

Stumping outdoors

Outdoor TV personality Tony Dean tries to drum up support for Kerry, 6C

SPORTS

P R E P S ■ C O L L E G E S ■ P R O S

C The Gazette
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SIDELINE

AP

Pictured is the Heartland Trophy, to be awarded annually to the winner of the Iowa-Wisconsin football game. The Hawkeyes and Badgers square off this season Nov. 20 at Kinnick Stadium.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL**Iowa-Wisconsin winner getting some hardware**

IOWA CITY — First there was the Floyd of Rosedale and later the Cy-Hawk Trophy. Add the Heartland Trophy to the list of Iowa football traveling trophies.

Athletics directors Bob Bowlsby of Iowa and Barry Alvarez of Wisconsin announced Thursday that the winner of the annual Iowa-Wisconsin football game will receive the Heartland Trophy, a 30-inch tall, 36-inch long and 18-inch deep bull.

The trophy, designed by former Iowa football player Frank Strub, will be unveiled Nov. 20 before this year's game in Iowa City.

The Floyd of Rosedale, a bronze pig, goes to the winner of the Iowa-Minnesota game each year, the Cy-Hawk to the Iowa-Iowa State winner.

PRO BASKETBALL**Ex-Hawk Reiner makes roster with Bulls**

CHICAGO — Former University of Iowa center Jared Reiner made the roster with the NBA's Chicago Bulls, according to a university news release.

Reiner averaged 3.3 points and 3.4 rebounds and shot 40.9 percent from the field in eight exhibition games.

PRO FOOTBALL**Banks hits big numbers in first Canadian start**

Former Iowa quarterback Brad Banks made his first professional start last Saturday for the Ottawa Renegades of the Canadian Football League. Banks completed 26 of 37 passes for 317 yards, two touchdowns and an interception. He led the Renegades with eight rushes for 37 yards and a 1-yard touchdown run.

Ottawa (5-12) lost to the division-leading Montreal Alouettes, 52-21.

BASEBALL**Astros' Beltran promptly files for free agency**

After hitting eight homers for the Houston Astros to tie the postseason record, Carlos Beltran was among 65 players who filed for free agency Thursday, the first possible day.

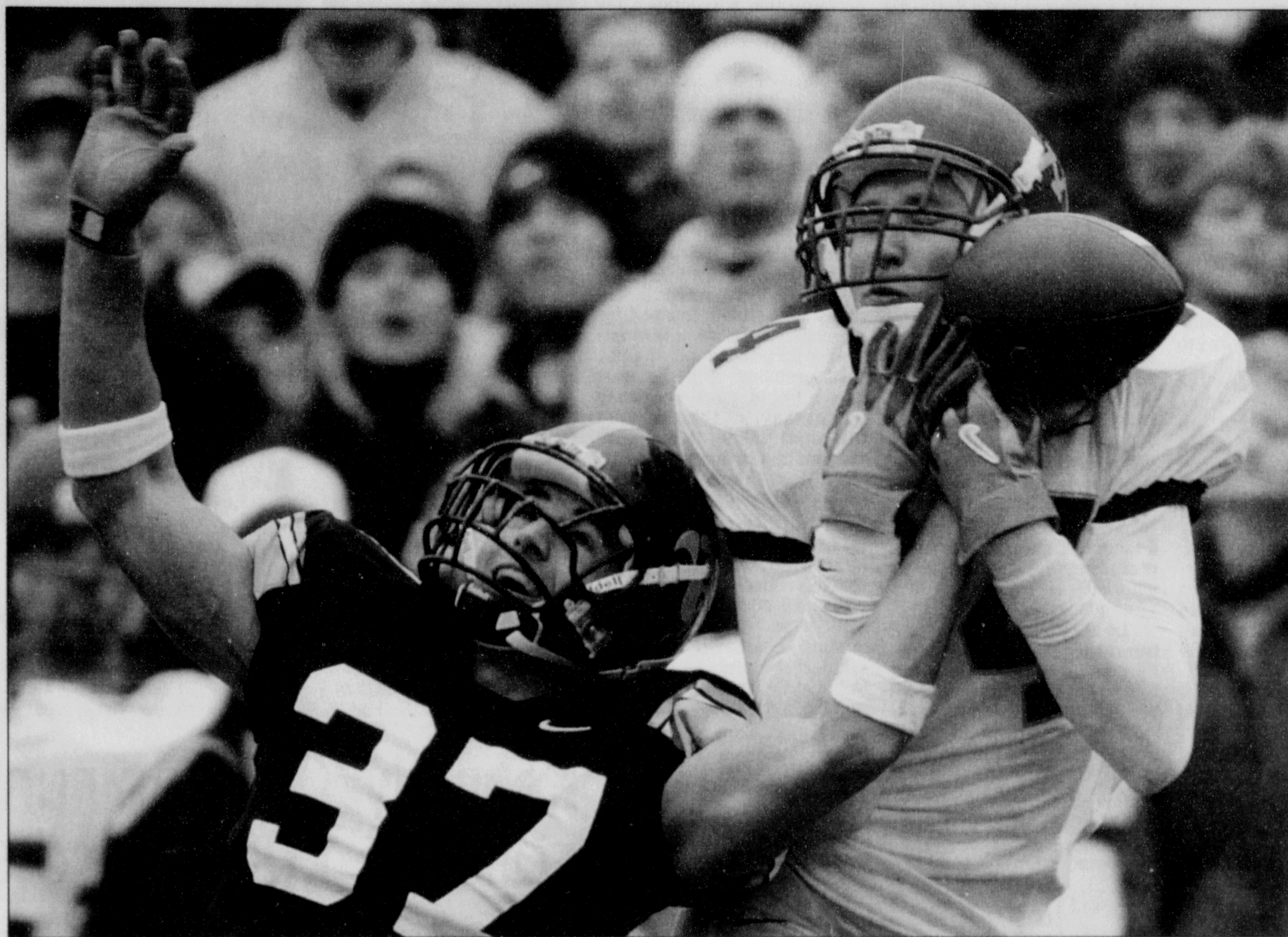
Dodgers third baseman Adrian Beltre, who led the major leagues with 48 home runs, also filed along with Dodgers outfielder Steve Finley.

