opened the fourth with a double and scored when Hershiser fielded a sacrifice by pitcher Tom Browning but threw the ball past the dugout.

The Dodgers managed just five hits against Browning and three relievers. Browning had pitched a perfect game in his previous start against Los Angeles, on Sept. 16, and had retired 38 consecutive Dodgers before Willie Randolph opened the game by reaching on Larkin's error at shortstop. Browning won with six innings of three-hit ball and John Franco went 12/3 innings for his second save.



HAIL, THE CONQUERING HERO: Michigan star Glen Rice wades through a sea of fans wanting autographs on news reports of the Wolverine victory

over Seton Hall for the NCAA basketball championship. Rice and other Wolverines were besieged by an adoringpublic upon their return to Ann Arbor this week.

THE MASTERS

Softer greens as players tee it up

UGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — "It's a different course this year," Tom Kite said of the site for the 53rd Masters.

The first of golf's four major annual tournaments has not been moved from the Augusta National Golf Club, but the splendid old place is just not the same, in Kite's view.

The difference is on the greens, he said.

"They're fast, fast as ever," Kite said. "But they're a little softer. Not soft. They're very firm. But they aren't as

hard as they have been in the last couple of years."

And that could make a major difference in the tournament that begins today, suggested the tough little man who has come so close so often here among the azaleas and dogwood, the wisteria and redbud that color the course built by the legendary Bobby

"The last couple of years, the leaders have just been trying not to lose," Kite

"With the greens softer, more recep-

tive to a shot now, there's the possibility of somebody making a charge over the last nine holes, coming out of pack and winning the tournament."

The greens could be even softer if the threat of rain becomes real.

The forecast calls for the possibility of heavy rains and thunderstorms on Friday and again on Sunday, the day the tournament is scheduled to end.

"We could be here Monday," Masters chairman Hord Hardin said.

"If we are unable to complete play Please turn to 4C: Golf

Dave Rummells



AP piloto 1988 champ Sandy Lyle on the practice green.

Rummells joins field 1st time AUGUSTA, Ga. — Dave Rummells, the finishing in a tie for sixth place in last So why doesn't the university only Iowan in the field, will be in the last year's PGA Championship. group today for the first round of the

Masters golf tournament. Rummells, the West Branch native who now lives in Florida, will be in a threesome that includes Scott Hoch and Mark Wiebe.

They will tee off at 1:29 p.m. (Iowa time). Rummells is in his first Masters, one of

Rummells is off to an excellent start this

season. He ranks 33rd on the money list with earnings of \$102,014.

USA Network will carry live coverage of play today and Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. CBS will carry the final two rounds, Saturday golf's Grand Slam events. He qualified by from 2:30 to 5 p.m., Sunday 3 to 6 p.m.

NBA says let us in Olympics; some would even play

Associated Press

Almost two-thirds of NBA players think professionals should be allowed in the Olympics, but only 58 percent said they would play if they could, according to a survey by The Associated Press.

The majority of those opposed to participation said the Games are better suited to college players and that NBA players would make a travesty of competition.

Others said that it would disrupt their family life, or that they doubted NBA owners would let them

FIBA, the international governing body for basketball, is expected to vote Friday at Munich, West Germany, to open Olympic basketball to all professional players beginning with the 1992 Games in Barcelona.

"I would go in a heartbeat," said Karl Malone of

the Utah Jazz. "I'd pay my own ticket over there. It teed me off when the Russians were high-fiving like they had beaten America's best and I knew they hadn't."

A total of 185 players — 62.7 percent — answered yes when asked by the AP if NBA players should be allowed in the Olympics. One-hundred, or 33.9 percent. said no; 10 had no answer or no opinion.

Asked if they would play, 172 players, or 58.3 percent, said yes; 114, or 38.6 percent, said no; and the rest, nine players, had no answer or no opinion. Only 139 of 295 NBA players contacted by the AP

said yes to both questions. That is 47.1 percent. There are a maximum of 300 players on the active NBA roster at any time - 12 players on each of the 25 teams.

Even if those who said they wouldn't did not play, pool of players remains for a formidable team.

A potential starting five would include Malone and Philadelphia's Charles Barkley at forwards, 1984 Olympian Patrick Ewing of New York at center, Magic Johnson of the Lakers at point guard and Portland's Clyde Drexler at shooting guard.

"It's about time for us to let the world see what we can really do," Johnson said. "I definitely would like to play. The Soviets think they can beat us, but they haven't beaten our best. All they've done is beat our best collegiate players. It was very tough for me to see them lose last summer."

If the proposal passes Friday, much would have to be decided between NBA and amateur basketball officials about how and when the U.S. team would be

The problems include having the NBA playoffs until late June, the next Olympics in July. The regular season ends in late April, which could

preclude tryouts - a sore point for some players. "If they picked me for the team, I'd go, but I'm not trying out," said Barkley, a perennial All-Star now but an early cut of Coach Bob Knight from the 1984

Olympic team. Twenty-seven players who thought professionals should not be allowed in the Olympics said they still would go if they could. Forty-six said professionals

should be allowed, but they would not play. Not everyone said why, but the most common reason, given by 60 players, was the belief that the Olympics are better suited for college players.

