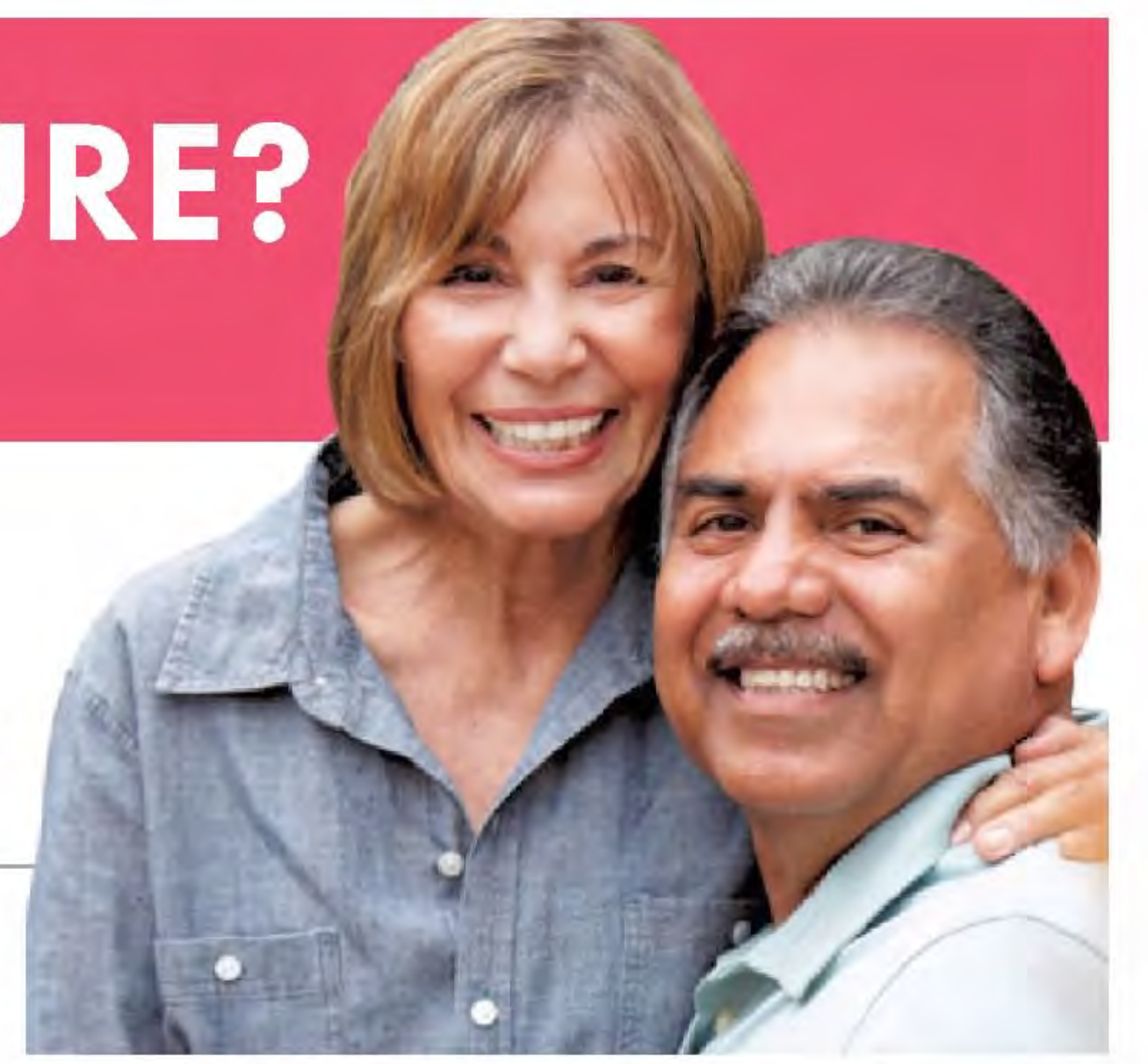


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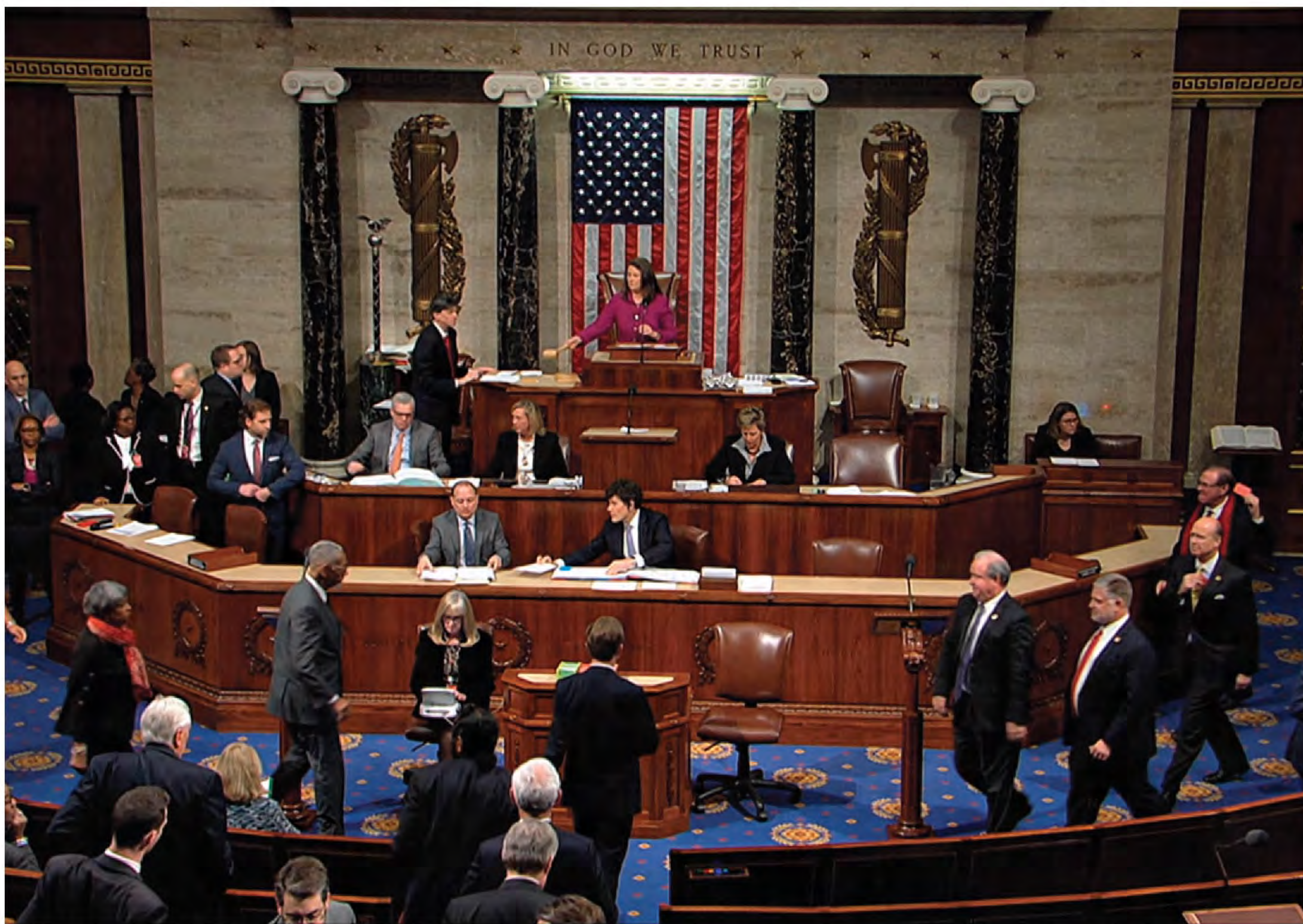
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TRUMP IMPEACHED

Democrats: ‘If we do not act now, we would be derelict in our duty’

Republicans: ‘The people of America see through this’

Next: A trial in the GOP-led Senate



Members walk on the floor as voting begins Wednesday night on the first article of impeachment against President Donald Trump. HOUSE TELEVISION VIA AP



President Donald Trump holds a rally in Michigan as the House discusses his fate Wednesday night.

MATTHEW DAE SMITH/
LANSING STATE JOURNAL

President Donald Trump became the third president in history to be impeached after the House on Wednesday charged him with “high crimes and misdemeanors” over his request to Ukraine to investigate a political rival.

The vote came after hours of rancorous debate in which lawmakers argued about how the Founding Fathers would have supported or opposed Trump’s impeachment.

Trump was in Battle Creek, Michigan, as the House was voting. “It doesn’t really feel like we’re being impeached,” Trump said, adding that the country has never done better and “we did nothing wrong.”

Next, a rare trial in the Senate to determine whether the president will be removed from office.

Coverage begins on Page 8A

“Help them, and help us all.”

