

Red Peppers



By Gus Schrader
Gazette sports columnist

What, no baseball?

• While helping answer phone calls on Ron Gonder's Sports Talk program on WMT-radio the other night, we were upbraided by a woman for not writing about baseball this season.

Actually, she maintained we hadn't written anything on baseball, but we could show her a number of columns on the subject.

We enjoyed the first three exciting playoff games, but we can't drum up partisan feelings — maybe it's because the Yankees aren't there to abominate.

There are Cedar Raids angles on three of the teams: Bobby Gnoop, California Angels coach, played second base for the Cedar Rapids Braves in 1958; Alex Monhak, Pittsburgh Steelers coach, managed the Cedar Rapids Braves in 1958-59; and Ron Plaza, Cincinnati Reds coach, managed the Cedar Rapids Cardinals in 1965-66.

What's more, Chuck Tanner, Pittsburgh skipper, has been a good friend since he began his managing career with the Quad City Angels in 1963-64.

And we have had incredulous admiration for Earl Weaver, the Baltimore Orioles manager, because he's the only manager we've ever saw get kicked out of a major-league playoff game. It happened at Minnesota several years ago when the umpires took exception to Earl's conduct.

From a selfish standpoint, we ought to be cheering for the Reds to win the National League title and the World Series, but that's a real long shot now. The Reds have signed a two-year working agreement with the Cedar Rapids club, and it would be a boost for local baseball to be hitched to the world champs.

Pass the hash

• We keep having a hunch one of these games Iowa's football team will fall victim to Old Man Humble. So far the Hawks have capitalized on opponents' mistakes — although Coach Hayden Perry points out his defensive platoon has forced most of thoseumbles with hard tackles.

Iowa has taken up right where Perry's North Texas State team left off last season. North Texas led the nation in turnover difference, showing a net profit of 49 onumbles and interceptions.

Iowa leads the Big Ten with a plus-six in turnovers after four games. Iowa has recovered 12 opponents' fumbles and intercepted three passes while giving up fourumbles and having five passes stolen. Indiana and Michigan State are next with a plus-five each. Purdue has the worst turnover rating with a minus-seven.

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• Iowa's Kinnick Stadium does not have as many seats as it had when the record of 60,150 was set against Wisconsin in 1961. Two small stands were removed later, but Saturday's crowd — with hundreds seated on the grassy slopes — certainly did appear to be of record size. It was estimated officially at 61,100, tying for the record largest ever.

The Fry Era has been boffo so far. The three crowds so far — 59,780, 60,055 and 60,100 — are among the nine largest at Kinnick. Incidentally, there are plenty of tickets for Iowa's next two — at Illinois and Northwest.

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• The offensive linemen rarely get enough credit, and they are the real anonymous guys on any football team. Certainly Iowa's line was doing some hammering, as three of the five Cyclones scored out of Saturday's game were defensive players — end Ed Jensen, guard Chris Boskey and tackle Shamus McDonough.

Matt Petrzela, junior offensive tackle from Cedar Rapids Regis, declined to take any credit or forcing any of them out of action. Said Matt: "McDonough who played opposite Matt) got his shoulder or neck hurt on a pass play. I understand it actually was a recurrence of a previous injury."

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• Mary Schrad (no "er"), who played for the Iowa Cornets in the Women's Pro Basketball League last season, will perform in the European Women's League starting Nov. 1 — in Austria.

No. 1 outfit blanks Kennedy

DUBUQUE — The state's No. 1-ranked Class 4A football squad proved once again Thursday night that it is deserving of its ranking by totally outmaning a good Cedar Rapids Kennedy squad, 12-0.

The game was not as close as the score would indicate.

Hempstead was its own worst enemy, fumbling the ball away four times as well as committing several fourth down miscues deep in Cougar territory, terminating several scoring opportunities.

While the offense was self-destructing, the Mustang defense was executing in cool, efficient style, limiting Kennedy to a total of 69 yards total offense for the night. The Cougars could chalk up only one first down in the final half, and that came on the heels of a roughing the kicker penalty.

Kennedy Coach Greg Reed was philosophical in defeat, saying he was "proud of my

kids . . . we would have liked to have won, but I'm not that disappointed because we played well.

