

Big XII

Kansas dropped to sixth in the latest ratings after its loss to Iowa State last Monday. The Cyclones jumped into the top 10 for the first time this season at ninth. Oklahoma is 14th after two wins last week. Texas is the only other Big 12 school receiving votes.

Winning on the road in the Big 12 is supposed to be difficult. Colorado, however, is 3-2 on the road in the conference. That record would put most teams in the conference title race but the Buffaloes are only 2-4 at home, making them the only Big 12 team to have a better record on the road than at home.

Texas A&M is doing its best to get out of the Big 12 cellar. The Aggies, 0-9 going into last week, won two straight over Baylor and Texas Tech. A&M plays host to Missouri on Saturday.

Oklahoma snapped Texas's 25-game home winning streak on Saturday night with a 75-54 win over the Longhorns. OU has won seven in a row.

Iowa State recently lost the services of Nebraska natives Zach Fortune and Omar Bynum. Fortune, a Bellevue West graduate who was Mr. Basketball in 2000, tore his ACL and is out for the remainder of the season. Bynum, a sophomore from Omaha North, left the team for undisclosed reasons. Coach Larry Eustachy expects him back soon.

With the loss of Kareem Rush and Clarence Gilbert, Missouri lost 38.9 points per game. The Tigers are being forced to get production from other sources. Brian Grawer has stepped up, hitting 14 3-pointers in last week's two games.

Oklahoma's Nolan Johnson is the Big 12 player of the week. The OU senior scored 23 points in the win over Texas.

Texas A&M freshman Nick Anderson is the rookie of the week. Anderson averaged 16 points in the Aggies' two wins last week.

Compiled by Dirk Chatelain.

Grizzlies to move from Vancouver

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — After six years of losing hundreds of games on the court and millions of dollars at the bank, the Grizzlies look ready to leave Vancouver, possibly as early as next season.

NBA commissioner David Stern met with team owner Michael Heisley in Washington on Monday and agreed that, considering the money the team is losing, it's time for the Grizzlies to find a new home.

"We've agreed to assist Mr. Heisley in exploring what other North American cities might be appropriate for the Grizzlies to relocate to," Stern said.

It didn't take long for potential U.S. homes to begin wooing the Grizzlies.

New Orleans, which once lost the Jazz to Salt Lake City, was first to show interest. Doug Thornton, general manager of the New Orleans Arena, said officials plan to contact Heisley.

"Sources tell us that he is interested in relocating the franchise, rather than selling it," Thornton said. "That's the challenge of a professional sports franchise, securing ownership."

Other cities mentioned as potential destinations include St. Louis, Las Vegas and Nashville, Tenn.

Last week, Heisley said he'd already received interest from Louisville, Ky. The Arrowhead Arena in Anaheim, Calif., also is a possible site for relocation.

"We're paying very close attention to this. We continue to believe this is the No. 1 choice for an NBA franchise with a desire to relocate," arena general manager Tim Ryan told the Los Angeles Times.

"We continue to believe there are tremendous financial opportunities for any team that wants to relocate to Anaheim."

The Times also named San Diego as a potential site, although the Southern California city — like Las Vegas and Louisville — doesn't have a new arena.

The NHL Anaheim Mighty Ducks lease forces any NBA team moving into the arena to split its revenue with the Ducks' team owner, Walt Disney Co.

NBA deputy commissioner Russ Granik has called Anaheim "potentially a very successful market for us," the Times said.

Grizzlies players were cautious after practice Monday night.

One sport not enough for some Cornhuskers

FOOTBALL from page 10

ules are completely different," said Boyd Epley, NU's director of athletic performance, who oversees NU's football winter conditioning. "It's impossible for Wilson to do football activities (during basketball season) because his games are on different days of the week."

Epley said the track team's schedule was more predictable, allowing athletes involved in both football and track and field to work out for both teams.

