

**COTTON BOWL TRIVIA**



**Q:** What former NFL quarterback led the Ducks to their first and only Cotton Bowl Classic and in what year did he do it?

(See bottom of Page for Answer)

**sideline**

**TODAY IN SPORTS**

**China names new basketball team Ducks**

HONG KONG (AP) — Peking duck is a popular item on the menu of gourmet Chinese restaurants.

Peking has long since become Beijing, and Beijing also has the Ducks.

The Ducks are among 12 teams, including the Squirrels, the Panthers and the Tigers, who are getting ready when China's new basketball league opens its first full season Dec. 10.

The Ducks, also known as the Capital Iron and Steel Corp. team, chose their name because of the roast duck.

Hong Kong-based sports promoter Nick Freyer said Tuesday the Ducks didn't like the initial design for their logo, which showed a friendly duck.

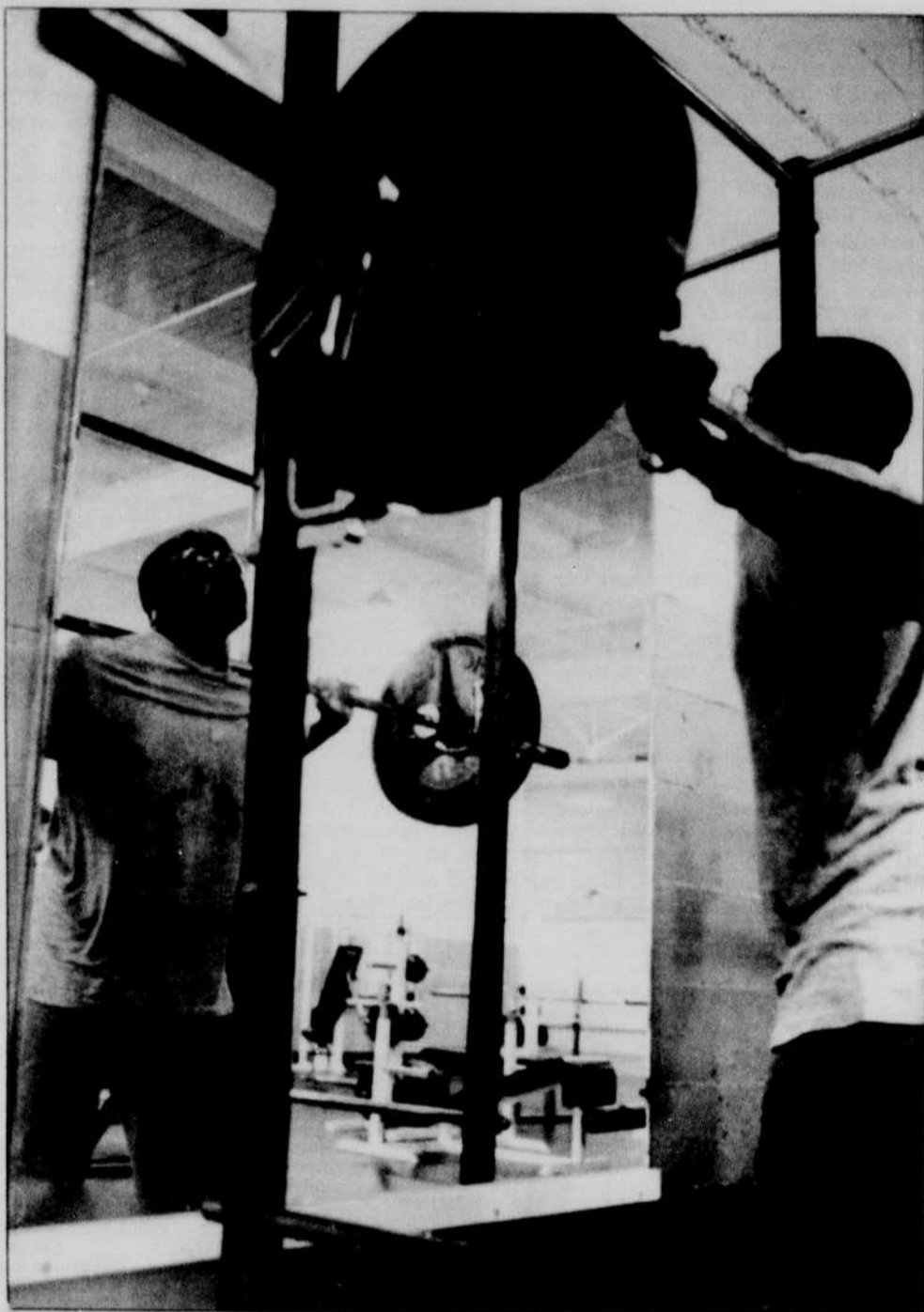
"They said, 'You can't have a friendly duck. It will be eaten by the tiger.' But when you have a ferocious duck, the odds are a little better," he said.

