

Huskies: In Iowa City Saturday

■ From page 1B

difficult. We are committed to having a very strong independent I-A football program, but scheduling is just a lot tougher."

In addition to Iowa, Florida, Kansas State and Fresno State, the Huskies have Arkansas State, Louisiana Tech, Western Michigan, Akron, Southwestern Louisiana, Illinois State and Toledo on their schedule this year.

"There's a motive to the madness there," laughed O'Dell. "While it looks like a potpourri of opponents, there is a reason."

The reason is this: Northern Illinois wants a balanced schedule that's mixed with major independents, major conferences, medium-sized independents and smaller conferences. That way the Huskies can offer an attractive schedule to their fans but also make sure they win a few games.

The formula has worked fairly well. Northern Illinois finished 5-1, 7-4, 9-2 and 6-5 the last four years under Jerry Pettibone, who left after the 1990 season to become head coach at Oregon State.

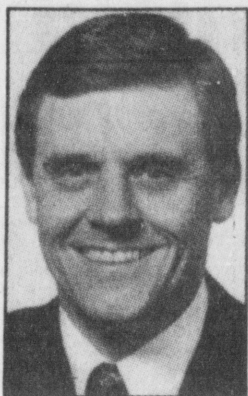
(Bill Mallory, now at Indiana, coached at NIU from 1980-83, and Lee Corso, a commentator for ESPN, spent the 1984 campaign with the Huskies after spending a decade at Indiana.)

The Huskies' current head coach is Charlie Sadler, who was the defensive coordinator at Oklahoma. Sadler and O'Dell spent four years together at Iowa State from 1979-82 as assistant coaches under ex-Cyclone boss Donnie Duncan.

O'Dell thinks Sadler can lift Northern Illinois to new heights, but it will take time. Sadler has introduced new offensive and defensive schemes, and he inherited a young club. But the Huskies are not looking for quick fixes or temporary success. They want long-term happiness.

"In a society that revolves around fast-food restaurants and overnight delivery, there's no overnight delivery when you're building a football program," said O'Dell.

He'd like to see NIU's Huskie Stadium expanded from 30,998 seats to 45,000 or 50,000, to accom-



Charlie Sadler



Gerald O'Dell

modate more fans but also to position the school for the future. O'Dell said Northern Illinois is not actively seeking a conference affiliation, but he admits he's not sure if the Huskies can survive into the 21st century as an independent. He wants Northern Illinois ready should a major conference come calling.

O'Dell said not everyone in DeKalb applauded the school's decision to quit the MAC six years ago, but he's sure it was the right move to make at the time.

"I think there's some trepidation today, because people like to have that family feeling that a conference brings," he said. "But the decision to leave the MAC was to allow the opportunity to literally spread our wings to grow and become more than just a regional team, and I think we've done that."

"There are going to be the skeptics who are going to come forth and say, 'Well, we told you so.' But I look back at what's happened over the last four years: We've done extremely well."

"We feel like we're on track."

4 inductees slated for golf Hall of Fame

Four inductees will be honored Oct. 14 at the third annual Iowa Golf Association Hall of Fame banquet at Collins Plaza Hotel.

The honorees are: Bob Leahy of Cedar Falls, Phyllis Otto Germain, formerly of Atlantic; the late A.E. "Ed" Cott of Iowa State;

and Don Narveson of Waterloo. The banquet is open to the public, and tickets may be obtained from the Golf Office. Tickets are \$35.

Mail checks, payable to IGA-PGA, to 1930 St. Andrews NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402.

Marble: Stiff competition for spot on Pistons' roster

■ From page 1B

contract and then had him play in a tournament featuring rookies and free agents of the Pistons, Indiana Pacers, New Jersey Nets and Washington Bullets. Following that, Marble was asked to report to the Pistons' veteran camp that opens Oct. 4 at Saginaw Valley State in Saginaw.

"He told me 'do what you do best and be ready come October 4th,'" Marble said of his last conversation with McCloskey.

But doing what he does best has not always been the easiest task for Marble.

"When I try to live up to other people's expectations, I always seem to fall short," he said.

Like his first year in Atlanta, when Marble found himself sitting at the end of the bench for the first time since he picked up a basketball as a kid.

"I found I was trying to fit in and nothing seemed to work. Some days things would click but then I'd wake up the next day and not remember what I did that was so right the day before."

After averaging 2.1 points in 24 games, Marble's season came to a halt that February when he tested positive for cocaine and was suspended by the NBA. He completed a treatment program at the NBA's Van Nuys, Calif., rehabilitation center and was cleared to play again last season.

But talent alone won't always

keep a player in the NBA. Being in the right place at the right time is also important.

Atlanta traded Marble to the Houston Rockets, where he made it to the final cut before being cut the eve of the season opener.

