Colorado's star rookie beats Padres

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Jason Jennings is making the Rookie of the Year award easier to decide.

The 24-year-old right-hander rebounded from one his worst starts to pitch seven strong innings for Colo-

The Rockies ended their nine-game losing streak Monday with a 5-2 victory over the San Diego Padres.

Jennings added a two-run double as the Rockies stopped their longest losing streak since July 2000 and avoided the first four-game sweep in club his-

Jennings (16-6) moved within one win of tying the club's season record. He has the most victories by a rookie since Cincinnati's Tom Browning won 20 games in 1985.

"He would be my choice," said San Diego's Phil Nevin about the award for the top rookie. "He was ahead of us, he threw strikes and he used his defense. That is the name of the game."

Jennings was hit hard in his last start Wednesday, when he allowed San Francisco eight runs on eight hits in 4 1-3 innings. But he came through to win for the sixth time in his last seven

He allowed only solo homers to Ryan Klesko and Mark Kotsay on seven hits with seven strikeouts.

bowling results

Wednesday Night Mixed League Aug. 29

Fun Lovers over Palace Barber Shop 3-1 Shear Dimensions split D&G Clan 2-2 Guzzlin' Socializers split The Pits 2-2 The Gamblers over Phillip's Brothers 3-1 JIGB over Blind No. Ten 3-1

High women's game: Vivian McClung-190 High men's game: Marvin Matthews-228 High women's series: Marilyn Snethen-527 High men's series: Marvin Matthews-599 High team game: D&G Clan-827 High team series: The Gamblers-2,332

Standings: Fun Lovers 3, 1; The Gamblers 3, 1; IBC 3, 1; Shear Dimensions 2, 2; D&G Clan 2, 2; Guzzlin' Socializers 2, 2; The Pits 2, 2; Palace Barber Shop 1, 3; Phillip's Brothers 1, 3; Blind No. Ten



Miami leads football listings

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) — Miami reclaimed sole possession of the top spot in the Associated Press Top 25 poll Monday, two days after a lopsided win over Division I-AA Florida

The Hurricanes received 34 firstplace votes, seven more than last week, when they were tied at No. 1 with Oklahoma. The Sooners were second with 21 first-place votes and 1,744 points, 39 less than Miami.

Texas remained third, followed by Tennessee, Florida State and Florida.

The Hurricanes beat Florida A&M 63-17 Saturday night, scoring touchdowns on six of their first eight possessions and then resting their starters for this week's game at Florida.

"The polls don't mean too much right now," Miami defensive end Matt Walters said. "It's nice to be No. 1, but we aren't worried about that. We just want to win all of our games. We know that if we win all of our games, then we're going to be in the national championship game.

Top 25 teams listed in poll

deily news

By the Associated Press The Top Twenty Five teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Sept. 1, total points based on 25 points for a first place vote through one point for a 25th place vote and previous rank-

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Miami (34)	1-0	1,783	1
2. Oklahoma (21)	1-0	1,744	1
3. Texas (10)	1-0	1,664	3
4. Tennessee (5)	1-0	1,638	4
5. Florida St. (4)	2-0	1,609	5
6. Florida	1-0	1,444	6
7. Michigan	1-0	1,245	13
8. Ohio St.	1-0	1,233	10
Nebraska	2-0	1,189	9
10. Georgia	1-0	1,176	8

"Even if we win next week by one big show — the Fiesta Bowl." point and fall to No. 4, we could care less because if we win them all, everything will work out and we'll be in the Dame and Wisconsin.

11. Wash. St. 12. Virginia Tech 2-0 19. Colorado St. 21. N.C. State 22. S. Carolina 23. Notre Dame

Others receiving votes: Penn St. 187, Kansas St. 149, Iowa St. 123, Georgia Tech 91, Auburn 89, Alabama 73, UCLA 61, BYU 60, Boston College 60, Oregon St. 42, Arkansas 39, Southern Miss. 29, Purdue 24, Louisville 20, Clemson 16, Air Force 14, Mississippi 12, Missouri 8, Maryland 5, Kentucky 3, California 1, Louisiana Tech 1, Toledo 1, Utah 1.

Colorado State was one of three newcomers in the poll, joining Notre

Broncos' Griese faces tough year

By John Marshall

The Associated Press DENVER — When injuries started to take a toll and the Denver Broncos began to falter last season, quarterback Brian Griese pointed to those around

He shouldn't have that option this

After limping to an 8-8 finish, the Broncos spent the offseason bolstering their offensive talent. Now the onus will be on Griese to get the most out of

"It's a big year for me, a pivotal year," Griese said.

Griese threw 19 touchdown passes and just four interceptions in 2000 – the second-best ratio in league history —and the Broncos rewarded him with a six-year, \$39 million contract. Griese threw 23 touchdowns last season, but also had 19 interceptions to equal his total from the three previous seasons.

Injuries to Ed McCaffrey, Terrell Davis and Olandis Gary left Griese with fewer choices, but he still wasn't able to rally his team. Griese had an NFL-worst 51.4 passer rating and threw seven interceptions in the fourth quarter last year.

"I was disappointed he didn't lift his game last year," Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said. "When you get injuries on offense, the quarterback's got to make those new players believe they can do it."

Barring more injuries, Griese should have more options this season.

McCaffrey is back after a gruesome leg injury, and Rod Smith is healthy after limping around on two sprained

Shannon Sharpe, an eight-time Pro Bowler who spent two seasons in Baltimore, was re-signed, and the Broncos also used their first two draft picks on WR Ashley Lelie and RB Clinton Portis. Both have been impressive in the preseason.

Should Griese falter with that kind have a stronger unit without him.

of talent, it may not be long before he is replaced by backup Steve Beuerlein.

"(Griese playing well) is critical for this team," Sharpe said. "We need him to play well. We need him to play like the franchise quarterback that everybody expects him to be."

Davis finally succumbed to leg injuries that have plagued him for three seasons. He came into training camp feeling healthy, but was placed on injured reserve after tests revealed a degenerative condition in his left knee.

The backfield could be OK without Davis. Gary rushed for a team rookie record 1,159 yards in place of Davis in 1999, but tore right knee ligaments in the 2000 opener and was limited to nine games last year because of a broken leg. Gary has been running hard and pain-free, and will likely start.

Portis has excited Broncos coaches with his speed and elusiveness.

He had the inside track to the starting job, but had three fumbles against Arizona. Still, it might not be long before he becomes the Broncos' go-to

Denver also switched tailback Mike Anderson to fullback, where he should give the Broncos more options.

There is no question we are going to be a top-five offense," Sharpe said. The line is getting older, but added a

younger veteran in LT Ephraim Sa-

Defensively, the Broncos made a few key changes.

Trevor Pryce, a three-time Pro Bowler at tackle, was switched to end this year after Denver signed free agent Lional Dalton, who won a Super Bowl with Baltimore. The move should allow Pryce to use his speed on the outside and better avoid double teams.

"I'm bouncing around feeling like a spring chicken," said Pryce, who has 32 sacks the past three seasons.

Denver lost linebacker Bill Romanowski to the Raiders, but may

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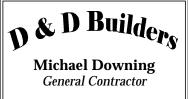
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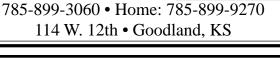
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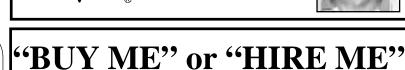
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