

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL
NCAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION PLAYOFFS
FIRST ROUND
Saturday, Nov. 28
 Western Illinois 24, Dayton 7
 Chattanooga 50, Fordham 20
 The Citadel 41, Coastal Carolina 38
 Sam Houston State 42, Southern Utah 39
 Morningside (Iowa) 51, Tabor (Kan.) 6
Semifinals, Saturday, Dec. 5
 Marian (Ind.) 10-2 at Saint Francis (Ind.) (11-0), 11 a.m.
 Southern Oregon (10-2) at Morningside (Iowa) (12-1), noon
AP TOP 25
 The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 28, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

Record	Pts	Pv
1. Clemson (53)	12-0	1,511
2. Alabama (8)	11-1	1,469
3. Oklahoma	11-1	1,367
4. Iowa	12-0	1,345
5. Michigan St.	11-1	1,318
6. Ohio St.	11-1	1,197
7. Stanford	10-2	1,137
8. North Carolina	11-1	1,085
9. Notre Dame	10-2	1,022
10. Florida St.	10-2	951
11. TCU	10-2	927
12. Baylor	9-2	842
13. Northwestern	10-2	711
14. Oklahoma St.	10-2	699
15. Oregon	9-3	618
16. Mississippi	9-3	584
17. Houston	11-1	571
18. Florida	10-2	566
19. Michigan	9-3	518
20. Temple	10-2	269
21. Utah	9-3	244
22. Navy	9-2	206
23. LSU	8-3	199
24. Southern Cal	8-4	189
25. Wisconsin	9-3	124

 Others receiving votes: Georgia 47, W. Kentucky 24, BYU 20, Arkansas 17, Memphis 9, South Florida 9, Tennessee 9, Washington St. 8, Mississippi St. 4.

AREA CALENDAR

Monday, November 30
GYMNASIUMS, PREP Mitchell/Parkston-Ethan-Hanson at YHS (5:30 p.m.)
Tuesday, December 1
BASKETBALL, MEWS JV MMC at Augustana (7 p.m.)

Monday, November 30
GYMNASIUMS, PREP Vermilion at S.F. Lincoln
WRESTLING, PREP S.F. Roosevelt at Vermilion (6:30 p.m.)
WRESTLING, RESERVE Brookings JV Jamboree (YHS, 5 p.m.)

UCLA 4, San Diego St. 3, Arkansas St. 2, Toledo 1, West Virginia 1.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
AMERICAN CONFERENCE
East

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	0	0	1,000	323
N.Y. Jets	6	5	0	545	272
Buffalo	5	6	0	455	266
Miami	4	7	0	364	225

South

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	6	5	0	545	249
Houston	6	5	0	545	232
Jacksonville	4	7	0	364	236
Tennessee	2	9	0	182	203

North

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	9	2	0	818	297
Pittsburgh	6	5	0	545	266
Baltimore	3	7	0	300	226
Cleveland	2	8	0	200	186

West

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	8	2	0	800	222
Kansas City	6	5	0	455	287
Oakland	5	6	0	455	264
San Diego	3	8	0	273	244

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
East

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	5	6	0	455	241
N.Y. Giants	6	5	0	455	287
Philadelphia	4	7	0	364	243
Dallas	3	8	0	273	244

South

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Carolina	11	0	0	1,000	332
Atlanta	6	5	0	545	266
Tampa Bay	5	6	0	455	248
New Orleans	4	7	0	364	211

North

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	8	3	0	727	231
Green Bay	7	4	0	636	262
Chicago	5	6	0	455	231

Aberdeen Sweeps Yankton Girls

Shelby Nash and Kaitlyn Holland each recorded five points as Aberdeen downed Yankton 10-0 in JV girls' hockey action on Sunday at the Kiwanis 4-H Ice Center. Nash had three goals and two assists, and Holland had two goals and three assists for Aberdeen.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
 Yankton's Isabelle Plath pushes the puck up the ice during a home matchup with Aberdeen on Sunday in JV girls' hockey action.

