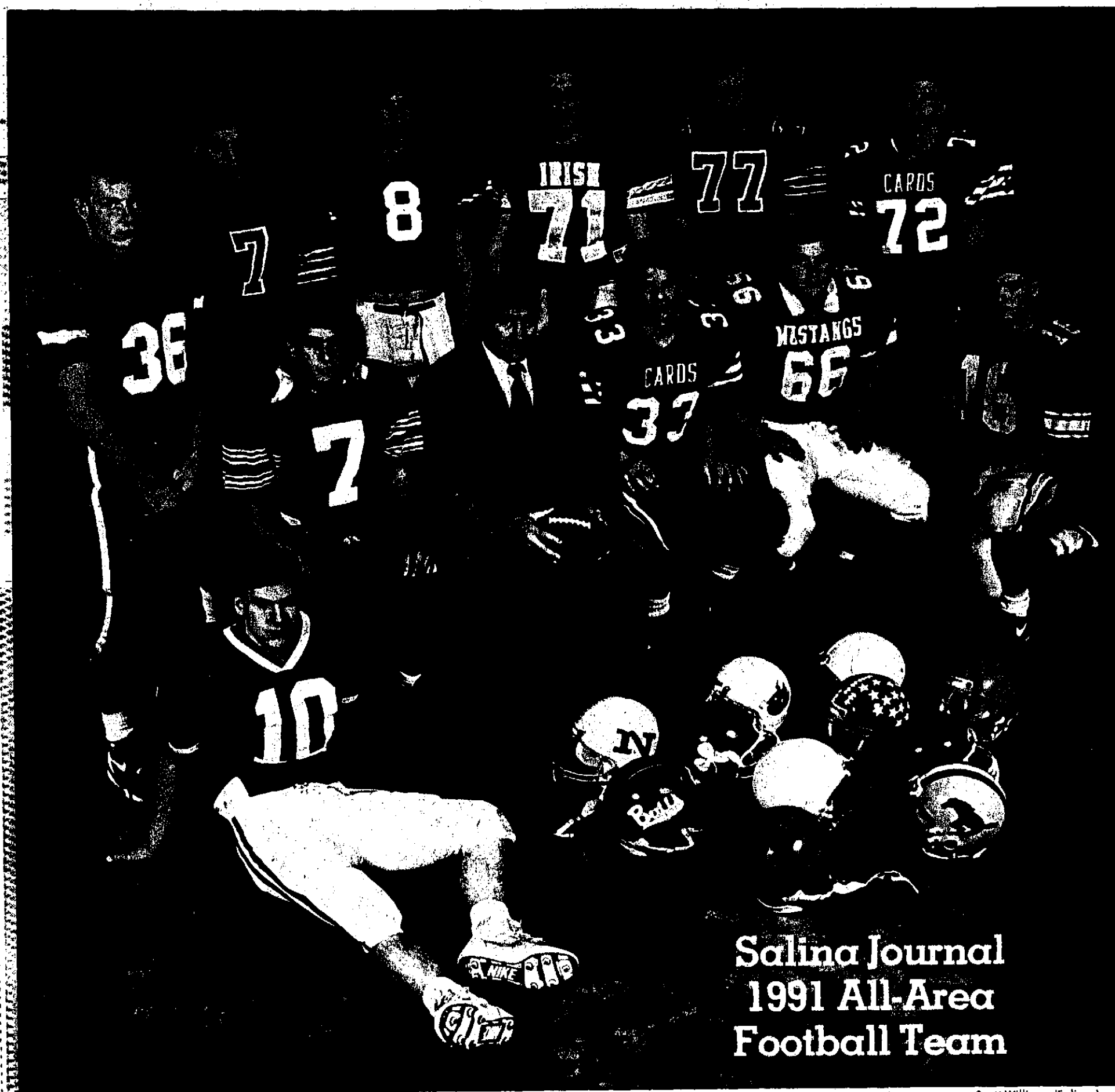


Success breeds 1991 All-Area Top 11



Salina Journal
1991 All-Area
Football Team

Scott Williams/Salina Journal

The 1991 Salina Journal All-Area Top 11 football team: Front row — Josh Loveless, Tescott. Middle row (left to right) Ty See, Sharon Springs; Dan Lankas, Coach of the Year, Atwood; Scott Smetana, Plainville; Travis Olson, Salina

Central; Justin Bratt, Norton. Back row (left to right) — Chad Markley, Abilene; Brady Scott, Beloit; Chad Davis, Ellsworth; Lynn Langvardt, Chapman; Chad Hayes, Atwood; Dave Schrandt, Plainville.

By TIM HOSTETTER
Journal Sports Writer

The winning edge. Some will argue it's a state of mind, an attitude. Others would say it's a certain level of physical fitness.

Actually, the term probably combines both mind and body, a formula coveted by all athletes yet fully achieved by a few.

