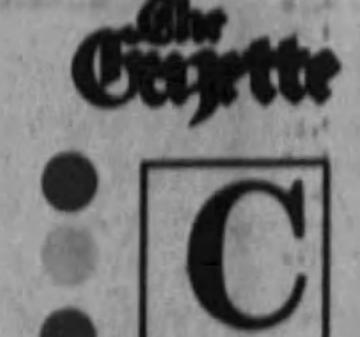
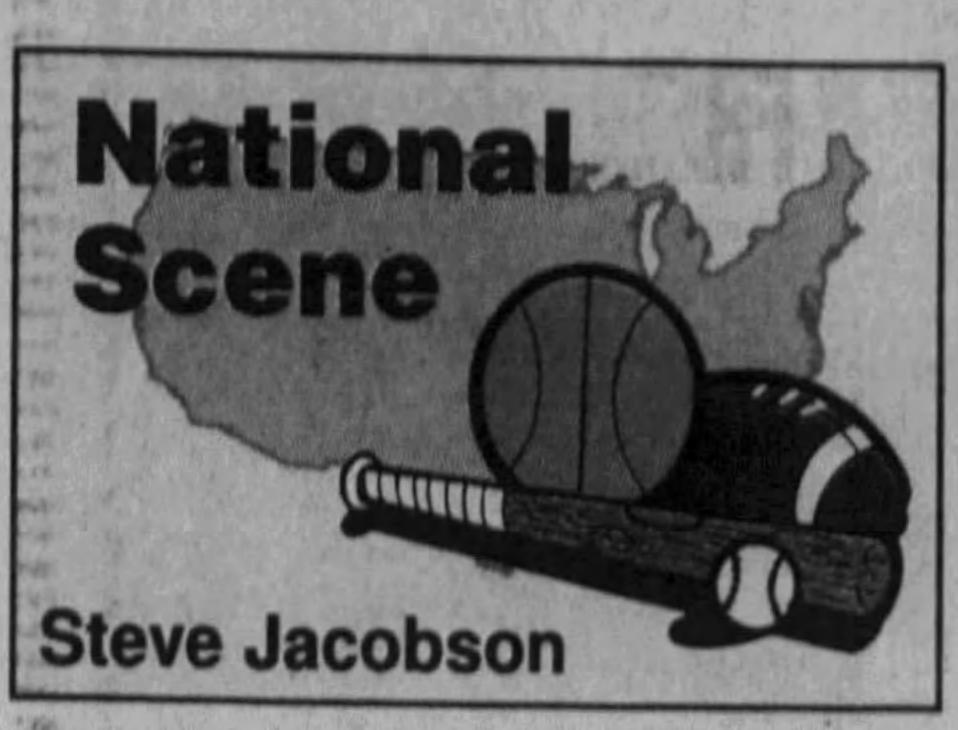
Weather, 8C





### Mets save pride by firing Coleman

EW YORK — It won't save the worst season they could imagine, but it may salvage a little bit of pride. Since Vince Coleman wouldn't or couldn't play and live by reasonable standards — as loose as they are for celebrities and baseball players — he is

He has been held accountable for his

action. Those people who wanted Coleman gone in the worst way got their fondest wish.

"I can tell you, he will not play here again — as a Met," owner Fred Wilpon

said Thursday.

Wilpon fired Coleman. There should be some satisfaction in that. It says that even an athlete with a salary of \$4 million a year isn't beyond the reach of civilization. Perhaps Coleman should have learned that 20 years ago and he is a victim of a system that often tells athletes they can make their own rules. But this is a statement of its

There would be more satisfaction for some people if they knew Coleman wouldn't be paid all that money for the balance of this season and next season. But the disposition of Coleman's contract is involved in the criminal hearing on the firecracker incident due Oct. 8 in Los Angeles, and the agonizing processes of baseball arbitration.