Shelby Snow made 11 saves in goal for the win. Renee Cross stopped 48 shots in goal for Yankton.

ABERDEEN 6, YANKTON 0: Kensington Eckhoff scored twice and Jayda Hunkstad had three assists as Aberdeen beat Yankton 6-0 in the second game on Saturday. Shelby Snow stopped four shots in goal for Aberdeen. Renee Cross made 32 saves for Yankton.

ABERDEEN 13, YANKTON 0: Ashley Abel and Estelle Harrison each had three goals as Aberdeen beat Yankton 13-0 in the opener on Saturday. Abel also had two assists, and Harrison had an assist for Aberdeen. Morgan Dean, Kaitlyn Holland and Mara Koll each had two goals in the win.

Shelby Snow stopped three shots for the shutout in goal. Renee Cross made 28 saves for Yankton.

Alex Schaar each had a goal and an assist. Gabriel Murphy added two assists in the victory. Hunter Zenobi made two saves in goal for West. Ryan Eichacker had 38 saves for Yankton.

PEEWEE
B - YANKTON 3, BROOKINGS 2: Brody Burgeson scored two goals and had an assist to lead Yankton past Brookings 3-2 in PeeWee 'B' hockey action on Saturday.

Thomas Weiner and Austin Wagner each had two goals and an assist for Yankton. Eli Kapla scored a goal. Dawson Vellek had two assists and Jonathan Wenisch had an assist in the victory.

Kobe Bryant To Retire At End Of Season

BY GREG BEACHAM
 AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant has decided to retire after this season, ending his 20-year career with the Los Angeles Lakers.

The 37-year-old Bryant made the announcement in a post on The Players' Tribune on Sunday. The third-leading scorer in NBA history wrote a poem entitled "Dear Basketball" to announce his decision.



LAWRENCE K. HO/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS
 Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant works against Detroit Pistons' Stanley Johnson during the first half on Nov. 15, 2015, at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. Bryant announced on Sunday that this season would be his last.

"My heart can take the pounding. My mind can handle the grind. But my body knows it's time to say goodbye," Bryant wrote. "And that's OK. I'm ready to let you go. I want you to know now. So we both can savor every moment we have left together. The good and the bad. We have given each other all that we have."

Bryant went straight from high school in suburban Philadelphia to the Lakers in 1996, and he earned five championship rings and 17 All-Star selections during two decades with the franchise — the longest tenure with one team in NBA history. Bryant also won two Olympic gold medals.

But Bryant's last three seasons have ended early due to injuries, and he played in only 41 games over the previous two years. He has struggled mightily in the first 15 games of this season with mostly young teammates on a rebuilding roster, making a career-worst 32 percent of his shots and dealing with pain and exhaustion every day.

In recent months, Bryant repeatedly said he didn't know whether he would play another season, clearly hoping for a rebound in his health and the Lakers' fortunes.

Neither has happened, and the ever-impatient Bryant didn't wait any longer to decide his future.

"Kobe Bryant is one of the greatest players in the history of our game," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said. "Whether competing in the Finals or hoisting jump shots after midnight in an empty gym, Kobe has an unconditional love for the game. I join Kobe's millions of fans around the world in congratulating him on an outstanding NBA career and thank him for so many thrilling memories."

Even during his late-career struggles, Bryant's fans have remained devoted to the 6-foot-6 star who won titles alongside Shaquille O'Neal in 2000, 2001 and 2002 before teaming with Pau Gasol for two more in 2009 and 2010. Only 13 players in league history played on more championship teams than Bryant.

The Indiana Pacers on Sunday night, and coach Byron Scott said Bryant intended to play, even after playing 34 minutes at Portland on Saturday night.

"I know his purpose is to finish out this season and play," said Scott, Bryant's teammate during the 1996-97 season. "It's always sad when greatness decides to hang it up. ... I thought he had at least another year in him."