Also filing Thursday were Toronto first baseman Carlos Delgado, Chicago White Sox outfielder Magglio Ordonez, Minnesota right-hander Brad Radke and Philadelphia right-hander Kevin Millwood.

Craig Biggio's \$3 million option was exercised Thursday by the Astros.

Free agency list, 5C

Gazette staff and wire reports



Brian Ray/The Gazette

Iowa safety Sean Considine (37) breaks up a pass intended for Minnesota wide receiver Aaron Hosack in a November 2003 Big Ten football game at Kinnick Stadium in Iowa City. Considine returned from injury to spark a solid Iowa defensive effort last Saturday at Penn State. He'd missed two games with a foot injury, then broke up three passes in his first game back and returned an interception 51 yards to set up a field goal in a 6-4 victory.

Still the right choice

Despite injury, Considine remains stalwart on Iowa D

By Tyler Lechtenberg
The Gazette

IOWA CITY — Sean Considine woke up a week ago and his foot hurt. Still.

So he called his dad, Rick,

IOWA FOOTBALL

and told him not to make the 10-hour drive from Byron, Ill., to State College, Pa., because he probably wouldn't play for the third straight game.

But his sprained foot rebounded Saturday morning and Considine played, breaking up three passes, inter-

cepting another and returning it for 51 yards to set up a field goal.

Big day. Bigger misdiagnosis.

"They didn't go and my dad's still mad at me about it," Sean Considine said with a little laugh. "First game he's missed in my career. He would have liked to have been out there for that one."

His dad and mom will be there Saturday at Illinois with 55 others on a bus that'll travel 232 miles from Byron



Sean Considine
Iowa senior

to Sterling, Ill., to pick up family and friends before heading to Champaign.

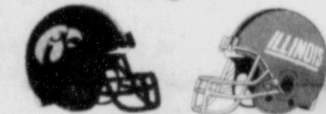
Quite a trip, but nothing like the one Considine took as a versatile athlete behind the scenes in a small town to a Big Ten free safety hearing the letters N, F, and L.

That's a trip.

An all-stater in baseball and football at Byron High School, Considine holds the school's career home runs mark and hit over .400 three years in a row in baseball. He holds career records in touchdowns and rushing yards in football. He was a three-year letterwinner in basketball.

He could play.

Northern Illinois showed

This week's game

■ **THE TEAMS:** Iowa (5-2, 3-1) vs. Illinois (2-6, 0-5)

■ **PLACE:** Memorial Stadium, Champaign, Ill.

■ **KICKOFF:** 11:05 a.m. Saturday

■ **TV:** KGAN

■ For more Iowa-Illinois football visit GazetteOnline.com

interest in Considine for football, but shied away from offering a scholarship. It was coming on April of his senior year, and he still didn't know where he was going to college

— or what sport he was going to play.

"I said, 'Let's go to lunch,'" Rick Considine said. "You've got to decide where you're going to college. It's getting to the point now where it's going to be hard even getting you accepted to a college."

So, which was it: baseball or football?

Football. First choice? Notre Dame. Second? Iowa.

Rick Considine made some calls, including one to Iowa Coach Kirk Ferentz, saying Sean would like the opportunity to play at Iowa. The Considines were invited to a recruiting day.

► **IOWA, PAGE 3C**

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Kennedy spoils Lions' playoff bid

Blocked punt carries Cougars to winning season

By Jeff Dahn
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — Sometimes one pivotal play not only changes the outcome of a football game, it can change the way a team perceives itself today, tomorrow, five years from now or 10 years from now.

With his team clinging to a 13-7 lead midway through the third quarter, Donald Kamara blocked a punt that eventually led to a field goal, and Cedar Rapids Kennedy proceeded to run away from Linn-Mar, 38-20, at fog-shrouded Kingston Stadium last night.

The outcome left both teams 5-4 and out of the playoffs for all practical purposes. But it was Kennedy's first winning season since 2001 and gave the members of the senior class their first winning season in four years as part of the Kennedy football program.

"It feels really good," said senior Curtis Meier, who topped his final prep season with a magnificent performance. "I haven't had a win-

ning season since Metro (Youth) Football."

It was also pleasing for head coach Tim Lewis, who wanted nothing more than to get this group senior at least one more win than losses.

"I'm proud of these guys," Lewis said. "We were playing for pride at this point, and we wanted to go 5-4 because these seniors have never had a winning season."

Linn-Mar might have been able to secure a playoff berth with a win, but it wasn't to be.

"We didn't establish any rhythm with our offense," said Linn-Mar Coach Bob Read, who brought his team into the game as the No. 1 offensive unit in the MVC. "We accomplished some stuff this season, just not everything we wanted to."

Kamara's block of a Nick Erdman punt at the 4:10 mark of the third quarter seemed to light a fire under the Cougars and send the Lions into hibernation. Alex Butters boot-ed a 27-yard field goal with 2:10 left in the frame and Kennedy out-scored Linn-Mar, 25-13, the rest of the way.

► **KENNEDY, PAGE 2C**

Can Cubs follow Boston's lead?

ST. LOUIS — This Boston Red Sox mania thing may not play as well in our region as on the Eastern seaboard.

So Boston had gone 86 years without a World Series title entering the 2004 Series. The Chicago Cubs can do 86 championship-less years standing on their heads.

Which is exactly how they go about it, actually.

The key to halting a so-called curse in baseball is to fill a team with talent and desire. Oh, and dump Nomar Garciaparra on the Cubs.

The Red Sox did all that in 2004 and will have a parade in Beantown this weekend because of it.

"It will be the most unbelievable parade," said Hank Joyce of Braintree, Mass., 10 miles south of Boston. "When the Patriots won their two Super Bowls, they had about a million, two hundred-thousand at their parades. I'll say the Sox's will be up to three million or more."



AP

Boston Red Sox fans cheer as their 2004 World Series championship team returns to Fenway Park in Boston on Thursday. The team returned home early after sweeping the St. Louis Cardinals four games to none in the World Series.