The Players

For a player-by-player look at the 1991 All-Area Top 11, see Page 37

The players Salina Journal's 1991 All-Area Top 11 football team are among those few.

Each player achieved a level of excellence that helped elevate his team to state prominence.

Here's a brief look:

- Justin Bratt led a young Norton team into the Class 3A playoffs.
- Chad Davis stepped in at quarterback for Ellsworth this season and came within a whisker of getting the Bearcats into the playoffs.
- Chad Hayes was Atwood's top lineman on three state championship teams.
- Lynn Langvardt led a state-ranked Chapman team that was denied a third straight state playoff berth by rival Abilene.
- Josh Loveless led Tescott to a 10-2 season, one game short of the state finals.
- Chad Markley carried Abilene all the way to the Class 4A sub-state playoffs.
- Travis Olson helped turn Central back into a playoff contender this season.
- Dave Schrandt led Plainville to the Class 3A sub-state playoffs.
- Brady Scott quarterbacked Beloit into the playoffs as a junior and starred at running back on this year's playoff contending team.
- Ty See led Sharon Springs to its first state championship.
- Scott Smetana literally carried Plainville into the 3A playoffs.

The 18 annual Top 11, which features the best players in north-central and northwest Kansas, comprises all seniors.

Lankas makes winning an Atwood ritual

By LARRY MORITZ
Journal Sports Writer

Question: What do Atwood coach Dan Lankas and Santa Claus have in common?
Answer: It's become a late November tradition to see both men riding in a parade.

While Santa Claus is welcomed by millions of adoring children in the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, it's the people of Atwood who have honored Lankas and his football team each of the past three years with a parade through the city's streets.



Atwood's Dan Lankas

Three consecutive years the Buffaloes have traveled to Wichita's Cessna Stadium to play for the Class 2-1A state title, and three consecutive years Lankas and his squad have come back to Atwood with the championship trophy in hand.

The Buffaloes capped their third title with a 21-13 victory over Pittsburg-Colgan in the championship game last month to complete an 11-1 season, with

► See LANKAS, Page 37

The 1991 All-Area Top 11

Player, School	Height	Weight	Year	Position
Justin Bratt, Norton	5-10	165	Senior	Quarterback-Defensive back
Chad Davis, Ellsworth	6-3	190	Senior	Quarterback-Linebacker
Chad Hayes, Atwood	6-5	252	Senior	Offensive tackle-Defensive tackle
Lynn Langvardt, Chapman	6-4	215	Senior	Offensive tackle-Defensive tackle
Josh Loveless, Tescott	5-8	160	Senior	Running back-Linebacker
Chad Markley, Abilene	6-0	190	Senior	Fullback-Defensive End
Travis Olson, Salina Central	5-11	215	Senior	Offensive tackle-Nose guard
Dave Schrandt, Plainville	6-1	200	Senior	Offensive guard-Linebacker
Brady Scott, Beloit	6-3	180	Senior	Running back-Defensive back
Ty See, Sharon Springs	5-10	160	Senior	Running back-Linebacker
Scott Smetana, Plainville	6-0	185	Senior	Running back-Defensive back

Kruger's Gators chomp on Shockers

By HAROLD BECHARD
Journal Sports Editor

WICHITA — For the first 33 minutes, Lon Kruger couldn't have written a better script for his first trip back to his home state as Florida's basketball coach.

Kruger's Gators took Wichita State completely out of the offense from the beginning and led by a stunning 61-50 points (59-31) with 6:43 remaining in Saturday night's game in Levitt Arena.

Only a much belated 19-2 run by Wichita State made things respectable as the Shockers dropped a 61-50 decision in front of 8,071 fans.

Was this the same Florida team that struggled past Charleston Southern (57-52) just three nights earlier?

"Tonight, we played better than we have all season, by quite a bit," Kruger said. "For the first 30 minutes, we really did some nice things."

This one was never close after a 15-2 run by Florida opened up a 14-point



Kruger

More basketball
City high schools, Page 34
College action, Page 35

lead for the Gators with 6:05 remaining in the first half.

Wichita State was never closer than 11 points after that as the Shockers suffered their first loss in three games.

Florida, meanwhile, improved its record to 5-0 as the Gators' defense was devastating from the opening tip.

"They are just a good old fashioned basketball team and they did what I was concerned about," WSU head coach Mike Cohen said. "Their defense was just excellent."

Wichita State just had all kinds of trouble on offense. The Shockers had nearly as many turnovers (16) as points (18) in the first half as Florida held a 17-point lead (35-18) at intermission.

"I think we started the game too excited," Cohen said. "We missed some easy shots and started double-

pumping some shots after a couple were blocked."

Things only got worse after half-time. An 18-8 run by Florida gave the Gators their biggest lead of the game — a staggering 59-31 advantage.

"It was a little surprising for us, too," Kruger said when asked about the big margin. "But these are two pretty evenly matched teams. Tonight was one of those weird nights when things went our way."

