



## Marc HANSEN

## Academic story untold

f you think Florida State is embarrassed now, keep your eye on the blush-o-meter should the rest of the story get out.

By the rest of the story, I mean aca-

It might not come to that. And even if the school's laundry is hung out in a court of law, Florida State might prove to be an academic citadel.

Then again, maybe not. Wouldn't it be fun to find out?

For now, the story in Tallahassee is mostly about a feverish money grab that led to NCAA rules violations and dishonor for one of our most esteemed college football programs.

As Sports Illustrated put it in a special report, "Florida State won the 1993 national championship, but because of unsavory agents, rule-breaking players and its own lack of vigilance, it ended up a loser."

The focus could remain on the improper payments. But what if laws were broken? It's a distinct possibility

#### The Florida State scandal could reach all the way to the classroom.

in Florida, where agents can't provide money or gifts to college athletes with eligibility remaining.

What if the case ends up in court? The scandal could reach all the way to the classroom, that's what.

As we lowans can attest, it wouldn't be the first time. Hunter Rawlings and anyone else in Iowa City who lived through the Ronnie Harmon-Norby Walters scandal still feel the pain.

It began as the federal trial of two agents accused of helping a roster of student-athletes defraud their schools. Before you could say Billiards 101, they had placed the University of owa on trial for cranking out eligibility majors like Harmon and Devon Mitchell.

Although Harmon had broken NCAA rules by taking \$54,000, the money was now the secondary story.

Tsk, tsk. That's a shame, but let's get to the juicy stuff. Let's take a look at those disgraceful transcripts. Billiards, bowling, karate, ancient athletics, coaching basketball. All in one semester. Oh, my.

Their testimony supported their transcripts. Mitchell and Harmon had come to college for football. Period. Staying eligible long enough to get a

shot at the pros, that was the goal.

Receiving a degree was not a priority, and Iowa was found to be an acces-

Wait a minute, said the court. Exactly who defrauded whom?

As it turned out, Walters and Bloom were convicted of defrauding certain Big Ten schools, but not Iowa.

Is the same kind of scrutiny in store for Florida State? If so, watch out. Meanwhile, listen to cornerback

Corey Sawyer justify the feeding frenzy at the local Foot Locker. "At Florida State, you work so hard to give to that program and get nothing out of it. The most you get out of it is a trip to the NFL. I felt I was entitled

to the money or clothing. Why couldn't I have it?" He has a point. If Sawyer is helping make Florida State rich, why

shouldn't he get a cut? Beyond his scholarship, that is. But not once did Sawyer mention

that scholarship or the diploma he might have earned.

The most you get out of it is a trip to the NFL? Does that sound like a person who attended college for the right reasons? If so, is he an exception?

I have my doubts. When the studies come first, the lure of the quick buck isn't quite so strong.

Sawyer had a year's eligibility remaining when he decided to take his chances in the NFL draft. Cincinnati selected him in the fourth round, which doesn't bode well for his NFL

But back to the past. Before Robert Waller became a famous novelist, he wrote an essay titled "The Trials of Hunter Rawlings."

When it comes to judging academic integrity in college sports, he said, graduation rates fall short.

want know in what fields of study athletes have graduated," Waller wrote, "what courses they took, who taught the courses, what grades they received, and something about the overall rigor of the classes."

Unfortunately, that kind of information is hard to come by, without a

subpoena.

# Des Momes won't get CBA team

Because a lease couldn't be worked out, the Fargo franchise wasn't sold.

> By SUSAN HARMAN REGISTER STAFF WRITER

The Continental Basketball Association will not be stopping in Des Moines next winter.

"They weren't able to work out the lease necessary in their view to

be successful in Des Moines," CBA Commissioner Mark Lamping said. "And one of the things we are really insisting on with all of our moves is that we need to stop making mistakes by going into markets where our teams don't have a chance to compete."

A group of investors interested in buying the Fargo, N.D., franchise negotiated with Veterans Memorial Auditorium, but on Wednesday the deal fell through.

"They said we were kind of

pushing the envelope, time-wise,' auditorium manager Michael Grimaldi said. "They want to see what happens with the expansion proposal. They said 'We are very interested in the Des Moines market; we think it will be a great CBA market.'"

The negotiations began too late for the team to get the dates it wanted at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

The auditorium also was unable to make the kinds of financial concessions the team needed.