"Too many people in Boston just waited too long."

Boston's mayor says he thinks up to 5,000,000 will attend the celebration. Joyce will be among them. He is 59, has lived within 15 miles of Boston his whole life, and saw his first game at Fenway Park in 1951 when he was 6.

He was at Fenway when the Red Sox lost a seven-game Series to the St. Louis Cardinals in 1967.

He was at Fenway in 1975 when the Sox lost a seven-game Series to Cincinnati.

He was at Fenway in 1978 when the Sox lost a one-game playoff to the New York Yankees for the American League pennant.

He was at Fenway in 1986, when the Sox built a 3-2 Series lead against the New York Mets, only to lose Games 6 and 7 in New York.

He was at Fenway this year for the AL Championship Series, when the Yankees won 19-8 to take a seemingly insurmountable 3-0 lead.

"I got very drunk after that game," said Joyce, a retired banker. "After that, I said, 'One game at a time.' And I hoped and prayed."

He stood outside Busch Stadium Wednesday night, hoping to somehow find a ticket to see his beloved Sox try to sweep the Cardinals. A season-ticket holder, Joyce told me I could accompany him to Fenway for their 2005 home-opener when they raise their world championship banner.

The catch was I had to find him a ticket to Wednesday's Game 4. If I'd had a spare ticket, I'd have gotten far better offers from many other

► **HLAS, PAGE 4C**

Elkader Central looking to take the next step

By Jeff Linder
The Gazette

It's no longer big news in the Clayton County hills when Elkader Central qualifies for the state cross country meet.

"If this was football or basketball, people would be

STATE CROSS COUNTRY

jumping out of their windows, they'd be so excited," said Mark Bauder, the Warriors' coach, with a laugh. "With cross country, it's almost like people expect it."

There's one easy way to regenerate attention.

"Two or three times, we've gone out there and finished fifth," Bauder said. "If we want to get noticed, we need to go out there and hit a home run."

The state meet is Saturday at Fort Dodge. Central's boys' and girls' teams are both ranked No. 1 in Class 1A.

"I think some of the guys would prefer we go in as an underdog," said junior Cody Dreyer, the top runner on the boys' squad. "But realistically, I think you've got to consider us a favorite."

That underdog stuff went out the window last week

when Central whipped previously top-ranked Bellevue Marquette by 24 points to win the Arlington district. And Central convincingly won the girls' regional there, beating Valley Community — the defending state champion.

"Everything went right for us," Bauder said. "Our girls' team doesn't have a frontrunner, but we only had a 40-second gap from our first girl to our sixth. And our boys, they just ran great."

The boys finished 11th at state last year. The girls didn't even qualify. All seven boys from 2003 returned.

"Everybody has gotten a lot stronger since last year," Dreyer said.

Dreyer missed three weeks this season with a viral infection but is back to form. He was second at the district.

As for the girls, three freshman figure prominently, including Kylee Juergens, who led the Warriors with a ninth-place regional finish.

"If they get spread out from each other (Saturday), they might be in trouble. But if they stick together, they'll be right in there," Bauder said. "The thing with freshmen, sometimes they're kind

of ignorant to the kind of pressure that surrounds a big race. If that's the case, I hope they're ignorant one more time."

