

The
Gazette

SPORTS

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MIKE
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sports
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Angels seek higher cloud

DAVENPORT — If people here have their way, the Cedar Rapids Reds won't be paying many more visits to the handsomely refurbished stadium of the Quad City Angels.

Not that Quad Citians have anything against Cedar Rapids. It's just that there are high hopes here of landing a Class AAA franchise. Locals have been on a well-organized crusade to convince the current 26 AAA owners that their community is worthy of Triple-A, which will expand to 28 when the National League's two new teams begin operation in 1993.

A crowd of 4,120 was plenty excited about Game 1 of the Class A Midwest League's Southern Division playoffs Friday night, which pitted the second-half champion Quad City against first-half titlist Cedar Rapids. Angels fans have been plenty supportive all season. Quad Cities attracted 204,874 fans this season. With a Triple-A franchise, there is reason to believe the attendance would be quite good by Triple-A standards.

"There is a lot to be gained with a Triple-A franchise from the city's standpoint," Angels owner Rick Holtzman said. "It's been figured that the economy of the community would gain \$15 million per year. From an economic standpoint it improves the livability of the community. It's also a prestige thing."

MORE THAN \$3 MILLION was spent a couple of years ago to remodel deteriorating John O'Donnell Stadium. It bears little resemblance to the way it had looked a couple of years ago. It now seats about 5,800, but can easily be increased to 10,000, which is part of the criteria set by the Triple-A owners.

"The city of Davenport has committed the funds to expand the stadium," Holtzman said.

Holtzman is a baseball entrepreneur. He also owns a AAA franchise in Tucson, Ariz., a AA team in Chattanooga, Tenn., and an A club in Columbia, S.C. He just sold a AA franchise in Midland, Texas.

Supposedly, his goal is to own a major-league franchise, but Holtzman is content to buy minor-league clubs with potential for great financial improvement.

In 1987, the year before the Angels were purchased by Holtzman, a Chicago real estate developer, the franchise drew 60,999 fans. Two years later, the Angels' attendance was 191,459. All the while, Holtzman and many Quad Cities leaders were thinking Triple-A.

"That was my goal when I bought the franchise in '87," Holtzman said. "The market size of the Quad Cities can support it."

TWENTY CITIES requested and were sent applications for a Triple-A franchise. Included are fellow Midwest League cities Peoria and South Bend, though neither appear to have the backing or organization of the Quad Cities.

If there has been an important minor-league function the last several months, the Quad Cities people have been there. They swamped Las Vegas this summer when the Triple-A All-Star Game was held in that city, distributing buttons and literature heralding the Quad Cities as worthy of Triple-A.

Ottawa, Ontario, appears to be the only city that has worked as hard as the Quad Cities in lining up support. There are some imposing cities among the other candidates, such as New Orleans, Memphis, Hartford and Charlotte, but Holtzman claims the Quad Cities is the only candidate to meet all of Triple-A's demands.

Nearly 3,000 down payments of \$50 have been made on Quad Cities Triple-A season tickets. Something that also helps the campaign are the community's central geographic location as far as the American Association is concerned.

Des Moines is Triple-A, Davenport could become Triple-A, and Cedar Rapids is between them, stuck in Single-A. I feel an inferiority complex coming on.

Reds bow to 12th-inning homer at Q.C.

By Mike Koolbeck
Gazette sportswriter

DAVENPORT — Jeff Gay's two-out home run in the bottom of the 12th inning lifted the Quad City Angels past the Cedar Rapids Reds, 5-4, Friday night before 4,120 fans at John O'Donnell Stadium in Game 1 of the Midwest League Southern Division playoffs.

Gay's blow came on a 2-0 pitch from Reds right-hander Mark Borchard.

Mike Hook pitched four innings in relief for the win.

The best-of-three series shifts to Cedar Rapids' Memorial Stadium for games tonight and, if necessary, Sunday. Tonight's game begins at 7.

Probable starting pitchers for tonight's game are right-hander Joe Turek (13-6, 2.34 ERA) for the Reds and right-hander Steve King (9-9, 2.70) for Quad City.

Every member of the Reds' starting lineup had at least one hit but the Reds could not get the big hit, stranding 15 runners. Cedar Rapids had 12 hits.

Quad City had eight hits.