The Rev. Pat Conroy, the House chaplain, opening the session

Hawkeye legend ‘changed lives’

Fry restored Iowa football to relevance

Mark Emmert
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

Hayden Fry was 90 years old and had been battling cancer off and on for the past 21 of them.

Still, the legendary Iowa football coach’s death hit hard for those who loved playing for him. It was evident in their voices late Tuesday as they talked about the man who shaped their lives, who was a de facto second father to so many.

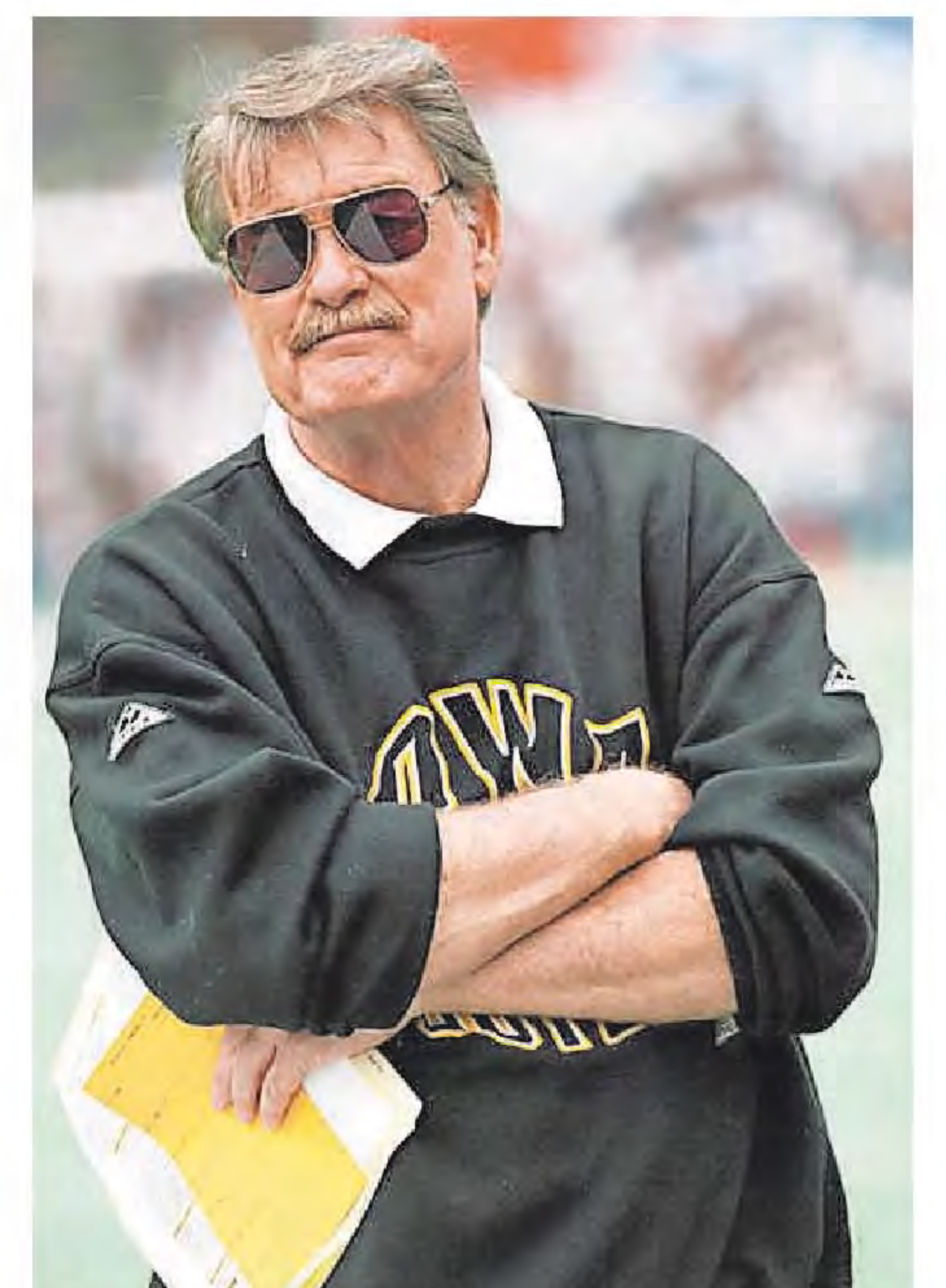
Grown men were crying. And for good reason.

“He didn’t coach football. He changed lives,” said former Hawkeye quarterback Gordy Bohannon, who ventured here from Southern California as Fry’s first recruit 40 years ago and stayed to raise a family.

“He changed my life because he gave me a chance to play in the Big Ten and fulfill a dream. And because of him, I got to stay in Iowa and met my wife and have four kids.”


Fry brought a Texas-sized personality and a keen desire to win to the Iowa football program. He redesigned the uniforms, painted the visiting locker

See HAYDEN FRY, Page 2A



Hayden Fry won 143 games in 20 seasons as the University of Iowa’s football coach.

IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN FILE PHOTO




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USA TODAY

Cutting drug costs: The Trump administration, eager to show progress on prescription drug costs, on Wednesday moved forward with its plan to allow Americans legal access to lower-priced medicines from abroad.7A

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Hayden Fry

Continued from Page 1A

room pink and doled out homespun witticisms in his southern drawl.

But most significantly, Fry restored the **Hawkeyes** to national relevance, and then prominence, after two decades of dormancy.

Fry won 143 football games and the hearts of thousands of **Iowa** football fans in his 20 seasons, retiring in 1998 while secretly fighting prostate cancer.

One of the most cherished and admired sports figures in **Iowa** history, Fry died Tuesday surrounded by family in Texas.

"He's one of those guys you think will be around forever," former **Iowa** defensive lineman Jared DeVries said upon hearing the news.

"It hurts because he has a special place in your heart. ... You knew he cared about you. He wanted the best for you. And he would challenge you in his own unique way to get that out of you, to become a better person, a better football player."

Fry was introduced as the **Iowa** football coach on Dec. 9, 1978, flashing a self-assured smile and making fans believe the swagger would return to a Hawkeye program starved for success.

Iowa endured 17 consecutive non-winning seasons before Fry's arrival. He brought the **Hawkeyes** to three Rose Bowls. He also brought pizzazz to a Big Ten Conference known for stodgy offenses and stingy defenses.

"I looked at film when I first took the job, and what I saw was a bunch of teams that liked to run the ball," Fry said. "Being an old quarterback, I knew that it'd take a while for Big Ten defenses to catch up to us."

Bohannon said Fry told his players he needed to run "exotic" plays, because they weren't talented enough to win with a more traditional style.

"It wasn't really complicated," Bohannon said of innovations like the shotgun formation. "It just looked like it was."

Fry's early success was measured in small gains. The **Hawkeyes** went 5-6 and 4-7 in his first two seasons.

Iowa moved among the league's elite in 1981, winning the Big Ten title and earning its first Rose Bowl trip in 23 years.

Suddenly, Michigan and Ohio State were not the only contenders in the na-



Retired **Iowa** football coach Hayden Fry, right, was on hand in 1998 to welcome his former assistant, Kirk Ferentz, as his successor. REGISTER FILE PHOTO

tion's oldest conference.

"Bringing Hayden in was a breath of fresh air," former Big Ten commissioner Wayne Duke once said. "As a conference, at times our personality was a little stuffy. Hayden brought his Texas humor, tales and one-liners. He brought a passing game that changed the course of our games."

John Hayden Fry was born in Eastland, Texas, on Feb. 28, 1929. His family moved to the football-obsessed town of Odessa when he was 8 and he quickly showed an affinity for that favorite pastime. He played quarterback and safety on the high school team, leading it to a state championship in 1946.

Then, it was off to Baylor, where he played some quarterback and earned a degree in psychology that would come in handy during decades of coaching.

Fry coached at Odessa for a year, then served from 1952 to 1955 in the Marine Corps, where he played and coached football. He rose to the rank of captain.

He returned to Odessa for three more years of coaching. He followed that with assistant jobs at Baylor and Arkansas before taking the reins at Southern Methodist and North Texas State, winning 89 games in 17 seasons.

Iowa Athletic Director Bump Elliott had tried Frank Lauterbur and Bob Commings in search of a spark for his football program. Nothing clicked. Then, he turned to Fry and watched him work his magic.

Elliott, who died Dec. 7 at age 94, often said Fry was going to be his final hire

at **Iowa**, either because the losing seasons would continue and Elliott would be fired, or because the football team would finally prosper.

Fry promised fans a "high-porch picnic," an expression from his West Texas upbringing that meant things were going to be fun.

He wore white slacks, aviator glasses, a thick mustache and a cowboy hat or a ball cap. If he had been a losing coach, this would have been dismissed as eccentricity. But Fry won. Hawkeye fans considered it character, and generations later you can still see young men dressed as Fry on Halloween.

