

Expecting their best
Wildcat defensive reviews
not swaying Hawks as
they return to action, 2C

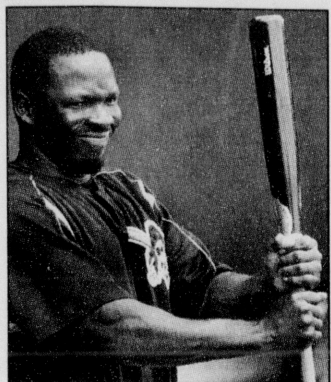
SPORTS

P R E P S ■ C O L L E G E S ■ P R O S

C The Gazette
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Another one busted



AP

Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder Matt Lawton, pictured at spring training March 25, was suspended Wednesday for a positive steroids test, becoming the 12th player penalized for violating major league baseball's policy. An All-Star with Minnesota in 2000 and Cleveland in 2004, Lawton hit a combined .254 with 13 homers and 53 RBIs this season for the Pirates, Cubs and Yankees.

SIDELINE

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Greenway a semifinalist for Bednarik award

IOWA CITY — University of Iowa senior linebacker Chad Greenway is a semifinalist for the



Chad Greenway
Award finalist

Chuck Bednarik defensive player of the year award.

Ohio State's A.J. Hawk, Northwestern's Tim McGarigle and Penn State's Paul Posluszny join Greenway on the list.

The winner will be announced Dec. 8 during the Home Depot College Football Awards Show in Orlando, Fla. Greenway, a senior, ranks third nationally with 13.63 tackles per game. Greenway is a preseason all-America pick and was an all-Big Ten selection last year. He is sixth on Iowa's all-time tackle charts with 369.

BASEBALL

Lindner agrees to sell control of the Reds

CINCINNATI — Carl Lindner agreed Wednesday to sell the controlling interest in the Cincinnati Reds to a group of area businessmen, keeping baseball's first professional franchise in local hands.

The group is headed by Robert Castellini, chairman of a Cincinnati-based produce company. The purchase price sets the value of the franchise at about \$270 million. The sale must be approved by baseball owners.

Cubs' Maddux wins another Gold Glove

NEW YORK — Chicago Cubs pitcher Greg Maddux won his 15th Gold Glove on



Greg Maddux
15th Gold Glove

Robinson.

Giants shortstop Omar Vizquel, Braves outfielder Andruw Jones, Cardinals outfielder Jim Edmonds, Giants catcher Mike Matheny, Marlins second baseman Luis Castillo and third baseman Mike Lowell, Cubs first baseman Derrek Lee and Phillies outfielder Bobby Abreu round out the team.

Associated Press

Season ticket sales remain down for Hawks

Despite lower prices, preseason buzz, Iowa still trying to fill seats

By Jim Ecker
The Gazette

The Iowa Hawkeyes made the NCAA tournament last March, they lowered the price

IOWA BASKETBALL

of tickets at Carver-Hawkeye Arena this year, and Coach Steve Alford's team is ranked in the Top 25 heading into the season.

Despite all that, it appears the Hawkeyes will sell fewer season tickets for the men's

basketball team than they did a year ago.

David Sandstrum, Iowa's director of ticket operations, reported this week that the Hawkeyes have sold 6,995 season tickets heading into tonight's exhibition game against Brock University of Canada. Season tickets are still being sold, but Iowa will have to hustle to match last year's figure of 7,567. Currently, that's a decline of 7.6 percent.

Bob Bowlsby, Iowa's direc-



Bob Bowlsby
Iowa AD

tor of athletics, said he expected the combination of lower prices, a berth in the 2005 NCAA tournament and the prospects of a good team would have sparked an increase in sales.

"Well, you'd sure think so," he said Wednesday. "But that wasn't what occurred."

Season ticket sales for the general public have declined from 5,705 to 5,094 so far. The sales to faculty and staff have dipped from 1,389 to 1,136.

The only encouraging sign — and it's not overwhelming — has been Iowa students, who have purchased 765 season tickets compared to 473 last year.

