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# Des Moines

THE NEWSPAPER IOWA DEPENDS UPON Des Moines, Iowa April 9, 1989 Price \$1.25

### Soviet tanks defied by Georgians

### Showdown looms over demands for secession

From Register Wire Services

MOSCOW, U.S.S.R. — Thousands of Georgian strikers and demonstrators continued to rally for secession Saturday even as Soviet authorities deployed tanks in the republic's capital in an apparent show of force.

The tanks rolled into Tbilisi Friday night and the troops remained poised near crowds carrying placards denouncing "Russian imperialism," according to various sources and reports.

The official Soviet news agency Tass said Georgia's leaders met in emergency session Saturday, the fifth day of demonstrations, and rejected the protesters' demand for secession from Moscow.

#### Stalin's Home Province

Georgia is the home province of the late dictator Josef Stalin. Protest organizers are demanding that Georgia secede from the Soviet Union, and accuse the Kremlin of stirring up ethnic unrest in Abkhazia, an autonomous region within the Black Sea republic.

Tass indicated the Tbilisi party leaders decided that "Georgia was, is and will be a socialist, sovereign republic in the brotherly family of peoples of the U.S.S.R."

At one point, tanks rumbled through a crowd in downtown Tbilisi, about 1,650 miles southeast of Moscow. "Death to the Russian occupiers!" several protesters yelled as they threw themselves at an approaching tank, activist Sergei Dandurov reported by phone from Tbilisi.

He said others shouted "Down with the rotting Russian empire!" and "Get off Georgian land!" as they stoned the tanks and broke windows of a military car.

### "Nobody Leaving Streets"

Tamara Chkheidze, a reporter for an unofficial weekly journal, Ekspress-Khronika, said by phone: "Nobody was hurt and there wasn't any trouble, but nobody is leaving the streets and there will be more meet-

> SOVIET Please turn to Page 10A The Register



# THE EMPEROR'S NOT WEARING ANY CLOTHES! THERES MONES RECIPIERE WILL

### A few U of I athletes trigger tougher rules

By TOM WITOSKY and JOHN CARLSON Register Staff Writers

IOWA CITY, IA - University of Iowa officials ordered tougher academic standards for all athletes last week because they concluded that, despite recent reforms, a small number of current Hawkeye team members are making unusually slow academic progress.

"There were some cases that I really didn't like to see, though I would not classify them as beyond belief," said David Vernon, acting vice president for academic affairs, who headed the three-member investigating

He declined to describe in detail the problems found by his committee. But he acknowledged that several cases involved current members of Hawkeye athletic teams.

Responding to the findings, U of I President Hunter Rawlings said, "It does appear that we have had some student-athletes here who have not taken their education seriously enough."

The university declined to release copies of the academic transcripts it reviewed in the investigation. The study was prompted by disclosures that former Hawkeye football stars Ronnie Harmon and Devon Mitchell took easy classes and got poor grades.

Evidence in Trial Harmon's and Mitchell's academic transcripts were admitted as evidence last week in the federal fraud and racketeering trial of sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom. The transcripts showed that neither athlete was close to gradua-

Stung by testimony about such course work as Harmon's grade of "D" in watercolor painting, some

### ✓ Harmon's, Mitchell's grade list: 9A

U of I officials contended that the school had corrected those problems. But the investigation by Vernon's committee was launched anyway.

The Des Moines Sunday Register has learned that at least one case reviewed by the committee dealt with a U of I athlete who failed to fulfill many of the basic general education requirements by the time the student began the fourth and final year of athletic eligibility.

Those problems included:

• Failing to pass a mandatory math course.

 Failing to take any course to fulfill requirements in foreign civilization, historical perspectives or quantitative or formal reasoning.

 Completing only 24 hours of general education courses before entering the final year of athletic eligibility, when 45 hours are required for graduation from the College of Liberal Arts.