DeVries used to love listening to Fry's rambling pep talks.

"Every time that he got behind the podium, it could have been some kind of motivation in its own right, but it also could have been a comedy show. I'm not sure people realized how funny he was," DeVries said. "He'd get up there, and sometimes we'd struggle to find the correlation, but man he was funny."

Fry redesigned the Tigerhawk logo. He altered **Iowa's** black-and-gold uniforms to closely resemble those of the Pittsburgh Steelers, who dominated the NFL in the 1970s. He had his players enter Kinnick Stadium running and holding hands in a tradition called "The Swarm." And he painted the visiting locker room pink as a way to get under his opponents' skin before the game had even started.

But none of that would ensure success. To do that, Fry built a legendary coaching staff that included, at various times, Bill Snyder, Bob Stoops, Barry Alvarez, Dan McCarney, Bret Bielema, Mark Stoops, Bo Pelini and Kirk Ferentz, who is in his 21st season after replacing his mentor.

"They're just like my sons," Fry said. "I never hired an assistant coach unless I knew they were motivated to be a head coach. Because I knew they would do all the things that needed to be done, other than teaching the technical aspect of football."

Those who worked under Fry considered themselves fortunate.

"Fans saw greatness," said Ferentz, who joined Fry's staff in 1981. "He was a great coach and a great person, who through his folksy ways and little sayings captivated a state for 20 years."

In 1985, **Iowa** spent five weeks at No. 1 in the Associated Press poll, beating the then-second ranked Wolverines, 12-10, in a showdown at Kinnick Stadium.

Chuck Long, the '85 Heisman Trophy runner-up, was one of seven first-team all-conference quarterbacks the **Hawkeyes** produced during Fry's tenure.

"Hayden added the passing game to the conference," legendary Michigan coach Bo Schembechler said. "His offenses were very imaginative. You had to start recruiting speedy guys in the secondary to stop it."

Fry's last Big Ten crown came in 1990, after **Iowa** beat Michigan, Michigan State and Illinois on the road.

Matt Bowen, who played safety for him at **Iowa**, vividly remembers Fry strolling into his Illinois home on a recruiting visit, sporting an **Iowa** blazer, sunglasses and the cowboy boots he

loved to show off, the ones with a rose embedded in a Tigerhawk logo.

"I'll never forget how big of a moment it was to have Hayden Fry in my house," Bowen said.

"Hayden was bigger than football, the way he treated his players, the way he loved his players, the way he saved a lot of his players. No one's perfect, and a lot of men go through hard times. The football side of it, that stuff leaves you. Whether you're 18 or 30, eventually the music stops. And you're going to go on to life, have a second career, have a family, be involved in the community. The core values he gave me to develop as a person, I still use in my everyday life."

Bo Porter came to **Iowa** in 1990 from his native New Jersey, entranced by Fry's persistence in recruiting and the chance to compete against the likes of Michigan and Ohio State. Fry later became a valuable mentor as Porter embarked on a baseball career.

In 2012, Porter was chosen to manage the Houston Astros. He created a foundation called S.E.L.F. (Sports, Education, Life Skills and Faith). He insisted that its first "Torch" award be given to Fry. Porter flew to Nevada to accompany his ailing former coach to Houston for the ceremony.

Porter said Fry was in tears. "When you talk about generational impact and leaving a legacy, this man has done it better than anybody in the world," Porter said.

"There are some coaches that are into transactions. They're trying to be successful in the moment, and it has nothing to do with the lives that they get to impact. Coach Fry saw well beyond that. He's the greatest coach in my era."

Fry's final season resulted in a 3-8 record. He later said that his battle with prostate cancer was a distraction for him and his staff.

"We kept it from the public," he said. "Nevertheless, it bothered us."

It was the willingness to take risks and provide opportunities that led to what Fry considered his greatest moment.

Before shaking things up in the Big Ten, Fry broke down the Southwestern Conference color barrier.

On Sept. 24, 1966, Fry was coaching at SMU when he started receiver Jerry LeVias in a game against Illinois. LeVias was the SWC's first black player.

"I'm more proud of giving Jerry LeVias a scholarship," Fry once told a reporter, "than I am of any game, bowl game or championship I've ever won."

Fry and LeVias went into the College Football Hall of Fame together, in 2003.

Fry has a street named after him in Coralville and a life-sized statue there that greets visitors. And hundreds of former players still live in the area.

Randy Reiners is one of them. The Fort Dodge native played quarterback for Fry. He estimated that there are nearly 200 of his former teammates living nearby, a testament to how tight-knit Fry's squads were.

Reiners has a poignant example. His sister Natalie died four days before August training camp was to begin in 1998, Fry's last season. Fry never liked to cancel practice, but he did the day of Natalie's funeral, stunning Reiners by bringing the entire team to Fort Dodge for the service.

"He was a human being as a coach. We had every walk of life in that locker room. He wanted to know what was going on, where you were coming from, why you were doing it. And he always knew everybody's hometown," Reiners said.

"When he retired he said: 'I've got a fencerow that I've never walked. I've got guns I've never shot. I've got boots I've never worn.' He was an original. And he gave so much to this community."

Services for Fry are pending. Former Register reporter Andrew Logue provided earlier reporting for this story.

Mark Emmert covers the **Iowa Hawkeyes** for the Register. Reach him at memmert@registermedia.com or 319-339-7367. Follow him on Twitter at @MarkEmmert.

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Governor orders flags lowered to honor Fry

Dargan Southard
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

Gov. Kim Reynolds is making sure the state properly mourns the loss of legendary coach Hayden Fry.

Reynolds on Wednesday morning ordered all flags in **Iowa** to be lowered to half-staff until sunset Friday in remembrance of Fry. The former **Iowa** football coach passed away Tuesday night after a long battle with cancer.

"Hayden Fry was an **Iowa** coaching legend who left it all on the field in every game, practice, and in all aspects of his life," Reynolds said in a news release. "Born a Texan, he quickly earned his place among the greatest **Iowans**, by

carrying Hawkeye football to new heights and connecting with our state on a level only few have.

"During the depths of the Farm Crisis of the 1980s, he popularized the 'America Needs Farmers' movement, showing farmers and rural America that he stood by them. **Iowans** always stood with Hayden Fry, and now they will honor his legacy and always remember him as a model for how coaches should be."

Flags will be lowered at the **Iowa** Capitol and at public buildings, grounds and facilities throughout the state. Individuals, businesses, schools, municipalities, counties and other government subdivisions are encouraged to fly the flags at half-staff for the same time period.

HAYDEN FRY 1929-2019

Larger than life



Iowa head coach Hayden Fry waits to take the field during a 1991 game against Michigan. USA TODAY SPORTS PHOTO, TRENT JOHNSON ILLUSTRATION/USA TODAY NETWORK

Behind the sunglasses, Hayden Fry's true genius was revealed

Chad Leistikow Des Moines Register USA TODAY NETWORK

The sunglasses, the white pants, the cowboy hat, the mustache, the folksy rhetoric? All Hayden Fry. And all part of the genius behind a 1980s resurgence that became the heyday of Iowa Hawkeyes football.

But behind that persona that represented radical change in Iowa City, perhaps the most important thing Fry brought from Texas in December of 1978 was his Master's degree in psychology from Baylor.

Fry wound up being uniquely qualified to help the Hawkeyes ditch nearly two decades of losing football and believe that they could not only be good ... but great.

Inside

Remembering the man who orchestrated the resurgence of Iowa football and transformed the culture surrounding the Hawkeyes: Pages 2-5C

Fry wasn't slow-witted, although that's what he wanted his coaching counterparts to think.

Behind the aviator glasses was a leader, a motivator, an innovator and a master psychologist.

"This was little old Iowa," former Iowa quarterback Chuck Long said Tuesday night, not long after the news broke that Fry had died after a long battle with cancer at 90. "It's cliché and it's coach speak, but he made us believe in something bigger

than what we were as individuals. He made us believe."

The stories were flowing from Long, whose career is forever intertwined with Fry's as a player and coach, and Chuck Hartlieb — two of the most prolific passers in Hawkeye history and catalysts for an amazing 11-year run from 1981 to 1991 in which Iowa lost only 24 Big Ten Conference games and attended three Rose Bowls.

"He pulled out all your emotions and got you to play your absolute best," said Hartlieb, who directed Iowa's 10-win season of 1987. "He was the Bear Bryant of the '80s. He had an unbelievable aura around him."

See LEISTIKOW, Page 2C



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Hayden Fry 1929-2019

Leistikow

Continued from Page 1C

The stories, oh, there are plenty of them.

Everyone knows about the pink visitors' locker room at Kinnick Stadium, a tradition that Fry's successor, 21st-year Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz, kept going.

You still see footage on national-TV broadcasts today of the pink walls, pink urinals, pink lockers ... pink everything.