"I just got caught up in the numbers," he said. "They went with what worked best for them. I was being paid a considerable amount, and they went with some guys who weren't going to cost them as much."

So it was back to Grand Blanc, Mich., where Marble makes his home.

Meanwhile, the Silver Bullets made a deal with the Yakima Sun Kings for Marble's CBA rights.

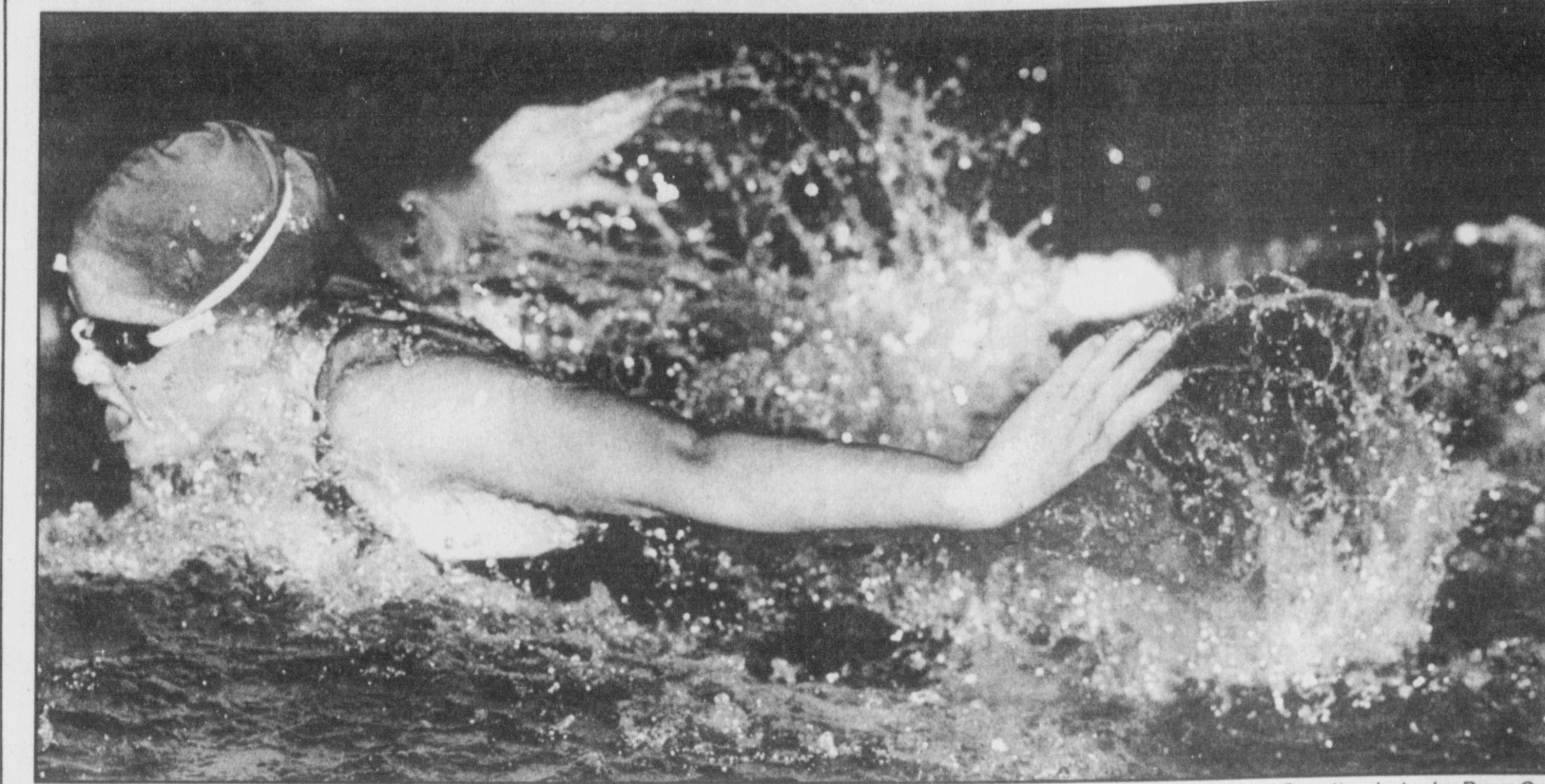
After giving strong consideration to playing in Europe, Marble relented and signed with the Silver Bullets Dec. 3. He averaged 20.6 points and 6.1 rebounds in 42 games.

"The CBA really humbled me. There were good times, and I had some good games. But the season was over just when I was getting into my own game."

The CBA was good in two ways for Marble.

"I gained a lot of confidence, and I think that was something I had lost the last couple of years. And it also told me where I didn't want to be."