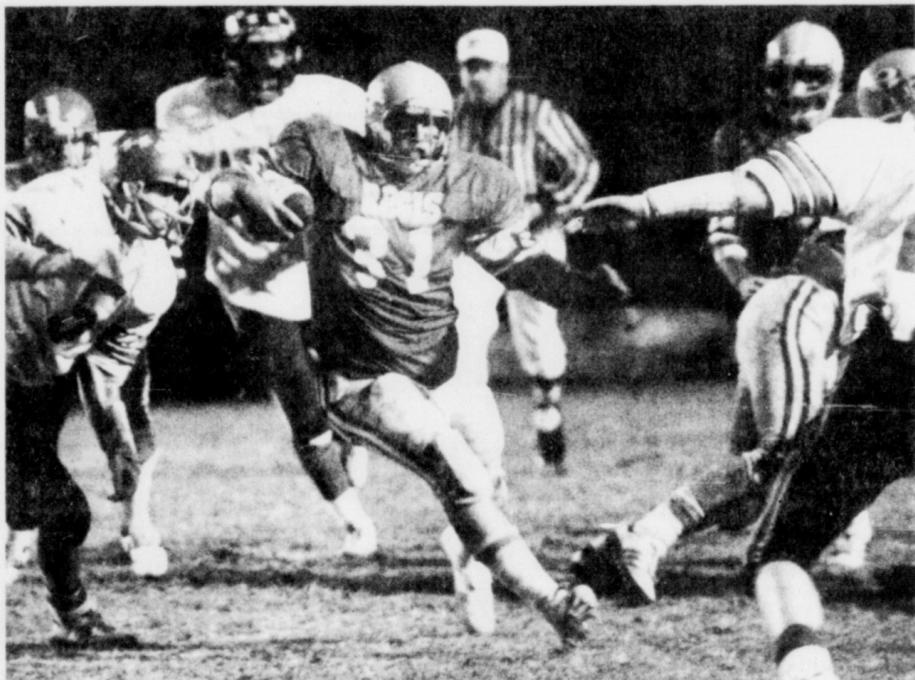
"Hempstead is one heck of a team. They've got my vote for No. 1."

Fullback Tom Holt scored both Mustang touchdowns, ripping over from the 2-yard line late in the first half following the recovery of a Kennedy fumble on its own 35-yard line. Holt also tallied on the first play of the fourth quarter, rambling 14 yards to cap a five-play drive.

Hempstead 12, Kennedy 0

	Kennedy	Hempstead
First downs	4	13
Yards rushing	21	216
Yards passing	48	39
Passes	6-19-2	2-3-0
Punts	5-32	2-34
Fumbles-lost	1-1	5-4
Yards penalty	20	25
Kennedy	0 0 0 0	0
Hempstead	0 6 0 6	12

Hempstead: TD — Holt (2, 14 runs). XP — run failed, kick failed.



Gazette photo by Tom Merryman

Cedar Rapids Regis fullback Keith Schlichte cuts through the Cedar Rapids Washington defense for one of his two touchdowns in the Royals' 21-8 victory Thursday night at Kingston Stadium. Schlichte sparked Regis by rushing for 143 yards on 19 carries.

In battle of ranked teams

Regis upends Wash, 21-8

"We play Washington on Oct. 4 this year, and since that's the day Pope John Paul II comes to Iowa, we're going to have the pope in the pressbox." — A joking Regis football coach Tom Good last month.

By Bob Hersom
Gazette sportswriter

Pope John Paul II wasn't in the Kingston Stadium pressbox Thursday night, but he must have given the Cedar Rapids Regis football team his blessing before departing Iowa Thursday afternoon.

The Royals stunned slightly-favored Cedar Rapids Washington with touchdowns the first three times they had the ball en route to a 21-8 victory. It was the 16th consecutive victory for the defending state Class 3A champs and their seventh in 12 meetings with Wash.

"It was a great overall team effort, because that was a great football team we beat tonight," said Good, whose 5-0 Royals could improve on their No. 2 ranking in AP's 3A-2A-A poll next week. After all, Wash was 3-1 and ranked No. 6 in AP's 4A poll.

"We got beat by a lot better ball club tonight," said Wash Coach Wally Sheets. "They were much better than we were."

Especially in the first 12 minutes and 9 seconds.

During that time, which went into the first play of the second quarter, the Royals outscored Wash 21-0 and gained 154 yards, compared to 18 for the Warriors.

"I was thinking with one more touchdown we might be safe," said Good, "because Wash is so explosive."

And Grayson Soukup, running out

of the backfield for the first time, scored the Royals' other TD on an 11-yard end run, finishing with 51 yards in 10 carries. Usually a split end, Soukup also completed a 20-yard pass and had an interception.

Dan Boddicker had the fourth interception, plus a 26-yard pass reception. Other Royal standouts on pass defense included John Clarahan and Mike O'Donnell.

With Bjornsen bottled up most of the night, Wash fullback Tim Zimmerman tried taking up the slack. He rushed for 78 yards in 12 carries.

When Regis' Valliere wasn't intercepting Wash passes, he was catching 'em for Regis, latching on to three for 59 yards.

Wash made a valiant effort in the second half. The Warriors' lone TD came with 9:56 left on Bjornsen's 5-yard run. A two-point pass from Dale to Clark notched the game's final points.

After trailing 21-0, Wash failed on fourth down tries at the Regis 20, 23 and 37 and had passes intercepted in the Regis end zone and at the Royals' 29.