The color was thought to have a calming effect, a mentality visiting coaches of course would want their team to avoid. But the mere idea of thinking about the pink walls was the calculated layer that Fry outlined in his biography, "A High Porch Picnic" (an expression in West Texas that means having a good time).

"When I talk to an opposing coach before a game and he mentions the pink walls, I know I've got him," Fry wrote. "I can't recall a coach who has stirred up a fuss about the color and then beat us."

He particularly enjoyed getting under the skin of Michigan coach Bo Schembechler.

The story has been famously told, but it's worth memorializing.

During the pregame of the biggest matchup of Fry's 20-year Hawkeye tenure — No. 1 Iowa vs. No. 2 Michigan in 1985 — the ole fox sent an imposter to snap errant footballs to Iowa's punter. And to make sure Schembechler could see the staged gaffes.

"He's snapping the ball into the ground and over the guy's head," Long recalled. "And Schembechler calls Fry over and says, 'You're not going to have this long snapper snap to your punter today, are you?'"

Fry turned to Schembechler and told him simply, "Well, we don't plan on punting today, Coach."

Iowa, of course, went on to win that legendary game at Kinnick Stadium by a 12-10 score on Rob Houghtlin's walk-off field goal, a triumphant moment that epitomized the excitement of that 1985 season.

Who ever could have imagined Iowa winning three of five from mighty Michigan between 1981 and 1985?

Fry did.
And he got it done.



From 1983: Iowa football coach Hayden Fry and QB Chuck Long. REGISTER FILE PHOTO

Fry's mind games translated into how Iowa moved the football, too.

Under Fry (who called the plays) and offensive coordinator Bill Snyder, Iowa brought an aggressive, pass-happy style to the black-and-blue Big Ten.

Three decades before RPOs took over college football, Fry's Hawkeyes were cutting-edge innovators.

"It was a bomb here or a draw on third-and-15," said Hartlieb, whose 3,738 passing yards in 1988 are far-and-away a school record. "He just knew you had to take chances sometimes and keep your opponent off kilter. Again, it's that psychology of don't stay between the rails, don't be vanilla. That stuff rubbed off on us."

"Every single time we took the field, we felt we were going to win."

The unforgettable bootleg run by Long on third-and-goal to beat Michigan State, 35-31, during that 1985 season that saw Iowa ranked No. 1 for five

straight weeks as it rolled to a 7-0 record? Fry called that out of a timeout.

Hartlieb also tells the story of a play call that Fry let him make — perhaps a stroke of desperation but also psychological genius.

You remember the play, don't you?

At the Horseshoe in Columbus, 1987. Iowa's trailing, 27-22. Fourth-and-23 from the Buckeyes' 29-yard line. Just 16 seconds left.

Iowa called timeout. Hartlieb met Fry near the sideline, with one final shot to beat Ohio State.

"He took his sunglasses off and looked me in the eye," Hartlieb recalled, "and said, 'What do you think?'"

Hartlieb responded without hesitation.

"Lion 75 Y Trail. Marv (Cook) is our best player," And he said, "Let's do it," Hartlieb recalled. "No head coach would do that today."

But Fry wanted his quarterback to

Share your Hayden Fry memories

We want to hear from readers about their favorite Hayden Fry memories. Send your thoughts (200 words or less) to des-lte@registermedia.com and we will publish some of the submissions in Sunday's Sports section.

have a belief that the play would work. And sure enough, Hartlieb found Cook along the right sideline in man-to-man coverage. The future NFL tight end caught the pass around the 10-yard line and lumbered into the end zone for a miracle touchdown and a 29-27 Hawkeye win.

Those type of moments stemmed from a coach with a plan.

The plan included the shtick. Like when Fry dressed in overalls, a flannel shirt and a cowboy hat following Iowa's 21-16 win at Minnesota in 1982, after Gophers coach Joe Salem had referred to the Hawkeyes as "a bunch of farmers."

Fry always had a knack for grabbing his team's attention.

"He made it fun," Long said.

"You could not wait to go to practice every day to see what he was going to say or do next. I think that's the big reason he has so many coaches out there."

Hartlieb was recently reminiscing with Mark Stoops, a former Hawkeye teammate and Kentucky's head coach. Stoops told Hartlieb that the best football meetings he's ever had were with Fry at Iowa.

You could never predict what Fry would do next.

It was enough to keep you on edge. It was enough to keep you coming back for more.

And, with Fry's human connection to his players and their parents, you didn't want to let him down.

Fry convinced his players that anything was possible.

Like going from the bottom of the Big Ten to the top.

"And that," Long said, "was the beauty of Hayden Fry."

Hawkeyes columnist Chad Leistikow has covered sports for 25 years with *The Des Moines Register*, *USA TODAY* and *Iowa City Press-Citizen*. Follow @ChadLeistikow on Twitter.

Iowa City, Hawkeye communities remember Fry

Dargan Southard Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

IOWA CITY, Ia. — Planted off exit 242, two miles from Iowa's football palace, is a menacing man of bronze watching over the town he once owned. Hayden Fry wanted his statue here for a reason.

The route from Interstate 80 to Kinnick Stadium runs right down Coralville's First Avenue, now nicknamed Hayden Fry Way. All visiting teams take this journey on gamedays. Upon exiting is Fry's intimidating presence — chiseled to perfection with his aviator sunglasses, stern look and all. Opponents get one last reminder on the lengthy tradition lurking down the road. Iowa fans get to revel in the culture Fry established long ago.

The statue has stood since 2016, revealed on one of Fry's final visits to his former stomping grounds. Wednesday, less than 24 hours after Fry passed away following a lengthy cancer battle, the bronze figure became a sanctuary for grieving and remembering among Hawkeye supporters. It was one of the many Fry honors that engulfed Iowa City on a somber afternoon.

"It's hard to go anywhere and not run into people who — somehow, someway — have a Hayden Fry story," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. "His reach was really unbelievable."

That was evident when perusing the tributes left at Fry's bronze feet. Throughout Wednesday, flowers, messages and Iowa memorabilia piled up around the statue — each item coming with love and adoration for the Hawkeye legend.

One fan left a pair of Fry's iconic aviators. A signed hat from the Iowa grounds crew sat front and center. Wreaths and roses added a sympathetic touch.

"There's a Texas-sized hole in our hearts today," read one tribute, attached to a bouquet of yellow flowers. "Thank you for all the joy you brought to the state of Iowa and our families! #hokiepieinHeaven"

Tales of emphatic wins, unforgettable Haydenisms and more seeped into Hawkeye conversations throughout Wednesday. One theme, though, resounded with almost every Fry mention.

The man known for his eccentric fashion and brash personality gave Iowa



A statue of former Iowa Hawkeyes football head coach Hayden Fry is pictured as the sun rises Wednesday along First Avenue/Hayden Fry Way near the Iowa City/Coralville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. JOSEPH CRESS/IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN

fans hope.

Hope, that after 17-straight non-winning seasons, Hawkeye football could be resuscitated. Hope that Iowa could compete with the likes of Ohio State and Michigan atop the Big Ten. Hope that Iowa didn't have to settle for mediocrity and below.

Hope that still resonates today, long after Fry's coaching days were through.

"Thank you Coach Fry for allowing all Hawks to hope and dream big when it came to Hawkeye athletics," another tribute message read. "You set the standard for generations to come."

Ferentz felt the weight of that as he maneuvered through Wednesday's press conference with moments of outward sadness. Fry's pupil who became his replacement teared up multiple times upon reminiscing, none more so than when asked how often he felt the

responsibility to match Fry's excellence expectations.

"Every day," said Ferentz, who took over Iowa football in 1999 after a 10-year stint as Fry's offensive line coach. "We all have mentors."

"The hope for him was to keep (the program) in the family (once Fry retired in 1998). I think he was hopeful someone in the Iowa family would be the next person to take it over. Afterwards, you couldn't ask for a better person in terms of support."

Elsewhere in Iowa City, members of the university's current student body shared fond memories even if Fry was a bit before their time. There were family stories about the man's larger-than-life legacy, passed down from parents.

"Hayden Fry saved Iowa football; my dad told me that all the time," said Iowa student Michael Smith, whose family

has owned season tickets for parts of three decades. "The man's a legend — nothing less than that."

It seemed fitting Iowa had Fry's picture on both Kinnick Stadium jumbotrons Wednesday, allowing the Hawkeye hero to loom over the football grounds he once oversaw. He'll continue watching from the northwest corner of First Avenue and Ninth Street, as well.

Fry may be gone. But his impact isn't fading anytime soon.

"Just the way that he captured this whole state was really, really impressive," Ferentz said. "The bottom line is every day, he set a standard for leadership and a standard for excellence."

Dargan Southard covers Iowa and UNI athletics, recruiting and preps for the Des Moines Register, HawkCentral.com and the Iowa City Press-Citizen. Email him at msouthard@gannett.com.