Wilpon has made his statement even if it will cost the Mets a lot of money. Players play for money, but there is a strong action here. It's an insult -- direct and deliberate. Wilpon said it was in the "best interest of the Mets and Vince Coleman that he never wear the Mets uniform again. And he will not."

IT WILL BE Coleman's scarlet letter. There will be other employers who will seek what they think Coleman can give them on the field. And Coleman may have learned from the experience. But the statement is there.

It's still a lousy season for the Mets. "We are not only in last place in the standings, we're last in conduct off the field," Wilpon said. It's been such a combination of things that Wilpon felt compelled to go to the clubhouse for the first time in 14 years as owner of the team, to assemble the players and lecture them on their responsibility, not only as baseball players but as people.

He told them of his pride in New York and told them of what they were doing to the city that feeds them. He spoke individually to John Franco and Kevin Baez, who went to the same high school in Brooklyn as Wilpon did. He told them, he said, that he grew up in modest means with good parents, as they did. He told them he applauded their success in this city, but, he said, "you've got to give something back."

They have to give back something more than Coleman's explosive device that injured three people who were being only worshipful fans. They have to give back something more than Bret Saberhagen's watergun spraying bleach.

"I object vehemently," Wilpon said, "when we are considered — out of the City — as animals." Those players who don't want the pleasure of playing in New York, he said, "we'll do whatever the hell we can to get them out."

There are still more players who should go. And players Wilpon would like to move out. "Absolutely," he said.

Coleman was only the greatest offender. He hurt people off the field, and he was charged with a felony. But that was only the incident that forced a decision. There was strong feeling that he should have been gone before this season, but he had this contract.

He was the player Frank Cashen brought in to make up for the loss of Darryl Strawberry. Coleman was to make up with speed what was lost with Strawberry's power. Coleman didn't work out from the beginning. The correct was made they would be better off not trying to make it work any longer.

Steve Jacobson writes for Newsday

## Crowd cues

### ISU return star McMillion listens carefully

By Mike Koolbeck

Gazette sportswriter AMES — The roar of the crowd.

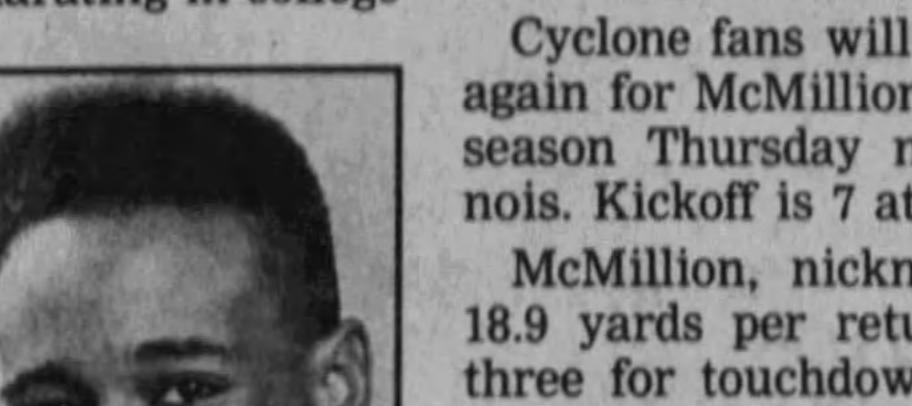
Is there anything more exhilarating in college football?

McMillion James doesn't think so. In fact, McMillion said he uses the roar of the crowd as a barometer in determining whether or not to return a punt.

"I let the crowd, sometimes, dictate whether or not I'm going to call for a fair catch," said Iowa State's McMillion, one of the best punt returners in the nation the last two seasons.

"When they think I'm going to get killed, the crowd will go 'H-h-u-u-h-h,' so I'll call for a fair catch. Usually I'm right," he said. "Then some-

times you can hear them start cheering and you



James McMillion

STATE FOOTBALL

think they can see it start opening up."

Cyclone fans will get a chance to cheer once again for McMillion when Iowa State opens its season Thursday night against Northern Illinois. Kickoff is 7 at Cyclone Stadium.

