

▼ COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Late run saves No. 2 Jayhawks

With injured thumb, Simien gets two key putbacks at the end

By DOUG TUCKER
The Associated Press

LAWRENCE — Big things are expected of No. 2 Kansas because of four talented seniors with Final Four experience.

So how come freshman Russell Robinson was the one making crucial plays Saturday night in the final minutes of a come-from-behind 64-60 victory over South Carolina?

"Russell had the guts to go make a play," said Kansas coach Bill Self, who seemed disgusted with just about everything else his Jayhawks did. "There were a lot of guys nervous about going out to make a play because things hadn't gone well. He kind of stepped up and made several."

Robinson scored four points in the final 36 seconds and allowed the Jayhawks to escape an upset bid by unranked South Carolina, which led most of the game.

The Gamecocks (5-2), 17-point underdogs in their first road game, came out with a full-court pressure defense and



The Associated Press

Kansas forward Wayne Simien (23) puts in a reverse layup while being guarded by South Carolina's Brandon Wallace during the first half Saturday in Lawrence.

seized an 11-0 lead over the fumble-fingered Jayhawks.

But point guard Robinson glided in for a left-handed layup and a 61-58 lead with 36 seconds left.

After Carlos Powell hit a short jumper to make it 61-60, Robinson made two free throws and Keith Langford hit one.

The Jayhawks (7-0) would have been the highest-ranked

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Peete, Wildcats remain unbeaten

UTSA whittles KSU to three, but 'Cats hang on, go to 7-0

By ARNE GREEN
Salina Journal

MANHATTAN — Thank goodness the Texas-San Antonio Roadrunners waited nearly 39 minutes to discover their 3-point touch.

A minute earlier, and it might have been curtains for Kansas State.

Instead the Wildcats, thanks to Fred Peete's 20-point second-half outburst, made a hefty lead stand up against UTSA's last-minute long-distance barrage Saturday night to escape with a 73-69 victory in front of 6,557 at Bramlage Coliseum.

The victory kept the Wildcats unbeaten at 7-0, but not without some nervous moments.

After Lance Harris hit the second of two free throws with 1:43 left to put the Wildcats up 65-55, senior guard Rapheal Posey buried a 3-pointer at the



