

## Oklahoma's White wins Heisman

NEW YORK (AP) — The scars, the operations, the grueling rehab. It was all worth it for Jason White.

A year after knee injuries almost ended his career, White capped his comeback by receiving the greatest individual honor in college football, the Heisman Trophy.

"Heck, yeah, it makes it worthwhile!" White said. "Going through that rehab you never would have thought that you'd get a Heisman out of the deal. I'd go through it all again."

White provided an inspirational ending to the feel-good story that helped carry Oklahoma to the Bowl Championship Series title game.

As White accepted the award, he looked out at his parents, who

helped persuade him to keep going.

Ron White beamed proudly, knowing the work ethic he instilled by making his son shovel concrete as a kid helped make Jason a winner. Sue White was in tears.

The small-town kid from Tuttle, Okla., was being honored on the biggest stage in the biggest city.

"Last year about this time, I was sitting at home watching the Heisman and thought how neat it would be to be there, to be one of the finalists," White said. "I never thought, after two surgeries, that I'd be here."

The award was well deserved for the 23-year-old senior. White threw 40 touchdown passes and led the third-ranked Sooners to 12 straight wins to open the season as he beat out Pittsburgh receiver

Larry Fitzgerald by 128 points.

Even a subpar performance in a loss in the Big 12 title game last week against Kansas State couldn't stop White from winning the award. His three months of brilliance before that were more than enough to persuade voters to pick him.

White, The Associated Press Player of the Year, led the nation in passing efficiency, completing 64 percent of his passes for 3,744 yards and only eight interceptions.

White beat Fitzgerald 1,481-1,353. Eli Manning was third with 710 points and Chris Perry was next with 341.

Voters list three choices on their ballots, and players are awarded three points for first place, two for second and one for third.

White, the first Oklahoma play-

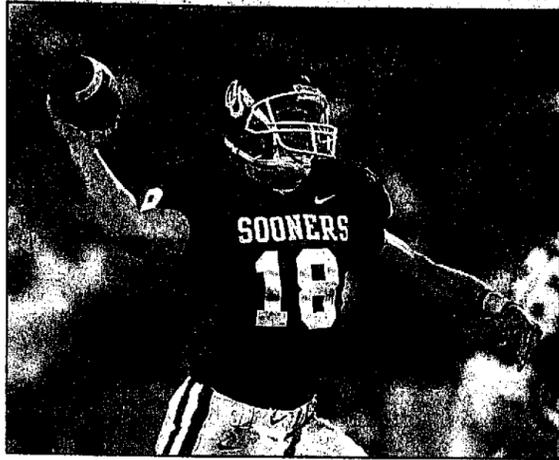
er since Billy Sims in 1978 to win the Heisman, had 319 first-place votes, 204 seconds and 116 thirds.

Fitzgerald, who set an NCAA record with touchdown catches in 18 straight games, had 253 firsts, 233 seconds and 128 thirds. He was trying to become the first sophomore to win the award, but only two Heisman winners have come from a team that's had as many as four losses at the time of the award.

"I think the losses really hurt me," Fitzgerald said. "All the guys up there, their teams had good records. They're playing in big bowl games."

White became the fourth Sooner to win the Heisman, joining Sims, Steve Owens (1969) and Billy Vessels (1952).

Kansas State running back Darren Sproles was fifth.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma quarterback Jason White throws a pass during the second quarter of a Big 12 game against Missouri earlier this season in Norman, Okla. White won the 2003 Heisman Trophy Saturday in New York.

## Fort Hays women fall to Mavericks

BY THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — The Fort Hays State University women's basketball team opened conference play Saturday night with an 83-66 loss to Mesa State College.

The Mavericks bounced back after dropping their Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference opener the night before, 84-68 to University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Mesa State (4-3 overall, 1-1 RMAC) opened Saturday's game with an 8-0 run over the first four minutes.

Fort Hays (2-3, 0-1) trailed by 10 points with just over 13 minutes left in the half, but took a 28-26 lead on a 3-pointer by junior guard Katie Rhodes four minutes before halftime.

Mesa State came back to lead 39-33 at intermission.

Tiger senior guard Shanell Watson was saddled with three fouls in the first 20 minutes, as was junior forward Cassie Cordell, the team's leading scorer on the season. The Mavericks started the second half just like the first half, going on another 8-0 run to lead 47-33. But the Tigers responded with an 8-0 run of their own to make it 47-41.

Mesa State jumped out to a 15-point lead at 61-46 and later 68-53

• Mesa State 83, Fort Hays 66 •

Fort Hays (2-3, 0-1)  
Rhodes 2-11 0-0 5, Cordell 2-11 2-4 6, Pokorny 2-4 0-0 5, Shanell Watson 6-15 2-2 16, Jennilar Hake 4-9 3-8 12, Rausch 0-4 1-2 1, Desmond 0-1 0-2 0, Falls 0-0 0-0 0, Ashlee Gustin 6-7 4-4 16, Dieterich 1-5 1-3 3, Shroy 1-1 0-0 2, Duarte 0-0 0-0 0. Totals — 24-68 13-25 66.