Iowa men's hoops: Season ticket sales

Season ticket sales are lagging a bit for the Iowa men's basketball team ('04-05 season totals; '05-06 sales through Monday):

Category	2004-05	2005-06
Public	5,705 tickets; \$408/18 games	5,094 tickets; \$387/19 games
Faculty/staff	1,389 tickets; \$340/18 games	1,136 tickets; \$313/19 games
Students	473 tickets; \$204/18 games	765 tickets; \$95/19 games
Totals	7,567 tickets	6,995 tickets

Source: University of Iowa ticket office

Iowa slashed the price of student season tickets from \$204 to \$95 — just \$5 per game for a 19-game home campaign — trying to reverse a trend and get more students in the stands.

"We had kind of targeted 1,000 (season tickets for students), and we still might get there," said Bowlsby. "I think students bring life to the

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Kennedy loves OT

Cougars need extra period to drop Prairie for second time

By Jeff Dahn
The Gazette

CEDAR RAPIDS — Herve Cantrell pushed his way through the giddy mob of celebrating teammates and students, then turned around to take in the wild, wild scene.

"If you can't get excited about this, you can't get excited about anything," Cantrell said.

Boy-howdy.

Cantrell scored on a 5-yard run and Jordan Grimm nailed the extra point to give Cedar Rapids Kennedy a 27-20 lead in the first overtime period, and the Cougar defense thwarted a Cedar Rapids Prairie two-point conversion try, and Kennedy stopped Prairie, 27-26, in a Class 4A first-round playoff instant classic last night in front of about 7,000 fans at balmy Kingston Stadium.

Kennedy (8-2) advances to face the winner of last night's late game between Cedar Rapids Washington and Cedar Falls next Monday at a site and time to be determined.

It was the second time this season the Cougars beat the eighth-ranked Hawks (7-3) in overtime. It's the third straight time these teams have played into overtime.

"I'm so proud of these guys right now," said Kennedy Coach Tim Lewis, who has the program in the postseason for the first time since 1999. "They had plenty of opportunities to fold, and they just didn't."

"That's playoff football."

Prairie still hasn't won a playoff game since the 1981 state championship game. Coach Craig Jelinek could have played it safe and try to send the game into a second overtime by kicking the PAT, but opted to go for the win with Jamie Klith running right up the gut.

He was stopped about a half-yard short.

"We had to end it," Jelinek said. "Their offense is too tough. We thought Jamie could do it, and we just felt we had to end it."

"And we also turned the ball over too much."

Incredibly, Prairie lost five fumbles, including two in the final minutes.

Prairie held a 14-13 lead heading into the final period, and took a 20-13 lead when Klith

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Cliff Jette/The Gazette

Cedar Rapids Kennedy's Herve Cantrell (2) is congratulated by Robby Grulkey (57) after Cantrell scored the tying touchdown in the fourth quarter against Cedar Rapids Prairie last night at Kingston Stadium in Cedar Rapids. Kennedy won, 27-26, in overtime.

City High wins last-second thriller

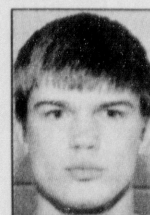
By John Riehl
The Gazette

IOWA CITY — Iowa City High receiver Ben Evans turned his head around just in time and could not believe what he saw.

There was the football, perfectly thrown by quarterback Jon Gilmore.

Evans pulled it into his body and sprinted into the end zone for a game-winning 38-yard touchdown with 25.4 seconds left, giving the second-ranked Little Hawks a thrilling 17-13 victory over defending state champion and No. 5 Bettendorf in a Class 4A first-round playoff game last night at Bates Field.

"I barely got my head around to see it. I was like,



Jon Gilmore
Hooked up for winning City High TD



Ben Evans

"Oh, my goodness," Evans said.

City High Coach Dan Sabers was happy to see that Evans had single coverage from defensive back Tyler Holle. The Bulldogs had double-teamed the Little Hawk standout for most of the game.

"When I saw the single

coverage out there, I thought, 'Please, just throw it to Ben,'" Sabers said.