MEN
UT-San Antonio 69
Kansas St. 73

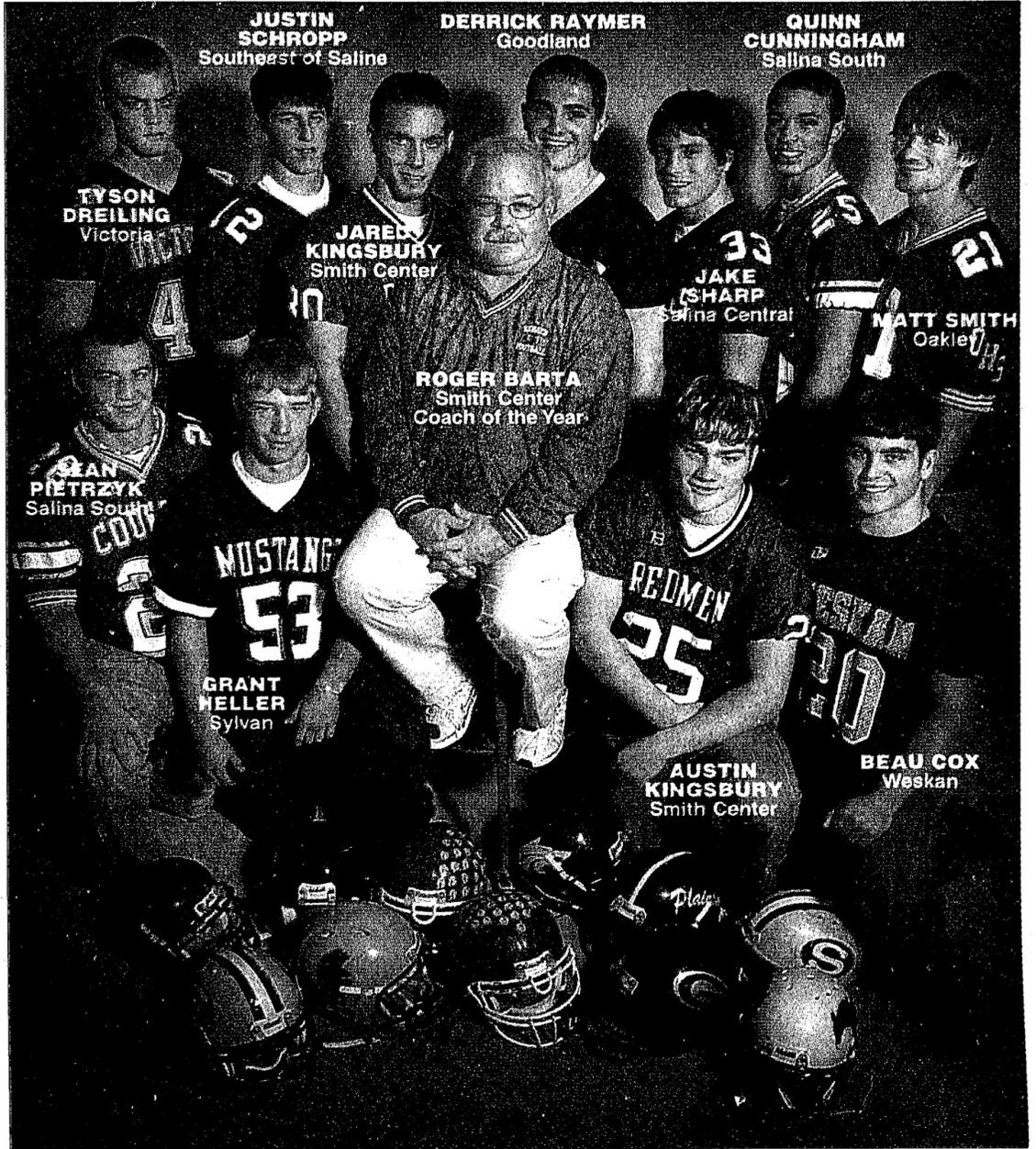
1:16 mark to start the UTSA rally. Posey drained two more threes in an 11-second span to close it to four points, and with 10.3 seconds left, reserve guard Adam McCoy's 3-pointer cut it to 71-69. But K-State hit just enough free throws, including Peete's two at 8.8 seconds, to ice it.

"Basically we just let down on the defensive half," Peete said about UTSA's comeback, which started with after K-State led by 18 with less than 13 minutes left. "They were getting putbacks and were shooting the ball from the perimeter better than we thought (they could), and that's basically what happened at the end."

Posey, a former standout at Topeka's Highland Park High and Barton County Community College, scored 11 of UTSA's

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2004 ALL-AREA TOP 11 FOOTBALL



TOM DORSEY / Salina Journal

ALL-AREA TOP 11

PLAYER, SCHOOL	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	YEAR	POSITION
Beau Cox, Weskan	5-10	180	Sr.	RB/DB
Quinn Cunningham, Salina South	6-1	175	Sr.	RB/DB
Tyson Dreiling, Victoria	6-1	200	Sr.	FB/LB
Grant Heller, Sylvan	5-8	152	Sr.	RB/LB
Austin Kingsbury, Smith Center	6-0	192	Sr.	RB/LB
Jared Kingsbury, Smith Center	6-1	190	Sr.	RB/DE
Sean Pietrzyk, Salina South	6-0	210	Sr.	DE/RB
Derrick Raymer, Goodland	6-1	180	Sr.	QB/LB
Justin Schropp, Southeast of Saline	5-10	170	Jr.	QB/DB
Jake Sharp, Salina Central	5-10	180	Jr.	RB
Matt Smith, Oakley	6-0	190	Sr.	RB/DB

COACH OF THE YEAR: Roger Barta, Smith Center

On the inside

- All-Area Top 11 capsules, C2.
- Lists of Second 11, Third 11 and honorable mention selections, C2.
- Story on Smith Center's Roger Barta, Area Coach of the Year, C3.
- Selections from all-league teams throughout the area, C3.