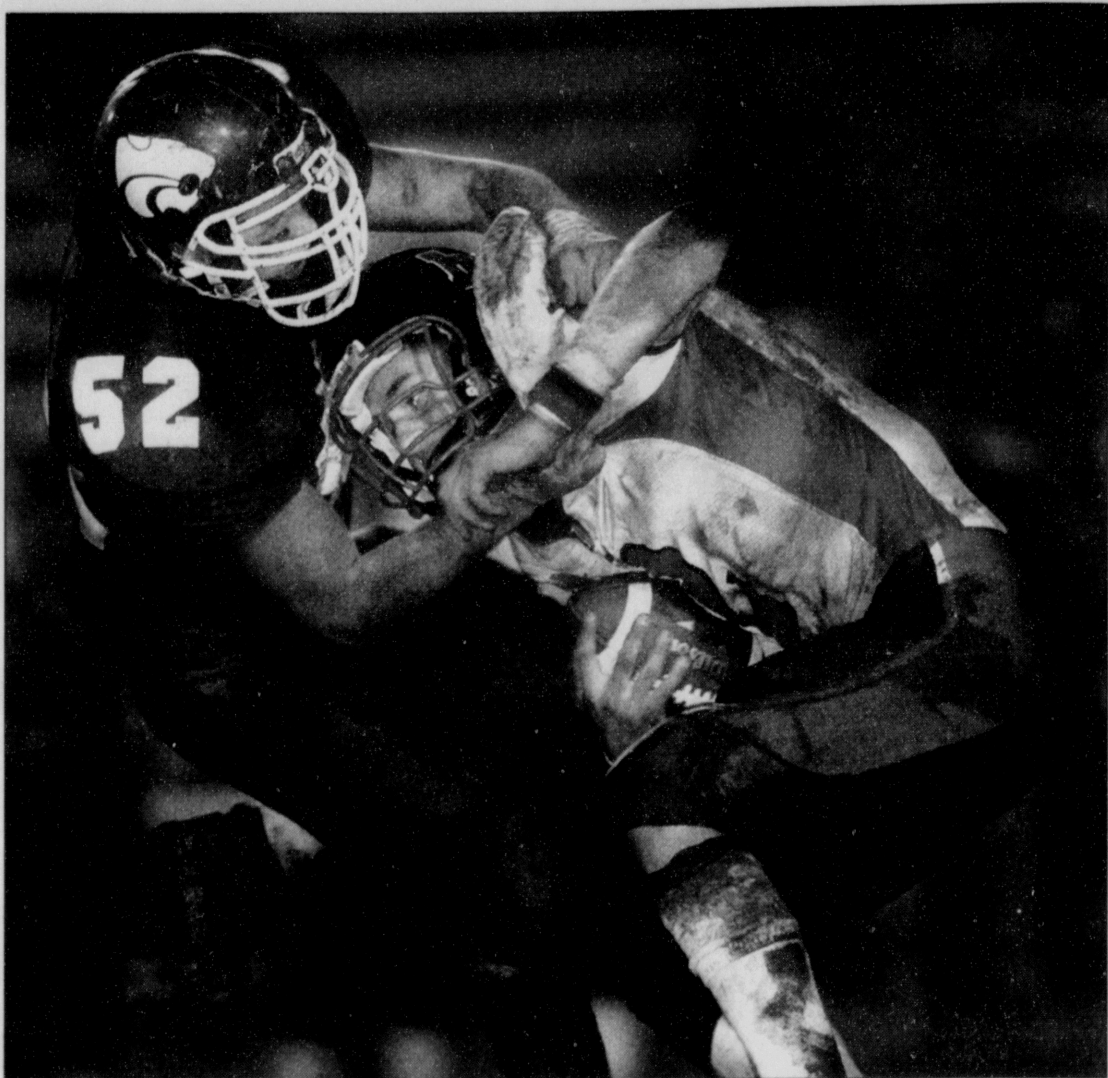
East-side dominance

Since the state meet was moved to Fort Dodge, teams from Eastern Iowa have won 59 of 68 championships, including six of eight last year.

Don't expect the power to shift westward Saturday. An east-side girls' sweep is entirely possible: Iowa City West (4A) and Tipton (2A) are heavy favorites, and the 3A title probably will be garnered by Marion or Cedar Rapids Xavier. Elkader Central and Valley Community are among the favorites in 1A with West Sioux.

The boys' power is more balanced. Western Christian is favored in 2A, and Des Moines Roosevelt has owned the big school title for three years. All of the top Class 3A contenders — including defending champion Dubuque Wahlert — and 1A favorite Elkader Central are from the eastern side.

■ Contact the writer: (319) 368-8857 or jeff.linder@gazettecommunications.com



David Wallace/The Gazette

Cedar Rapids Kennedy linebacker Travis Legate sacks Linn-Mar quarterback Blake Zundel during the third quarter of a Mississippi Valley Conference game last night at Kingston Stadium in Cedar Rapids. Kennedy won, 38-20. For more photos from the game, visit www.gazetteonline.com

Kennedy/Cougar running back rolls up 1,000-yard season

► FROM PAGE 1C

"We've worked on that all week," Kamara said. "We knew they would expect us to come after it, but after I blocked it, I didn't even know where the ball was but it was right in front of me."

Meier put up tremendous numbers, rushing 21 times for 236 yards and a touchdown and catching two passes for 109 yards and another touchdown. He did most of his damage after getting out of the mud hole between the hash marks and finding fresh turf on the outside.

"We were looking at running outside and the receivers were making some good blocks out there," said Meier, who topped 1,000 yards rushing for the season.

"I was just taking what I could get."

Linn-Mar scored on the game's first possession, needing only four plays to cover 66 yards. The biggie was a 43-yard touchdown run by Jeremy Tipton on an end-

"I was just taking what I could get."

Curtis Meier

C.R. Kennedy senior running back

around that made it 7-0 Lions with 1½ minutes into the game.

Kennedy took advantage of a short field to get on the board about 5 minutes later, a 39-yard drive capped by Meier's 29-yard TD run around the left end with 5:23 left.

The final touchdown of the first half gave the Cougars their 13-7 halftime lead when Luke Dolan scored on a 1-yard plunge with 10 minutes left in the second quarter. The TD was set up by an 82-yard run by Meier that ended 1-yard short of the end zone on a touchdown saving tackle by Andrew Reck.

The Lions had trouble scoring despite several deep pene-

trations into Kennedy territory. Two possessions ended on loss of downs and their final possession came to an end when a Blake Zundel pass was intercepted in the end zone by Kennedy's Ben Mohwinkle with 10 seconds left.

Thanks to his two long runs, Meier had 165 yards on just six carries at the break. Kennedy had 175 yards of total offense — all on the ground — and Linn-Mar had 215.

After Butters booted his field goal, Meier scored on a 78-yard run after snagging a screen pass from quarterback Tyler Thompson. Thompson scored on a 1-yard sneak and then Thompson threw a 31 pass to Mohwinkle.

Linn-Mar's second half TDs came on an 80-yard pass from Zundel to Evans in which Evans broke at least six tackles and 4-yard run by Matt Greer late in the game.

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Ambrisco powers I.C. Regina past Center Point-Urbana

By Jeff Linder
The Gazette

IOWA CITY — Jesicah Ambrisco got her legs back. Her right arm never went away.

Ambrisco pounded 25 kills

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

and registered a ridiculous .793 kill efficiency last night as 10th-ranked Iowa City Regina swept Center Point-Urbana, 25-13, 25-9, 25-20, in a Class 2A regional semifinal volleyball match at Regina High School.

"It's been hard coming back and getting back into it," said Ambrisco, a junior who returned for the postseason after being sidelined with a sprained Achilles' tendon. "I think I finally got it back tonight."

No kidding.

Ambrisco peppered the Stormin' Pointers for 12 kills in the first game and never cooled.

"We wanted to give her as many repetitions as we could," Regina Coach Christopher Gonzalez said. "Tonight was the last chance to see if she could handle that many attempts."

Ambrisco had 25 kills in 29 attacks. Two hits were errors, two were returned.

Regina (32-5) faces No. 3 Wilton in the regional final Tuesday at Muscatine. The Beavers (31-3) eliminated Bellevue in four games

Thursday.

The Regals simply were overpowering Thursday. They did not face a deficit throughout the 56-minute match. Ambrisco had five kills by the time she went to the back row for the first time, and Regina zipped to an 11-3 lead.

"This was probably the best we've played all year," Ambrisco said. "We played together, we played with energy and we played disciplined."

Center Point-Urbana (22-12) got within 17-12 before Ambrisco returned to the front line, and the result was deadly. She had seven kills in the Regals' final eight points as Regina ran away again.

"She was dominant," CP-U Coach Todd Hines said. "We wanted to get some touches off her, but our defense wasn't very good tonight."

"They're definitely a better team than we are."

