defly news Sport **Counseling follows crash**

emotional aftershock of the tragic Oklahoma State plane crash, Big 12 coaches are worried their players may be more reluctant than ever to get on team flights.

In squad meetings and private oneon-one sessions, they're talking with players who've been shocked and shaken by the sudden death of 10 people, including two of their fellow athletes.

"We've had kids talking about getting back on planes and taking buses," Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson said Monday during the league's weekly conference call.

"The fallout from this will affect certainly us all."

In addition to players Dan Lawson and Nate Fleming, eight other members of Oklahoma State's traveling party died in the crash of the small aircraft near Byers, Colo., Saturday evening.

Texas coach Rick Barnes gave his players the bad news just after the plane landed that had flown them back from their game in Arizona.

"It took the life right out of them," Barnes said. "It hit so close to home. It could be us. They all went right to the phone and called their parents."

Many young athletes come to college with little or no flying experience and are already apprehensive about planes.

"I assured our players they should know we would never, ever do anything to jeopardize their safety. And I would never, ever ask them to do some-

fore tragedy struck, it was a typically

turbulent weekend in Big 12 basket-

No. 4 Kansas handed Kansas State

a 26-point loss and a 20th straight set-

back in the long state rivalry. Then the

Jayhawks talked sincerely about the

improvement the Wildcats have made

under first-year coach Jim

Missouri stopped a three-game los-

ing streak with a pulsating 66-64 vic-

tory at home over Texas Tech. A re-

lieved Tigers coach Quin Snyder ad-

mitted his team is not playing nearly as

At Tucson, No. 12 Arizona handed

Texas its most lopsided loss of the year.

well as he would hope.

Wooldridge.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—In the thing I wouldn't do," Barnes said. Oklahoma's next game is Wednesday against Baylor in Waco, Texas, and many players have asked Sampson if they could bus instead of fly.

"I told them we'd talk about it," said Sampson. "We're going to fly."

Because so many Big 12 schools are large metropolitan airports, they frequently take private or charter flights instead of commercial aircraft.

The Sooners were trying to fly out of Lubbock, Texas after playing Texas Tech last year when inclement weather delayed their plane's arrival by almost two hours. Rather than fly in the bad weather, Sampson put his players on a every year. bus and made an 81/2-hour drive back home to Norman, Okla.

"There is nothing convenient about about flying," he said. an 81/2-hour bus trip," said Sampson.

The Oklahoma State crash hit Missouri particularly hard. Last year after taking off from Columbia, Mo., en route to Texas, their plane made an emergency landing in Springfield.

crash) could be us," said Tigers coach Quin Snyder. "A lot of kids haven't basketball is concerned, is pretty flown (before getting to college). They are concerned about flying."

Oklahoma State plane took off from Denver. There has been speculation that ice on the wings may have been a factor.

"I'm supposed to get on a private plane tomorrow and go recruiting," said Kansas coach Roy Williams. "I don't think I'm overreacting when I more at ease.'

say if there's any problems in weather, I'm not going to get on it."

Texas A&M coach Melvin Watkins sensed that his players were unnerved by the news before they took the court against Iowa State on Sunday afternoon.

"Here I am worrying about being 0in small midwestern towns far from 7 in the conference. But it compares not at all to the tragedy that just happened," said Watkins. "We've got some kids who don't particularly care to fly anyway. Any time a tragedy like this happens, across the board people get concerned about flying again."

> Texas Tech coach James Dickey discusses the safety of flying with his team

"There's no question there are a lot of these young people who have fears

Dickey also doubts that people around the country will fully understand how the tragedy has affected every other team and school in the conference.

"There's a closeness that most "Obviously, (the Oklahoma State people do not know exists," he said. "This conference as a whole, as far as close."

Colorado players were probably as A light snow was falling when the rattled as any since they had just played the Cowboys a couple of hours before the crash.

> "We had a team meeting to talk about their emotions and feelings," said coach Ricardo Patton. "I think we're going to go back to commercial (flights) just to put our guys' minds



IT MIGHT INCREASE FOUR SCORING

OPPORTUNITIES.

Jayhawks lose to Missouri

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP)-An 18-0 run is enough to bury most opponents.

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It wasn't nearly enough Monday night for No. 3 Kansas, which always seems to run into trouble at Missouri.

Kareem Rush had 27 points and 11 rebounds as the Tigers shrugged and built a new lead, making it five in a row at home against Jayhawk teams ranked in the Top 10 with a 75-66 victory.

"Beating Kansas is something that if you go to Missouri, you have to do," Rush said. "It was a great performance and we have to keep on going.'

Missouri is 5-4 against Kansas in Big 12 play, although the Jayhawks lead the overall series 152-90. Kansas was ranked No. 7 last year, No. 3 in 1998, No. 1 in 1997 and No. 3 in 1996, and lost each time.

Kansas players weren't exactly crushed, even though it ended a 10game winning streak.

"It's not the end of the world," said Kenny Gregory, who had 16 points. "I'm not going to dwell on it too much, just because it's the big Kansas-Missouri rivalry. But whoever we were playing, I would be disappointed if we lost.'

In the only other game involving ranked teams, No. 12 Syracuse beat No. 14 Georgetown 70-63.

The key for Missouri (14-6, 5-2 Big 12) was not losing poise after watching a 17-point second-half lead evaporate.

Over a stretch of 5:50, Kansas turned

a 43-26 deficit into a 44-43 lead on for the Tigers, who are 10-0 in the Kirk Hinrich's 3-pointer with 12:20 to go.

Coach Quin Snyder was impressed with the poise of his young team, which has four freshmen playing key roles, the rest of the way. Five days earlier, Missouri coughed up an 11point lead at Nebraska, including a 15-0 run.