Mesa State (4-3, 1-1)  
Lori Eddy 4-10 5-6 13, Kirchner 3-11 2-3 8, Natalie Rogers 5-9 0-0 10, Rosa Masler 7-9 3-6 17, Danielle Porreco 3-9 3-6 10, Keaveny 0-0 3-4 3, Kemp 0-0 0-0 0, Wells 0-0 2-2 2, Rowley 0-1 4-4 4, Davidson 0-0 0-0 0, Ball 3-5 0-0 7, Steele 1-2 0-2 2, Langstaff 3-3 1-1 7. Totals — 29-59 23-32 83.

Fort Hays ..... 33 33 — 66  
Mesa State ..... 39 44 — 83

3-point goals — Fort Hays 5-25 (Watson 2-7, Rhodes 1-7, Pokorny 1-2, Rausch 0-3, Dieterich 0-2, Cordell 0-1); Mesa State 2-9 (Porreco 1-2, Steele 1-2, Kirchner 0-3, Eddy 0-2).

Rebounds — Fort Hays 40 (Gustin 8); Mesa State 44 (Masler 11). Assists — Fort Hays 8 (Watson 2); Mesa State 18 (Porreco 7).

Turnovers — Fort Hays 21, Mesa State 17. Total fouls — Fort Hays 28, Mesa State 22. Fouled out — Watson, Dieterich, Fort Hays; Masler, Mesa State. Officials — Donavan Briggans, Richard Czernicki, Kevin Hudson. A — 280.

with 6:20 left in the game.

Watson received a technical foul and fouled out with 3:39 left. Mesa State led 72-57 after making 2-of-4 technicals.

Mesa State pulled out to its biggest lead of the night at 78-58 before the final 17-point margin.

Watson and freshman Ashlee Gustin each scored 16 points for Fort Hays and junior Jennifer Hake finished with 12.

Rosa Masler led Mesa State with 17 points.

## FHSU men edge Mesa

BY THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — Senior forward Justin Best's leaper in the lane with 2.9 seconds left gave the Fort Hays State University men's basketball team a 57-56 win over Mesa State College Saturday night in the Tigers' conference opener.

Mesa State led 6-0 before Fort Hays finally scored its first points of the game five minutes in.

Mesa State, which lost 70-66 to University of Nebraska-Kearney the night before in Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference action, led 23-17 at halftime on Saturday.

Senior Bryce Newell made 1-of-2 fouls shots with 55 seconds left to give Mesa State a 55-52 lead. The Mavericks got the ball out of bounds after Newell missed his second free throw, but Best stole the ball for the Tigers.

Tiger senior guard Dominique Townes missed a driving shot but

got his own rebound and scored on the follow shot and was fouled. His ensuing free throw to complete the three-point play tied the game at 55-55 with 26 seconds left.

The Tigers went into a trapping defense on Mesa State's next possession, but ended up fouling senior David Dunbar.

The Mavericks (1-5 overall, 0-2 RMAC) took a 58-55 lead on Dunbar's free throw with 16 seconds left.

Townes, who led Fort Hays (5-1, 1-0) with 14 points, missed a driving shot and the Mavericks got the ball after it went out of bounds with six seconds left.

But Fort Hays forced a five-second call on the inbound play, getting the ball back. Best took the inbound pass and drove to the basket for the winning points.

Newell's halfcourt shot at the buzzer hit the rim for Mesa State.

• The game's boxscore will appear in Monday's newspaper.

## Duck soup



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kansas guards Keith Langford, left, and J.R. Giddens, right, attempt to strip the ball away from Oregon guard Andre Joseph during the first half Saturday at Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo. [See college basketball roundup on page B5.]

## The 20th annual HDN Super 11

'The kids all depended on each other. They weren't out doing it for themselves. They were out doing it for each other.'

— Ness City football coach Chris Walters.

# NUMBERS CRUNCH

### WALTERS GUIDES SHORT-HANDED TEAM INTO STATE PLAYOFFS

For a short time, Chris Walters was pondering whether his style of coaching was working.

But the Ness City High School football coach quickly saw the answer in the hearts of his players.

"I questioned myself whether to stay in coaching or do something else," the Eagles' second-year coach said. "I felt my coaching style maybe didn't fit right in today's game. ... Several times before the season I thought about that. I felt good that the kids bought into it."

And when the players bought into Walters' style, they also found a bit of pride in themselves and for the town that lies in central Ness County.

You see, it's not always easy to get things done in 11-man football. It's even more difficult when you have 16 players.

But while most teams find strength in numbers, the Eagles found strength in themselves — and their coach.

Walters guided the short-handed Eagles to a 6-4 record and a spot in the Class 2-A state playoffs — all while facing the numbers crunch. For his efforts, Walters has been named the Coach of the Year on the 20th annual Super 11 all-area football team.

"It's just nice to see a group of kids work hard together and have success," Walters said. "You want kids to learn by hard work and working together to be successful. ... When you get past football and when things are stacked against you, hard work and sticking with it will carry you through it. I like to think the kids learned a

bit of that this year."