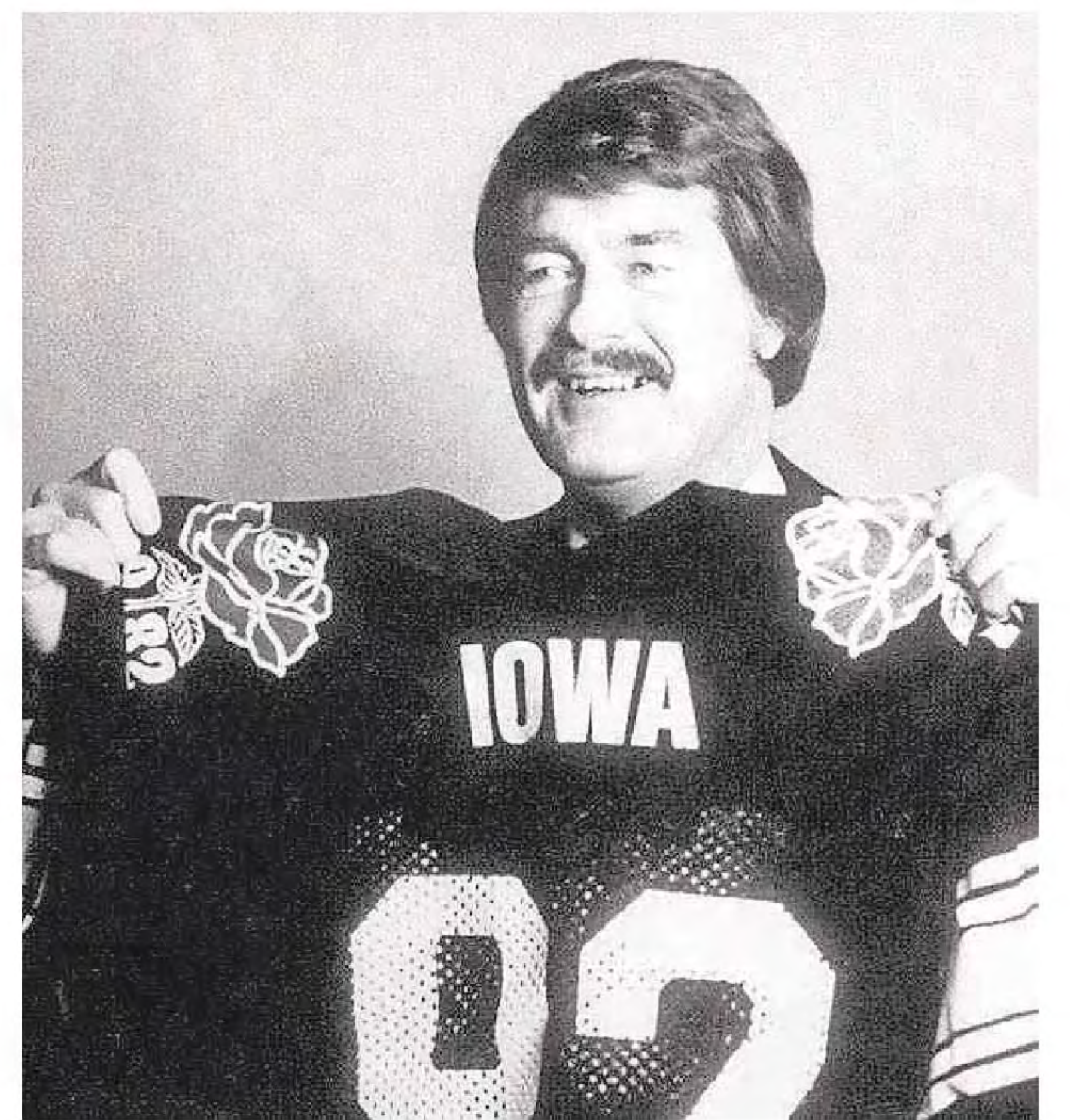
Hayden Fry 1929-2019



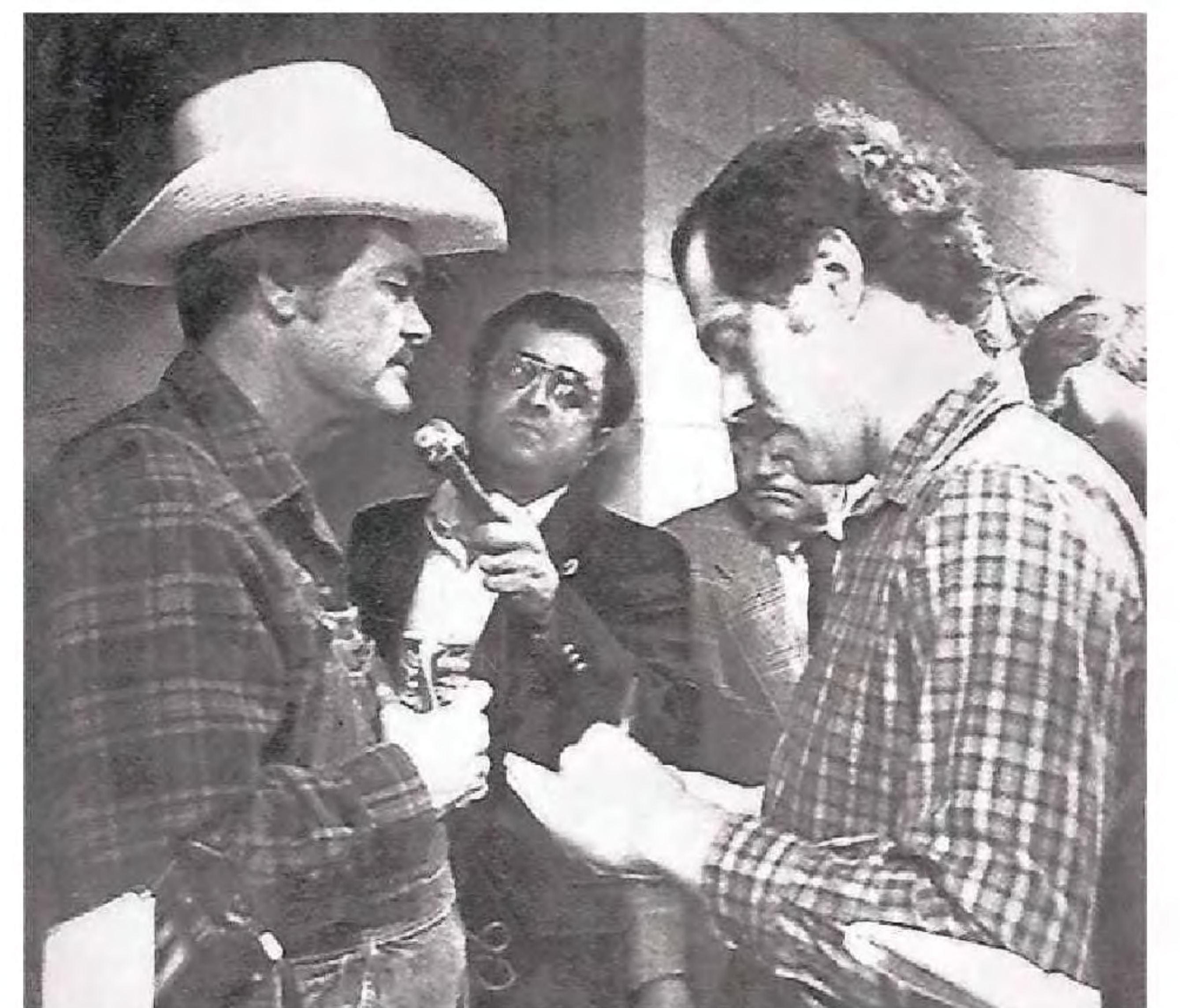
Former Iowa coach Hayden Fry is carried off the field after a 1981 victory that helped Iowa to its first Rose Bowl appearance since 1959. REGISTER FILE PHOTOS