Edgal Rodriguez's one-out bases-loaded single in the Quad City ninth scored two runs and tied the game, 4-4.

An intentional walk to Ronnie Ortegón loaded the bases. Chad Curtis then lined what appeared to be the game-winning hit towards right. But Cedar Rapids' Motor-Boat Jones made a running catch and

Damion Easley, who had not tagged up at third, was unable to score. Jim Aylward fouled out to end the inning.

The Angels' uprising came at the expense of Cedar Rapids relief ace Dave McAuliffe, who walked two of the three batters he faced leading off the Quad City ninth before he was replaced by Borchard.

Borchard walked Easley before giving up Rodriguez's game-tying hit.

Cedar Rapids had a chance to reclaim the lead in the 10th. Jones tripled into the right-center field gap with one out, Jeff Branson walked and Reggie Sanders flied to medium center field. Jones tagged and headed for the plate. The throw by Quad

City center fielder Chad Curtis beat Jones but was off line and high, giving Jones a chance to slide in safely. Inexplicably, Jones did not slide and was tagged out.

Cedar Rapids starter Mo Sanford scattered five hits in six-plus innings.

Sanford was lifted after walking designated hitter Larry Gonzales leading off the Quad City seventh. He was replaced by right-handed strikeout artist Victor Garcia who, after giving up a sacrifice bunt to Bobby Jones, fanned Easley and Rodriguez to end the inning.

A walk to Motor-Boat Jones, a stolen base and Branson's liner to the wall for a run-scoring double broke a 2-2 tie and gave the Reds a 3-2 lead in the seventh.

Washington blanks Prairie

By Bob Denney
Gazette sportswriter

Cedar Rapids Washington and host Prairie traded football turnovers like youngsters peddle baseball cards Friday night at John Wall Field.

Washington emerged the winner in this swap, handing the Hawks a 20-0 defeat in a Missis-

PREP FOOTBALL

sippi Valley Conference season opener before an estimated 4,000 fans.

Each team committed four turnovers, but Washington built a 14-0 halftime lead to hold the Hawks off. Warriors senior quarterback Derek Fulton gave his team all the points it needed, completing a 28-yard scoring pass to Tyson Schwiager with 1:49 left in the first quarter.

Jason Merta booted the extra point and later scored on a 1-yard run to hike the advantage to 14-0 with 8:33 left in the first half.