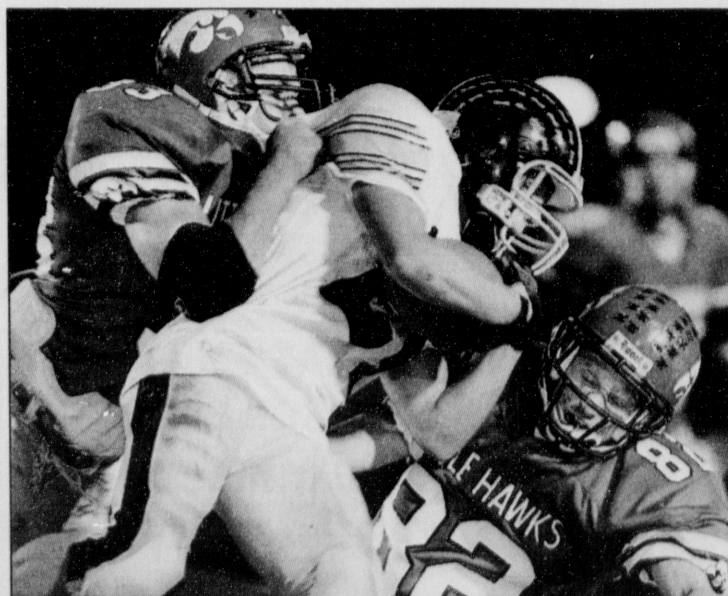
City High (10-0) advances to play Davenport Assumption (10-0) in a quarterfinal game Monday night.

The touchdown pass capped a 5-play, 67-yard drive during a wild final two minutes.

With the teams tied at 10, Holle, ironically, blocked a Gilmore punt, giving the Bulldogs the ball at the Little Hawk 16-yard line with 1:42 remaining.

Bettendorf (8-2) opted to throw two passes — both incompletions — on its first two plays, which didn't require City High to call any of its three timeouts.

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David Lienemann/The Gazette

Iowa City High's Kyle Bowlsby (left) and Ben Evans (bottom right) tackle Bettendorf's Tyler Pierotti during a Class 4A playoff game last night in Iowa City.

W. Delaware advances to face Decorah

Tony Brown rushed for two touchdowns and B.J. Hermesen passed for 154 yards and two more scores as West Delaware dumped New Hampton, 31-18, in a Class 3A first-round prep football playoff game last night in Manchester.

The Hawks (10-0) play Decorah (9-1) in the quarterfinals Tuesday.

"I was really pleased on both sides of the ball," West Delaware Coach Doug Winkowitsch said. "Our defense came up with some huge plays when we needed them."

The offense did the same. After a second-quarter fumble, Hermesen hit Tyler Jackson for a 39-yard touchdown. "That's was huge," Winkowitsch said.

Hermesen, who completed 7 of 13 passes with one interception, also connected with Zac McCool from 45 yards out for a TD. Alex Boom led West Delaware's ground game with 146 yards on 26 rushes and Brown scored on runs of 4 and 3 yards.

Winkowitsch said Decorah is a "traditionally solid football team" that loves to run the football.

"They are going to have a great ground game," he said.

(Reported by correspondent Bill Logan)

MID-PRAIRIE 22, WILTON 13 — Josh Berry rushed for two touchdowns and threw for another to lead Mid-Prairie (7-3) in 3A at Wilton.

Ryan Hetzler ran for a 5-yard score and threw for touchdown for Wilton (9-1).

WILLIAMSBURG 33, OSKALOOSA 27 (OT) — Williamsburg (7-3) snapped host Oskaloosa's seven-game winning streak.

VALLEY 23, RICEVILLE 0 — No. 3 Valley (10-0) rolled to another shutout in Class A at in Elgin.