Regis 21, Washington 8

	REGIS	WASH
First downs	15	13
Yards rushing	53-313	55-231
Yards passing	85	71
Passes	4-9-3	6-20-4
Punts	4-32	3-37
Fumbles-lost	1-0	0-0
Yards penalty	5-50	0-0
C.R. Washington	0 0 0 0	8
C.R. Regis	14 7 0 0	21

R — Grayson Soukup 11 run (kick, Jeff Fox) 5:01 1st Q.
R — Keith Schlichte 2 run (kick, Fox) 1:51 1st Q.
R — Schlichte 47 run (kick, Fox) 11:51 2nd Q.
W — Greg Bjornsen 5 run (pass, Pat Dale to Gary Clark) 9:56 4th Q.

C.R. volleyball teams No. 2, 3

DES MOINES — Unbeaten Dubuque Wahlert (15-0) solidified its hold on the No. 1 spot, while two Cedar Rapids teams — Jefferson and Kennedy — moved up in the latest Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union volleyball ratings.

Jefferson, with wins this week over Kennedy and Iowa City West along with a loss to Wahlert, occupied the No. 2 spot. Kennedy was elevated to No. 3 on the strength of its win at the Dubuque Hempstead Invitational and Tuesday's dual win over the Mustangs at Dubuque.

Muscatine and Britt round out the top five, respectively.

Orioles try to finish it tonight

BALTIMORE (UPI) — Like a misinformed Oriole distance runner, the Baltimore Orioles sprinted far out in front Thursday and barely had enough left to stagger home.

Their tight 9-8 decision over the California Angels was worth more than just a victory — it gave the Orioles a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five American League playoff.

Baltimore tries to wrap up its fourth playoff title and earn its fifth World Series berth tonight by sending right-hander Dennis Martinez, 15-16, against Angel left-hander Frank Tanana, 7-5, in Anaheim, Calif.

Unleashing a seven-hit, eight-run barrage in the first two innings Thursday, the Orioles left the California Angels for dead. But it took some effective, if not efficient, relief pitching by Don Stanhouse to hold off a furious Angel rally and preserve the victory.

Stanhouse worked in and out of a world of trouble in the ninth inning before coaxing Brian Downing, a .326 hitter, to bounce into a fielder's choice to end the game.

Orioles Manager Earl Weaver stayed with Stanhouse despite having left-hander Tippy Martinez ready in the bullpen. Stanhouse gave up two walks and three hits in the ninth and was behind in the count on nearly every hitter.

"Never a doubt in my mind," grinned Stanhouse, resplendent in his bright orange "Stan the Man Unusual" T-shirt. "Earl was right out there in front, rooting for me today. He usually doesn't see me pitch."

Weaver, who nicknamed Stanhouse "full pack" after consuming several cigarettes while his top reliever is on the mound, often paces the dugout runway while Stanhouse is working.

"The runway didn't work today," said Weaver. "Every time I went back there, they got another man on base, so I stayed right up on the front step and suffered through it."

"Don is very good at keeping the ball in the ballpark. He's given up only two or three home runs in two years. He never gives in to a hitter. It didn't look like he had his real good stuff, but Don's as good a guy against them as anybody."

Pinch hitter Larry Harlow opened the Angel ninth with a walk and Rick Miller hit into a fielder's choice. Pinch hitter Willie Davis doubled to left putting runners on second and third and Harlow scored when Rod Carew grounded to second.

Carney Lansford's bloop single to right scored Davis. Dan Ford, who hit his second home run of the playoffs in the first, singled to left. Lansford took third and Ford went to second on the throw to third.

Weaver ordered Don Baylor, who led the major leagues with 139 runs batted in, walked intentionally and Downing ended the game grounding to third baseman Doug DeCinces who tagged Ford.

The Orioles scored four times in the first on two-out singles by Eddie Murray, Pat Kelly and DeCinces and Ford's throwing error. They added four in the second on Kiko Garcia's single and Murray's three-run, 425-foot blast into the right-field bleachers.

Garcia, who walked twice in addition to two singles, normally is used for his offensive potential. Thursday, however, he had 11 chances in the field and tied a playoff record with nine assists.

The Angels are in a deep hole but Manager Jim Fregosi doesn't see their plight as impossible.

"This club has fought back all year the same exact way (as Thursday)," he said. "We've come back from a lot of adversity. I think we'll go to California and win three in a row."

Fregosi was forced to use 81 different lineups in 162 regular-season games as the Angels suffered 47 injuries and had eight different players on the disabled list.

If the Angels stay alive by winning Friday night, Fregosi will send Chris Knapp, 5-5, against Baltimore's Scott McGregor, 13-6, Saturday in a battle of right-handers. Nolan Ryan, who started Wednesday night's opening game which the Orioles won, 6-3, on John Lowenstein's two-out pinch-hit homer in the 10th inning, would pitch the fifth game Sunday against either right-hander Steve Stone, 11-7, or first-game starter Jim Palmer.

No trade

BOSTON (UPI) — Red Sox General Manager Haywood Sullivan has denied rumors that Boston would trade center fielder Fred Lynn to the San Diego Padres or Los Angeles Dodgers, according to a report published today.

"There's absolutely no truth to the rumors," Sullivan said.



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