 Having only half of the general education requirement in rhetoric

> ATHLETES Please turn to Page 9A

## Most states set to limit abortion if court allows

### for rights rally in D.C.

From Register Wire Services

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A majority of states are expected to ban abortion in all but extreme circumstances and dure to the states.

arguments later this month on a Missouri abortion case, which it might use to modify, if not overturn, its 1973

Today abortion rights groups will display their public support with a march in Washington that is intended to counter a hostile White House and an unpredictable court.

According to activists on both sides of the abortion question and a review of legislative activity around the country, the political climate in most state capitals - especially in the South and Midwest — is more sympathetic to the anti-abortion view than to that of abortion rights advocates.

Given the discretion, no more than five states would retain the liberal guidelines the high court established in 1973 in Roe vs. Wade, its landmark ruling legalizing abortion, say activ-

### ✓ 32 arrested in D.M. protest: 1B

ists on both sides, who offer markedly different theories to explain most local lawmakers' inclination to limit

To abortion foes, state legislatures reflect the nation's moral ambivalence about the issue. While most Americans agree there are circumstances in which abortion should be legal, polls show that most are disturbed by the ease of access and the sheer number - 25 million - performed in this country since 1973.

ing as long as Roe is in place.

While it is impossible to predict with certainty what action state law-

> ABORTION Please turn to Page 2A

### lowa Poll Abortion Percent favoring legal abortions

half a dozen would prohibit it altogether if the U.S. Supreme Court returns the power to regulate the proce-The high court is scheduled to hear

ruling legalizing abortion.

To proponents of abortion rights, state legislatures reflect the timidity of politicians, cowed by a vociferous minority into casting anti-abortion votes that are both out of step with their constituents and of little mean-

#### All abortions Some abortions No abortions Not sure. should be legal. should be legal. should be legal. Most Iowans still

When the pregnancy

endangers the

mother's life?

Which is closest to your opinion on abortion?

## favor some abortions

By KENNETH PINS Register Staff Writer

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When the pregnancy

is the result of rape

or incest?

21%

For 16 years the national argument over abortion has ebbed and flowed, but Iowans have held remarkably consistent views. A new Iowa Poll, taken as argu-

ments are about to begin before the Supreme Court in a Missouri abortion case, shows those views remain in-

• 21 percent of Iowans say all abortions should be legal.

• 18 percent say no abortions

should be legal. • 59 percent say abortions should

be legal in certain cases. Just 2 percent of Iowans are uncer-

tain of their views on this topic, which has divided the nation since 1973.

Oral arguments in that Missouri case are to begin April 26. Many believe the outcome of the case will lead to state legislatures being given authority to set guidelines that could effectively restrict women's access to abortions.

Some believe the Missouri case could even bring about a complete reversal of the Supreme Court's landmark 7-2 decision in the 1973 Roe vs. Wade case, the decision that swept away all state laws prohibiting abortion. In that event, it would be up to each state to find its own way on the When the new poll presented

abortion question.

18%

lowans with three specific circumstances, some of the people who had said they are against all abortions wavered in their opposition. But in each case more Iowans support legal abortion than oppose it: • 85 percent of Iowans say they

When the baby will

likely be born with

handicaps?

2%

favor legal abortions when a pregnancy threatens a woman's life. Ten percent of Iowans are opposed in that event and 5 percent are unsure.

• 81 percent favor legal abortions when a pregnancy is the result of rape or incest; 16 percent are opposed and 3 percent are uncertain.

• 50 percent of Iowans favor legal abortions when a baby is likely to be born with physical or mental handicaps. In that event, 39 percent of owans are opposed and 11 percent are not sure.

Since 1973, 25 million abortions have been performed in the United States. According to one study, about 7 percent of the 1.5 million abortions performed annually involve rape, incest, a threat to the mother's health or the likelihood of deformity in the

The sheer number of abortions

IOWA POLL Please turn to Page 2A

### How gambling for charity led to higher stakes, fraud

By LARRY FRUHLING

FARGO, N.D. - The blackjack and poor. What's more, the games are dealer at O'Kelly's tavern works for the Fargo Youth Commission. Every time a player goes bust, his bad luck helps send children from poor families to summer camp.