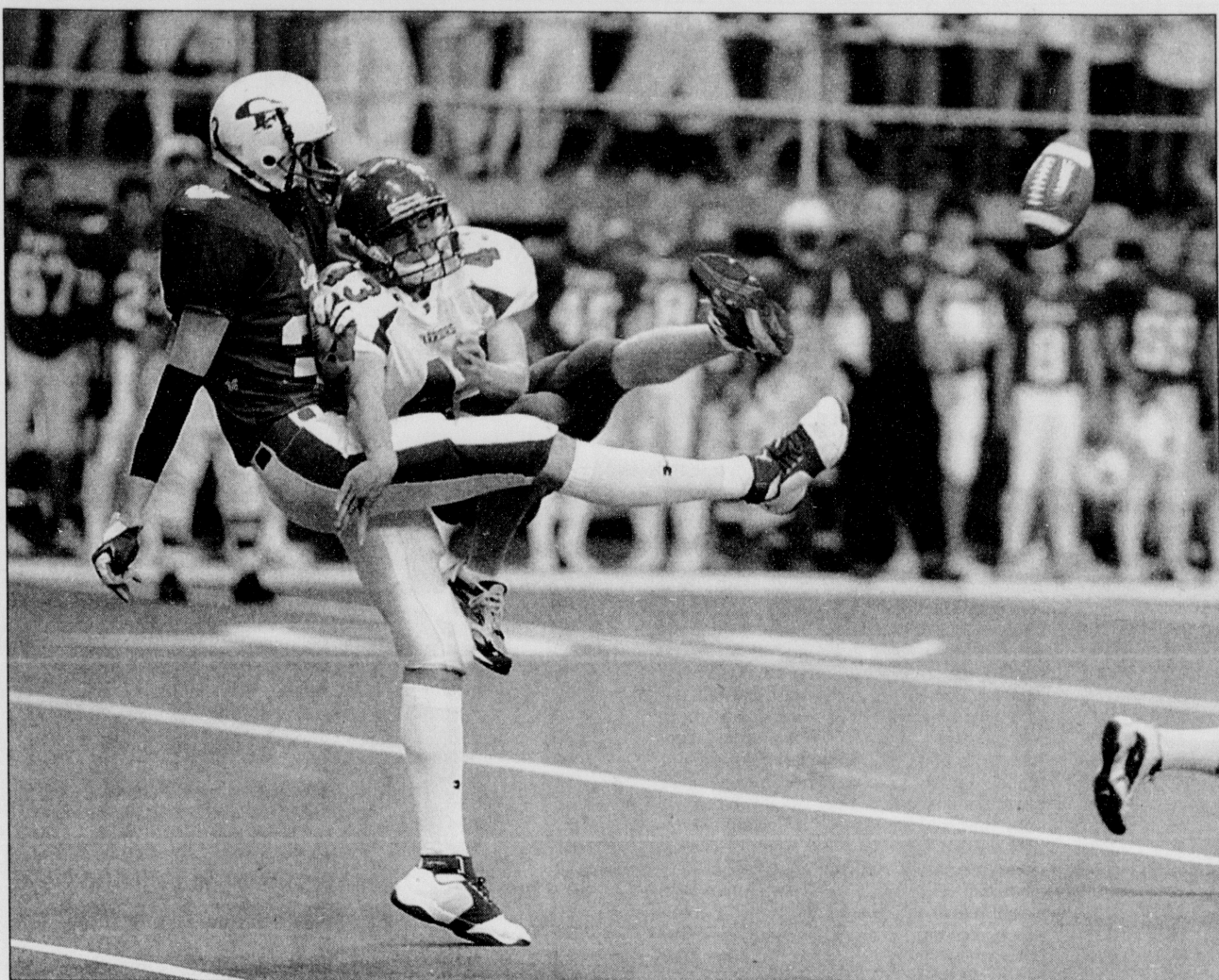
SIGOURNEY-KEOTA 49, ALBIA 0 — The top-ranked Savage Cobras (10-0) rolled to a Class 2A win at home.

GRINNELL 28, WASHINGTON 20 — Grinnell improved to 10-0 with a Class 3A first-round win at home.

Washington ends at 7-3.

WEST HANCOCK 35, POSTVILLE 0 — West Hancock won the Class A game at Britt and takes a 9-1 record to the quarterfinals.

