

Hot shooting gives Jayhawks win over Hampton 86-71

MANHATTAN (AP) — Phineas Atchison scored 18 points and Kansas State had its best shooting night of the season Wednesday night in beating Hampton 86-71.

“We really played well tonight,” said forward Matt Siebrandt, who scored 16 points. “It looked like our offense was coming together. I think we’re shooting better percentage wise.”

The Wildcats (4-4) shot 49.2 percent from the field and Quentin Buchanan scored a career-high 16 points, mostly from the inside or on free throws. His previous high was 15 points.

“We don’t need him hovering around the 3-point line,” Kansas State coach Jim Wooldridge said. “We need him around the basket, and he’s doing that.”

The Wildcats, who also reached a season-high with 86 points, fell behind by as many as nine points early because of poor shooting.

Hampton (6-3) made four of its first five 3-point attempts to build a 22-13

lead with 11:48 left in the first half.

But Kansas State responded with a 16-4 run and took at 29-26 lead on Richie Terry’s behind-the-back pass to Buchanan for a dunk.

Hampton responded with a putback by Cleveland Davis, but Kansas State put together another big run.

Joe Leonard’s free-throw line jump shot with 4.5 seconds left capped an 11-2 run to give the Wildcats a 40-30 lead at the half.

Kansas State continued to attack the basket in the second half. After Hampton had drawn within nine with 10:07 remaining, the Wildcats scored the next seven points.

Buchanan capped a 10-3 run with a reverse lay-up with 6:56 left to make it 67-51.

“It was hard,” Buchanan said of maintaining the lead in the second half. “You’ve just got to relax because you know you have a good lead. We just kept it all together and kept playing like we did in the first half.”

Tarvis Williams, the Pirates’ leading scorer at 21.8 points per game, finished with 11 points on 3-of-11 shooting. Williams, a 6-foot-9 forward, made two of his first three shots, but the Wildcats increased their defensive pressure on him and he missed six in a row at one point.

Kansas State kept Williams double-teamed throughout most of the game.

“We took him out of the game because we laid another defender on top of him,” Wooldridge said. “Travis Reynolds played a great defensive game.

Quentin Buchanan played maybe next to great defensively.”

LaSean Howard led Hampton with 21 points and Davis had 11 points and seven rebounds.

Travis Reynolds was also in double figures with 15 points and seven rebounds for Kansas State.

Hampton shot just 37 percent from the floor, including 8-of-25 on 3-point shots.

Group honors former basketball coach, Emporia native as ‘Kansan of the Year’

By John Hanna
Associated Press Writer

TOPEKA — Dean Smith won more games than any other major college basketball coach before he retired. The arena at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill is named for him.

His teams won 20 games for 27 consecutive years. They made 11 trips to the Final Four and won the national NCAA Division I title twice.

He doesn’t need it to confirm his status as a sports legend, but Smith soon will get another accolade: Kansan of the Year.

The Native Sons and Daughters of Kansans announced Wednesday that Smith would be this year’s Kansan of the Year — the group’s most prestigious annual award.

The other honorees for 2000 are former Sen. Nancy Kassebaum Baker; Kansas State University President Jon Wefald, and June Windscheffel, the group’s longtime executive director.

The group, which works to preserve Kansas history and promote the ac-

complishments of notable Kansans, plans to honor Smith and its other award winners during a Jan. 26 banquet in Topeka. The group traditionally holds its event on the Friday night nearest the Jan. 29 anniversary of the state’s admission to the Union in 1861.

“We’ve tried to concentrate on people who’ve made a difference with their leadership,” said Bill Muir, one of the organization’s leaders.

Smith’s leadership in college basketball, both as the coach and teacher, are undisputed.

He coached his teams to 879 victories in 36 years before retiring in 1997. He mentored both players like Michael Jordan and future coaches, like Roy Williams.

The Kansan of the Year award goes only to natives of the state, Smith was born in Emporia in 1931 and graduated from Topeka High School in 1949.

He graduated from the University of Kansas and was a member of its 1952 championship team and the 1953 team that lost the national championship

game.

As for the other honorees, Wefald is being honored as Distinguished Kansan of the Year, the group’s award for non-Kansas natives. The group cited him for increasing the university’s library space and helping to increase its enrollment from about 15,000 to 22,000.

Baker, who served in the U.S. Senate in 1978-96, is receiving the group’s Citation for Distinguished Service. She is the daughter of Gov. Alf Landon, the 1936 Republican presidential nominee.

Her husband is former Tennessee Sen. Howard Baker.

Windscheffel is receiving a Citation for Distinguished Service for preserving Kansas heritage. She has been the executive director of the Native Sons and Daughters for 30 years.

A native sons group was first organized in 1901 and a native daughters group, in 1915. They combined in 1918 and have been designating a Kansan of the Year since 1955.

Griese ready for Broncos final Mile High game

DENVER (AP) — Saying it was “important to get in there and knock some of the rust off,” Denver Broncos quarterback Brian Griese practiced Wednesday with the first team in preparation for returning to the lineup on Saturday against San Francisco.