Bryant is the NBA's highest-paid player this season with a \$25 million salary bestowed on him by grateful Lakers owner Jim Buss despite his recent injury problems. Bryant has been tirelessly devoted to the franchise, repeatedly declaring he would never play for another NBA team despite the Lakers' wholesale rebuilding process following the disastrous 2012-13 season with Dwight Howard and Steve Nash.

But Bryant's departure will allow the Lakers to finish straddling the past and the future, with young prospects Julius Randle, D'Angelo Russell and Jordan Clarkson taking on leading roles rather than deferring to their superstar teammate.

Bryant repeatedly declared that he didn't want a farewell tour in the style of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar or Derek Jeter, his friend and The Players' Tribune founder. Yet the Lakers' eight-game road trip beginning next week is almost certain to begin a prolonged goodbye to Bryant, one of the NBA's most popular and most divisive players.

"It's tough to see one of the absolute greatest competitors go through this," Miami guard Dwyane Wade told The Associated Press on Sunday, prior to Bryant making his announcement. "You can put a team around a guy to help a guy, especially late in his career. They're just not in position right now to do that. He's won five championships,

so no one feels bad for him from that standpoint. But from a standpoint of seeing one of this era's greatest players go out in a rebuilding process, it's tough."

Bryant already has received long ovations on road trips this season, particularly in places like New York and Miami where crowds sensed that they might be seeing him as an opponent for the final time.

The Lakers' next road game is in Philadelphia — perhaps not coincidentally, given the otherwise strange timing of Bryant's announcement.

"Philly is where I grew up," Bryant told AP in an interview in Miami earlier this month. "It's always a different emotion there than anywhere else."

Bryant was the first guard ever to be drafted directly out of high school, taken 13th overall by the Charlotte Hornets and traded to the Lakers. Although he won the dunk contest at All-Star weekend as a rookie, his Lakers didn't become title contenders until coach Phil Jackson arrived in 1999 and built a three-time champion around Kobe and Shaq.

Bryant made a fourth NBA Finals appearance in 2004 despite his pre-season arrest for sexual assault and subsequent legal proceedings that sometimes required him to fly from Colorado to Los Angeles on game days. The assault case against Bryant was dropped in September 2004, but his behavior affected his reputation.

Bryant scored 81 points against Toronto on Jan. 22, 2006, the second highest-scoring performance in NBA history behind Wilt Chamberlain's 100-point game.

AP Basketball Writer Tim Reynolds in Miami contributed to this report.

GV's Nelson 123rd At Foot Locker Regional

KENOSHA, Wis. — Gayville-Volin High School junior Laura Nelson finished in 123rd place at the Foot Locker Midwest Region Cross Country Championships, held Saturday in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Nelson, the Class B runner-up at this year's state cross country meet, finished in a time of 20:21.0. She was the only South Dakota runner in the race.

Austin Wagner scored the other Yankton goal. Thomas Weiner had a pair of assists in the victory.

High-Profile Mid-Major Home Games More Common With Women's Basketball Programs

(AP) — Connecticut's visit to Chattanooga on Monday night exemplifies one of the major differences between women's basketball and the men's game — women's mid-majors are much more likely to host big-name programs every now and then.

An examination of schedules this season shows there are about 2 1/2 times more instances in women's basketball than in men's of a Power Five school playing a true road game against a team that isn't part of the Power Five, the Big East or the American Athletic Conference.

"On the men's side, you're just dealing with so much more money," South Dakota State coach Aaron Johnston said. "Those men's teams are making so much more money from any of their home games, so the finances just don't work out for mid-majors. On the women's side, there's not the same revenue generation for some of those power conferences with home games."

"There are a few teams out there that can pay some bills with their home games, but there are quite a few that quite honestly just don't draw enough to warrant playing all of their nonconference games at home, so I think some of them are willing to go on the road."

