

Sports Briefs: OSU cancels women's games after fatal crash

Written by Administrator

Friday, 18 November 2011 12:16

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — The Oklahoma State women's basketball team will not play its games over the weekend after the team's head coach and assistant coach were killed in a plane crash. Head coach Kurt Budke ('BUD-kee) and assistant coach Miranda Serna were killed when the single-engine plane they were riding in during a recruiting trip crashed Thursday night in central Arkansas.

OSU vice president for athletics Mike Holder said in a news release Friday says the school is "shocked by this terrible loss." He said associate head coach Jim Littell would assume duties as interim coach, and the Cowgirls would not play home games scheduled Saturday against Grambling State and Sunday against Texas-Arlington.

OSU counselors were offering assistance to the team and staff on Friday.

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Just two weeks after Penn State was rocked by a child sex-abuse scandal, Syracuse police said they were investigating child molesting allegations against a longtime assistant basketball coach at Syracuse University.

The school placed Bernie Fine on administrative leave "in light of the new allegations and the Syracuse City Police investigation."

ESPN said the accusations were made by two former ball boys. Syracuse police spokesman Tom Connellan said the inquiry is in its early stages.

NCAA FOOTBALL

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Penn State's trustees hired a Pittsburgh-based law firm to represent them in the child sex abuse scandal for which three current and former university employees face criminal charges.

Reed Smith spokeswoman Jamie Moss said the firm will be working on issues related to the arrest of Jerry Sandusky, the former assistant football coach accused of sexual abuse involving eight boys over 15 years, as well as administrators Tim Curley and Gary Schultz, who are charged with not properly alerting authorities to suspected abuse and perjury.

Penn State university police said a continuing search turned up no record to support the claim by former graduate assistant Mike McQueary — now an assistant coach — that he reported a sexual assault by Sandusky on a 10-year-old boy in a campus shower.

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NBA

NEW YORK (AP) — NBA owners held a conference call to receive an update on the lockout, a person with knowledge of the details said.

Also, the antitrust lawsuit filed by players in California was reassigned to U.S. District Judge Samuel Conti. The first case management conference has been scheduled for March 9.

Though that would be too late to save the season, the sides could request the date to be moved up, or they could settle before it gets there.

MLB

NEW YORK (AP) — Clayton Kershaw of the Los Angeles Dodgers won the NL Cy Young Award in a runaway. Kershaw received 27 of 32 first-place votes, five seconds and two thirds for 207 points in voting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Philadelphia's Roy Halladay, last year's winner, was second with four first-place votes, 21 seconds and seven thirds for 133 points. Phillies teammate Cliff Lee was third with 90 points, followed by Arizona's Ian Kennedy with 76 points.

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Baseball owners unanimously approved the sale of the Houston Astros from Drayton McLane to Jim Crane, which will lead to the team moving from the NL Central to the AL West for the 2013 season.

The decision will give each league 15 teams, baseball's first realignment since the Milwaukee Brewers switched from the AL to the NL after the 1997 season.

As part of the Astros' agreement to switch leagues, the sale price was cut from \$680 million to \$615 million, a person at Thursday's meeting told The Associated Press. Major League Baseball will make up part of the \$65 million difference, paying McLane \$35 million over three years, the person said.

Commissioner Bud Selig said owners also approved two additional wild-card teams, meaning 10 of the 30 teams make the playoffs. Selig hopes the expanded playoffs can start next year, but he said the specifics are being worked out.

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Cubs announced Dale Sveum as their new manager, hoping the Milwaukee Brewers' hitting coach can help turn around the long-suffering franchise.

Sveum replaces Mike Quade, who was fired by Theo Epstein, the team's new president of baseball operations. The Cubs finished 71-91 after a disappointing season that extended their infamous championship drought to 103 seasons.

Sveum has little experience as a manager, other than an interim stint for the Brewers late in 2008 after Ned Yost's firing when he led them to the playoffs. He also served as Boston's third base coach when Epstein was the general manager.