▼ PRO FOOTBALL

Chiefs hope to play spoilers vs. Broncos

At 8-5, Broncos still have a chance at making the playoffs

By DOUG TUCKER
The Associated Press

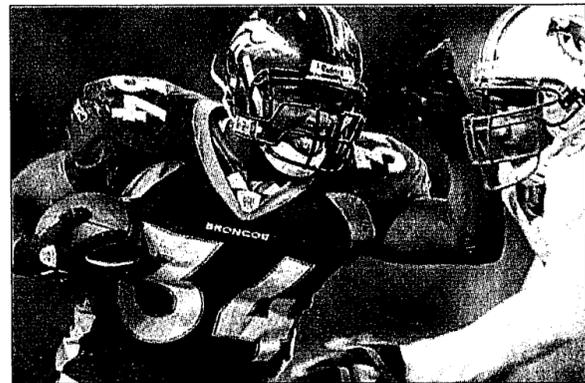
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Wearing a Denver uniform will be a troubled, apologetic quarterback with a quick trigger finger.

Opposing him will be the sorriest defense in the National Football League, a bunch of guys who admit they've been an embarrassment to themselves, their team and their town.

Further on the subject of embarrassment, how about the starting running backs?

Second-year man Larry Johnson will be making his first start for Kansas City after publicly sparring much of the year with coach Dick Vermeil, who told him at one point it was time "to take off the diapers."

Starting for the Broncos will be Reuben Droughns, who was benched last week against Miami after losing one fumble and taking the blame for another. His re-



The Associated Press

Reuben Droughns was benched last week after two early fumbles but returned to rush for 123 yards as the Broncos downed Miami, 20-17.

placement, rookie Tatum Bell, ran for 123 yards, but then separated his shoulder, clearing the way for Droughns to re-enter the picture.

Throw in the tradition of a long and colorful rivalry that goes back to the founding of the AFL.

Spice it up with the fact the Broncos (8-5) are very much in the playoff hunt, while the defensively deficient Chiefs (5-8)

are thirsting to be spoilers and today's noon kickoff in Arrowhead Stadium shapes up as a pretty interesting affair.

The Arrowhead crowd, known as one of the loudest and most raucous in the NFL, will have extra incentive itself. Might they go into overdrive to get after Broncos quarterback Jake Plummer, who made an obscene gesture to a fan last Sunday and spent the week saying he's sorry?



Kickoff: Today, Noon
Where: Arrowhead Stadium (grass).
Television: CBS (Salina cable channel 12, 13).
Records: Chiefs 5-8; Broncos 8-5.
Announcers: Kevin Harlan, Randy Cross.
Line: Broncos by 1.
Radio: KILS, 92.7-FM.

"They'll be working him, which is great," said Chiefs left guard Brian Waters. "After what happened last week, I think he'll be more conscious of where his hands go. But I think our fans will do a great job."

Plummer's problems have not been confined to what he does while sitting on the bench. In the past two weeks he's thrown six interceptions and no touchdowns, and his 17 interceptions for the year are second in the league.

Oddly, the sheer volume of noise in Kansas City might work to his advantage.

See CHIEFS, Page C5

▼ COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Mahoney-led 'Cats drop Alabama by 19

Senior scores a game-high 22; No. 1 LSU up next

By The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — Megan Mahoney scored 22 points to lead No. 25 Kansas State to a 71-52 win over Alabama on Saturday in the Triple Crown Classic at Southwest Missouri State.

Mahoney was 9 of 15 from the field and 3 of 3 from the line. Claire Coggins scored 14 points and Laurie Koehn added 13 but was 3 of 13 from the field. Twigg McIntyre chipped in 12 for Kansas State (6-2).

Kansas State played again without leading scorer Kendra Wecker, who is side-

lined with a sprained ankle. Kansas State hit 27 of its 63 shots (43 percent) while Alabama was 17 of 49 (34.7 percent), but was just 8 of 29 (27 percent) in the second half. K-State hit half of its 32 shots in the second half.

After taking a 30-29 half-time lead, the Wildcats went on a 24-7 run to take a 54-36 lead with 8:23 left behind nine points by Mahoney.

Alabama (6-2), which shot 45 percent in the first half, went 3-for-16 in the first 12 minutes after the break and committed seven turnovers.

Kansas State then hit back-to-back 3-pointers to push the lead to 60-42 with 6:15 to go. Two layups by Twigg McIntyre gave the Wildcats a 64-44 lead.

Marverly Nettles led Alabama with 17 and Natasha Gamble added 12.

K-State plays No. 1-ranked Louisiana State at noon today. LSU defeated Southwest Missouri State 66-54 on Saturday.



WOMEN
Alabama 52
Kansas St. 71