# Fry: 'By time it's over you'll have some good copy'

n April Fool's Day in 1987, University of Iowa football coach Hayden Fry hosted the annual spring media gathering at the Ironmen Inn in Iowa City.

But it was not one of his usual sessions, and the dominant topic of discussion was no joking matter.

Fry was grilled by reporters about revelations that two of his former players, running back Ronnie Harmon and defensive back Devon Mitchell, had accepted payments from a New York City agent while they were still eligible at Iowa. A three-member university committee was in the midst of investigating the case.



DUKES

Gazette sports editor

In words that now seem extraordinarly prophetic, Fry said he expected the sports agents issue to become an intriguing national story.

"Nationwide, this thing's being investigated," he told a few reporters after the 1987 media conference. "I can't think of an organization that isn't looking into it.

"The whole smear of agents and wheeling and dealing . . . by the time the smoke clears, I think it'll be unbelievable. By the time the whole thing's over, it'll give you some good

Certainly the reality is even greater than Fry's estimation, and the stories have hit closer to home than Fry or any other U of I athletic official would have

wanted. Testimony at the fraud trial of agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom by Harmon and Mitchell triggered a series of events, among them a five-week study by The Gazette of U of I athletes, academics and other issues. The first of a six-day series begins

today (see pages 1A, 12A and 13A). Work on the series began in late March, before U of I President Hunter Rawlings ordered an in-house investi-

gation into athletics and adademics, and before he declared he wanted to make freshmen ineligible. Those two developments set off a firestorm of debate, from the offices of Fry and his coaching colleagues to the coffee shops of many Iowa cities and towns.

Hayden Fry

Unfortunately for the Iowa athletic department, the issue still is getting ink, and some of it paints a perception that Fry and others don't care about academics.

For example, the April 24 issue of Sports Illustrated included a piece in the "Scorecard" section on the sports agents trial and the "controversy" at Iowa. A color action photograph of Harmon appeared in the center of the layout. The piece, edited by Steve Wulf, concluded with this editorial statement: "We suggest that if Fry thinks a college coach's only job is to coach, then he should go someplace where he wouldn't have to worry that his players get an education. Say, the NFL."

Fry must have fumed when he read that, and you can't blame him. From what we've gathered about Fry's attitudes toward academics, the man's position has been misrepresent-

Results of this study suggest pretty strongly there is hardly a scandal in the athletic department over academics. Evidence and interviews indicated the athletic department should get passing grades. Even the university's own committee gave the athletic people an "A-minus."

One can recount the smattering of recent problems that have faced the athletic department: Arrests of football players Keaton Smiley and Dwight Sistrunk; the arrest and suspension from the team of Joe Mott, an NFL draft pick last Sunday; the reported confrontation outside an Iowa City bar between Iowa basketball players and wrestlers; rumors that football players Paul Glonek and Nick Bell squared off, and three Hawkeye basketball players spending time at drug treatment centers.

But it has been a smattering of incidents, and none apparently related to academics or freshman eligibility.

Yet Rawlings has acted and reacted as if the university athletic department needed an overhaul. Women's basketball coach C. Vivian Stringer is steamed about the reaction she has heard from regruits, and wrestling coach Dan Gable said the president's statements may have hurt the recruitment of a Pennsylvania wrestler, Adam Mariano. You have to wonder what effect it all had on Deon Thomas, Illinois' "Mr. Basketball" who considered attending Iowa but reportedly has signed with the Illini.

If there's a scandal at the U of I, it's with non-athletes. Each year in the 1980s, the graduation rate of athletes has been higher than that of non-athletes. Of 4,092 students who enrolled in 1983, only 49.4 percent of them graduated.

Not even half of the student body graduates at Iowa! What is Mr. Rawlings going to do about that?

# Reds forced to win on the road

By Mike Koolbeck Gazette sportswriter

A baseball maxim says teams win pennants by winning their home games and breaking even on the road.

But for the Cedar Rapids Reds, who have only four home games between now and May 25, winning on the road has become a necessity — just 17 games into the season.

The Reds can thank the Peoria Chiefs and Springfield Cardinals, both of which have gotten off to blazing starts, for their predica-

Peoria held a 11/2-game lead over Springfield after nipping Cedar Rapids 2-1 Friday night at Meinen Field, with the Reds 21/2 games back.