Over the last two weeks, South Dakota State split home games with Arkansas and No. 3 Notre Dame while No. 22 Louisville lost at Western Kentucky. The pattern continues Monday when top-ranked Connecticut visits Chattanooga, which upset Top 10 opponents Tennessee and Stanford at home last season. Although Connecticut technically isn't a Power Five school, it's the three-time defending national champion.

12 Kentucky on Dec. 13 after already playing home games with Virginia and Mississippi this season. Middle Tennessee athletic director Chris Massaro said it's easier for mid-majors to schedule home games with major-conference foes in women's basketball.

"I think the main reason is I think there's more of a collective will of the coaches to grow the game," Massaro said. Connections have played a role in arranging some of these matchups.

Chattanooga's Jim Foster scheduled home games against Connecticut this season and Notre Dame next season through his friendships with Huskies coach Geno Auriemma and Fighting Irish coach Muffet McGraw, who previously worked as assistants for him at St. Joseph's. Tennessee plays Dec. 11 at Wichita State, which is coached by former Lady Vols player Jody Adams.

Foster says he'd like to see more major-conference schools scheduling home-and-home series with mid-majors. "There aren't a lot of coaches with the necessary courage," Foster said. "Who's to blame them, with athletic directors firing them so quickly? It sort of goes hand in hand."

These types of games do occur occasionally on the men's side. North Carolina fell from the top of the national rankings after losing Nov. 21 at Missouri Valley Conference program Northern Iowa.

But they're far more common in women's basketball. "I think the men think the conference is so tough that they don't need the challenge outside of it, and I think the women appreciate how good it is for the game, to help grow the game by going other places," said McGraw, whose team followed its trip to South Dakota State by visiting

Walparaiso. "I think it probably started with Pat Summitt. She would play anybody. She was kind of the one everybody looked to at the time."

Indeed, Summitt became the winningest coach in men's or women's college basketball history by having her Lady Volunteers play anyone at any place. Former Tennessee women's athletic director Joan Cronan said Summitt liked games that took her players to areas of the country they hadn't seen. Summitt also liked giving them a chance to play a road game near their hometowns.

"What she was looking for was ways she could help women's basketball grow and become more popular," Cronan said.

Now this next generation of women's coaches is continuing the tradition.

These games give mid-majors opportunities to impress the NCAA Tournament selection committee. Chattanooga got a No. 7 seed in last season's tournament — its best seed ever — in part because of its home victories over Tennessee and Stanford. Western Kentucky, located in Bowling Green, Kentucky, hopes to get a similar assist from its triumph over Louisville.

Auriemma notes that strong mid-major programs often hear from the committee that they need tougher schedules to improve their RPIs, only to discover quality major-conference opponents don't want to play them.

"It's a vicious circle sometimes," Auriemma said. "I really admire our coaches for having the guts to do that - to go play schools like Tennessee-Chattanooga or go play at Bowling Green or go play at Green Bay or South Dakota State. ... It's important. I think it says a lot about our game."

Big Ten

FROM PAGE 8

Oklahoma and Bob Stoops, a star for the Hawkeyes in the early 80s.

HEISMAN POTENTIAL: No one who'll suit up in Indianapolis will compete for the Heisman Trophy. But Cook might

be the first quarterback taken in next year's NFL draft. Cook has thrown for 24 touchdowns against four picks despite a 58 percent completion percentage. Iowa is led by quarterback C.J. Beathard, whose clutch play is one of the biggest reasons the Hawkeyes are in a playoff position.

LOOKING BACK: This will be a matchup that re-ignites one of the Big Ten's most

underrated rivalries. Iowa has beaten Dantonio's teams twice in double overtime since 2007. The Hawkeyes also won on the last play of the game in East Lansing during a 9-0 start in 2009 and ruined Michigan State's Rose Bowl hopes in 2010. But the Spartans won the last meeting 26-14 in 2013 in what Ferentz called star quarterback Connor Cook's "coming out party."

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