"For us to be selfish and say we want to win at all costs is not right," said Detroit's Isiah Thomas, who made the 1980 Olympic team but lost out to the U.S. boycott. "I'd hate to deprive a college player like Bimbo Coles, for whom the Olympics are the crowning point of his career."

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Defense says agent a victim

CHICAGO (AP) — Sports agent Norby Walters was a victim of "paisonous innuendo" and broke no laws, a defense attorney said Wednesday. But a federal prosecutor argued that the case of Walters and associate Lloye Bloom was fraud beyond a doubt.

Jurors were to begin deliberating the fate of Walters and Bloom after instructions from U.S. District Judge George Marovich at 9:30 a.m. this morning. A computer malfunction stalled preparation of the lengthy instructions Wednesday afternoon, the judge

"This has been about fraud from Day One and it will be about fraud when you go back to that jury room," U.S Attorney Anton Valukas told jurors in his closing

arguments. Walters, 58, and Bloom, 29, were charged with mail frau conspiracy to commit fraud and racketeering, accused of luring dozens of college athletes with contracts with them in violation of NÇAA rules, then using threats to keep the athletes in line.

"Mr. Walters may have violated NCAA rules but he never violated an instant any law," said Walters' attorney, Robert Gold.

From page 1C

Friday and make the cut, we could be in trouble," Hardin said. "We'll just have to wait and see."

So will the starting field of 85 of the world's finest players and a gallery of about 40,000.

Kite is on the short list of players most likely to be in title contention over those last nine holes.

So are defending title-older Sandy Lyle of Scotland, British Open champion Seve Ballesteros revived Spain, Greg Norman of Australia and American hopes Curtis Strange and Mark Calcavecchia.

"My game is better now than it has been in a long time," said Kite, who won two of his last three starts and leads the American PGA Tour in money-winnings with \$565,179.

"I certainly expect it to be a good week for me."

And he has reason to expect that. Although he hasn't won here, he's done almost everything else. He's been a runner-up on two occasions and nine times has finished fifth or better in this event.

Lyle, Norman, Ballesteros and Calcavecchia all have games that traditional wisdom says are ideal-

ly suited to Augusta National. All are extremely long off the tee, play a high, soft shot and are capable of varying degrees of magic around the greens.

Ballesteros may be the most formidable. He broke a two-year slump with his British Open triumph and went on to score seven victories in as many countries last year.

After a slow start to the season, he proved himself Masters-ready with a strong, third-place finish in Houston last week.

Norman, too, is coming out of a slump that began here two years ago when he was the victim of Larry Mize's playoff pitch-in bird-

"It got in my head," Norman said. "I was in limbo. I went into a trough."

He came out of it this year, however, with two victories in four starts in Australia and has been fourth or better in three of four American starts.

Calcavecchia, a brash young man who was second to Lyle in the 1988 Masters, was the sensation of the early season. He won two tournaments on the western swing and had a chance to win two more.

Calcavecchia, however, missed the cut in in three of his last five

There's some question about Lyle, too. The husky Scot hasn't won this year and admits "I don't feel as good about my game as I did this time a year ago.

"I'm not hitting the ball quite as well as last year. I don't feel at the top of my game. But it's not far

Strange, too, is a non-winner this year, but has his game on the upswing.





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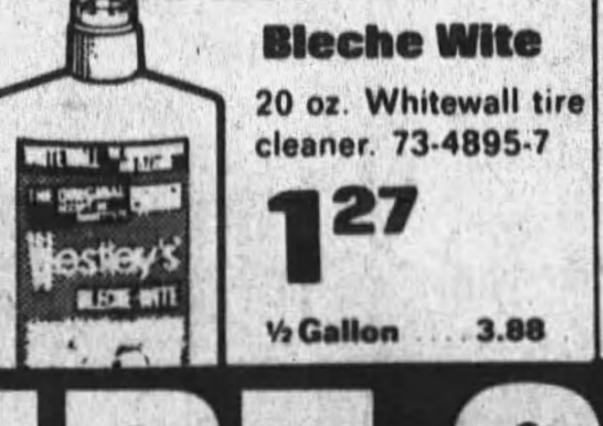
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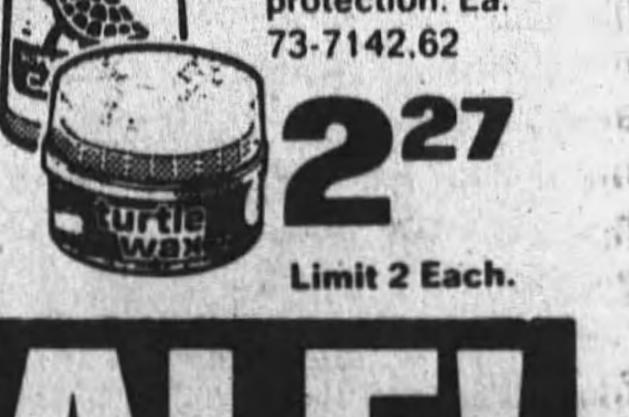






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