Regina setter Reenie Knepper, who finished with 40 assists, mixed it up more in the next two games. But the Regals kept rolling.

"She put the ball right there where we wanted it," Ambrisco said. "We didn't

have to do much with the ball — just swing."

Lauren Michael added seven kills for the Regals. Carly DuCharme recorded six kills and five aces. Regina misfired on just two of 74 service attempts.

The Regals had 46 kills, compared to 20 for the Stormin' Pointers.

"I felt like we all came together tonight," Knepper said. "Obviously, (Ambrisco) is one of our go-to hitters. But we've got so many that we can depend on."

Ashley Gorsh paced Center Point-Urbana with seven kills. Jenny Buelow had six.

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A closer look at the state cross country meet

SATURDAY, AT FORT DODGE (LAKESIDE GOLF COURSE)

CLASS 4A GIRLS

■ **Time** — 11 a.m.

■ **Individual race** — Defending champion **Sarah Wickman**, a sophomore, is bidding to give Iowa City West five consecutive individual championships. She has come on recently after going through September without a title. Wickman won the Marshalltown regional by 3 seconds over teammate **Julia Frudden**. Des Moines Roosevelt's **Hannah Roeder**, fourth at state last year, prevailed at a strong Indianola regional. Urbandale's **Cassi Sokol** and **Stephanie Mundt** are the top two ranked girls, and **Samantha Nygren** of Cedar Falls won her regional race by 23 seconds.

■ **Team race** — It's likely that **Iowa City West** will push Iowa City's streak of superiority to eight years. The Women of Troy, second to Iowa City High the last two years, are favored behind the foursome of Wickman, Frudden, Janet Dobyns and Claire Hall. **Urbandale**, which didn't even qualify for state last year, can match up with West at the front of the pack but probably does not have the depth to beat the Women of Troy. **Cedar Falls** is a threat, and **City High** had a very impressive regional performance and cannot be dismissed.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. Iowa City West, 2. Urbandale, 3. Cedar Falls, 4. Iowa City High, 5. West Des Moines Valley.

CLASS 3A GIRLS

■ **Time** — noon

■ **Individual race** — An extremely impressive regional performance casts **Valerie Crutchley** of Marion as one of the favorites. The senior waded a strong field, which included Cedar Rapids Xavier's **Erin Penticoff**, by 34 seconds. **Mary Bridget Corken** of Dubuque Wahlert, fourth last year, won the Independence regional. **Whitney Johnson** of Adel ADM should be a factor, as could Sioux City Heelan's **Sierra McCauley** and Spirit Lake Park's **Caedryn Schrunck**, who ran together at the Algona regional, beating the rest of the field there by nearly a minute.

■ **Team race** — The Metro's 23-year girls' championship drought ended last year when **Cedar Rapids Xavier** cashed in. The title ought to stay in town, but the Saints appear to be a half stride behind **Marion**. Crutchley gives the Indians a hammer at the front, and a trio of first-year runners have made an immediate impact. The Marion-Xavier race could come down to the No. 5 runners. If those two teams stumble, all three of the qualifiers from the Independence regional — **Dubuque Wahlert**, **Decorah** and **Waukon** — could jump into the mix. Waukon was the 2003 runner-up.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. Marion, 2. Cedar Rapids Xavier, 3. Dubuque Wahlert, 4. Decorah, 5. Waukon.

CLASS 2A GIRLS

■ **Time** — 1 p.m.

■ **Individual race** — Nodaway Valley senior **Megan Winkelmann** pursues her third consecutive championship. She won the Greenfield regional in 16:09. **Ashley Miller**, a Tipton sophomore and the 2003 runner-up, probably enters as a slight favorite. She won at Mount Pleasant last week by 6 seconds over teammate **Ashley Tholen**. Monticello's **Jessie Dirks**, seventh last year, also won a regional title.

■ **Team race** — If any of the eight team races is a lock, this is it. **Tipton** returns all of its runners from a team that dominated at state last year, and the Tigers whipped the regional field at Mount Pleasant with a 19-point total. Only two of the Tigers' seven runners are seniors, so this is a juggernaut that should click for a while. State veteran **Monticello** and **Nodaway Valley** are the best bets in the race for second place. The Panthers were third last year; Nodaway was sixth.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. Tipton, 2. Monticello, 3. Nodaway Valley, 4. Solon, 5. Bennett-Durant.

CLASS 1A GIRLS

■ **Time** — 2 p.m.

■ **Individual race** — North Linn's **Ellen Ries** is favored to further her distance-running legend. She already owns nine state track titles and won her first cross country crown last year. Two of Ries' top challengers — **Dacia Bushman** of Valley Community and **Erica Stevens** of Central City — followed her at the Arlington regional, with Ries winning in 14:44, nearly a half-minute ahead of Bushman, last year's state runner-up. **Mallory Marshall** of Harmony won comfortably at Ottumwa last week. Freshman twins **Brooke** and **Blaire Dinsdale** of North Tama already have built a reputation.

■ **Team race** — Defending champion **Valley Community** has the frontrunners while **West Sioux** and **Elkader Central** have the superior depth. Valley has two potential top-10 finishers in Bushman and Kara McCartney, but has a big gap after that. That opens the door for West Sioux, last year's runner-up, and Central, which didn't qualify in 2003. Central beat **North Linn** and Valley for the Arlington regional title, building a healthy margin with its fourth and fifth runners. West Sioux had all of its scorers in the top 16 and blistered the field at Holstein. North Linn qualified for the 17th consecutive year.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. West Sioux, 2. Elkader Central, 3. Valley Community, 4. North Linn, 5. Corning.

CLASS 4A BOYS

■ **Time** — 11:30 a.m.

■ **Individual race** — Which Des Moines Roosevelt runner will it be? **Jon Thomas** and **Kiel Uhl** finished 1-2 last year as juniors. Uhl beat his teammate by 31 seconds at the Indianola district last week. The only other member of last year's top 10 is **Levi Forrester** of Waterloo West, who narrowly won the Cedar Falls district. Another contender is **Blake Schlotzhauer** of Davenport Central, who easily won the district at Pleasant Valley.

