

# Kansas State starts network

By Heather Hollingsworth  
Associated Press

Kansas State announced plans Monday for a high-definition digital network that will broadcast live sports, replays of classic games, news conferences and other events.

The network, called K-StateHD-TV, will feature games that aren't picked up by the Big 12 Network Television Package. That will include one football game per year, a handful of women's basketball games and most home volleyball and baseball games. There probably won't be any men's basketball games available.

Kansas State sports information director Kenny Lannou said the network is an extension of more limited service already offered through the school's athletics website provider, CBS College Network.

Subscribers will pay the same amount — \$9.95 per month or \$79.95 per year — to get the upgraded service. But the games and other events will be shot with higher-quality equipment and using more cameras. Some content, such as campus lectures and performances, will be available for free.

"Before it was typically one camera per sporting event," Lannou said. "Now the games will be produced with multiple cameras and full high-definition."

Currently, about 1,800 subscribers pay for the more limited

service. But the school hopes the number of subscribers grows when the upgraded service debuts Aug. 30 with the Wildcats' volleyball home opener against Creighton. The network also will feature the Wildcats' football season opener against Eastern Kentucky.

"We want to ensure that K-Staters anywhere in the world can watch the Wildcats, and the fact that all of our new programming will be produced in high definition will also put us in a strategic position as we continue to explore future avenues for distribution," athletics director John Currie said in a news release.

About \$400,000 has been invested in equipment for the high-definition network. Lannou said the school's journalism and mass communications department plans to take advantage of the equipment as it trains students.

"We are adding value to the university in that students are going to get experience here that they wouldn't get anywhere else and it is going to put them right at the forefront of finding a job," Lannou said.

He said the network also will be a major step toward a goal of moving Kansas State into the top 50 public research institutes in the country by 2025.

"The number one priority is exposure," Lannou said. "That is the number one goal for K-Staters anywhere in the world to be able to have a very high-level viewing experience."



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

## Cycle Zone brings motorcycle races to Colby



Motorcycle races, including local riders and international competitors, jockeyed for the best time during the heat races (above) Friday afternoon at the Thomas County Speedway. The heat races determined what starting position the racers got at the main event that evening. The races weren't just for motorcycles, however. These all-terrain vehicle drivers (left) waited in the staging area for their turn on the track.

## Family waits to hear if shot is worth \$50,000

FARIBAULT, Minn. (AP) — Eleven-year-old Nate Smith made an incredible shot — putting a puck through a tiny hole 89 feet away. Now he and his family are waiting to hear whether he'll collect a \$50,000 prize or be whistled for a rules violation instead.

That's because his identical twin brother Nick was supposed to take the shot Thursday during a charity hockey game at Shattuck-St. Mary's School in the southern Minnesota city of Faribault. Nick's name was on the ticket drawn for the chance to fire the puck from center ice at a board in front of the goal with a hole barely larger than the puck.

"But I was outside so Nathan took the shot," Nick said.

The puck fluttered but went straight down the rink.

"I just lined up and, yeah, made it," Nate said. "I was pretty stunned."

Several NHL players present were pretty impressed, too.

"I probably couldn't have done it," New York Islander Kyle Okposo said.

But Pat Smith decided honesty was the best policy. He told organizers the next day that Nate, not Nick, made the shot.

The promotions company that insured the raffle, Odds On Promotions of Reno, Nev., hasn't said yet if it will pay. A company official did not immediately return a phone message Tuesday.

If the Smith brothers get the money, they say most of it will go toward college while some will go to their school and hockey association.

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