"They said it was just too thin a profit margin to play with," Grimaldi said.

Grimaldi declined to reveal the names of the agents who were negotiating for the investors. He said he did not know if Des Moines-area investors were involved.

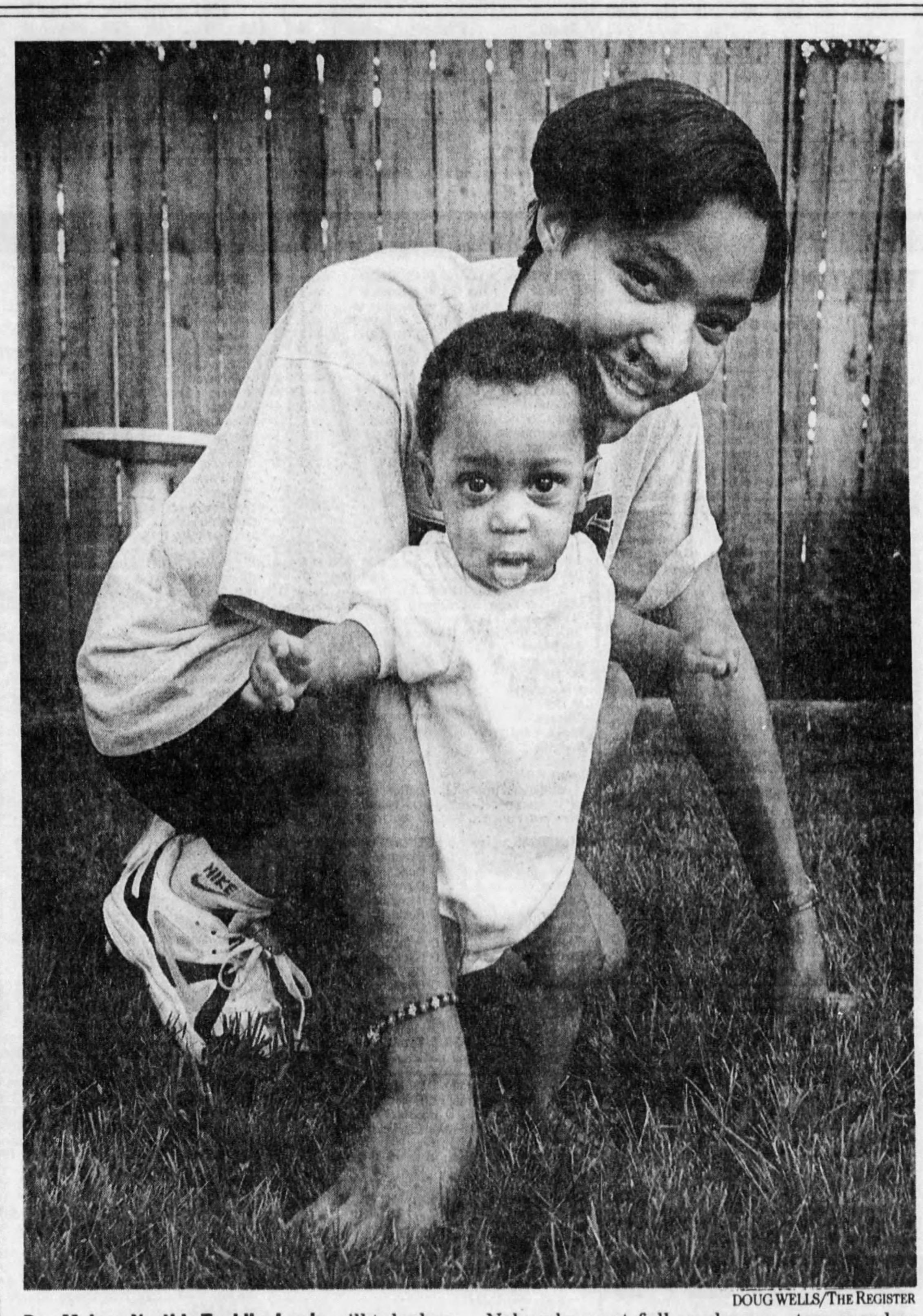
The CBA is a professional league for former NBA players and players who aspire to the NBA.

CBA franchises, including one previously in Cedar Rapids, have moved frequently in recent years.