Griese, the NFL’s top-rated passer, has missed the last five games since separating his throwing shoulder against Oakland on Nov. 13.

He resumed throwing lightly two

weeks ago, then practiced as the backup quarterback last week.

“Brian looked pretty good,” coach Mike Shanahan said after Wednesday’s workout. “He took about half the reps. It looks like there was no setback and he should be ready to go if he’s feeling all right (Thursday).”

Griese, who has thrown 19 touchdown passes compared with just four interceptions, left no doubt he intended to regain his starting job Saturday in the

final regular-season game ever at Mile High Stadium. The Broncos (10-5), who mathematically could have a play-off game at Mile High, will move into a new stadium next fall.

“I will test it a little more each day, throwing the ball a little harder,” Griese said. “I don’t think I’m going to be limited. I’ve thrown all the throws. I don’t think I’ve lost any of my timing. I’m going into the game thinking I can do anything and everything.”

Nuggets’ guard hits winning shot for third straight victory

DENVER (AP) — The shot wasn’t designed for Nick Van Exel, but that didn’t matter to the veteran point guard.

With Voshon Lenard covered, Van Exel took it upon himself to deliver the game-winning shot with 21 seconds left to lead the Denver Nuggets to their third straight victory, 108-106 over the Detroit Pistons on Wednesday night.

“I thought we would get the ball in to Voshon and he would score,” Van

Exel said. “I was confident on the last play. I got down there, and he was covered so I decided not to throw the ball away.”

Antonio McDyess had 29 points and eight rebounds and Raef LaFrentz scored 20 of his 22 points in the second half for the Nuggets, who trailed by nine points to start the fourth quarter.

“Anytime the game is on the line like that, I wouldn’t want the ball in the

hands of any other player on this team,” Denver coach Dan Issel said.

Van Exel finished with 17 points and 10 assists.

“We didn’t get back on defense in the fourth and they beat us in the half court, on the boards, and in everything in that period,” Detroit coach George Irvine said. “The sad thing is that we had a foul to give and we probably could have taken it on the dribble on Van Exel’s basket.”

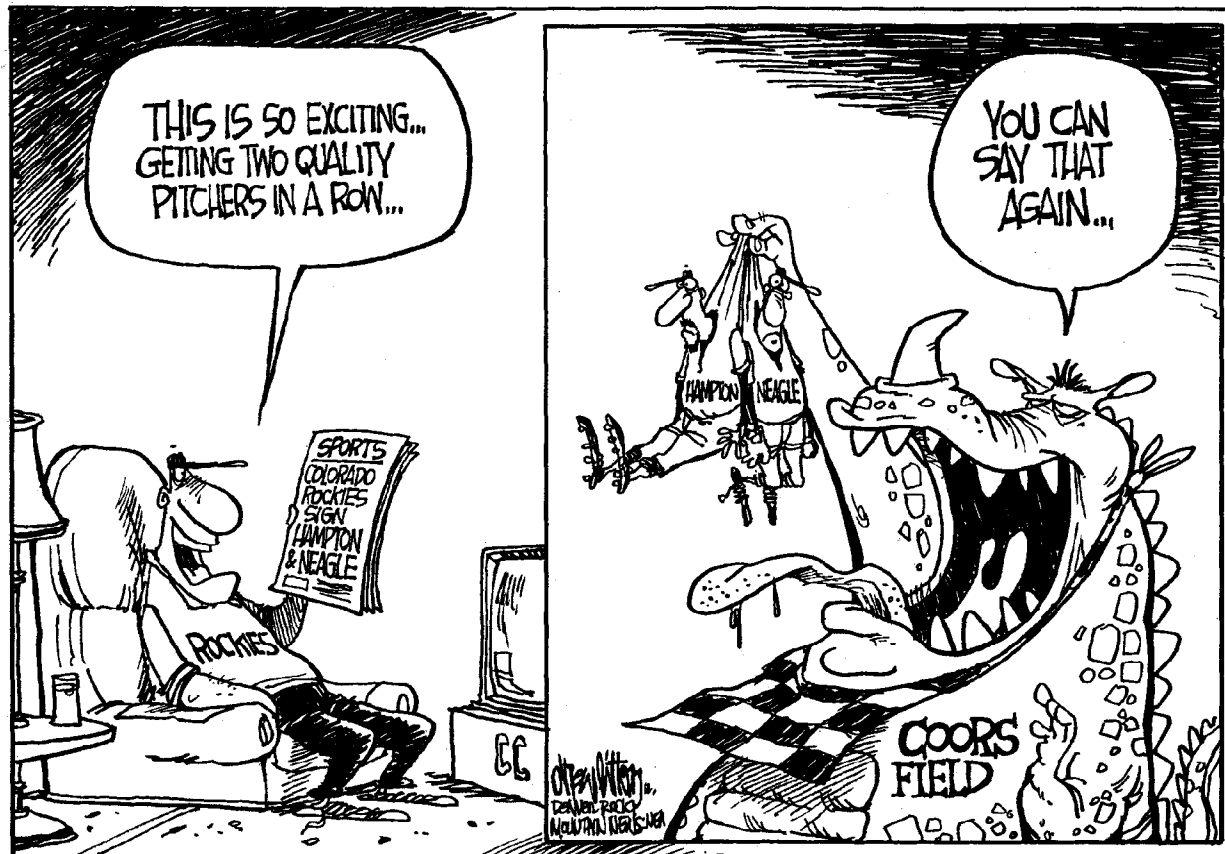
Kansas City chosen for Wold Cup qualifier game in spring 2001

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Arrowhead Stadium, home of the MLS champion Kansas City Wizards, has been chosen to host a World Cup match next April.