■ **Team race** — After owning this class for the last three years, **Des Moines Roosevelt** faces a challenge this year. The Roughriders have a pair of aces in Uhl and Thomas, but graduation has chipped away their depth. Mississippi Valley Conference rivals **Cedar Falls** and **Iowa City High** are the top challengers. The Tigers edged the Little Hawks for the MVC Super championship. Both teams were district champions, though Cedar Falls' margin was a mild 11 points over **Cedar Rapids Kennedy**, an up-and-coming team which already has edged Roosevelt this year.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. Des Moines Roosevelt, 2. Cedar Falls, 3. Iowa City High, 4. Cedar Rapids Kennedy, 5. Ames.

CLASS 3A BOYS

■ **Time** — 12:30 p.m.

■ **Individual race** — None of the top eight runners from last year's meet will compete Saturday, making this a mystery field. The pack probably will be led by a number of northeast Iowa runners. Dubuque Wahlert's **Ryan Dolan** captured the Independence district in 16:12, winning by 14 seconds. That effort makes him the favorite, but two Waukon runners — **Eric Osterhaus** and **Junior Swart** — should be close on his trail again. Charles City's **Isaac Wendland**, fourth at Independence, is a highly acclaimed freshman.

■ **Team race** — Defending champion **Dubuque Wahlert** was extremely strong at Independence, putting four runners in the top eight of a tough field. **Mount Vernon-Lisbon** has survived the injury of Conrad Lichty well, and the Mustangs have a solid front pack of their own. The Mustangs have been close to the elusive title several times in the last few years, and none of the seven runners at districts are seniors. It's certainly possible that the top three teams from the Independence and Cedar Rapids districts could sweep the top six spots.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. Dubuque Wahlert, 2. Mount Vernon-Lisbon, 3. Waukon, 4. Decorah, 5. Waterloo Columbus.

CLASS 2A BOYS

■ **Time** — 1:30 p.m.

■ **Individual race** — A week ago, **Dan Mayer** of West Central Valley would be considered the favorite. After all, he's the only member of the 2003 top eight to return. But Mayer was defeated by 13 seconds at districts by **Mark Holan** of Nodaway Valley. Both are juniors. Monticello has the best two-man crew in **Byron Mantemach** and **Josh Bader**, and if either are at their best, they could make a run at the individual crown. **Dalton Lems**' district time (17:42) was nothing special, but the Western Christian junior did win by 32 seconds at Sheldon.

■ **Team race** — Defending champion **Western Christian** has been ranked No. 1 all year and brings back five boys from its 2003 team. Western smashed all comers at the Sheldon district, scoring 29 points and winning by 74. It would be foolish to count out 2003 1A champion **Iowa City Regina**, which will contend behind a strong pack of runners. **Monticello** has a killer duo in Mantemach and Bader while **Columbus Junction** returns everybody from last year's sixth-place team.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. Western Christian, 2. Iowa City Regina, 3. Monticello, 4. Columbus Junction, 5. Eagle Grove.

CLASS 1A BOYS

■ **Time** — 2:30 p.m.

■ **Individual race** — Senior **Tim McKenna** of Cedar Falls NU High, last year's runner-up, is the man to beat. McKenna whistled through the Jewell district race in 16:51, winning by 24 seconds. Bellevue Marquette has a pair of contenders — **Nathan Petesch** and **Alex Eischeid** — who were first and third at the Arlington district. **Cody Dreyer** of Elkader Central squeezed between them. For what it's worth, **Andrew Zellweger** of Orient-Macksburg had the fastest 1A district time, 16:25 at Avoca.

■ **Team race** — Last year's champion, Iowa City Regina, has moved to 2A, opening up the small-school class. A convincing win at the Arlington district has firmly established **Elkader Central** as the favorite. The Warriors returned everybody from an 11th-place team last year. Central beat previous No. 1 **Bellevue Marquette**, last year's state runner-up, by 24 points. **Wapsie Valley** was one point behind Marquette. **Council Bluffs St. Albert** prevailed at the Avoca district.

■ **Gazette projections** — 1. Elkader Central, 2. Council Bluffs St. Albert, 3. Bellevue Marquette, 4. Wapsie Valley, 5. Cedar Falls NU High.

— Compiled by Jeff Linder

Sportsday

EVENTS OF AREA INTEREST

Prep football

- Iowa City West at Xavier, 7:30 p.m.
- Dubuque Senior at Jefferson, 7:30 p.m.
- Mount Vernon at Marion, 7:30 p.m.
- Washington at Iowa City High, 7:30 p.m.
- Pekin at Iowa City Regina, 7 p.m.
- Prairie at Cedar Falls

College field hockey

- Northwestern at Iowa, 3 p.m.

Women's college soccer

- Iowa State at Kansas
- Northern Iowa at Southwest Missouri State

College volleyball

- Iowa at Wisconsin
- Kirkwood in NJCAA regional tournament at Boone

ON TELEVISION

(Live and first-run events only)

NBA preseason basketball

- Detroit Pistons at Minnesota Timberwolves, 7 p.m. (ESPN)
- Phoenix Suns at Sacramento Kings, 9:30 p.m. (ESPN)

College football

- Hawaii at Boise State, 7 p.m. (ESPN2)

PGA golf

- Chrysler Championship: Second Round, 3 p.m. (USA)

CONTACT US

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- Sports desk (WATS) — 1-800-397-8258
- Sports FAX
- Cedar Rapids — 398-5861
- Iowa City — 354-1266
- Sports stats hotline (to report prep results)
- Local — 368-8976
- Long distance — 1-888-577-8287
- E-mail — sports@gazettecommunications.com

Major League Baseball

Free Agents

The 65 players who filed for free agency Thursday. Eligible players may file through Nov. 11 (x-filed provisionally dependent on decision by team on 2005 option):