Lamping said that the league wants to make sure a franchise is financially viable before approving

Neither Lamping nor Grimaldi would rule out Des Moines as a future home for a CBA franchise.

A Des Moines team would have to adjust to having the state high school wrestling meet and basketball tournaments eat up almost three consecutive weeks in March at the auditorium.



Des Moines North's Tashika Lewis will take her family, including 7-month-old brother Trey. track and field talents to the University of

Nebraska next fall so she can stay near her

# Right on track

## D.M. North's Lewis seeking more gold

By NANCY CLARK

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Tashika Lewis held one end of the measuring tape while a teammate stretched it 88 feet 5 inches down the runway and marked the spot.

"You know the orange board is scratch?" a worker at the long jump pit asked, as if Lewis, the best high school girls' long jumper ever in Iowa, wouldn't know.

"I know," Lewis said quietly.

Lewis knows exactly what she is doing. Balls of the feet. Rock back. Balls of the feet. Rock back.

Focus. Right foot first. Fifteen steps.

Good runway speed. Good height. Reach!

The routine is the same every time the Des Moines North senior competes in the long jump.

The result is usually the same, too — first place.

That is where she landed in the state Class 3-A meet last year, setting a record with a 19-foot 3-inch jump, and where she hopes to land in her last state meet, Friday and Saturday at Drake Stadium in Des Moines.

Lewis, a Nebraska recruit who set a state best of 19-4 indoors in March, leads qualifiers in the long jump and in the 200 meters, the only events in which she will compete.

Lewis holds 12 state titles, indoors and outdoors.

She's shooting for two more, then four Big Eight titles, then the 2000 Olympics.

"Watch her hands. You can tell if she going to have a good jump by her hands," Lewis' father, Ray, said while watching her compete at the Central Iowa Metropolitan League American Conference meet. "If her right hand is clenched, something's wrong on the runway."

The fist is clenched.

Scratch.

Ray Lewis, a former football player and pro baseball player in the New York Mets' organization, is his daughter's unofficial coach and biggest fan. He's alongside the long jump runway when she competes, offering encouragement and tips.

"He doesn't know all the technical stuff, but he sees little things I need

LEWIS Please turn to Page 45

#### DIVISION III SOFTBALL

## Central set to defend NCAA title

By JANE BURNS

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Salem, Va. - It's only human nature that makes the top dog a target, but any potential giant killers will have multiple targets at the NCAA Division III championship.

Central begins defense of its national championship today with a 4 p.m. CDT game against Alma of Michigan. Top-ranked Buena Vista plays the winner of that game at noon on Friday.

"Now the freshmen on the team will know what Central is really all about," pitcher Emily Grimes said. "You don't really know until you've gone through nationals."

Central, making its eighth tournament appearance in nine seasons, is part of a field that is loaded with experience. Buena Vista, the top seed in the

double-elimination tournament, is

in for the sixth time. It won the

championship in 1984 and has never finished lower than third. Another perennial is Trenton State, making its 13th consecutive appearance. The Lions have four national titles. Last season, they

they beat Buena Vista for the title. "June (Walker) and I have certainly had some battles," Central Coach George Wares said of the Trenton State coach. "But once you get through the regionals, we think, 'Well, we get to go out to see Trenton and Coach Walker.'

were runner-up to Central. In 1992,

"You get more respect for them when you realize how tough it is to do it every year."

## MORNING REPORT

Florida State suspensions —

Kicker Scott Bentley and reserve tight end Kamari Charlton were suspended from the national champion Florida State football team Wednesday by Coach Bobby Bowden.

Charlton, 21, was arrested on felony rape and simple assault charges.

Earlier in the week, Bentley was fined \$500 and sentenced to 40 hours on a sheriff's department road crew for illegally tape recording a sexual encounter with a female student.

Meyer's summer — Iowa State's Loren Meyer will join 11 other players on the Foot Locker NIT team that will play 10 games in three countries during a 24-day tour this summer.

Meyer, a 6-foot 11-inch center, and the team will be coached by former St. John's coach Lou Carnesecca. They begin play June 16 in Toronto. The team also will play games in Portugal and Italy.