Peoria, affiliated with the Chicago Cubs, improved to 16-6 with the win. The Chiefs were 5-1 at home before Saturday's home game with the Reds.

Furthermore, of Peoria's 48 remaining firsthalf games, 32 are at home.

Springfield notched its ninth win in its last 10 games with its 7-4 home win over Waterloo Friday. The Cardinals (14-7) are 8-2 on the

Springfield had a road date at Madison postponed to the second half by rain and possibly will play at least one fewer first-half game than Peoria. Of the Cardinals' 48 remaining games (before Saturday), 25 are at

Cedar Rapids, on the other hand, already has lost two home dates when last weekend's rain washed out its Sunday twin-bill with South Bend. The White Sox do not return to Memorial Stadium this season, so the games will be made up when the Reds visit South Bend in July and will count in the second-half standings.

Cedar Rapids, which has three games to

MINOR LEAGUE NOTES

make up with Waterloo, is on the road for 30 of its remaining 51 first-half games. The Reds had a 4-3 road record after Friday's loss.

### Missing infielder

Further complicating the Reds' predicament is their loss of third baseman Kennedy Infante, who had to return to his native Venezuela Tuesday to renew his visa.

According to Reds Manager Dave Miley, Infante had a return ticket for Thursday. He had not made it back as of Friday.

Infante, the Reds' clean-up hitter, was batting .224 when he departed and had driven in eight runs.

## Midwest musings

Another team off to a fast start is South Bend, which is threatening to run away with the Northern Division's first-half title. The White Sox had won eight straight, before Saturday's home game with Appleton, and opened a 21/2-game lead over second-place

Waterloo's Friday loss to Springfield was its eighth in a row. The Diamonds (6-13) are 4-8 in one-run games . . . Former Cedar Rapids Astros shortstop Alex Taveras is finding the going tough in his first year as manager at Beloit. The Brewers (5-12) had dropped eight of their last 10 games, before Saturday's contest at Burlington, and are 2-10 at home.

Cedar Rapids first baseman Adam Casillas was the Midwest League's top hitter in the most recently released statistics with a .404 average. Casillas, a left-handed swinger whom the Reds purchased from the independent Salt Lake Trappers following the 1987 season, was

hitting .379 before Saturday's game at Peoria and led the team in runs scored with 16.

Cedar Rapids' .257 team batting average ranks second in the league and the Reds' 3.04 ERA is third-best in the loop.

#### Around the horn

Former Cedar Rapids Reds hurler Scott Scudder is scheduled to pitch for Cincinnati when the Reds play at Montreal Tuesday, according to a report in Thursday's USA Today. Scudder is off to a 1-1 start with the Reds' Triple-A Nashville club and has a 2.05 ERA. He was one of the final pitchers cut from the Reds' roster at the end of spring training.

Nashville catcher Joe Oliver (C.R. 1984) was among the American Association's leading hitters in this week's report with a .345 average. Other former Ceder Rapids Reds at Nashville and their stats - Marty Brown ('86), .239; Keith Lockhart ('86-87), .207; Keith Brown ('87), 1-2, 5.51 ERA.

Through Friday's games, Cincinnati's Double-A Chattanooga club stood at 6-16 and was in last place in the Southern League's Western Division, 11 games behind Birmingham (White Sox). Former Cedar Rapids Reds and their stats — Reggie Jefferson ('87-88), .253; Bernie Walker ('87), .246; Steve Davis ('88), .185; Freddie Benavides ('87-88), .174; Greg Lonigro ('87-88), .151; Butch Henry ('88), 1-2, 2.11 ERA; Joe Lazor ('87), 1-3, 2.42; Darrell Rodgers ('88), 0-1, 4.34; Ron Mullins ('87), 0-2, 4.43. Lazor is among the league leaders with 28 strikeouts and Joe Bruno ('86-87) had three

Former Cedar Rapids Red Eddie Rush is hitting .273 for Manager Gary Denbo's Greensboro club in the South Atlantic League. Through Friday, the Hornets (13-9) were in second place in the Northern Division, two games behind Gastonia (Rangers).

## Preps: Kennedy girls get 2nd

From page 1B

"I'm inexperienced (in the 3,-200) but I knew if I went out too hard, I'd die. I went out conservatively and felt pretty good after a mile, so I made my move."

Elliott's clocking in the 3,200 was a personal best, as was his 4:18.25 in the 1,600, a time that translated into nearly a threesecond win in that event.