This time, Rush scored eight points in a three-minute span as the Tigers pulled ahead 59-52 with 7:30 to go.

Kansas, despite shooting 50 percent the second half after hitting only 35.5 percent the first half, never got any closer than five points the rest of the way.

"The most significant thing is what we did after they went on their run," Snyder said. "We haven't been able to respond when a team has turned it up against us and that's because we've tried to respond as individuals.

"This is what happens when you play together.'

Coach Roy Williams said the Jayhawks might have a lot to do with that.

"They really get fired up to play us," Williams said. "But you have to give credit where credit is due, they get so much more enthused."

Brian Grawer added 14 points and was 4-for-7 from 3-point range for Missouri, including three in the final nine minutes.

Clarence Gilbert added 12 points ber that."

Hearnes Center.

The floor was named for former longtime coach Norm Stewart during a halftime ceremony, and after the game Stewart was given the game ball.

'The opportunity I have is because of what he was able to accomplish here," Snyder said. "I really wanted our kids to play well and win. I didn't think it would be complete if we didn't do that.'

Drew Gooden led Kansas with 19 points, Gregory added 16 and Jeff Boschee had 11.

But Kansas was only 7-for-18 at the free throw line, while Missouri was 17for-23. Eric Chenowith missed all four of his attempts.

"I think we missed the possibility of six points in a row on the line when it was about a four- or five-point game," Williams said. "You have to be tough enough to step up to the line and make those free throws at that point."

Before the game, there was a moment of silence for victims of Saturday night's plane crash involving the Oklahoma State basketball team.

Both coaches as well as several others wore black and orange ribbons, the Oklahoma State school colors, during the game.

'You appreciate every opportunity you have to go out and play in a game like this," Snyder said. "They played every moment and it's good to remem-

Ranked 20th at the time, the Longhorns fell 80-52 and surprised even Arizona coach with how easily they were routed. At Norman, J.R. Raymond scored ers. We have insured our counseling 20 of his 25 points in the first half and Oklahoma rolled past Nebraska 77-66. said Halligan. In a Sunday afternoon game, defending Big 12 champion Iowa State easly defeated Texas A&M 72-53.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Beentire conference. Oklahoma State's us in the back of our minds." game at Texas Tech Tuesday was postponed indefinitely.

Big 12 basketball goes forward

"This is indeed a very sad day for ting their first 11 free throws against the Oklahoma State University," said school president James Halligan.

Among the victims were players Nate Fleming and Daniel Lawson, sports information employee Will Hancock, director of basketball operations Pat Noyes, trainer Brian Luinstra, broadcast engineer Kendall Durfey and Oklahoma City broadcaster Bill Teegins.

Also killed was student manager Jared Weiberg, nephew of Big 12 commissioner Kevin Weiberg.

Big 12 officials were meeting Sunday to discuss Oklahoma State's upcoming schedule, including its game Tuesday night at Texas Tech.

Sutton and the other coaches and play- ing hard."

The Cyclones (17-3, 5-2 Big 12) controlled the game from the start, hit-

undersized Aggies (6-13, 0-7), who lost their seventh straight game and dropped to 0-5 against Iowa State.

> Kansas, in the meantime, remained the Big 12's only unbeaten team, hiking its record to 17-1 overall and 6-0 in the conference as Roy Williams' log against the Wildcats went to 30-4.

> "I said before the game and I'll say it now, I am impressed with what Jim Wooldridge has done with that program," said Williams.

> Kenny Gregory, who had 20 points and nine rebounds for the Jayhawks, also noticed a difference.

"They seem a lot more confident now," he said. "Even though we got a "I have met with coach (Eddie) big lead on them, they never quit play-

Then — and it will quickly be forgotten — there was also the game at Colorado.

A few hours later, it seemed so terribly insignificant that the Buffs stopped Oklahoma State's five-game winning streak with an 81-71 victory.

Shortly after the game, 10 people, including two players, two pilots and six others affiliated with the Oklahoma crash of a small plane carrying them back to Stillwater.

staff is available to all the players,"

The tragedy was on the minds of Iowa State and Texas A&M players Top 20 one week after getting there, when they took to the court Sunday.

"It's a tough, tough situation and our hearts pour out to them," said Iowa point lead. Then he stripped Texas State coach Larry Eustachy. "It really does. It puts this game in perspective. We moved on, both teams, but we still have Oklahoma State on our minds." The crowd at Reed Arena observed a moment of silence in honor of the crash victims.

"It just really shocked me. It made game. State basketball program, died in the me realize you have to live your life every day," Cyclones forward Martin the year and when Kansas comes Rancik said. "We knew we had to con- around, there is something about Kan-The crash occurred about 5:35 p.m. centrate on this game and come up with sas that gets you ready to play," said Colorado time and cast a pall over the the win, but Oklahoma State was with Rush, who had 23 points.

Tony Atchison had 28 points for Kansas State, almost all from outside shooting.

Missouri, which dropped out of the needed a 3-point bucket from Kareem Rush with 32.6 seconds left for a 2-Tech's Cliff Owens of the ball with two seconds to go.

On Monday night, the struggling Tigers will play host to Kansas.

The crowd and the team ought to be sky-high because former coach Norm Stewart will be honored before the

"We can be playing the worst ball of

Suggets lose to Jazz, 97-91

37-year-old legs.

Playing against up-tempo Denver,

DENVER (AP) — Although a step eight on the fast break — as the Utah said. "Old man Karl Malone beat us up slower than he was in his prime, Karl Jazz outran, outshot and outplayed the and down the court. Malone still has some juice left in those Nuggets in a 97-91 victory Monday night.

"They kicked our butt in transition," they score more fast-break points than Malone scored 30 points — including Denver point guard Nick Van Exel we do."

He was out there like he was 20 years old. We can't beat that team if



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