Another chapter in the education of Roy Marble.



Gazette photo by Buzz Orr

Flying J-Hawk

Cindy Robeson of Jefferson swims her butterfly leg in the individual medley relay Saturday during the J-Hawk Invitational Relays at Jefferson. Cedar Falls was the team winner in the meet. Results in Fine Print, 12B.

NEWS NOTES/AREA SPORTS

Rough day for Metro in volleyball play

■ Saturday was a down day for Metro volleyball teams.

Fourth-ranked Cedar Rapids Jefferson finished a disappointing fourth at the Waterloo West Invitational.

Linn-Mar lost in the semifinals of the Dyersville Beckman tournament. Kennedy failed to make it past pool play at the Wahlert tournament.

Benton-Norway went unbeaten and won the Marion/Benton-Norway tournament at Marion. Solon finished second. Regis and LaSalle tied for third.

The J-Hawks (18-3-3) went 1-2-2 on the day, placing second to Waterloo West in pool play.

Waterloo Columbus, ranked 16th in Class 2A, beat Jefferson, 15-0, 14-16, 15-3, in the semifinals. The Sailors downed the host Wahawks, 13-15, 15-8, 15-4, in the championship.

Amy Fottrall led the J-Hawks with 34 kills and nine blocks. Marsha Timm dished out 54 assists. Karen Schulte served 100 percent (37 of 37). Becky Mach led Jefferson with 26 digs.

At Dyersville, Beckman

downed Linn-Mar, 15-11, 15-5, in the semifinals and beat Independence in the finals.

The Cougars finished third in pool play with a 3-3 mark. Kennedy took two games from Cedar Falls in pool play, 15-11, 15-10.

Top-ranked Wahlert beat the Tigers, 15-8, 15-5, in the finals. Kennedy beat Mount Vernon, 15-7, 15-3, for fifth place.

Stang tops field

■ GRINNELL — Cornell's Aaron Stang topped a large field at the Les Duke Invitational cross country meet Saturday. Stang won the 8,000-meter race in 26 minutes.

Fourteen schools fielded complete men's teams, 16 had full women's squads.

In a battle of ranked Division III teams, No. 7 Augustana, Ill., beat No. 11 Grinnell, 69-103, for the men's team title.

Carleton won the women's team race. The individual winner of the women's 5,000 was Amber Anderson of Midland Lutheran in 18:18.

Kennedy easy winner

■ IOWA CITY — Senior Mike Morrison scored three times Fri-

day night as Class 4A fifth-ranked Kennedy blanked host Iowa City West, 48-0, in Mississippi Valley Conference football action.

Morrison rushed for 115 yards, including a 64-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. He scored on a six-yard run in the first quarter and had another TD run in the third. Morrison also had a 39-yard pass reception.

Eric Martin scored on runs of two and five yards.

D.J. Doyle scored on a 55-yard punt return in the second quarter that put the Cougars up, 21-0, at halftime.

Jim Bozeman's three-yard run in the fourth quarter rounded out the Cougars' scoring. Manuel Pieltnai booted six extra points.

West fell to 0-4. MVC leader Kennedy (4-0) plays Washington at Kingston Stadium Friday.

Hawks need a win

■ IOWA CITY — Host Iowa needs a win over Indiana State this afternoon to make the finals of its Hawkeye Challenge volleyball tournament.

Play begins at 9 a.m. today. Iowa's match with Indiana State (4-6) is slated for 1 p.m.

The Hawkeyes (3-7) split a pair of five-game matches Saturday — beating NAIA College of St. Francis, 14-16, 15-5, 11-15, 15-7, 15-9, and falling to Kansas, 15-7, 13-15, 11-15, 15-13, 15-4.

Against St. Francis, freshman Tracy Schunk led Iowa with 18 kills and five digs. Trista Schoenbeck added 15 kills and five digs. Michelle Buckner dished out a season-high 55 assists.

Against Kansas, Schoenbeck had 18 kills and Erin Weaver had 16. Michelle Haywood had 13 kills and 13 digs. Buckner had 50 assists.

Kansas (13-1) and St. Louis (4-8) play in the 11 a.m. semifinal. The championship is at 3 p.m.

Cedar Falls wins

■ Cedar Falls won the J-Hawk Invitational girls' swim meet Saturday at Jefferson.

The Tigers won five of the 10 relay events, tallying 112 points. Mason City and Dubuque Wahlert tied for second. Iowa City West, host Jefferson and Iowa City High rounded out the six-team field.

The host J-Hawks fared best in the free relays, placing third

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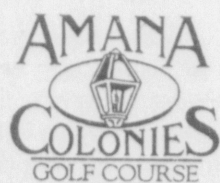
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