Florida didn't shoot particularly well (24 of 60 for 40 percent), but the Gators, in usual Kruger fashion, beat Wichita State to nearly every loose ball. The defense was everywhere, shutting down the passing lanes as well as the inside game of the Shockers.

"I think their defense had a lot to do with what happened out there," Cohen said.

Only a string of 17 unanswered points by Wichita State in the final six minutes saved the embarrassment of a much bigger loss.

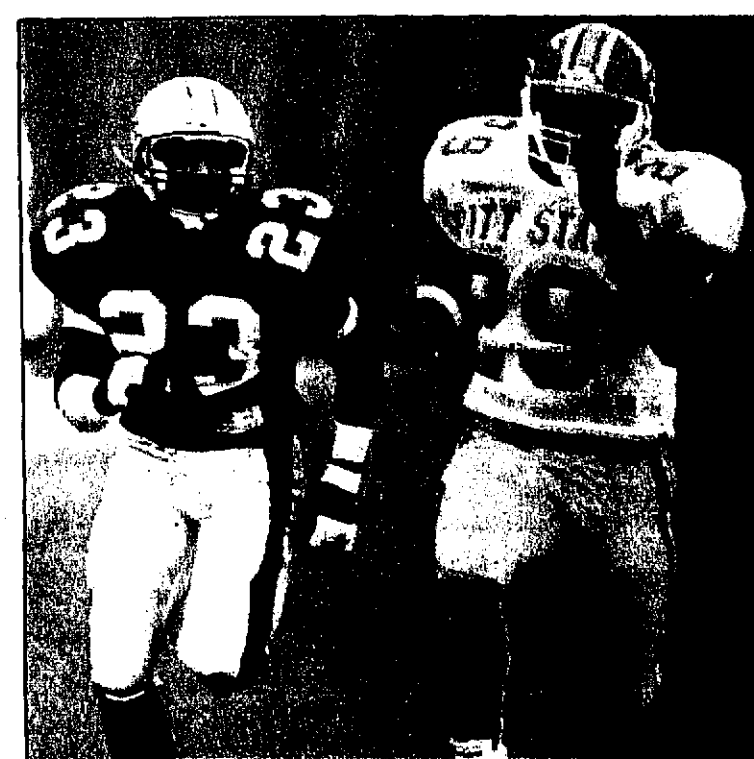
The Gators were led by 6-6 Stacey Poole with 20 points, while WSU's Robert George scored 13 of his team-high 14 points in the second half.

Florida 61 Wichita State 50

FLA. (61)	MIN	FG	FT	R	A	F	TP
Poole	28	9-17	2-2	4	1	2	11
Grimsley	21	4-7	2-2	4	1	2	9
DeClercq	20	2-8	0-0	7	0	2	4
Stewart	21	3-3	0-0	4	3	1	9
Brown	25	1-6	0-0	4	4	1	2
Turner	9	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0
Cross	19	2-3	0-1	3	0	3	4
Kutsuma	12	1-4	1-2	2	0	1	3
Edwards	4	0-0	2-3	0	0	1	2
Rowe	19	2-8	0-0	2	2	0	4
Hogan	11	0-0	0-0	0	1	1	0
Ulmer	1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
Dyrkolbotn	10	0-1	2-2	2	0	2	2
TOTALS	200	24-60	9-14	34	11	18	61

WSU (50)	MIN	FG	FT	R	A	F	TP
C. Johnson	21	0-3	0-0	4	0	3	0
Wiggins	28	4-10	0-2	2	1	2	9
Smith	33	4-12	1-4	7	0	2	9
Alexander	18	0-4	2-2	0	1	0	2
Hunt	22	0-3	2-3	2	1	0	2
Joyner	19	1-4	0-0	2	0	0	2
George	22	4-6	6-10	2	3	4	14
T. Johnson	12	3-4	0-0	2	1	3	6
Peterson	18	2-4	0-0	9	0	2	4
Corn	2	1-1	0-0	1	0	0	2
Wright	2	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0
Croft	2	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0
Brown	1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0
TOTALS	200	19-52	11-21	32	9	17	50

Halftime — Florida, 35-18. 3-point goals — Florida 4-5 (Stewart 3-3, Grimsley 1-1, Rowe 0-1); Wichita State 1-2 (Wiggins 1-2). Turnovers — Florida 21 (Grimsley, DeClercq, Hogan 3); Wichita State 24 (C. Johnson 5). Steals — Florida 15 (Poole 7); Wichita State 8 (Wiggins, Hunt, T. Johnson 2). Officials — John Clougherty, Kerry Sitton, Tom Eades. Attendance — 8,071.



The Associated Press

RUNAWAY — Pittsburg State's Ronald Moore pulls away from Portland State's John Gentry for a first quarter touchdown in Saturday's NCAA Division II football playoff game in Portland, Ore. For a story on Pitt State's 53-21 win, see Page 38.