At the Frontier Lounge, the losers at blackjack are doing their part to finance the Multiple Sclerosis Society's programs. The players cursing their luck at other gaming tables around Fargo are chipping in to beam "Sesame Street" to children in isolated prairie towns and helping to build softball diamonds and buy fire trucks.

If all of that sounds kind of weird, well, it is.

As practiced in North Dakota, gambling - "charitable gaming" is the euphemism — still has an appealmotherhood-and-apple-pie aspect. Proceeds from gambling enhance culture, support the local police and tend the needs of the sick

helping erase the state's Siberian image and bringing in tourist money.

But eight years after the start of casino gambling, the age of innocence is quickly coming to an end. Some of the games have been marked by fraud and cheating, charitable groups have begun feuding over the spoils and a growing number of compulsive gamblers is being sucked into financial ruin.

Officials of one statewide debtcounseling service say that at least 10 percent of its 1,000 clients got into trouble because of gambling.

Most striking of all is the way that the legal stakes have been raised and new games have been added to maintain gambling's appeal.

"Every time the interest tapers off, the argument is that we should in-

> GAMBLING Please turn to Page 6A



### Farmers keeping an eye on the sky

It's time.

Farmers across the state are gearing up again for the annual rite of spring, fine-tuning planters and getting ready to plant millions of acres of

They're also keeping one eye on the sky; despite last week's rain, much of Iowa is still parched.

The outlook isn't very promising. An unusual weather pattern has moved in, bringing weather that looks disturbingly like last summer's. Called a "persistent Pacific anomaly," the pattern brings dry air from the Northwest, instead of the usual wet springtime flow from the Gulf of Mexico. It could last up to two months.

Worries about the weather have farmers making contingency plans, looking for ways to protect themselves from the possibility of a repeat

of the Drought of '88. In Kansas, meanwhile, farmers also are hoping for rain, but it's too late to save much of what would normally be the nation's biggest wheat

Last year's drought, winter kill and a March wind storm have combined to produce the worst crop in more than 30 years. Stories: Page 1J.

### The good earth is battleground on lowa's future

By JONATHAN ROOS and THOMAS A. FOGARTY Register Staff Writers

Paul Johnson, a Decorah farmer and legislator, is no modern-day prophet. But he does have a vision, a lofty vision of Iowa someday replenishing its natural resources and ridding its soil and water of the stain of pollution.

"We'll have better fishing in streams and lakes. We'll have a more diverse wildlife population. We'll have more shelter belts and wind-

"We'll have a more diverse landscape than corn, soybeans and bare ground. Farmsteads will look more

prosperous. "Farmers will rely less on farm chemicals and do a better job with fertilizers. And the corn will look just as green and tall as it ever did.

"I don't mean this to sound like paradise, but we'll make that change."

### No Guarantees

By seeking passage of a sweeping set of state laws, Johnson and other lawmakers are trying to bring about an environmental revolution that promises to change the way Iowans farm the land, dispose of garbage and use energy.

Like any revolution, this one has no

LEGISLATURE

Please turn to Page 11A

First semester 1984-85

Psychology of women's & men's roles. B

Aging and society..... C

Advanced bowling..... C

### Tougher academic standards sparked by current progress

#### ATHLETES

Continued from Page One

completed by the time the student began the fourth year of athletic eligibility. Most students complete that requirement no later than their sophomore year.

Instead, the athlete filled most of the academic plate with elective courses, including 22 physical education and exercise science credits -18 more than the general education requirement of four physical education skill courses.

Though the student had obtained 86 total credits - 70 credited toward graduation — and a 2.1 grade-point average (slightly above a "C"), the athlete's record appears to be substantially deficient when held up against current U of I progress guidelines for athletes.

That student's transcript - and some others similar to it - are the reason for the reforms ordered into effect by Rawlings last week.

But the U of I president did not place the blame solely at the feet of the athletes.