The finished logo, which will be prominently affixed on players' shirts, shows a fierce-looking duck, eyebrows arched, with a streak of lightning in the background.

The Shanghai August First team chose the name "Rockets" because they hope to emulate the two-time NBA champion Houston Rockets, according to the Chinese news agency, Xinhua.

**A:** Norm Van Brocklin led the Ducks to a 9-2 record — the identical record of the 1995 squad — and the Cotton Bowl berth, where the Ducks fell to SMU 21-13.

**Mirror, mirror on the wall...**



The pressure is on for Muammar Adams, a junior in Visual Design, as he does sets of squats for Weight Training 212. A variety of athletic courses are offered through Esslinger each term, such as swim training, basketball and other levels of weight training classes.

NATALIE MONTGOMERY/Emerald

**NFL salary cap needs to be forgotten**

The National Football League is a sinking ship on the ocean of professional sports. In the 1970's and 80's, this model flagship rode high on the waves of fan support and was the standard followed by the three other major money-making sports, in terms of revenue earnings and dependably competitive matchups.

Now, the once-great vessel that so successfully navigated through the rough waters of player strikes, league lockouts and outrageous player contracts has hit an iceberg called the salary cap. The NFL's once impenetrable hull has sprung a leak, and the ship is going down fast, forcing a lot of fans to jump overboard.

**OPINION**



**Pete Schneider**

When you look at the NFL standings, there are really only two teams that jump out as dominate squads. At the beginning of the season every football fan knew that the regular season was just a formality to presenting either Dallas or San Francisco with the Vince Lombardi Superbowl trophy.

It is not that the Cowboys and 49ers are really that good, it's just that the rest of the league is so bad. (Apologies to all the Kansas City fans out there, but I just don't take the AFC seriously anymore.)

Outside of San Francisco and Dallas, there is not one NFC team with a legitimate shot at getting to the Superbowl this year. Although Green Bay and Chicago fans can claim their teams are having relatively respectable campaigns, they have to know deep in their hearts that they will be watching other teams play in January. There isn't an AFC fan who can seriously say that his team wouldn't be a three-touchdown under-

Turn to SCHNEIDER, Page 10

**Investigation to determine if NCAA rules discriminate**

**■ INQUIRY:** Questions have arisen about whether rules single out athletes with learning disabilities

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department is investigating whether the NCAA is discriminating against student athletes with learning disabilities.

"We received a complaint within the past month, and we have opened an investigation," John Wodatch, chief of the disabilities rights section of the department's civil rights division, said today. "This is time-sensitive and has priority over our backlog so we will try to move fairly quickly."

The complaint came from the parents of Chad Ganden, 17, a senior at Naperville North High School in suburban Chicago. Ganden was the state swimming champion last year in the 100-yard freestyle.

The question is whether

NCAA rules designed to prevent colleges from giving athletic scholarships to students unprepared to handle college academic work are being unfairly applied to learning-disabled students. Discrimination against such students would violate the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"This is by no means a cut-and-dried violation," Wodatch said. "We are trying to understand how this policy works and whether it violates the disabilities act."

The NCAA requires minimum scores on standard college entrance exams and minimum grade-point averages in at least 13 "core" college preparatory courses for students to be eligible for athletic scholarships.

The NCAA told Ganden he did not have enough college preparatory courses to be eligible to accept a school-paid recruiting visit to a college before Nov. 15, according to *The Washington Post*, which first reported the story. *The Post* said

Ganden has difficulty translating letters or series of letters into words that can be spoken, but has a normal IQ and the required test scores.

The association allows high school athletes and colleges to make binding agreements before Nov. 15 for admission and scholarships.

"First, we're trying to understand what the NCAA policies are, how it chooses 'core' courses and how it decides whether classes for the learning-disabled fit into those requirements," Wodatch said. "Ganden's parents say the learning-disabled courses at this high school are tougher than those at most high schools in the country."

Wodatch said the department had two earlier complaints about the NCAA scholarship rules from learning-disabled athletes during the past year. "They had received letters challenging their scholarship. We asked the NCAA to reconsider, and they did," Wodatch said. "They were

both settled by this informal process, which we use frequently, and no investigation was opened."

"So, we knew the issue was out there but we had not previously examined the rules in detail," Wodatch said.

He said the department had not finished speaking with Ganden's parents and had only contacted the NCAA by telephone so far. He also said investigators would need to consult the Department of Education.

"We will look at the rules now from the point of view of this kid," Wodatch said. "But there were reasons these systems were created. The act does not require that we destroy those goals. It requires reasonable accommodations short of a fundamental alteration."

"If we did conclude the system does discriminate, the task would be to keep the basic policy in place but fashion a modification so it does not discriminate."