McMillion, nicknamed "The Eel," averaged 18.9 yards per return last season and return three for touchdowns. He averaged 14.8 yards per return in '91.

Pretty good numbers for a guy who describes himself as having "average speed for an average

"But I think I have more knowledge of what's going on back there and I have better guys blocking for me than other teams do," said McMillion, who sounded more like a weatherman when pressed to explain his success.

"It'll be cloudy for a minute and then I can see everything start to form," he said. "Then I hit my spot and as I get there everything just

■ Please turn to page 3C: McMillion

# KU's Mason likely

Can Jayhawks pass against No. 1 FSU?

RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — When you're No. 1, there's nowhere to go but down.

That's the problem facing top-ranked Florida State as it prepares for its season opener today against Kansas in the Kickoff Classic.

The Seminoles are 26point favorites, and anything less than a decisive victory will be considered a disappointing performance.

The game will be televised at 11 a.m. on ABC (KCRG-TV, Channel 9).

"Kansas has everything

#### KICKOFF CLASSIC

to gain and nothing to lose," Coach Bobby Bowden said. "We have everything to lose and very little to gain."

Bowden knows that preseason hype doesn't always translate into immediate success. In 1988, another No. 1 Florida State team opened with a 31-0 loss to Miami before winning 11 in

"We've learned not to pay attention (to preseason rankings)," Bowden said. "In '88, we believed everything they were saying about us. Then we learned they were lying."

■ Please turn to 3C: Classic

#### Look out, Joe



New England linebacker Vincent Brown closes in on Kansas City quarterback Joe Montana Friday night during an NFL exhibition game in Foxboro, Mass. Montana got the pass away before being hit. The Chiefs topped the Patriots, 27-20. Roundup, page 3C.

## Upset glory may be fleeting memory for I-AA

CEDAR FALLS (AP) — Few thrills are greater than beating someone bigger and more powerful. Division I-AA football coaches fear their days of experiencing that thrill may be numbered.

For years, I-AA schools — those who play the game a notch below the big time - have taken on I-A teams in a perfect symbiotic relationship. The little guys get a fat paycheck; the big guys get a victory. Usually.

Occasionally, the I-AA wins. Northern Iowa whipped Iowa State last year. The Citadel stunned Arkansas and Army. But if proposals to cut I-AA scholarships, perhaps to as few as 45, are approved, few of those schools would be willing to knock heads with the big boys, much less beat

"If we go to 45 scholarships . . . you'll never see a Northern Iowa upset an Iowa

"I don't think we could even fathom playing a Division I team if we had 45 or 50 scholarship players."

Marshall Coach Jim Donnan

State again," Northern Iowa Coach Terry Allen said.

"I don't think we could even fathom playing a Division I team if we had 45 or 50 scholarship players," added Marshall Coach Jim Donnan, whose team is the defending I-AA national champion.

Allen, Donnan and other I-AA coaches are fearful that sharp cuts are coming because the trend already is in place. In

this decade alone, scholarship limits have gone from 70 to 67 to 65 this season. Next year, the number drops to 63.

Now comes gender equity, which is forcing university presidents to look for ways to free up money for women's sports. Reducing football scholarships is one answer.

Two proposals to reduce I-AA scholarships are on the agenda for the NCAA convention in January. One would reduce the number to 45, the other to 55. There are no proposals to reduce I-A scholarships, which will be at 85 next year.

Presidents in a prominent I-AA league — the Big Sky Conference — voted earlier this year to drop to 45 on their own, triggering anxiety among coaches that other leagues would follow. However, the Big Sky presidents rescinded their action this spring.

## May slams

ATLANTA (AP) - Home sweet home it wasn't for the Atlanta Braves.

Braves

Derrick May hit reliever Mike Stanton's first pitch for a seventh-inning grand slam Friday night as the Chicago Cubs stunned Atlanta, 9-7, following the Braves' big three-game sweep at San Francisco.