#### "Not Paying Close Attention"

"It's pretty clear that some mistakes were made," he said. "There were some cases where faculty members were not paying close attention where good judgment wasn't made. We have to put oversight into place to look at each student individually as a person and not just as an athlete."

The most recent guidelines were released in February by the Academic Achievement Advisory Committee of the university's Board in Control of Athletics. Among other things, those guidelines say athletes should average completion of two general-education requirement courses and a total of 14 credits each semester.

In the committee's recommendations last week, that guideline now will become a requirement. The committee said a student still would be

permitted to drop to 12 credits in any semester but would be required to make up that work during summer

In addition, the guidelines recommend that athletes begin to work on the foreign-language requirement no later than the second semester of the sophomore year. They suggest completion of all math and quantitativereasoning requirements before the end of a student's second year.

Such an average workload would permit graduation with 124 credits in 4½ to five years.

Vernon and other university officials described the school's system of overseeing the academic work of athletes as sound and successful.

As evidence, they point to an overall graduation rate among studentathletes that is higher than the overall student body. In reports filed with the NCAA, Iowa has reported overall athletic graduation of student athletes of about 60 percent.

#### "Some Slip-Ups"

Vernon, whose investigating committee reviewed more than 600 transcripts, said problems were found, but only in rare instances.

"There were some slip-ups. I saw some transcripts I didn't like," Vernon said. "Some did slip through."

Vernon said the steps recommended Tuesday by the committee and put into effect by Rawlings would give faculty members and academic advisers additional tools to make it more difficult for athletes to "slip through the cracks."

Vernon also said athletes should not all be judged on the basis of obtaining a degree in four or five years. Like other students, he said, some athletes have learning disabilities or need substantial remedial work because of poor elementary and high school educations.

"Our system is geared to help student-athletes to earn a degree, and we have had great success in many, many cases," Vernon said. "What we are trying to avoid is any more slip-

At the same time, Vernon warned that even with the new steps taken by U of I officials, a 100 percent graduation rate cannot be guaranteed.

#### Student Responsible

"We can give all the advice possible, but we all must face the fact that the student is responsible for himself or herself," Vernon said. "If you think we can control it absolutely, you are

He said the school's latest action to bolster monitoring of athletes' class work should be seen as relatively modest changes.

Vernon also defended the school's policies dealing with admission of athletes under the school's special ad-

mission authority. During the past four years, the school has admitted more than 1,000 students who did not meet the school's regular admission standards. Of those students, Vernon said, 58 were athletes with either substandard scores on college entrance exams or low grades. The school's graduation rate reports of the past three years shows the school has admitted 22 football and men's basketball players under the school's special authority policy.

Vernon defended the practice by suggesting that some students' admission should not be judged solely by test scores or even grade-point aver-

"Again, we believe the question is background," Vernon said. "We have had good success with many, many students who have not scored well on tests or haven't done very well in high school."

Rawlings said he also supports the continuation of special admission authority because, "quite simply, we have to take the risks" even if it means allowing students into school when they rank in the bottom 20 percent of their class and have substandard test scores.

### DEVON MITCHELL

### **College of Liberal Arts**

First semester 1981-82		
Intercollegiate athletics, football		
Rhetoric (remedial writing)	C	
Ancient athletics		
Rhetoric (remedial reading)	B	- 13
Coaching basketball		
Karate	S	
Billiards		
Bowling	S	
Vocational education choices	S	
Hours 9, GPA 2.22		
Second semester 1981-82		
Special conditioning, football		
Rhetoric (general requirement)		
Basic math techniques		
Intro to human geography	F	
Tennis		
Problems in human history	W	
Jogging	. W	
Hours 8, GPA 1.88		100
Summer session 1982		100
Fundamentals of military	A	1
First semester 1982-83		
Intercollegiate athletics, football		1
Rhetoric (general requirement)		F
History of black music		S
Problems in human history		Ir
Earth history and resources		T
Racquetball	F	Ir
Hours 15, GPA 1.00		A
Second semester 1982-83		P
Judo		C
Football conditioning		J
Interpretation of literature		+
Teaching of gym		S
Teaching motor skills		S
Intro to sociology principles		1
Intro to broadcast and film	D	1
Hours 16, GPA 2.00		li
Summer session 1983		(
	-	