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Anaheim (1) — Troy Glaus, dh; Troy Percival, rhp; **Baltimore** (2) — Omar Daal, lhp; David Segal, dh; **Boston** (1) — Gabe Kapler, c; **Chicago** (1) — Magglio Ordonez, c; **Cleveland** (0) — Esteban Yan, rhp; **Kansas City** (3) — Juan Gonzalez, of; Jose Randa, 3b; Kelly Stinnett, c; **Minnesota** (2) — Henry Blanco, c; Brad Radke, rhp; **New York** (2) — Miguel Cairo, 2b; John Flaherty, c; **Oakland** (3) — Jermaine Dye, of; Chris Hammond, lhp; Jim Meier, rhp; **Seattle** (2) — Edgar Martinez, dh; Ron Villone, rhp; **Tampa Bay** (1) — Brook Fordyce, c; **Texas** (4) — Jeff Nelson, rhp; Jay Powell, rhp; John Warden, rhp; Jeff Zimmerman, rhp; **Toronto** (4) — Dave Berg, of; Valerio De Los Santos, lhp; Carlos Delgado, lf; Chris Gomez, ss; Greg Myers, c; **San Diego** (1) — Rich Aurilia, ss; **San Francisco** (2) — Ricky Ledee, of; Robb Nen, rhp.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Arizona (3) — Carlos Baerga, lf; Jeff Fassero, rhp; Shane Reynolds, of; **Atlanta** (3) — Paul Byrd, rhp; J.D. Drew, of; Jaret Wright, rhp; **Chicago** (5) — Matt Clement, rhp; Mark Gudzenko, 2b; Ramon Martinez, ss; Glendon Rusch, lhp; Todd Walker, 2b; **Cincinnati** (2) — Darren Bragg, of; Todd Van Poppel, rhp; **Colorado** (4) — Jeremy Burnitz, of; Royce Clayton, ss; Todd Greene, c; **Florida** (4) — Armando Benitez, rhp; Wil Cordero, lf; x-Damon Easley, 2b; Rudy Seanez, rhp; **Houston** (2) — Carlos Beltran, of; Dan Miceli, rhp; **Los Angeles** (1) — Adrian Beltré, rhp; Steve Finley, of; Jose Hernandez, 2b; Jose Lima, rhp; Paul Shuey, rhp; **Milwaukee** (1) — Einar Diaz, c; **New York** (1) — Mo Vaughn, lf; **Philadelphia** (3) — Cory Lidle, rhp; Kevin Millwood, rhp; Todd Pratt, c; **Pittsburgh** (0) — St. Louis (1) — x-Chris Carpenter, rhp; **San Diego** (1) — Rich Aurilia, ss; **San Francisco** (2) — Ricky Ledee, of; Robb Nen, rhp.

Potential Free Agents

The 217 players potentially eligible for free agency. Eligible players may file through Nov. 11 (x-filed provisionally dependent on decision by team on 2005 v-player option for 2005; 2-mutual option for 2005):

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Anaheim (5) — Andres Galaraga, dh; Troy Glaus, dh; Shane Halter, 3b; Troy Percival, rhp; Aaron Sele, rhp; **Baltimore** (5) — Marv Cordova, dh; Omar Daal, lhp; x-Buddy Groom, rhp; David Segal, dh; B.J. Surhoff, of; **Boston** (17) — Terry Adams, rhp; Pedro Astacio, rhp; Ellis Burks, dh; Orlando Cabrera, ss; Ricky Gutierrez, 2b; Gabe Kapler, c; x-Curtis Leskanen, rhp; Derek Lowe, rhp; Cory Lidle, rhp; Dave McCarty, lf; Ramiro Mendoza, rhp; D. Mirabeli, c; x-Bill Mueller, rhp; Mike Myers, rhp; Pomeroy Reese, 2b; Jason Varitek, c; S. Williamson, rhp; **Chicago** (4) — Sandy Alomar Jr., c; Roberto Alomar, rhp; Magglio Ordonez, of; Jose Valentin, ss; **Cleveland** (3) — Omar Vizquel, ss; Rick White, rhp; Bob Wickman, rhp; **Detroit** (3) — x-Alan Levine, rhp; x-Ugueth Urbina, rhp; Esteban Yan, rhp; **Kansas City** (5) — Juan Gonzalez, of; Jose Randa, 3b; Desi Relaford, c; Dennis Reyes, 3b; Kelly Stinnett, c; **Minnesota** (5) — x-Kenji Hwang, c; Cristian Guzman, rhp; Carey Koskie, 3b; Terry Mulholland, lhp; Brad Radke, rhp; **New York** (11) — Miguel Cairo, 2b; Tony Clark, 1b; John Flaherty, c; Orlando Hernandez, rhp; x-Travis Lee, lf; x-Jon Lieber, rhp; Esteban Loaiza, rhp; C.J. Nitkowski, rhp; John Olerud, lf; Robb Nen, rhp; Enriquo Wilson, 2b; **Oakland** (5) — Jermaine Dye, of; Chris Hammond, lhp; Mark McLemore, 2b; Jim Meier, rhp; Damian Miller, c; **Seattle** (4) — x-Eddie Guardado, rhp; Edgar Martinez, dh; Ron Villone, rhp; Dan Wilson, c; **Tampa Bay** (5) — Brook Fordyce, c; John Halama, lhp; x-Tino Martinez, 2b; Todd Ritchie, rhp; Ray Sanchez, 2b; **Texas** (13) — Manny Alexander, 3b; Doug Brocail, rhp; David Delucci, of; Andy Fehr, 3b; Brad Fulmer, dh; Jeff Nelson, rhp; Herbert Perry, dh; Jay Powell, rhp; x-Wade Garrett, c; Eric Young, of; Jeff Zimmerman, rhp; **Toronto** (4) — Dave Berg, of; Valerio De Los Santos, lhp; Carlos Delgado, lf; Chris Gomez, ss; Greg Myers, c; Gregg Zaun, c; **San Diego** (1) — Rich Aurilia, ss; **San Francisco** (2) — Ricky Ledee, of; Robb Nen, rhp.

Pro basketball

NBA Preseason

EASTERN CONFERENCE

African Div.	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	6	2	.750	—
New York	5	3	.625	1
New Jersey	4	4	.500	2
Toronto	2	6	.250	4
Boston	1	5	.167	4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Div.	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	4	3	.571	—
Orlando	4	3	.571	—
Washington	3	3	.500	1 1/2
Atlanta	1	7	.125	3 1/2

Central Div.