Walters had 26 players out for football during his first season as the school's coach. But the loss of seven seniors and other players not deciding to play this fall put the Eagles in dire straits.

But Walters learned in weight lifting during the summer that his players were going to display a burning desire he hadn't quite seen before. Despite splitting time between work, summer activities and devotion to a team, eight of the 16 players never missed a day of weight lifting all summer. That's nearly 30 days of giving it 100 percent for the team.

"Coming in knowing the numbers we had, it was kind of disappointing," said Walters, a former standout himself at Ness City during his prep career. "I didn't know what to expect. The kids had a great offseason, and that really got me fired up."

That conditioning could have been the key factor to the team's success. When players were sick, they still attended school and went to practice — for the team.

When one player smashed a finger in an ag shop class the day before a game, he got 16 stitches and played the next day.

"Those 16 guys that stayed out wanted to win," Walters said. "I just had to point them in the right direction and let them go. At practice, the kids knew they had a starting spot, but they still practiced hard every day. ... My hat's off to them for that."

• COACH / SEE PAGE B2



Walters

### THE HAYS DAILY NEWS 20TH ANNUAL

# 2003

### ALL-AREA SUPER 11

PLAYER	HT.	WT.	CLASS	POS.	SCHOOL
Brett Alstatt	6-5	220	Sr.	RB-LB	Hays High
Jordan Bedore	6-4	258	Sr.	FB-LB	Goodland
Brett Belinke	5-9	170	Sr.	RB-DB	Oberlin
Doug Campbell	5-9	180	Sr.	RB-LB	Hoxie
Jeff Horinek	6-3	230	Sr.	RB-LB-K	Atwood
Austin Kingsbury	5-11	165	Jr.	RB-LB	Smith Center
Brady Maska	6-4	215	Sr.	TE-DE	Hays High
Rodney Rippe	5-7	150	Soph.	QB	Herndon
Dan Roeder	6-0	175	Sr.	QB-LB	Norton
Cody Sattler	5-8	191	Sr.	RB-DE	Oakley
Jon Zweggardt	6-2	245	Sr.	OT-DT	St. Francis

COACH OF THE YEAR — Chris Walters, Ness City

## Spinks upsets Mayorga to win welterweight titles

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — A quarter-century after his father shocked everyone by beating Muhammad Ali, Cory Spinks pulled off a nice little upset of his own Saturday night.

Moving and jabbing and staying away from Ricardo Mayorga's wild punches, Spinks, the son of

Leon Spinks, boxed his way to a majority decision over the heavily favored Mayorga to win the undisputed welterweight title.

With his father yelling encouragement from ringside, the light-hitting Spinks frustrated Mayorga from the opening bell and took advantage of two point deductions to add Mayorga's WBA and WBC titles to the IBF 147-pound title he brought to the ring.

Judge John Keane had Spinks winning 117-110, while Eugene Grant had him ahead 114-112, and Arthur Ellensen had it 114-114. The Associated Press had Spinks winning 114-112.

The Associated Press had Spinks winning 114-112.

## TMP wins tourney title at Scott City Invitational

BY THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

SCOTT CITY — The Thomas More Prep-Marian boys' basketball team won the title at the Scott City Invitational for the second

straight year, beating Liberal 64-58 in Saturday night's championship game.

Senior guard Scott Hoffman, who led the Monarchs with 33 points in Friday's win over

Sharon Springs in the semifinals, led TMP-Marian in scoring Saturday with 23 points.

TMP-Marian (4-1) will play host to Larned Friday at Al Billinger Fieldhouse.

• Scott City 55, TMP 32 •

Scott City (2-2)  
Megan Dreiling 4-5 2-2 13, Sheena Kuntzsch 7-12 0-0 15, Andrea O'Brien 5-10 4-6 13, Strickert 0-4 2-2 2, Hoeme 4-9 1-2 9, Strub 0-0 0-2 0, Schuurmann 0-0 2-2 2. Totals — 50-40 11-16 55.

TMP ..... 12 11 16 16 — 55  
Scott City ..... 33 22 33 33 — 55  
3-point — Scott City 4-9 (Dreiling 3-4, Strickert 0-1, Kuntzsch 1-4); TMP 5-11 (Stoeklein 3-5, Carver 2-3, Schmiedler 0-3). Total fouls — Scott City 14; TMP 16. Fouled out — None. Technical fouls — None.

Rebounds — Scott City 38 (O'Brien 12); TMP 10 (Schuler 5). Turnovers — Scott City 13, TMP 11.

## Hays High wrestlers 14th at Colby tournament

BY THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

COLBY — The Hays High School wrestling team went 2-5 in duals to finish 14th out of 18 teams this weekend at the Colby Tournament.

Individually, senior Josh Pfannenstiel led the way, going 7-0 at 135 pounds in his first action of the season; he had been sidelined by a knee injury. Junior Zach Kanzenbach went 6-1 at 140, and senior Heath Meder was 6-1 at 130.

• Scott City 55, TMP 32 •