Devon Mitchell

#### Failed several classes irst semester 1983-84 Social work and racism...

Intercollegiate athletics, football
Tai Ji Quan
Intro to communication skills
American lives
Parent-child relations (114)
Communication skills
Juvenile delinquency
Hours 12, GPA 2.42
Second semester 1983-84
Special conditioning, football
Methods and materials for teachers
Issues in recreation and leisure
Intro to human geography
Coaching football
Colonial Africa

Advanced bowling..... W

Hours 16, GPA 1.94

History of sports..... D Intercollegiate athletics, football...... A Earth history and resources..... W Hours 12, GPA 2.33 Second semester 1984-85 Special conditioning, football.. Coaching baseball...... C The American family...... D Marriage & family interaction..... Speeded reading..... F Weight training..... S Practical college vocabulary..... S Individual study..... W Literature for children..... W Hours 12, GPA 1.50 Summer session 1985 Skills, phys ed III..... B Hours 4, GPA 3.00 First semester 1985-86 Coaching track and field...... C Intro to military..... C Administration of phys ed...... D Municipal government & politics...... F Intercollegiate athletics, football... Parent-child relations (115)..... W Hours 11, GPA 1.82

Second semester 1985-86 (Grades restricted; final delinquent)

First aid and CPR..... Marriage & family interaction..... W Administration of athletics..... W American Revolution, 1740-1789..... W The American family..... W (On academic probation June/86) S = satisfactory

(On academic probation May/85)

I = incomplete W = withdrew

Hours 13, GPA 1.69

Summer session 1985

### Callege of Liberal Arte

Advanced slow pitch softball (021)..... S

Intro to human geography...... W

Advanced slow pitch softball (001)..... W

	College of Liberal Arts	
	First semester 1982-83	
	Teaching of gym B	
	Rhetoric (remedial reading) B	
	Rhetoric (remedial writing)	
	Officiating athletics C	
	Intro to human geography	
	Coaching basketball B	
	Soccer S	
	Bowling S	- 13
	Hours 14, GPA 2.43	
	Second semester 1982-83	
	Coaching football B	
	Rhetoric (general requirement) C	
	Basic math techniques D	
	Intro to sociology principles D	
	Billiards S	
	Hours 13, GPA 1.62	
	Summer session 1983	
	Fundamentals of military B	
	Hours 4, GPA 3.00	
	First semester 1983-84	-
	Intercollegiate athletics, football A	H
	Rhetoric (general requirement) C	l
	American issues C	u
	Math techniques C	T
	Survey of computing D	
	Hours 14, GPA 1.93	1
	Second semester 1983-84	
	Special conditioning, football A	П
	Interpretation of literature	
	Western civilization since 1792 C	П
	American values C	П
	Human biology D	
EN	Hours 14, GPA 1.86	
	First semester 1984-85	
-	Psychology of women's & men's roles. A	
	Children & youth in America C	
	Problems in human history C	
	American lives	
	American film, 1927-60 F	
-	Hours 15, GPA 1.80	

Second semester, 1984-85

Family and sex roles...

Sex roles and communication...

Special conditioning, football...... A

Persuasion in society.....

THE MILLENIUM

And you. Have you been informed?

With all the preachers and prophets

or are you still in the dark?

MY FRIENDS IN JESUS WAKE UP.

P.O. Box 1902 Fremont, CA 94538-0190

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Sioux Falls, SD 57116

Waterice, IA 50702

Des Moines, IA 5G320

Watercolor painting...... D Elementary Spanish II..... W Hours 3, GPA 1.00 (On academic probation Aug/85) First semester 1985-86 The composer-improvisor in you... Business & professional speaking...... B Interpersonal communication...... C Mass communication, advertising..... W Mass media & mass society...... W Hours 13, GPA 2.46 (On academic probation Jan/86) Second semester 1985-86 Social work and racism..... B Administrative office systems...... W Administration of athletics..... W Learning & motivation of children..... W Hours 2, GPA 3.00 (In good standing May/86)

### 2 stars fell shy of requirements

By TOM WITOSKY and JOHN CARLSON Register Staff Writers

Mitchell left the University of Iowa eligibility and received substantial for the National Football League, amounts of money from them. their grades were below a "C" average and neither was close to earning a degree.