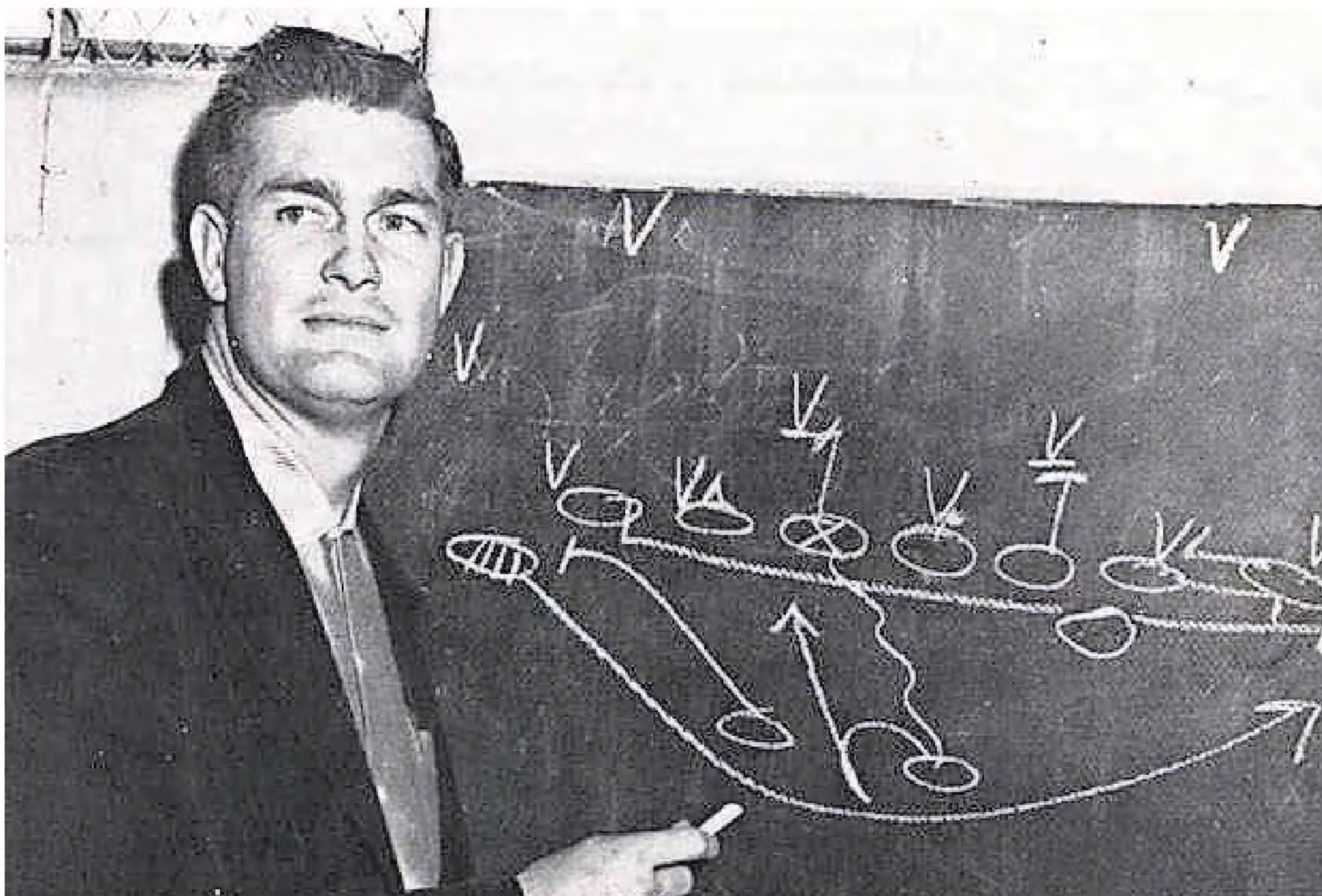
Hayden Fry tosses a California orange as he poses for pictures with 1982 Rose Bowl Queen Katy Potthast.



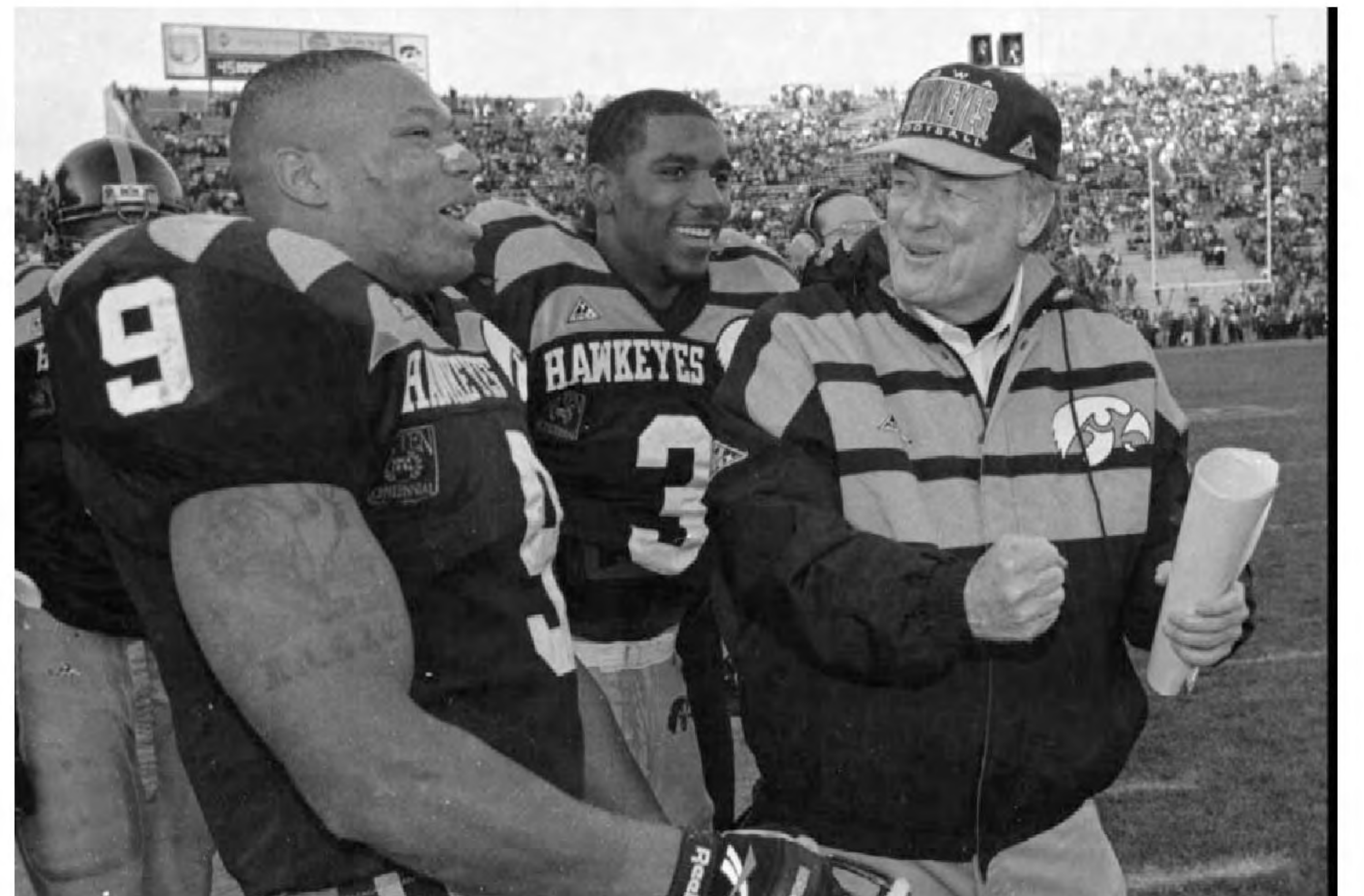
Hayden Fry holds up a jersey commemorating the Hawkeyes' 1982 Rose Bowl berth.



Iowa coach Hayden Fry dons a flannel shirt, overalls and a straw hat after defeating Minnesota in 1982. Minnesota coach Joe Salem had mocked Iowa before the game by wearing overalls during practice.



Hayden Fry appears in a publicity image for Baylor University during his early coaching days for the Bears.



Hayden Fry celebrates with Bill Ennis-Inge (9) and Damien Robinson in the closing seconds of a victory over Minnesota in 1995.

Hayden Fry 1929-2019

Fry changed what it means to be a Hawkeye



Chad Leistikow
Columnist
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

Hayden Fry's voice crackled with emotion as his Nov. 24, 1998, press conference to announce his retirement as Iowa's football coach wound to an emotional close.

Then, tears coming from his eyes so often hidden behind his trademark sunglasses, the tough Texan and former Marine uttered five unforgettable words.

"I'll always be a Hawk."

That's absolutely true, even in his passing.

Fry died Tuesday night at the age of 90 under hospice care in Dallas after a lengthy battle with cancer.

He will be remembered as perhaps the most influential figure in the history of Iowa athletics. An argument could be made for Nile Kinnick or Dan Gable. Fry is probably at the front of that conversation.

Credit the late Bump Elliott for taking a chance on the cowboy-hat-wearing coach from Odessa, Texas. Fry had always been bold and different. As coach at SMU in the 1960s, Fry had been instrumental in paving the way for Jerry LeVias to become the first black scholarship athlete in the old Southwest Conference.

LeVias would later marvel at what Fry did for him as a young coach at age 35.

"Coach Fry," LeVias said, "put his job on the line."

It wasn't until age 49, after back-to-back 9-2 seasons as North Texas State's coach, that Fry jaunted to Iowa City — where being different became a necessary identity.

