

Kansas starters make All-Big 12

By Doug Tucker
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Since Kansas is ranked No. 1 and the only team to go unbeaten in a major conference schedule this year, it figures the Jayhawks must have a lot of good players.

A panel of sports writers and broadcasters agreed: The Jayhawks have all five starters represented on the Associated Press All-Big 12 team.

The 24 voters made juniors Drew Gooden and Kirk Hinrich unanimous choices for the first team. Nick Collison, the other member of Kansas' outstanding junior class, landed on the second team. Senior guard Jeff Boschee, the Big 12's career 3-point leader, made the third team. And point guard Aaron Miles was selected for the five-man all-freshman team.

Joining the two Jayhawks on the first team are Hollis Price of Oklahoma, Kareem Rush of Missouri and Andre Emmett of Texas Tech.

Also chosen for the second team was T.J. Ford of Texas, Andy Ellis of Texas Tech, Tyray Pearson of Iowa State and Aaron McGhee of Oklahoma.

The sophomore Emmett, who finished third behind Gooden and Rush among Big 12 scorers with 19.4 points per game, was named on every first-team ballot but one. He is also the only non-junior among the elite five.

It would have been a surprise if the 6-10 Gooden had not been unanimous. He leads the Big 12 with 20.6 and 11.1 rebounds per game and ranked third with 57 steals.

The California native, who had 20 games with double figures in both points and rebounds, also had 57 steals, ranking third in a conference the Jayhawks dominated with the first 16-0 mark since the Big 12 was formed in 1996.

One of his finest games came in a 102-66 rout of Iowa State in which he scored 26 points.

"Gooden was just unbelievable," Iowa State's Jake Sullivan said. "He just beat us in every way possible. Before you knew it, the game was over."

The 6-3 Hinrich averaged 15.7 points for the Jayhawks and alternated with Miles at point guard, finishing fourth in the league with 5.38 assists

per game.

In one four-game stretch capped by a 108-81 rout of then-No. 24 Texas Tech, he went 15-of-21 from 3-point range and 17-of-17 from the foul line and totaled 93 points.

"I don't know where they'd be without Hinrich," said Iowa State coach Larry Eustachy.

After Texas Tech won just nine games last season, Emmett and senior center Andy Ellis helped the Red Raiders make a remarkable turnaround that solidified even further Bob Knight's reputation as one of college basketball's greatest coaches. Emmett had 27 points in a victory over Baylor on Saturday that propelled Tech into the postseason with a 21-7 record.

The 6-1 Price averaged 16.9 points as Oklahoma rang up an overall record of 24-4 — the best in Kelvin Sampson's eight seasons as coach — and edged closer to what the Sooners hope will be a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament. In a system that emphasizes team performance over individual achievement, he still stood out.

Nobody looks smoother pulling up and firing a mid-range jumper than the 6-6 Rush. The left-hander, the pre-season choice for Big 12 player of the year, averaged 19.8 points for the Tigers.

Texas' Ford, the first freshman to lead the nation in assists, was a unanimous choice for all-freshman as well as the leading vote-getter on the second team.

"T.J. is one of the best guards in the country," Colorado coach Ricardo Patton said. "He is all he is advertised."

Along with Boschee on the third team are Missouri's Clarence Gilbert, Kansas State's Larry Reid, Baylor freshman Lawrence Roberts and Oklahoma State's Maurice Baker, a first-teamer last season who was hobbled much of the year by injury.

Ford was the only unanimous choice for the all-freshman team among an incoming class that many believe could be the finest of any major conference in the country.

Joining him and Miles were Colorado's David Harrison and Baylor's duo of Roberts and John Lucas.



Elvis Grbac quits NFL

BALTIMORE (AP) — Elvis Grbac will retire from the NFL instead of attempt to play for another team, the quarterback's agent said Monday night.

Released by the Baltimore Ravens last week after rejecting a restructured contract, Grbac turned down a proposal from the Cincinnati Bengals over the weekend. He told his agent, Jim Steiner, he was ready to quit football.

"He is going to retire," Steiner said in a phone interview.

He's got family issues. The thought of making an additional move was not appealing to him. ... He's had a great run in the NFL, and he just feels like it's time."

Grbac, his wife and the couple's three children live in Cleveland. Although Cincinnati is relatively close and the Bengals made what Steiner termed a "very satisfying offer," the quarterback was not willing to relocate for the fourth time in his career and third time in three years.

Grbac left the Kansas City Chiefs last year to join the Ravens, who signed the Pro Bowl free agent to a five-year, \$30 million contract. But Grbac struggled in his first season in Baltimore — finishing with 18 interceptions compared to 15 touchdown passes — and the salary-cap-conscious Ravens subsequently asked him to rework his contract.

"They asked him to take a \$5 million pay cut, which is totally unsatisfactory," Steiner said.

The Ravens signed Grbac less than three months after defeating the New York Giants in the 2001 Super Bowl.