"I knew I probably wouldn't be challenged so much in the mile, so I was looking more for a time," he admitted. "I was going for the record. It probably would have helped if I had been pushed a little more."

He never really approached a record pace in the 1,600, ultimately falling seconds short of the mark of 4:11.57 set by Pekin's girls. Steve Greiner in 1979.

Among those trying to push

Elliott were Cascade's Andy Kauder, fifth in the 3,200 (9:37.94) and sixth in the 1,600 (4:25.69). Kauder's Cascade teammate, Joe Trumm, ran fifth in the 1,600 with a 4:24.88.

The second- and fourth-place finishes by the Kennedy and Jefferson girls in the 400-meter relay put a little bit of a polished glow on an otherwise uneventful weekend for Gazette area female prep athletes.

Those performances and City High's fifth-place finish in the 1,600-meter relay and eighthplace showing in the 400 relay Saturday were the weekend's only top-eight finishes for the area's

"No!," Sandra Hayes, Tammy Russell, Shelley Sheetz and Tracy

Kness — the four girls who comprise the Cougar 400-meter relay team — all shouted in unison when asked if they expected to run as well as they did Saturday.

They were also all in agreement the cool weather made conditions just about right for running.

Kennedy crossed the line in 50.62, 54-hundredths behind champion Ames and only 13hundredths ahead of third-place Waterloo West.

The Jefferson team of Nicki Jacobsen, Jill Clarke, Alishia Williams and Heidi Butz came across in 50.76, just one-hundredth behind West.

In finishing third in the discus, Joens recorded a career-best toss of 161 feet, bettering his previous

top throw by a foot. Atlantic's Jon Pelzer won the event with a throw of 175-4, and Bill Hallock of Council Bluffs Lewis Central was second with a 169-8 toss.

Monaghan threw 156-7 for fifth, and O'Donnell went 151-7 to take sixth place for the second year in

Ruel Kirstein of Lincoln Community, Friday's shot put champion, recorded a throw of 141-8, good for 13th place.

Also Saturday, the boys' 1,600meter relay team of Matt Meier, Al Whiteside, Maurice Arrington and Dave Meier ran fourth in 3:26.48, and Jefferson's Mike Stucker returned from a leg injury that has sidelined him most of the season to finish sixth in the long jump with a leap of 20-91/2.

## Drake: Little wins 2 races

From page 1B

could have run a 1:44 here."

Cason, who has been on a liquid diet since breaking his jaw a month ago, started quickly and stayed in front all the way to win the university-college 100 in a

hand-timed 10.1 seconds. That's the fastest ever at the Drake Relays, although meet statistician Mike Henderson decided to leave Calvin Smith's :10.11 in the record books as the best automatic time.

Smith set his mark while running for Alabama in 1983. Cason's race was hand-timed because the

electronic timing device failed. "I was unhappy with the starting blocks today," Cason said. "They didn't have any adjustable pressure plates on them. I just tried to get out as quick as I could."

Cason's jaw has been wired shut since it was broken when he

From page 1B

been unable to eat solid food for 4½ weeks.

But it hasn't affected his run-

ning because he also carried on

the third leg of A&M's winning 400 relay team Saturday. "It was a little squabble I tried to break up," he said. "I just

caught a right hook, that's all." North Dakota's Norm McGee, the NCAA Division II champion, was second in the 100 in 10.4 seconds and Cary Chandler of Ball

State was third, also in :10.4. Stanley, the NCAA indoor champion in the hurdles this year, knocked almost two-tenths of a second off the record in the 100 hurdles with her time of :13.05. She ran: 12.95 in Friday's preliminaries, but that couldn't go down as a record because the wind at

Little, who was third in the 200 at the World Indoor Champion-

her back was too strong.

competition the way it was, I tried to stop a fight, and he has ships in Budapest, Hungary last month, easily outran his three opponents to win before the home crowd in 20.59 seconds. The junior from nearby Ankeny then came back to win the 400 in 46.75 seconds, holding a challenge in the stretch by Grambling's Keith Mouton.

> His victories were the first at the Drake Relays by a Drake athlete since 1981, when the Bulldogs won four events at the

"Since it was so cold, I took about an extra half-hour to warm up," Little said. "My legs were feeling good, but before the race I was mentally prepared and I think that's what helped me the most."

Texas A&M won the university 400 relay in a swift 39.67 seconds as Cason gave anchor Howard Davis a 5-meter lead.