Postville finishes 8-2.



Jim Slosiarek/The Gazette

Cedar Rapids Washington's Lee Wilwert (right) collides with Cedar Falls punter Austin Pehl as Wilwert blocks the kick during the first quarter of a Class 4A playoff game last night at the UNI-Dome in Cedar Falls.

Tigers crush Warriors

By Jeff Johnson

The Gazette

They blocked a punt four plays into the game. They took good field position from that to score a touchdown.

They watched the opposing team's best running back, one of the state's best running backs, leave the game on the next series with what looked like a bad leg injury.

The pieces to construct a huge playoff upset seemed to be there for the Cedar Rapids Washington Warriors last night. Then they disappeared ... quickly.

Showing they are indeed turf titans, the Cedar Falls Tigers scored 51 unanswered points to throttle Washington, 51-7, in a Class 4A postseason football opener at the UNI-Dome.

Cedar Falls (9-1) was able to shake off a loss in its regular-season finale last Friday to Cedar Rapids Prairie to advance to the 4A quarterfinals Monday night against Cedar Rapids Kennedy, which beat Prairie in overtime last night. The Tigers beat Washington

in the regular season under the aluminum roof of the Dome, 35-0.

It was Lee Wilwert who snuck in and got a piece of Cedar Falls' opening punt, giving Washington (6-4) its first possession at the CF 49. A nice mix of run and pass moved the ball to the 2, where quarterback Will Suess threw a play-action touchdown pass to tight end Nick Lenzen.

Joe Drahos' extra point made it 7-0 Warriors with 6:16 to go in the opening quarter. That's pretty much the end of the good news for Washington.

Cedar Falls was stymied offensively for about the first 10 1/2 minutes, but it took all of 10 to 15 seconds for the tide to turn its way. That's how long it took CF quarterback Ben Curran to throw a 3rd-and-6 crossing pass at midfield to twin brother Nate, with Nate finding the sideline and out-running every Washington defender for a touchdown and, with the extra point, a tie game.

Washington then fumbled the ball away on its next possession. Cedar Falls turned that mistake

into a Stu Craig 2-yard TD run, and that was pretty much all she wrote. Craig replaced Taylor Brookins at tailback for the Tigers after the latter was hurt midway through the first quarter when he was hit low by a Warrior.

Brookins did come back to play two series in the second quarter, though Craig did a great job in his stead, rushing for 172 yards and four touchdowns on 23 carries. Ben Curran completed 8 of 18 throws for 178 yards and two touchdowns, as Cedar Falls ran to a 23-7 halftime lead.

Any thoughts of a Warrior comeback went by the wayside on the opening possession of the second half, when Suess was intercepted deep in Washington territory. That turned into a 13-yard Craig TD run and a 30-7 Cedar Falls lead.

Suess struggled to find open receivers after Washington's first couple of drives. He ended the game 10 of 22 for 70 yards.

Washington's Paki O'Meara was limited to 77 yards on 22 carries.

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Top-ranked West Branch shuts out overmatched Tipton

By Barry Pump

News correspondent

WEST BRANCH — Top-ranked West Branch continued its roll to the state championship last night by shutting down Tipton, 28-0, at Oliphant Street Field in a first-round Class 1A football playoff game.

But the phrase of the night for the undefeated Bears was "wake-up call."

"I think we came out flat," quarterback Caleb Walter said. "I think it's a good wake-up call for us."

Walter went 7 of 16 with one interception for 85 yards. He connected with Brady Eagle on a 7-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter, and he scored on a 5-yard run in the second.

The offensive magic that has the junior averaging 156 passing yards a game, however, wasn't there.

"We played well enough to win the game," West Branch Coach

Butch Pedersen said. "We didn't play the offensive football game that we've been playing recently, and there were miscues on defense."

Tipton, suffering from the dual losses of starting quarterback Nick Grimoskas and leading rusher Michael Stegall to injury, played to stay in the game.