State tournament to start

The state Class 4A basketball tournament will be Wednesday through Saturday at the Bicentennial Center in Salina, and Class 1A action will be at the Gross Memorial Coliseum in Hays.

For both classes, the girls' first round will be Wednesday and the boys start Thursday. The semi-finals will be on Friday, and the finals and consolation rounds on Saturday.

In the Class 4A boys bracket, the Scott City boys, with a record of 15-8, face Augusta, 19-4, for the first round at 5:30 p.m. Mountain Time on Thursday. Kingman will play Coffeyville, Spring Hill faces Atchison and Chapman plays Chanute.

In the girls bracket, the Colby girls will face Andale, both with a 21-2 record, at 3:45 p.m. Mountain Time on Wednesday. Ottawa faces Holton, Spring Hill faces Topeka-Hayden and Independence plays Towanda-Circle.

In boys Class 1A play, Weskan, 19-6, will play Centralia, 25-0, at 2 p.m. Mountain Time. Tribune faces Argonia, Hanston plays Hartford and Ashland plays Baileyville.

The Tribune girls, 25-0, face Little River, 23-2, at 7:15 p.m. Mountain Time Thursday. Hope plays Dighton, Centralia faces South Haven and St. Paul plays Grinnell.

Mustangs take third

The Grant Junior High seventh grade girls basketball team finished third at the Northwest Kansas League Basketball Tournament on Thursday, losing to Colby 50-24, and beating Oakley 52-15, in the last game of the season.

Dani Bedore led scoring for the Mustangs in the first game with 14 points, six rebounds, two steals, two blocks, and no assists. Emily Murray had three points, seven rebounds, one steal, no blocks and one assist and Nicolette Clancy had three points, one rebound, no steals, no blocks, and no assists.

Whitney Archer 2, 1, 1, 0, 0; Jenna McCall 1, 2, 1, 0, 0; Tanae Garrett 1, 1, 0, 0, 0; Amber Cowan 0, 2, 0, 2, 0; Steph Sheldon 0, 1, 2, 1, 0; Kaylee Billinger 0, 1, 1, 0, 0; Shandel Simon 0, 1, 0, 1, 0; Lindsay Schields 0, 0, 0, 1, 1; Alicia Studer 0, 1, 0, 0, 0.

Against Hoxie, Archer led scoring with 14 points, five rebounds, two steals, one block and no assists. Billinger had with seven points, three rebounds, two steals, no blocks and one assist and Clancy had seven points, one rebound, one steal, no blocks and no assists.

Bedore 6, 3, 4, 4, 2; Studer 6, 1, 1, 0, 0; Murray 4, 2, 5, 1, 0; McCall 3, 4, 0, 0, 0; Cowan 3, 2, 2, 2, 2; Schields 2, 0, 1, 0, 1; Simon 0, 1, 1, 0, 0; Garrett 0, 1, 2, 1, 0; Sheldon 0, 1, 0, 1, 0.

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Wednesday, March 13 - Friday, March 15

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Rosado settling down

HAINES CITY, Fla. (AP) — Just four pitches into his first start in two years, Jose Rosado gave up a long home run to Cincinnati Reds hitter Todd Walker Monday.

"After that first batter hit it, I said, 'Welcome to the big leagues,'" Rosado said.

Rosado settled down after Walker's home run and pitched two innings to pick up the victory as the Kansas City Royals defeated a Reds split squad 16-6. He gave up two more singles and walked a batter before leaving.

Rosado has had two operations on his left shoulder since last pitching in the majors on April 30, 2000.

"It was good," Rosado said of his spring training debut. "I felt good. It's been a long time."

Rosado had his first surgery on June 23, 2000 to repair a torn labrum cartilage and had his rotator cuff cleaned up.

He tried to come back last March, but was 0-1 with a 5.79 earned run average in two starts, covering 4 2/3 innings, before quitting March 19 because of his sore shoulder.

"I was lying last year," Rosado said. "I was trying to push it to a point last year. This year is different. My arm feels very good."

Rosado had a second shoulder surgery last May 30.

"I have to show I can get people out," Rosado said this spring.

Rosado, who was the Royals' lone selection to the All-Star Game in 1997 and 1999, said he had no jitters returning to the mound.

"I was 22 years old in the All-Star game (in 1997), pitching in front of 55,000 people," Rosado said.

"I didn't see why I should be nervous today."

"I thought he threw a little bit harder than he did in the intrasquad game (last week)," Manager Tony Muser said. "I thought he threw slightly better than in the intrasquad game. It was a big day for him. He was better in the second inning. He spun some breaking balls up there."

Muser said he expects Rosado's velocity to pick up the more he pitches. He said before the two surgeries that Rosado did not throw that hard in spring training.

"I'm not saying his velocity needs to jump from 80 to 90 (miles per hour), but creep up a little bit," Muser said. "He's healthy and there is nothing wrong with his arm now. It's just a matter of endurance."

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