The Braves entered the game trailing the Giants by 41/2 games in the West and blew an opportunity go gain more

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

ground when the Cubs rallied. The Giants lost, 7-4, to the Marlins.

Atlanta has lost only three of its last 17 games — 11-1 on the road and 3-2 at home — but are 4-6 in their last 10 games at home. The Braves have the best road record in the majors at 44-24, including 20 of their last 22, but are 35-26 at home.

"Maybe we should just play all of them on the road," Atlanta outfielder Otis Nixon said. "It's not that we didn't play well. We just had one bad inning. We knew we needed the game. it was just one we didn't pull off. I don't think it's something that will damage our brains."

The Braves held a 6-4 lead entering the seventh when reliever Mark Wohlers issued a one-out walk to Willie Wilson and a single to Dwight Smith. Ryne Sandberg reached on Fred McGriff's throwing error, Wilson scoring.

Wohlers (5-1) walked Mark Grace intentionally to load the bases, bringing up May and Stanton relieved. May then connected for his 10th homer of the season, first career grand slam and the first for the Cubs this season.

"I WAS GOING for the first pitch all the way," May said. "All I hoped to do was hit a fly ball, but Mike got the fast ball up and in and I'm glad he did."

Stanton said, "With the bases loaded, I just wanted to get the first pitch over. Unfortunately, I gave him a good pitch to hit — belt high and down the middle."

Shawn Boskie (4-3), with three innings of one-run relief, got the victory and Jose Bautista pitched a shaky ninth for his second save.

#### Agent Bloom shot to death

MALIBU, Calif. (AP) — Lloyd Bloom, an ex-sports agent who once was at the center of a major college sports scandal, was found shot to death at a Malibu residence. He was 36.

Bloom was reportedly shot several times and was found by a friend Thursday, said sheriff's spokeswoman Benita Hinojos. No weapon was found, and there was no sign of a robbery or break-in.

Bloom and partner Norby Walters were convicted in 1989 of racketeering and other charges relating to their attempts to sign college football players, including Iowa's Ronnie Harmon, to representation agreements before their eligibility had expired. An appeals court reversed the convictions a year later.

#### TODAY'S TIPOFF

#### TELEVISION

- College Football Florida State vs. Kansas. (Live) 11 a.m. on ABC
- Baseball Boston Red Sox at Kansas City
- Royals. (Live) Noon on CBS Golf - Men's U.S. Amateur Championship,
- Semifinal Round. (Live) 1:30 p.m. on ESPN Amateur baseball — Little League World Series, Title Game. (Live) 2:30 p.m. on ABC

Complete listing in Fine Print

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Makes you afraid to buy Air Nike running shorts, doesn't it?"

- Woody Woodburn of the Ventura (Calif.) Star-Free Press on Quincy Watts' faulty shoe at track and field's World Championships.

#### EVENTS IN THE AREA

Midwest League baseball - Clinton at Kernels, 7 p.m.

Dog racing: At Dubuque Greyhound Park, 1 and 7:30 p.m.

Complete listing in Fine Print

#### INSIDE

- Major league baseball, 2C Golf roundup, 3C
- TRIVIA QUESTION

Between the bullpens in Yankee Stadium are monuments commemorating 19 former Yankees and the visits of two former cardinals. Who are the cardinals?

Answer in Fine Print

#### Hurley lowa's top punter

IOWA CITY — Brion Hurley, a red-shirt freshman walk-on from Iowa City High, is listed as Iowa's No. 1 punter going into the Sept. 4 season opener against Tulsa at Kinnick Stadium.

Iowa's depth chart lists Hurley ahead of freshman Nick Gallery of East Buchanan. Hurley, 6-2 and 175 pounds, was the all-Mississippi Valley Conference kicker in 1991.

Hurley also is listed No. 2 place-kicker behind Todd Romano.

Three other freshmen are on the two-deep. Running back Sedrick Shaw, cornerback Damien Robinson and center Bill Reardon all are on the second team.