The closest the Tigers (5-5) got to scoring was in the fourth quarter when Michael Black broke free for a 50-yard run to the West Branch 15. But a stingy Bears defense and a penalty eventually moved Tipton back to the 20, leaving it with a 37-yard field goal attempt by Phil Knecht that missed left.

Black led his team with 58 yards on 13 carries, followed by Matt O'Donnell with 54 yards. Black and O'Donnell were among many sophomores to see action on a short-handed squad.

"This was varsity experience, and what better place?" Tipton

Coach Mike Wehde said. "We told them, 'You're playing the No. 1 team in the state. You've got nothing to lose. Have fun and play ball.' And I think our kids did."

West Branch (10-0) managed to take advantage of its opponent's inexperience.

The Bears scored on their first two possessions, on a 10-yard run by Aaron Sutton and then the 5-yarder by Walter.

West Branch had to punt on its third drive, but capitalized on a Tiger fumble on the return. Adam Fair recovered at the Tipton 34, and four plays later Adam Sheyko made a 19-yard touchdown run to go up 21-0 heading into halftime.

Sheyko led the Bears with 64 yards on nine carries. The senior also blocked a punt at the Tipton 22-yard line at the beginning of the third quarter, which set up Eagle's 7-yard scoring catch two plays later.

"We just did what we had to do," Sheyko said. "We made some mistakes but they're correctable."

The Bears will have to make their adjustments quickly. They'll face No. 4 Regina (9-1) Monday night, since the Regals picked up a 14-0 first-round victory at Starmont.

West Branch handed its district-rival its only loss of the season, 13-10, in Iowa City Sept. 16.

"I'm excited for it," Walter said. "They had a lot of guys out the first time we played them, and they're back to 100 percent now so I'm excited for the game."

Pedersen called the upcoming match-up "a challenge."

"We need to make sure we come focused to every football game, and I know we will," the coach said. "We're 10-0 and basically we're not injured at all, and we're going to be just fine going down the road."

Cougars/Crazy series of fumbles comes before OT

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scored on a 5-yard run a little over a minute into the fourth quarter.

After lost fumbles by both sides, Kennedy took possession on its own 29 with 5:49 remaining, and six plays later, Cantrell caught a little flair pass to the right side, broke a couple of tackles at the line of scrimmage, then scooted 50 yards for the tying score with 3:44 remaining.

Prairie fumbled on its next possession, and the Cougars's Kevin Shenefelt pounced on it, his third recovery of the night.

But Kennedy fumbled it away before Prairie coughed it up once more, and the last one gave the Cougars a shot at a 45-yard field

goal with 9.7 seconds left in regulation.

Jordan's Grimm kick with the strong wind at his back had plenty of distance, but missed just wide left.

That led to OT, where Kennedy got the ball first and Cantrell scored on is second of two carries. Grimm booted the PAT to make it 27-20.

Klith followed with a 4-yard scoring run of his own to bring the Hawks within one, leading to the two-point conversion try.

"You have to give Prairie credit for coming back," Lewis said. "But once we started rolling (in the fourth quarter), our confidence came back."

Cantrell, the brother of former

Cedar Rapids Washington all-star Mo Cantrell, carried 27 times for 159 yards and the two TDs. Lamaak passed for another 165.

Klith, a junior, hauled the melon 34 times for 216 yards and two TDs.

Both teams came out a little tight on offense, but it was Prairie that paid the price. The Hawks lost fumbles on two of their first three possessions including one Shenefelt jumped on the Prairie 1-yard line.

Lamaak poured his big body into the end zone on a sneak on the very next play.

The Hawks came right back on their next possession, marching 80 yards on eight plays. Quarterback Nate Suchomel had a big

16-yard run during the drive, which he capped with a 34-yard scoring pass to Colin Dietrich with 54.2 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Cougars didn't need a turnover to get its next score, as Lamaak and Cantrell led a 10-play, 75-yard drive that Lamaak capped with another sneak at the 9:44 mark of the second quarter.

A blocked PAT attempt gave Kennedy a 13-7 halftime lead.

Suchomel and Dietrich hooked up for a 62-yard touchdown in the third quarter, the only scoring in that frame.