Record From page 1B the team together.

"We worked on our passes and speed took care of itself," Humphrey said. "They've got built-in speed,"

Boehm said. "We'll work more on our passes and come out even faster at state." At the state track meet May 26-

27 at Drake Stadium, the team will be going after the state record of :42.2 set by Des Moines Tech in 1975, Boehm said. "I feel like I can go a whole lot

faster," Booker said.

"Right now, the way I'm running, I feel we could run a 41."

Friday, the same East relay team broke a Des Moines North record set in 1948, running a 1:27.98 in the 800 relay. Des Moines North's "Flying Four," considered legends in Iowa track, had held the record of 1:28.2 for 41 years.

# Select squad romps in AAU tourney game

Juniors lead state's elite in 137-73 stroll

DES MOINES — Juniors Mike Davis of Waterloo East and Brian Williams of Keokuk combined for 44 points in leading the lowa Amateur Athletic Union Select squad to a 137-73 rout of Garber-Birkey Implement in a regional AAU 19-year-under boys' basketball tournament Saturday at East High School.

The Iowa Select squad, featuring 10 of the top junior and senior players in the state, will face the Soviet Junior National squad May 9 at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines.

THE FINAL WARMUP for the Iowans will be against a talented squad of Wisconsin prep all-stars next Saturday at 7 p.m. at Mount Mercy College's Hennessey Recre-

ation Center in Cedar Rapids. Williams, a 6-foot-1 point

19. Mike Bergman of Waverly-Shell Rock added 17, Cedar Rapids Jefferson's Cam Johnson and Maurice-Orange City's Joel Bomgaars 14 apiece. Jon Dietz of Davenport West and Chris Street of Indianola had 13 apiece; and Shane Murphy of Harlan chipped

Garber-Birkey's Steve Eddie, the state's top scorer last season for Albert City-Truesdale, had 19 points. Teammate Mark Stafford of Pomeroy added 11.

The Select squad raced to a 12-0 start, built a 64-28 halftime bulge, and coasted from there.

The regional tournament was intended to be a four-team event, but entries from Omaha, Neb., and Northwest Iowa canceled Saturday morning.

THE SELECT TEAM would be the automatic national 19-under qualifier, but will tour the Soviet Union from July 5-19.

Garber-Birkey - composed of players from the Pomeroy area in the northwestern section fo the state - is eligible to play in the guard, led all scorers with 25 nationals in Jacksonville, Fla, July points, while the 6-31/2 Davis had 10-14.

State: lowa, ISU win titles McGee, the NCAA Division II champion in the 100, ran his 400

in 3:15.22. "I was hoping to hold on," said Abel, who ran his leg in :48.6. "Yesterday, I knew McGee didn't run his best and I knew we had to get out early if we wanted to hold

leg in 47.4 seconds, but couldn't

catch Abel. North Dakota finished

him off. "All year we've usually been beating people by 30 or 40 meters, but we knew today would be tough."

Two other Iowa schools won college division relays.

The Grand View foursome of Ben Alderton, Charles Taylor, Todd Patterson and Obinna Eregbu won the college 400 relay in 41.51 seconds and Eregbu was fourth in the university-college

Alderton, Taylor and Patterson teamed with Raun Taylor to finish fifth in the 1,600 relay.

Loras won the college sprint medley relay, running 3:25.31 with a team of Kevin Shetler, Tim Keane, Barry Harris and John Ondande. Morningside was disqualified in that race. Grand View ran but didn't finish.

Drake got a second-place finish from Alicia Mundahl in the 5,000. Her time of 16:20.74 qualified her for the NCAA meet in June.

The Iowa State men finished second in two relays after winning the 6,400 relay Friday. Defending champion Arizona beat Iowa State

in the distance medley as John Quade overtook the Cyclones' John Nuttall in the final turn after running just behind Nuttall for most of the 1,600-meter leg. Roland Pauwels opened for

Iowa State on the 1,200-meter leg and was followed by Frankie Atwater in the 400 and Brett Carney in the 800. The Cyclones finished in 9:38.29, nine-tenths of a second behind Arizona.

Atwater anchored Iowa State to a second-place finish behind Baylor in the 1,600 relay. His 45.4second carry was a tenth of a second faster than Baylor star Michael Johnson, but Johnson had a big lead when he got the baton and coasted to the finish.



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