And Fry certainly fit the bill.

Iowa had experienced 17 straight non-winning seasons in football, a dormant time.

Yet at his introductory press conference, on Dec. 9, 1978, Fry boldly promised that good times would be returning to Hawkeye football.

"I believe I know something maybe some of the other coaches who've been through here didn't know," he said then. "I know what it takes to win, and I'm strong enough to do something about it. Whatever it takes, we're going to do it. As long as it's ethical and within the rules."

Fry had been hired under a five-year contract, worth \$45,000 annually, as Iowa's fourth coach of the 1970s.

Three days later, Fry brought in five of his North Texas assistant coaches.



Flowers rest at the feet of a statue of former Iowa football head coach Hayden Fry on Tuesday night in Coralville.

JOSEPH CRESS/IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN

One of them was 37-year-old Bill Snyder, who would become Fry's offensive coordinator and one of many prominent branches in Fry's eventual legendary coaching tree that would also include the likes of Barry Alvarez, Bill Snyder, Bob Stoops, Dan McCarney, Jim Leavitt, Brett Bielema, Mike Stoops and, yes, Kirk Ferentz.

Fry brought the Tiger Hawk logo, an iconic image that permeates every corner of our state today, along with the colors of the Pittsburgh Steelers — the NFL's dominant team of the 1970s.

When you see the Tiger Hawk, you think Iowa. That was all Fry.

Heck, a national network sit-com made paid homage to the national stature that Fry had obtained.

Played by Craig T. Nelson, Hayden Fox was the lead character in the show "Coach," created by Iowa alum Barry Kemp.

And, obviously, Fry most importantly won football games at the highest level.

Iowa's rags-to-riches story graced the pages of "Sports Illustrated." Fry had brought the upstart Hawkeyes in the conversation with longtime heavyweights Ohio State and Michigan as the powers of the Big Ten Conference.

Fry's 1981, 1985 and 1990 teams went to the Rose Bowl behind innovative offenses and Bill Brashier's hard-nosed defenses.

All told, Fry won 143 games at Iowa. His 230 wins in 37 years overall ranks 13th at the FBS level. He's one spot behind Bo Schembechler; one ahead of Steve Spurrier.

That's the kind of company that Fry maintains today.

At Iowa, he was iconic.

He would've probably coached until he was 90, too, if he could have. But at 69, at that press conference of finality, his body had been battered by prostate cancer.

He had quietly been getting treatments at the University of Iowa hospi-

tals, telling only his wife, Shirley. But now the results were showing on his forlorn face, on the heels of a 3-8 Iowa football season.

But the man who learned toughness in the oil fields of West Texas went ahead and faced off with cancer. He battled for another 21 years.

Stubborn and determined as always, until his final breath.

He'll always be a Hawk.

And maybe that's his ultimate legacy to so many people in our state — not just the players and coaches whose lives he touched. He brought a unique identity, winning football, packed stadiums and state pride to Iowa.

Fry changed what it means to be a Hawk.

Forever.
Hawkeyes columnist Chad Leistikow has covered sports for 25 years with The Des Moines Register, USA TODAY and Iowa City Press-Citizen. Follow @ChadLeistikow on Twitter.

Greatest wins of the Hayden Fry era at Iowa

Staff reports

Iowa football legend Hayden Fry died Tuesday at the age of 90. The brash Texas was one of the greatest sports figures in the state's history and is credited with building Hawkeye football into the program it is today.

Here's a look at his greatest victories with the Hawkeyes:

IOWA 12, MICHIGAN 10

Oct. 19, 1985 at Kinnick Stadium, Iowa City

Perhaps the most memorable moment of Hayden Fry's tenure, a classic clash between the nations' No. 1 and No. 2 teams. Rob Houghtlin's fourth field goal of the game, from 29 yards out, provided the winning margin for the top-ranked Hawkeyes.

IOWA 29, OHIO STATE 27

Nov. 14, 1987 at Ohio Stadium, Columbus, Ohio

Marv Cook caught a 28-yard touchdown pass from Chuck Hartlieb with 6 seconds remaining. Hartlieb's pass came on fourth-and-23 as Cook beat two defenders at the goal line.

IOWA 55, TEXAS 17

Dec. 26, 1984 at Anaheim Stadium, Anaheim, Calif.

Chuck Long threw six touchdown passes in a Freedom Bowl rout of the Longhorns, finishing 29-of-39 passing for 461 yards. It was the second-most points ever scored against Texas.

IOWA 10, NEBRASKA 7

Sept. 12, 1981 at Kinnick Stadium, Iowa City

A non-conference win over the Cornhuskers set the tone for a run to a Big Ten Conference title and the Rose Bowl. Just a year earlier, Nebraska beat the Hawkeyes 57-0.

IOWA 16, OHIO STATE 9

Nov. 2, 1991 at Ohio Stadium, Colum-



Rob Houghtlin celebrates after his game-winning field goal took down Michigan in a No. 1 vs. No. 2 matchup in 1985. REGISTER FILE PHOTO

bus, Ohio

On the day Fry and his players flew to Columbus, Ohio, the University was rocked by shooting rampage that left six people dead. Tigerhawk decals were removed from helmets.

IOWA 28, TENNESSEE 22

Dec. 31, 1982 at Atlanta-Fulton Co. Stadium, Atlanta, Ga.

Dave Moritz tied a Peach Bowl record with eight receptions for 168 yards, all in the first half, as the Hawkeyes earned their first postseason win under Fry.

IOWA 36, MICHIGAN STATE 7

Nov. 21, 1981 at Kinnick Stadium, Iowa City

The Hawkeyes earned their first Rose Bowl trip under Fry, after Phil Blatcher rushed for 247 yards against the Spartans. Michigan State finished with just 37 yards on the ground.

IOWA 39, SAN DIEGO STATE 38

Dec. 30, 1986 at Jack Murphy Stadium, San Diego, Calif.

Houghtlin added to his legacy with a game-winning 41-yard field goal as time expired in the Holiday Bowl. It capped an 18-point scoring spree by the Hawkeyes in the final 8:39.

IOWA 31, MINNESOTA 9

Nov. 23, 1985 at Kinnick Stadium, Iowa City

Another Big Ten title was secured with an impressive romp over the Gophers. A Kinnick Stadium crowd of 66,020 endured chilly temperatures and savored the win.

IOWA 27, TEXAS TECH 0

Dec. 29, 1996 at Alamodome, San Antonio, Texas

Sedrick Shaw rushed for 113 yards on 20 carries and Tim Dwight caught six passes for 105 yards, in what proved to be Fry's final postseason triumph, a shutout at the Alamo Bowl.

Hayden Fry 1929-2019

Former Hawkeyes and more pay tribute

Dargan Southard Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

As news circled Tuesday night regarding Hayden Fry's death, members of the Hawkeye community quickly expressed their condolences.

The tributes spread wide, from former players and coaches to broadcasting legends and more. Below are a few.

Fry family

"With our family at his side, Hayden Fry, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, passed away following a lengthy battle with cancer. We are comforted in our faith and knowing that Hayden is no longer suffering and resides now in heaven with our Lord. Hayden passed on Dec. 17, at the age of 90.

"We are proud to know that our father's life had a positive influence on so many people, the players, the coaches, and the fans who played for, worked with, and supported his long and successful coaching career. His legend will live forever with the people he touched and inspired, and the programs he led to greater heights.

"Though Hayden was born in Texas and moved there more recently to be closer to our family, his love for the University of Iowa, his players and coaches, the people of Iowa, and the state of Iowa, is well known. Hayden often shared, 'I'll Always Be a Hawkeye'.

"Our family would like to pass along our heartfelt thanks to the caregivers who made Hayden's comfort their priority.

"We cannot thank everyone enough for their love and support. Your thoughts and prayers are truly appreciated. Memorial Services are pending and will be announced at a later date."

Gary Barta, Iowa athletics director

"Our thoughts and prayers are with Shirley and the entire Fry family as we mourn the loss of Hayden Fry; a great leader, an outstanding coach, and a man as genuine and loyal as they come.

"Iowa Athletics has lost an icon, a man that raised the bar for every Hawkeye program, and every member of our athletics department. Hayden was respected by everyone who knew him. His passing creates a void for all those who played for, coached with, and supported his successful tenure as our head football coach.

"Iowa football reached new heights under Hayden Fry, and has continued that success under Kirk Ferentz, one of the many outstanding coaches who served as a member of his staff. Hay-



Former Iowa football coach Hayden Fry waves to the crowd with his wife Shirley at his side prior to kickoff on Sept. 5, 2009, in Iowa City. REGISTER FILE PHOTO

den's legacy not only lives on through Iowa football, but also through the coaches and players who had the privilege to be associated with his teams.