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North Fayette tramples battered CP-U

By Jeff Linder

The Gazette

WEST UNION — Speed kills. And speed thrills. It just depends on who you're rooting for.

Second-ranked North Fayette sprinted to 413 rushing yards, and got a touchdown each from its defensive and special-teams units in a 49-26 victory over battered Center Point-Urbana in a Class 2A first-round football playoff game last night at North Fayette High School.

"All of our skill positions have a tremendous amount of speed," said Mike Moser, who rushed for 180 yards and three touchdowns. "That makes it hard for defenses to key on just one of us."

North Fayette (10-0) will face No. 3 Solon (10-0) in a quarterfinal showdown Tuesday. Solon defeated Clarion-Goldfield, 38-19, last night.

And if it turns into a track meet, you have to like the Hawks' chances.

"We're really blessed to have the kids we have," said North Fayette Coach Ron Wymer. "We were fast last year, but now our fast kids are a year older and a year more experienced."

The Hawks finished with 444 yards of total offense, averaging 9.1 yards on its 49 offensive plays.

That included a total of two passes. The way North Fayette was running, there was no need to throw.

"Our line was just killing them," Moser said. "We ran up the middle, and our center kept knocking their guys on their butt."

Moser netted his 180 yards on 22 carries. Devin Fonley added 137 yards on 10 rushes and added two TDs.

The Hawks scored on all four of their first-half possessions, and also struck on a 79-yard kickoff return by Blake Suckow, in building a 35-13 halftime lead.

"I knew it was going to be a struggle," said Center Point-Urbana Coach Ted Rogers. "We have nine two-way starters, and seven of them have been out the last three weeks (with injuries). But even if we'd have been healthy, who knows how competitive we'd have been."

"North Fayette's an extremely good ball club."

The Stormin' Pointers (7-3) won their first seven games before the injuries started mounting. Their season ended the same place it did last year — North Fayette beat them here in the 2004 first round, 30-14.

North Fayette drove to the CP-U 1 on its first drive of the second half before the Stormin' Pointers held. But on the third play after taking over, the Hawks' Chris Kasel recovered a fumble in the end zone to make it 42-13.

Andy Squires rushed 33 times for 165 yards and scored three of the Stormin' Pointers' four touchdowns.

North Fayette outgained CP-U by a 444-333 margin.

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City/Little Hawks win battle of heavyweights

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Quarterback Mike Hayward then had a 9-yard draw, putting the ball at the 7 and forcing the Little Hawks to burn a timeout. In a bizarre play, Billy Rembold then had his 23-yard field goal blocked. But the ball still got over the goal post by about a foot for the go-ahead points.

City High, however, was left with 1:13 remaining and two timeouts.

"I was happy we had that much time. I knew if we had that much time we would drive down the field like we did," said Gilmore, who completed 15 of 19 passes for 184 yards and rushed 15 times for 30 yards and a touchdown.

Bettendorf Coach Randy Scott wasn't second-guessing himself for leaving the Little Hawks too much time.

"I have faith in our kicker and I have faith in our defense," Scott said. "I'm going to take the points. What beat us was a perfect pass. We had great coverage on it."

All week, Sabers showed his players films of past playoff classics between the Little Hawks and Bettendorf.

Sabers can't remember a fantastic finish like this in any of the previous eight postseason meetings, five of which were won by Bettendorf.

"This is probably the most storied rivalry in history. It's two heavyweights just going at it," said Evans, who had four receptions for 83 yards. "Coach Sabers said we had to battle for 48 minutes and we did that tonight."

Last season, Bettendorf beat City High, 34-17, in the semifinals on its way to the title. Interestingly, the winner of the game has gone on to capture the state title on six occasions.

Bettendorf junior receiver Colin Sandeman, who caught 39 passes for 776 yards and a Mississippi Athletic Conference-record 15 touchdowns in the regular season, was held in check last night.

Sandeman had five receptions for 34 yards and one touchdown.

"We were getting pressure. The quarterback was running around a lot, and it's hard to get a read for things," Sabers said.

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