## SCORES

AMERICAN	LEAGUE	BASEBALL			
Boston	5	Baltimore			
Cleveland	5	Milwaukee			
Minnesota	13	New York			
Texas	6	Oakland			
Toronto	9	Detroit			
Chicago	at	California			
Kansas City	at	Seattle			

### NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL

Atlanta	3	Cincinnati	
Chicago	5	San Diego	-
Florida	4	New York	
Houston	4	San Francisco	1
Montreal	6	Philadelphia	
St. Louis	4	Pittsburgh	
Los Angeles	at	Colorado	

#### NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE Toronto Vancouver

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION 87 Chicago New York

### FLACH STOPS AVILA, 5-1

## ot. Ambrose advances in NAIA baseball regional

By JEFF OLSON

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Iowa City, Ia. — The only things missing Wednesday before St. Ambrose's first two hits were Ruthian gestures toward the outfield fence. After that, St. Ambrose's Jason

Flach made his point from the mound. Chris Dillie and Brent Zaehringer hit solo home runs to give Flach a

lead he didn't relinquish as St. Am- him. brose beat Avila of Kansas City, Mo., 5-1, in the first round of the NAIA Midwest Region baseball tournament at Iowa Field. The victory sent the Fighting

against Winona State of Minnesota. The winner of that game advances to Friday's championship. Winona State beat Marian, Wis.,

Bees into a game today at noon

Flach, who pitched a nine-hit

complete game, never thought the

early 2-0 lead from the home runs would stand. "Really, truthfully, I didn't think two runs were going to win this ballgame," Flach said. "Any time you play nine innings, there's going to be times where an error here or there or a base hit here or there are

going to score runs." Dillie turned quickly on a fastball from Avila pitcher Ed Routh second inning; Zaehringer did the same with a curveball from Routh in the fourth inning.

"It felt pretty good," Dillie said of his home run. "I knew it was gone. I just threw the bat away and jogged a little bit. I didn't want to show up too much, so I just started running."

## NAIA BASEBALL

MIDWEST REGION WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Winona State (Minn.) 4, Marian (Wis.) 1 St. Ambrose 5, Avila (Mo.) 1 Avila (Mo.) 6. Marian (Wis.) 5 TODAY'S GAMES

Noon-St. Ambrose (34-22) vs. Winona State (26-22) 3:00-Winonas State-St. Ambrose loser vs. Avila (41-18)

Zaehringer hit the kind of pitch that used to present problems for "I had trouble with curveballs all

year," he said. "I just waited back, swung through it and got it all." Zaehringer, a power-hitting first baseman who drove in four runs with singles in St. Ambrose's 18-1 district championship victory Sat-.

urday against Mount Mercy, has

learned to adjust the velocity of his swing to the situation. "I'm just starting to swing the bat harder now when I come up to the plate when there's nobody on,' he said. "It just depends on the sit-

uation how I'm going to swing." After Avila cut the lead to 2-1 with an unearned run in the fifth inning, Flach settled down. As his teammates expanded the lead, they also kept Avila from crossing the

plate again. "Any time Flach goes out, if we give him three runs, he's going to be tough," St. Ambrose Coach Todd Becker said. "I didn't think the two runs were going to hold up, either. That's a pretty good hitting ballclub. I really thought they'd put something together there at the

Near the end, however, Flach became less hittable. He struck out Anthony Fasi to end the eighth in-

ning, then struck out Dan Hyde to end the game. During the final two

innings, Flach struck out four. "Coach does a good job of keeping us running, keeping our legs under us," Flach said. "So when we go out like that, he has confidence in us that we can go all nine innings. It shows. We've had five tournament games so far, and we've had four complete games."

He also helped turn a double play that ended a threat in the seventh inning while St. Ambrose held a 3-1 lead. With runners at first and second, Flach fielded a grounder and threw to second base. Both shortstop Pat Burke and second baseman Craig Schimmel were at the bag, but Schimmel took the throw and turned the double play as Marc Venneman took him out.

"That was a total lack of communication on my part," Schimmel

For an instant, Flach saw an ugly mirage — his lead disappearing as his throw sailed into center field. Fortunately for him, the mirage evaporated in a cloud of Schimmel's dust.

"I threw to second, and I saw both our shortstop and our second baseman coming to the base," he said. "I wasn't sure if we were going to turn it.' Winona State knocked the No. 1

pion Marian into the losers' bracket with a six-hit complete game by Brad Pelzak. Marian was then beaten by

seed and defending regional cham-

Avila, 6-5.

Avila advances to play at 3 p.m. today against the loser of today's winners' bracket game between St. Ambrose and Winona State.