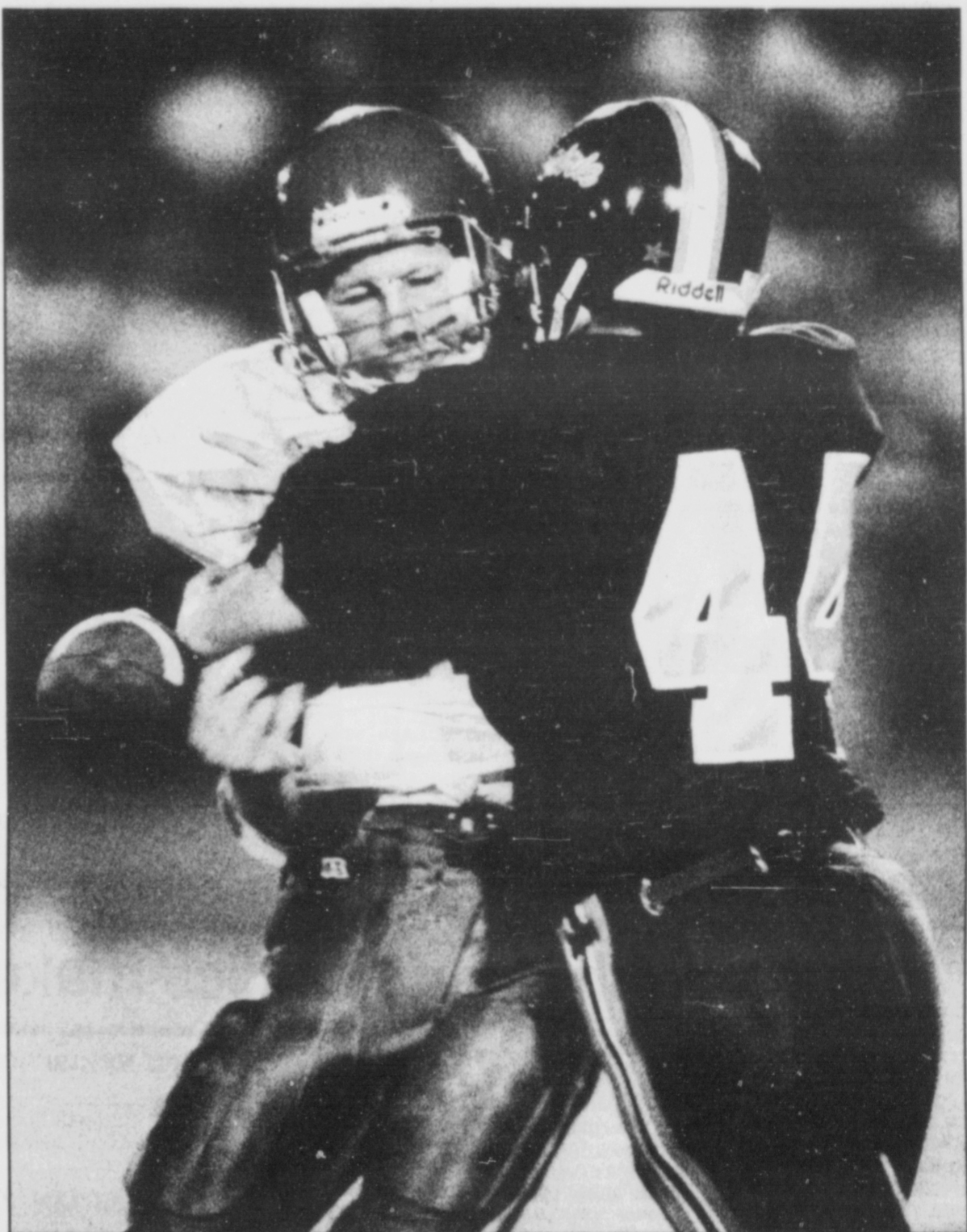
Washington reserve tailback Scott Hull wrapped up the offensive fireworks with a 2-yard run with 3:07 left to play. The extra point placement was botched — which was the theme of the evening — and a conversion run by Merta failed.

It was billed as a passing duel, with Fulton coming into the game with the most passing yardage (1,234 in 1989) of any league quarterback. However, Washington's ground attack was the equalizer.

Prairie quarterback Mike Kleppe completed just 7 of 30 attempts in an attempt lead a rally, and had two passes intercepted and several dropped. Washington Warriors out-rushed the Hawks, 183-75. The biggest gain was a 68-yard sprint on a draw play by Warrior junior fullback Dan Johnson on a 3rd-and-12 play at the end of the third quarter. Johnson finished with a game-high 89 yards on seven carries.

Washington's threat stalled at the 12, however, when Johnson fumbled and Prairie's Chad Steele recovered.

"It goes on the right side of the column, doesn't it?" asked Warriors Coach Wally Sheets. "It was bad as far as a game. I think maybe we should have returned the money to some of the people that came out to watch it."



Gazette photo by Chris Stewart

Cedar Rapids Washington quarterback Derek Fulton, left, takes a big hit from Cedar Rapids Prairie's Eric Smith and fumbles on the last play of the first half Friday night at Prairie. The Warriors beat the Hawks, 20-0, in the season-opening game.

"It was a comedy of errors. There's a lot of work to be done, no question about it."

Sheets, a former quarterback himself, critiqued his senior signal-caller, who enjoyed a sterling first half before getting out of synch.

Fulton completed 10 of 18 passes for 150 yards, and was

intercepted twice. He was 8 of 11 the first half.

"Derek's got some things he's got to learn and if he learns them he'll be alright," said Sheets. "But he's got to stay in the pocket and not throw the ball up for grabs. It's good to get this under the belt and see where we go from here."

Prairie Coach Craig Jelinek said his team was "a step short on some passes and a step short on some runs."

"I think the difference was their running backs," said Jelinek. "Once he got the lead he was able to use the running

■ Please turn to 3C: Wash

Saluki coach thinks Panthers are team to beat in Gateway

His Southern Illinois team gets that chance today in UNI-Dome

By Bob Denney

CEDAR FALLS — Southern Illinois football coach Bob Smith said he isn't shy about revealing his choice for the top team in the Gateway Conference.

The fact his Salukis open their season against Northern Iowa in the UNI-Dome today at 1:30 p.m. has nothing to do with it.