The former Hawkeye stars' academic performance, which was questioned during the federal extortion, racketeering and fraud trials of sports agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom, was a source of discomfort for U of I officials, who launched an investigation of the school's supervision of athletes' classwork.

Harmon's and Mitchell's complete college transcripts were submitted into evidence last week by defense attorneys at the conclusion of testimony in the Chicago trial. A review of the transcripts shows that the athletes were substantially shy of the academic credits needed to graduate when they left after playing in the 1986 Rose Bowl.

The transcripts show that while Harmon and Mitchell had amassed nearly 100 college credits each, they fell substantially short of the number of class credits required both in upper-level courses and in general education courses.

A review of Mitchell's transcript shows that during his five years at the U of I, he failed to meet course requirements in five of nine general education categories. Mitchell also failed to get any credit in three required categories.

In all, Mitchell, now a defensive back for the Detroit Lions, appears to need up to 20 credits to satisfy his general education requirements and 12 credits in upper-level classes.

Harmon's transcript shows slightly better grade performance than Mitchell's. But the Buffalo Bills running back is up to 28 credits short in upper-level courses and 14 credits short in general education credits.

Harmon and Mitchell testified for the prosecution against Walters and Bloom. They were granted immunity from prosecution as part of an agreement with the government.

The athletes said they had signed agreements to be represented by the

### ISU officials ponder athletes' academic rules

Iowa State University officials met Saturday to discuss formulation of a committee to review academic requirements for ISU athletes, Provost Milton Glick said.

Glick said he met with Athletic Director Max Urick, Executive Vice President Charles McCandless and their staffs to draft recommendations for ensuring that athletes meet university standards. Those recommendations will be presented to ISU President Gordon Eaton on Monday.

The move comes on the heels of a March 30 incident that led to armed robbery charges against ISU basketball player Sam Mack and football player Levin White. Both men were shot and wounded by Ames police when they attempted to flee a Burger King restaurant. They are being held in the Story County jail on \$128,750 bond each.

Glick said Saturday's session was designed to brainstorm ideas for keeping track of athletes' academic progress.

When Ronnie Harmon and Devon agents before the end of their athletic Among the prosecutors' allegations is the assertion that the agents defrauded universities by giving money to athletes who also were receiving scholarships.

> Under cross-examination, Harmon's and Mitchell's academic transcripts were attacked by defense lawyer Dan Webb, who raised questions about each player's academic eligi-

Among other things, Harmon and Mitchell admitted they had relatively poor records, with an overall gradepoint averages below 2.0 - a "C" average - when they left school. They took an assortment of classes, including watercolor painting, judo and slow-pitch softball. They also received credit toward graduation for being on the football team.

The defense meant to show that

Walters' and Bloom's actions, which put the athletes in violation of National Collegiate Athletic Association rules, were no worse than those of the athletes and the university.

Stung by the transcripts, Assistant U.S. Attorney Howard Pearl told federal jurors last week not to be critical of Harmon's academic record.

"Maybe for Ronnie Harmon going to college at all and taking those courses was in itself an accomplishment," Pearl told the jury in his final argument.

Such a suggestion makes U of I officials bristle. They contend Harmon, like all other athletes recruited to attend school and play at the U of I, was expected to work toward a de-

"No one is admitted to this school with the expectation that he or she will not graduate here, and that includes athletes," said David Vernon, acting vice president for academic affairs at the university.

### Ronnie Harmon Up to 28 credits short distory of broadcasting...... D S = satisfactory heory & practice of argument...... W W = withdrew

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