"Hayden represented all that is good in college athletics, and did it 'his way'. Iowa athletics, and college football, has lost a pioneer. He was a dedicated family man and he will be missed."

Kirk Ferentz, Iowa head coach

"Hayden Fry is a college football icon and an Iowa legend. His Hall of Fame career is well known, but personally, he will always be the man who took a chance on me at the start of my coaching career. I was proud to coach with him and honored to succeed him when he retired. He's been a great mentor and a true friend. I am forever grateful to him.

"Mary and I send our heartfelt condolences to his wife Shirley, their children and the entire Fry family. We hope that Hayden's legacy of integrity and high character will provide his family comfort during this difficult time."

"There are two men who played large roles in my coaching career: One is my mentor, Joe Moore. The other is Hayden Fry.

"Back in 1981, I sent three job applications out: one went to Appalachian State - I never heard back from them; I sent one to Hawaii, had a phone interview, but they needed someone who knew the west coast; the third went to

Hayden Fry at Iowa. Coach Fry hired me based on Coach Moore's recommendation (and in spite of my lack of experience and local knowledge) and showed me how to build and maintain a winning program.

"His vision included hiring coaches who would be forward thinking and challenge each other. If you look across college football, you will see a part of his legacy in the coaches who he hired and mentored - coaches like Barry Alvarez, Bill Snyder, Dan McCarney, Bob, Mike and Mark Stoops and many more.

"Even before the Hawkeyes started winning on the field, Coach Fry was beloved by the fans and trusted by his players. He had a charisma and leadership style that created a championship and winning program that continues today. In 20 seasons at Iowa, Coach Fry showed us all that you can succeed at the highest level by playing by the rules."

Jerry Levias, SMU player (1965-68)

"Coach Fry caught a lot of hell for doing what he did. After he left SMU, he went to North Texas, and he couldn't get a break in Texas - sometimes coaching and having to go to good bowl games. All of a sudden, Iowa calls. From my understanding, before Coach Fry got there Iowa had not had a .500 season since 1948 or so. This guy comes in and he turns the program around. When one door closes, the Good Lord has plans. It

was like in the Good Lords plans for him to come to Iowa."

Dan McCarney, Iowa letterman (1972-74) and former asst. coach

"He loves energy. He loves passion. He loves guys that can communicate. He had gotten some good recommendations, I don't know who they were from, from at least a couple people in Iowa City. One of the many things I learned from Hayden Fry: If a young man doesn't have all the things experience wise that you're looking for, but he has those other intangibles -- work ethic, loyalty, coachable, can communicate, can build relationships, a lot of enthusiasm, a lot of passion and energy for life, could be a good recruiter and a guy that might be a person on the rise -- then maybe I'll embrace him, give him a chance and opportunity, and that's what Hayden Fry did with me."

Chuck Long, Iowa QB (1981-85)

"I have to give him all the credit for getting my personal career launched among others. I speak for many of the Hawkeye football past players. He had a special way of making you feel good all the time even in the tough games and in the tough moments. For me it was after an interception. He had a way of getting you back up and confident. That feeling... not every coach has that ability and I've been around a bunch of them. Not every coach has that ability to make you feel confident and be positive even in the negative situations."

Merton Hanks, Iowa defensive back (1987-90)

"Hayden was always on the cutting edge and looking for the best people, regardless of race, creed, or color. What he did at Iowa, really rebuilding that program to what it was to, quite frankly, national power. To get it to the point where you were able to attract young men from states away, like myself, who may not have known about the University of Iowa and everything Iowa has to offer, speaks very well of not only him, but the University itself and being a partner with him to make the University of Iowa brand that much bigger and better."

Former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack

"Coach Fry led a return of Hawkeye football to winning seasons and regular bowl appearances. But, for me his greatest legacy is as a great teacher of young men especially the many coaches who have continued to emulate him as great coaches and teachers."

Ferentz: Fry 'set a standard for leadership'

Dargan Southard Des Moines Register

IOWA CITY, Ia. — As a man who inserts historical references into any press conference he can, Kirk Ferentz often circles back to 1981. It was his first year in the Iowa program — a fledgling offensive line coach under the eccentric Hayden Fry.

Ferentz didn't have a strong resume, just a few graduate assistant jobs and a stop leading Worcester Academy, when Fry hired the future Hawkeye head man. Ferentz hasn't forgotten that gesture and what's unfolded since.

"Every day, he set a standard for leadership," Ferentz said at Wednesday's press conference. "He had such a vision. There was no lack of clarity on how he wanted to do things."

Among the biggest marks Fry left was creating the iconic Tigerhawk logo — synonymous with Iowa athletics across the world. After it began circulating, it didn't take long for Ferentz to notice its impact.

"I go to my first high school game," Ferentz recalled, "and saw Tigerhawks everywhere."

Fry's standard of excellence fueled Ferentz once he took over the Iowa football program in 1999. After nine years learning under his mentor, Ferentz knew what was expected to continue Hawkeye glory.

Like Fry, Ferentz started out slow with back-to-back losing seasons. Fry led Iowa to the Rose Bowl in his third year. Ferentz had the Hawkeyes in the Orange Bowl in year four.

Asked how often he felt responsible for upholding Fry's legacy, Ferentz fought back tears with his answer.

"Every day," Ferentz said.

They made only one Hayden Fry

They made only one Hayden Fry.

That's a good thing, too. Because the sport of college football needed him at the time.

And it turned out, so did much of Iowa.

"Hayden was out of the box before being out of the box became a cliché," former Fry assistant Dan McCarney told me Tuesday.

McCarney spoke not long after news came out that the Iowa football legend, who came to define the university in Iowa City in so many ways, had died Tuesday at 90. McCarney, who coached with Fry at Iowa and against him as Iowa State's head coach years later, was swapping stories about the man he would forever call "coach."

McCarney even threw out this suggestion about Fry: "Here's one for you," Mac said. "They should make a movie about Hayden Fry."

If the movie is anything like the man, not a minute would be boring.

This was a man who made Hawkeye football into what it is today. He put Hawkeye football on the map and made outsiders feel as if they were family.

His big-picture story would also include moments such as these:

"I got President Bush and Barbara their first apartment," Fry once told reporters back when I covered his teams. "The parents of a girl I was dating back in Odessa (Texas) had a garage apartment they wanted to rent. George just got out of active duty and told me he and Barbara were looking for a place to live. I swung the deal for him."

Or this one:

When Fry wore black pants during the 1982 Iowa State game in Iowa City. "It was the first time in my life I'd ever



Randy Peterson
Columnist
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

seen him in anything other than white pants on the sidelines for a game," McCarney said during a past interview. "I asked him what the deal was, and Hayden said that he was wearing black pants, so he could blend in on the sidelines because someone was trying to kill him."

He wore a bullet-proof vest for a while, too, because "my bodyguard at the time got word that someone had me on a list of people that he wanted killed," Fry said after his retirement. "The guy was afraid I was going to someday be the governor. He knew I was from Texas, and for some reason, he didn't want a Texan to be the governor of the state of Iowa."

Fry was so popular, that he might have even won, which would have been a dandy part of the movie McCarney suggested. But in reality, there's no need to take creative license with this man's story.

Who'd be Fry?

We chatted maybe 10 minutes longer, before Mac abruptly said Kevin Costner.

Say what?

"Kevin Costner would be a great Hayden Fry," McCarney proudly said. "He'd do a great job."

That's how iconic the guy behind the dark glasses was. The more you knew Hayden, the more his charm grew on you. The more you covered his teams, the more you knew what to expect — from his crazy sayings, to the way he deflected criticism of his players when things weren't going so well.

"He was a trailblazer," McCarney said. "He was a life-changer. He was maverick. 'What the hell is Scratch where it itches?' What's that?"

It's one of those zany and wonderful things Fry said a lot.

"I scarcely know where to start," Big 12 commissioner and former Iowa athletics director Bob Bowlsby said about his Fry recollections on Tuesday night. "One that happened the first year I was at Iowa — the awful shootings on campus," he said of the 1991 campus killings.

"We were in Columbus. Hayden's daughter was working in the area where the shootings were. We couldn't get any information. We were playing a national television game the next day. I was a brand-new athletics director at Iowa, and somehow it didn't seem right to play a football game.

"But on that Friday evening before the game, we decided to take decals off the helmets and show support that way. Hayden's strength got us through it through it. He was a rock."

Back in the day, the two biggest names in our proud state were Hayden Fry and Gov. Robert Ray.

Sadly, both no longer are with us. Both, however, were iconic in their own ways.

"I had the good fortune to know both of them well," Bowlsby said Tuesday night. "It such a personal loss. They were both icons. They were both in the hearts of Iowans, and they resided there for many, many years."

"To have them gone, creates a significant void for those people — those that knew them, and those that knew them by reputation."

Randy Peterson has been writing for the Des Moines Register for parts of five decades.