"I was one of two voters in preseason who felt Northern Iowa will win the Gateway," said Smith. "Maybe that was the feeling in my heart. But, I really believe they are the team to beat. They have a fine returning cast and I don't think talk about whose quarterback is or isn't experienced means much."

UNI Coach Terry Allen may appreciate Smith's vote of confidence, but he isn't excited about opening his season against a Gateway foe.

"It's a good test for our defensive players run-

ning into a team which has not one but two fine quarterbacks and outstanding receivers," Allen said. "It's not anything our older kids haven't faced before, but we have to be mentally prepared for this one. We can't beat ourselves."

Last year's home opener against Mankato State was also Allen's debut as head coach. UNI committed four turnovers, and a breakdown in special teams coverage resulted in a humbling 22-14 loss to Division II Mankato State.

"This early in the season turnovers dictate who wins and who loses," said Allen. "The scheme isn't as important as the execution."

UNI whipped the Salukis, 38-14, in the next-to-last game of the 1989 campaign. The Panthers have a five-game home winning streak dating back to last season's second game against Fort



Terry Allen

■ Please turn to 2C: UNI

Spoiler Cubs slip by 1st-place Cincinnati

CHICAGO (AP) — Andre Dawson knows how difficult right field can be in Wrigley Field when the late afternoon sun shines over the grandstand.

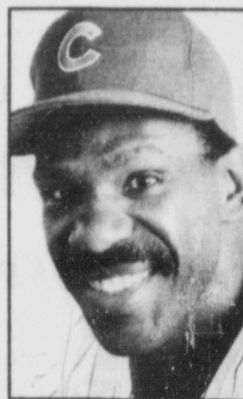
Paul O'Neill knows, too. O'Neill lost Dawson's fly ball in the sun in the ninth inning

Baseball roundup, page 2C

Friday, allowing it to drop for a leadoff double. Luis Salazar and Joe Girardi followed with RBI singles to give the Chicago Cubs a 4-3 victory over the first-place Cincinnati Reds.

"I know how tough it is out there," said Dawson, who plays the position regularly. "It's tougher in center field around one o'clock but late in the afternoon it really gets tough in right field."

O'Neill said "All I could do was stick my glove out and hope the ball would go into it. I feel worse than anybody. I saw it coming off the bat and saw it hooking. That's the trouble with playing



Andre Dawson

right field here at five o'clock. Between four and five the sun is directly in the right fielder's eyes."

Before losing Dawson's fly, O'Neill looked to be the hero for the Reds. He hit his 15th homer in the second inning and singled home another run in the sixth after Billy Hatcher had hit his fifth homer.

"Dawson's double lit a fire under them," said Reds manager Lou Piniella. "Sure it was a freak play, but that happens . . ."

AUTO RACING

Friday's Results

AT WEST UNION SPEEDWAY
Season Championships
Hobby Stock

Heat winners: #1 — Don Humpal (F. Atkinson); #2 — Loren Kuennen (Ostian); #3 — Mark Jencks (Hawkeye); #4 — Jeff Reinking (Profitt); #5 — Rick Suckow (Maynard). **C feature** — Derrel Reinser (Oelwein). **B feature** — Reinking.

A feature — 1. King Irvine (Hazelton); 2. Randy Irvine (Oelwein); 3. Suckow.

Modified street stock

Heat winners: #1 — Todd Schaubert (New Hampton); #2 — Ray Lund (Maynard).

Feature — 1. Dave Myers (Ridge)

IMCA modified
Heat winners: #1 — Dan Doniar (Decorah); #2 — John Light (Wadena); #3 — Larry Schmidt (New Hampton).
Feature — 1. Tim Anderson (Dodge Center, Minn.); 2. Schmidt; 3. Timm Jensen (Dunkerton).

AMATEUR

SOFTBALL

**ASA Major
16-Inch Nationals**

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
(At Kirkwood Complex)

Whips 11, Aces 0
Bud-45 15, Philadelphia Bar & Grill
J-Birds 22, Budmen 2
Gators 4, Little Caesar's 3

Stooges 12, C.R. Budweiser 4
Taggers 19, Carpet Country 7

TODAY'S SCHEDULE
First-round games

10 a.m. — Flyers vs. Stimley's; Jynx vs. Castle Kings; Renegades vs. Pegasus.