This arrangement serves the NU Blackshirts well. Two members of the Husker secondary and tracksters, cornerback Keyuo Craver and safety Willie Amos, are able to condition for football for part of the week. Craver, a triple jumper, and Amos, a sprinter, condition for football on Monday and

Tuesday before resuming their track workouts.

Playing two vastly different sports can have an adverse effect on the body, but Thomas is able to put the injury risk in perspective.

"You can get injured anytime, whether lifting weights or playing a pickup game," he said. "The main thing is to keep competing."

Despite the year-round stress of playing two sports at the Division I level, players say that the challenge keeps them motivated.

"I'm going to do two so I can say that I did two sports at the best university there is in the nation," Manstedt said. "A lot of people say that you aren't going to excel at two sports. (Football and wrestling) are going to complement each other. It's going to be great."

Misery continues for NU

MISSOURI from page 10

and managed only one field goal the rest of the half after Went's basket.

Missouri took advantage of the Huskers' scoring drought as they scored 15 unanswered points to extend its lead to 45-21 at halftime.

Sanderford said the problems that caused the drought were nothing new.

"Again it's turnovers, our point guard play was really erratic, our ball handling was erratic," he said.

NU lost Shannon Howell at point guard for a majority of the second half after she fell on her elbow hard and lost feeling in it.

Once again the Huskers had difficulty making field goals against MU.

After shooting 29 percent against Missouri three weeks ago,

they shot 27 percent from the field in the first half.

The Tigers stretched their lead to as much as 32 late in the second half, but NU put enough offense together to go on a late 11-2 run to avoid an even worse defeat.

Went led the Huskers with 13 points, though she committed seven turnovers. Center Casey Leonhardt recorded her fifth double-double of the season with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

MU's Amanda Lassiter lit up the Huskers on the offensive end with 25 points. The forward scored 52 total points in the teams' two meetings. Lassiter also bothered NU on the defensive end with six steals and two blocked shots.

In the end it was the Huskers' offense and defense, or lack thereof, that had their coach apologizing.

Ffriend readies for KSU low-post double teams

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However, it might not come easily for the Huskers, a team coming off a 69-58 loss at Baylor on Saturday and that has had trouble putting opponents away at home. NU's last four home games, two wins and two losses, have been decided by a total of 13 points.

In NU's last home game, the Huskers were defeated by three points by middle-of-the-conference-road Colorado before bouncing back to defeat Oklahoma State by three in overtime a few days later.

"There is very much a concern about our mental toughness," Ffriend said. "We get 12- to 14- point leads and then let down. We need to play consistently the whole game."

In the last meeting against KSU, Nebraska squandered an eight-point second-half lead before rallying in the waning moments to win the nail-biter.

"We get playing well, and then we sometimes get on

cruise control," senior guard Cookie Belcher said. "If I was to play hard all game and not just turn it up at the end like I did (against Kansas State), we wouldn't have won by so little in that game."

Ffriend expects Kansas State to be as challenging this time around. The NU center also expects to be personally challenged — the Cats will have a game plan that makes things difficult for him inside, he said. Ffriend posted a double-double in the last meeting, scoring 13 points with 14 rebounds.

"I expect them to double-team a lot," Ffriend said. "I look for them to take it inside and try to create contact and get me out of the game."

It's a game of necessity for the Husker, who still have aspirations of playing in a post-season tournament.

"We can't look down the road right now," Belcher said. "We need to start things off against Kansas State and protect our home court."

NU's Cosgrove not having any problems in pool

COSGROVE from page 10

jockeying between school and swimming.

"It's just so much easier over here," Cosgrove said, "because back home I was driving two or three hours a day going to the pool and my school, which weren't in the same place. It is so much easier to combine them."

Despite the saved time, Cosgrove still has few idle moments. In fact, the quick pace hasn't provided much time to think about home.

"I've been so busy I haven't had time to get homesick, but I am sure I will," Cosgrove said. "I e-mail home, though, all the time and keep in touch with all my friends and family."



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