The United States will play either Costa Rica or Guatemala on April 25.

The U.S. opponent will be determined when Costa Rica and Guatemala play.

The winner joins a group of six, three of which will earn a spot in the 2002 World Cup. In the pool are Mexico, Honduras, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.



Cowboy junior varsity falls to Quinter

The Goodland Cowboys junior varsity team lost its game against Quinter on Friday night after falling behind in the final quarter.

Goodland ended the game with a loss of 66-61, after starting off in the lead and posting a score of 19-17 at the end of the first quarter.

The Cowboy’s slipped in the second quarter, ending the first half behind by a point at 35-34, but regained the lead at the end of the third quarter by three points, 48-45.

The Cowboys made only one of 10 three-point shots for a 10 percent average, but hit 53 percent of their two point shots. They shot 53 times and made 24 shots for a 45 percent overall shooting average. Twelve of 18 free throws attempted made it in for a total of 66 percent on free throws.

Lee McCoy was the only one to sink a three-point shot in the game, but the lead scorer in the game was Don Raymer with 16 points on eight field goals. Brian Mai, Lee McCoy and An-

Cowgirls defeat Bulldogs

The Goodland Cowgirls junior varsity team managed to hold onto the lead throughout the entire game on Friday night as they beat the Quinter Bulldogs 47-34.

Goodland took the lead in the first quarter with a score of 12-4. At the end of the first half, the Cowgirls still had a strong lead with a score of 20-13, and pulled ahead by 11 to 33-22 in the third quarter.

The Cowgirls finally won the game 47-34.

Goodland had a 40 percent shoot-

ing average, making 21 of the 52 shots attempted. The high scorer was Jessica Vignery with 12 points. Abby Scheopner and Hayley Jarmin each brought in eight points. Tess Schultz followed with seven. Anny McCoy and Steph Fairbanks brought in four points and Jessica Osborn and Danielle Hellerud each got two.

The leader on rebounds was Fairbanks with six, followed by Scheopner and Schultz with five and Jarmin with four.

Successful Chiefs’ running back maintains celebacy

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — If the Kansas City Chiefs voted on which teammate they would most like to succeed, Tony Richardson would be the runaway winner.

Even the ones who tease him for his celibate lifestyle admit their respect for the devout, soft-spoken running back is boundless. When Richardson rushed for a career-high 156 yards against Denver last week and established himself as the Chiefs’ feature back of the future, everyone who works at Arrowhead Stadium was pleased.

“Tony Richardson is a wonderful young man. He really is,” said head coach Gunther Cunningham. “I couldn’t be happier for him.”

A devout Christian, Richardson is also a man who lives his beliefs without just talking about them.

As active as any Chief in community and civic affairs, Richardson probably spends more time on behalf of charitable causes than any other celebrity in town.

At a time when high-profile athletes are frequently surrounded by opportunities to sample the pleasures of the flesh, the man teammates call “T-Rich” maintains a strict celibacy.

“The Bible says your body’s a holy temple and you have to keep it good and acceptable unto the lord,” Richardson said. “I don’t get caught up in those things.

“I know one of these days the Lord’s going to bless me with a godly and wonderful wife. I see teammates like Dave (Szott) and Chester (McGlockton) who have godly wives and I can see the peace in their lives.

“I can tell a person who has to go

home to chaos.”

Many of his party animal teammates sometimes tease him.

“I catch the most harassment from the guys in the locker room,” he said with a smile. “I accept it because ultimately the guys respect what I stand for.”

One of his closest friends believes the ones who tease him are secretly envious.

“Even the guys who tease him really respect him, respect him for making that stand in his life,” said reserve quarterback Warren Moon. “It takes a lot of commitment to do something like that, especially after you’ve been on the other side.

“He felt like he was headed in the wrong direction and he wanted to change that.”

The teasing never seems to bother him.

“They tease him about it but he takes it all in stride,” Moon said. “What he does in exchange is tell them they might need to make some adjustments in their lives — maybe nothing that drastic, but some changes in the way their lives are.”

Could it be that teammates who tease

Richardson for his self-denial are only envious of his inner peace?

“Exactly,” said Moon. “But they also respect him for what he’s done. They don’t give him a seriously hard time. It’s all in locker-room fun.”

Even if something was said with malice, Richardson would stay the course.

“There are things I want people to say at my funeral,” he said. “I want them to say he was a giving man, he was a caring man. Every person he came in contact with, he treated as someone special.”

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