Chicago	3	5
WESTERN CONFERENCE		
Southwest Div.	W	L
Memphis	6	2
San Antonio	3	3
Houston	3	4
New Orleans	3	4
Dallas	2	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Div.	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	6	2	.750	—
San Antonio	3	3	.500	2
Houston	3	4	.429	2 1/2
New Orleans	2	5	.286	3 1/2
Dallas	3	5	.375	3

Northwest Div.

Golden State	2	5
L.A. Clippers	2	5
Sacramento	2	5

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

Portland 97, Toronto 95
Golden State 82, L.A. Clippers 77

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Cleveland 99, Atlanta 94

Pacific Div.

Memphis 99, Milwaukee 92
Denver 93, Houston 88
Dallas 112, Sacramento 93
L.A. Lakers 97, Washington
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, 12
TONIGHT'S GAME
(10a times)
Cleveland at Toronto, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

Portland 97, Toronto 95	Golden State 82, L.A. Clippers 78
Portland 99, Atlanta 94	San Antonio 90, Dallas 83
New York 96, Philadelphia 94	Milwaukee 92, Memphis 91
Denver 112, Sacramento 93	Los Angeles 92, Houston 88
Dallas 112, Sacramento 93	L.A. Lakers 97, Washington 92
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, late	

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Cleveland at Toronto, 8 p.m.	Los Angeles at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 7 p.m.	New Orleans at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at Seattle, 7 p.m.	Phoenix at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.
End of Preseason	

Pro soccer

MLS Playoffs

(Two-leg Aggregate Score Series)

EASTERN CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

Saturday's Game

MetrolStars at D.C. United, 6 p.m.
(D.C. United leads series, 2-0)

WESTERN CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

Saturday's Games

San Jose at Kansas City, 7:30 p.m.
(San Jose leads series, 2-0)
Colorado at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.
(Colorado leads series, 1-0)

Prep football

Thursday

METRO/MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

C.R. Kennedy 38, Linn-Mar 20
CLASS A DISTRICT 3
(At UNI-Dome)

Elgin Valley 47, Tripoli 0
West Central 39, Don Bosco 0

STATE

Co. Bluffs Lincoln 38, Sioux City North 6
Dav. Assumption 33, Pleasant Valley 8
LeMar Gehlen 42, River Valley 0

C.R. Kennedy 38

Linn-Mar 20

AT KINGSTON STADIUM

First downs 12 7
Rushes-yards 40-174 36-240
Passing yards 226 109
Comp-attempt 9-24-1 2-5-0
Punts-avg. 4-25-0 5-41-4
Fumbles-lost 0-0 1-1
Penalties-yds 7-50 9-65

Linn-Mar... 7 0 0 13-20
C.R. Kennedy... 7 6 11 14-38

L-M—Jeremy Tipton 43 run (Evon Gutierrez kick)
CRK—Curtis Meier 29 run (Alex Butters kick)
CRK—Luke Dolan 1 run (kick failed)

CRK—Butters 27 FG
CRK—Meier 78 pass from Tyler Thompson (Meier run)

L-M—Béau Evans 80 pass from Blake Zundel (Gutierrez kick)
CRK—Thompson 1 run (Butters kick)

CRK—Ben Mohwinkel 31 pass from Thompson (Butters kick)
L-M—Matt Greer 4 run (pass failed)

Tonight

METRO/IOWA CITY

Dubuque Senior at Jefferson
Iowa City West at Xavier
Mount Vernon at Marion
Pekin at Regina
Prairie at Cedar Falls
Washington at City High

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

C.R. Washington at Iowa City High
Dubuque Senior at Cedar Rapids
Dubuque Wanier at Waterloo West
Iowa City West at C.R. Xavier
Waterloo East at Dbo. Hempsford

CLASS 3A DISTRICT 3

Charles City at Crestwood
New Hampton at Independence
Waukon at Decorah
Waverly-Schlar at Oswein

CLASS 3A DISTRICT 4

Maquoketa at DeWitt Central
Mount Vernon at Marion
Vinton-Spaulburg at West Delaware
Western Dubuque at Anamosa

CLASS 3A DISTRICT 5

Centerville at Fairfield
Keokuk at Chariton
Oskaloosa at Mount Pleasant
Washington (Iowa) at Fort Madison

CLASS 3A DISTRICT 6

Clear Creek at Anamosa
Grinnell at Williamsburg
Knoxville at Benton Community
Pella at South Tama

CLASS 2A DISTRICT 1

Garner-Hayfield at Osage
South Winn at Waterloo Columbus
Sumner-Fredburg at North Fayette
Union at Clarion-Goldfield

CLASS 2A DISTRICT 2

Maquoketa Valley at CP-Urbana
MFL MarMac at Cascade
Monticello at Camanche
Solon at Overlake

CLASS 2A DISTRICT 3

Durant-Bennett at Highland-LT
Mediapolis at Columbus-Junction
Mid-Prarie at Louisa-Muscatine
Wilton at West Liberty

CLASS 2A DISTRICT 4

Abbia at West Burlington-Notre Dame
New London-Danville at Central Lee
Spokane-Keota at Davis County
Van Buren at Edgewood-Blakesburg

CLASS 2A DISTRICT 5

Bellevue at Clayton Ridge
North Linn at Midland
Northeast at Stormont
Tipton at North Cedar

CLASS 2A DISTRICT 6

Bellevue at West Branch
Eldon Cardinal at Montezuma
Pekin at Iowa City Regina

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 1

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 2

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 3

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 4

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 5

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Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 6

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 7

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 8

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 9

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
Dunkerton at Lansing Key
Postville at Elkader Central

CLASS 1A DISTRICT 10

Cedar Falls NU at Albion
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CLASS 1A DISTRICT 11

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CLASS 1A DISTRICT 12

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CLASS 1A DISTRICT 13

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CLASS 1A DISTRICT 14

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CLASS 1A DISTRICT 15

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CLASS 1A DISTRICT 40