11:10 a.m. — Touch vs. Wedge; Stagger Inn vs. Southside; Farners vs. Bocken vs. Carlisle VFW.

12:20 — Saxons Lodge vs. C.R. Merchants; Losers bracket games begin.

ASA 16-Inch A Nationals

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
(At Marshalltown)

Sultans 6, Hawkeye Westdale 4
Stickle Salvage 9, Fury 7
Gamblers 6, Steak Center 0
Crush 4, Bandits (Marsh) 2
Jesse's Inn (N.Y.) 6, Static (Chicago)

Feed & Animal (Lake City), 7 Saints
(Chicago) 0
Panthers 4, Sportsman's Corner 0.

BOWLING

Highlights
MEN

Joe Staub was fired up with the Thursday Scratch at Lancer Lanes and earned honors for game and series with

WOMEN

reFebure at Jubilee Lanes and gained honors for game and series with 242-618.

LEAGUES

MAY CITY BOWLING CENTER

Men's Allied Ind: Dave Hogan 227-271
Lucky Strikers: Denise Peters 203-552
Old May Mixers: Tom Barfels 101-300
May Kameylens: 196. Staci Norton 422.

WESTDALE BOWLING CENTER

Ladies Allied Ind: Jeri Snyder 211, Arny Featherback 265. **Two Plus Two:** Carol Hansen 204, Mary Ellen Fuller 207. **Herb Richards:** 245-546. **Lazy Lassies:** Ada Potratz 193-487.

CASTLE LANES

North Lion: Muff Corrieley 246. **Terry O'Connell:** 622. **Ramco Old Style:** Steve Goss 219-570. **Old Style Gazette:** Harry Burt 225. **Paul Gloor:** 231-547. **Harley Classic:** Kevin Williamson 233-0199. **Parlor City Thru:** Dan Mover 258-458.

JUBILEE LANES

LeFebure: Barb Carver 242-618. **Jim Scott:** 198-570. **Old Style Gazette:** Harry Burt 225. **Paul Gloor:** 231-547. **Harley Classic:** Kevin Williamson 233-0199. **Parlor City Thru:** Dan Mover 258-458.

LANCER LANES

Thor Scratch: Joe Staub 681-886-894. **Kathy Fry:** 235-590. **Sud O'Clock Thru:** Mrs. Ernie Higgins 245. **Quod Deeds:** 235-590. **Old Style Gazette:** Harry Elaine Edens 515. **Scatter Queens:** Harlene Stewart 179. **Winnie Van Houten:** 496.



HORSES

Friday's Results

AT PRAIRIE MEADOWS

Evening session

FIRST RACE—Pacers: n/w of 1 pari-mutuel race lifetime or \$1,000 lifetime five-years-old and under; Purse—\$800. Time: 2:03.2. 3 Quit Sniveling 3.20 3.60 2.80. 1 Quick Skidaway 9.80 4.00. 2 Puddin' Pop 4.20. Exactas: (3-11)31.40. Quinella: (1-3) 21.40. **SECOND RACE**—

lifetime or \$2,500 lifetime; Purse--\$1,000; Time: 2:02.2. 4 John Henry Hawk
10.40, 5.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00

[illegible]

Sharp 11.40 5.00. 5 G T Lady H 6.40.
Exacta: (4-7) 166.00. Quinella: (4-7)

EIGHTH RACE--Pacers; Hawkeye Colt Stakes; three-year-olds, Iowa-bred or registered; Purse--\$11,000; Time: 1:58.3. 3 Big Issue 2.80 2.20. 5 Lady Cobra 2.20. No show wagering. Exacta: (3-5)

NINTH RACE--Pacers; Claiming--\$2,000; n/w of \$300 first money since June 1, 1990; Purse: \$2,000. 7:55 PM.

2024.4 Joshua's Devotion 7.00 3.40 2.80.
6 Sharp Arrow 3.80 3.80. 1 Trace A
Dream 3.60. Trifecta: (4-6-1) 55.20.
Exacta: (4-6) 24.40. Quinella: (4-6) 11.20.
Attendance: 1,991; Handle: 102,292.

Listen to
OS PLAYOFFS
Cedar Rapids
vs.
Quad Cities
tonight at 6:50 pm
on
95.1 shine 104