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Rice sees no pluses in losing

Brown tired of Owls' years of no respect

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Rice University Coach Watson Brown has discovered that respect returns in small doses after 22 years of losing records.

However, Brown said Monday the Owls are starting to get positive remarks even from opponents. The Owls battled Texas A&M Saturday before losing, 43-28, but it wasn't another lopsided slaughter.

"I appreciated what some of the A&M players said about us after the game," Brown said. "I think we're making a little progress, but I don't see any progress made from a loss. The only thing we got out of that was we were aggressive and had a chance to win the game."

Brown admitted, however, that the Owls had a different attitude this year than after losing to the Aggies last season.

"Last year we'd have probably walked out of there slapping hands that we'd played with these guys," he said. "We've just got to keep getting better and better."

A&M quarterback Kevin Murray was among the Aggie players complimenting Rice.

"I didn't play against them last year, but they didn't seem to give up like they used to," Murray said. "They don't have that much ability, but they will fight you to the end."

Brown became angry following the game when a newsman suggested the Owls had accomplished something by leading the Aggies 12-7 after the first quarter.

"I just get irritated because I think we can play football here at Rice," he said. "We could even be ahead of Arkansas in the second quarter this week."

"But I suppose when you've had 20 years of losing, that's a normal comment. I shouldn't get upset."

Brown wants no part of any moral victories.

"A&M is a very good team, but I didn't think we played very well," he said. "We went back to our old selves, missing tackles and sometimes lining up on the wrong side."

The Owls, 3-4, host the Arkansas Razorbacks Saturday, beginning a rugged portion of their schedule that also includes Baylor, SMU and Houston.



Iowa holds top rank as BYU falls to No. 17

Associated Press

Iowa remained a unanimous No. 1 as the nation's top college football team for the second week in a row Monday, while defending national champion Brigham Young suffered its second loss of the season and fell from No. 7 to No. 17.

The 7-0 Hawkeyes, 49-10 winners over Northwestern, received 1,160 first-place votes and a perfect 1,160 points from a nationwide poll of sports writers and sportscasters in the Associated Press poll.

Over the last 13 years, the only other team to be voted a unanimous No. 1 for two consecutive weeks was Nebraska early in the 1983 season.

The first six teams all held onto their spots from last week. Kansas, Florida, a 35-18 winner over Virginia Tech, received 1,060 points. Penn State blanked West Virginia 27-0 and totaled 1,025 points.

No. 4 Michigan received 994 points after trouncing Indiana, 49-10. 5-ranked Nebraska downed Colorado, 17-7, and received 912 points. 6th-ranked Auburn turned back Mississippi State, 21-9, for 866 points.

BYU's stunning 23-16 loss to previously winless Texas-El Paso from the Cougars 10 places in the rankings. Meanwhile, Air Force, another Western Athletic Conference team, climbed from eighth to seventh with points by defeating Utah, 32-15.

Ohio State pulled out a 23-19 triumph over Minnesota and rose to ninth with 682 points, while the Gophers fell out of the top 10. Oklahoma moved up from 10th to ninth with 655 points by crushing State, 59-14, and Florida State went from 11th to 10th with 592 points, rallying to beat North Carolina, 20-10.

The Second 10 consists of Miami (Fla.), Oklahoma State, Baylor, Texas, UCLA, LSU, BYU, Georgia, Tennessee and SMU.

Last week, it was Florida State, Oklahoma State, Baylor, Arkansas, Tennessee, UCLA, LSU, Texas and Minnesota.

However, Texas was drubbed by SMU, 44-14, while Minnesota and Ohio State. SMU made the rankings at No. 20 after a two-week absence. Georgia reappeared at No. 18 by defeating Kentucky, 26-6.

AP Top 20 Poll

1. Iowa (58) — 7-0-0
2. Florida — 6-0-1
3. Penn State — 7-0-0
4. Michigan — 6-1-0
5. Nebraska — 6-1-0
6. Auburn — 6-1-0
7. Air Force — 8-0-0
8. Ohio State — 6-1-0
9. Oklahoma — 4-1-0
10. Florida State — 6-1-0
11. Miami (Fla.) — 6-1-0
12. Oklahoma State — 5-1-0
13. Baylor — 7-1-0
14. Arkansas — 6-1-0
15. UCLA — 6-1-1
16. LSU — 4-1-0
17. BYU — 6-2-0
18. Georgia — 5-1-1
19. Tennessee — 3-1-2
20. SMU — 4-2-0

Others receiving votes: Alabama, Maryland, Minnesota, Army, Bowling Green, Georgia Tech, Kansas, Illinois, Colorado, Texas A&M, Arizona, Arizona State, Texas.

KC's Series win poses questions

(continued from page 9)

pitching staff," Howser said. "But I can say now that I think we have the best staff in baseball. I think other teams will be comparing themselves to the Kansas City Royals next year."

Cardinals Manager Whitey Herzog agreed, to a point.

"They've got a good staff, but not that good," Herzog said. "If they did, they'd have won 130 games. ... We didn't play well. We didn't hit."

The playoff injury to Coleman, who stole 110 bases during the season, probably can be blamed for some of the Cardinals' lack of success at bat.

Still, his absence can't explain the .154 average of No. 3 hitter Tommy Herr, who batted .302 in the season; the .087 average of Ozzie Smith, who was the MVP of the NL playoffs with a .435 average and the first left-handed home run of his career, or the .259 average of McGee, who won the NL batting crown with a .353 mark.

In fact, the only Cardinal with a batting average over .300 was Tito Landrum, the man who replaced Coleman and hit .360 in the Series.

Veteran catcher Jim Sundberg was convinced the Royals' pitching staff had the potential to become

"I've always been a little hesitant when I've been asked about our pitching staff. But I can say now that I think we have the best staff in baseball. I think other teams will be comparing themselves to the Kansas City Royals next year."

— Kansas City Royals Manager Dick Howser

one of the best ever, but even he realized that the real Cardinals hadn't shown themselves.

"With the ages of our pitchers, if they stay healthy, they should be great," Sundberg said. "They all have great heads. They're very disciplined, have great arms and they're gutsy. They should be great for a long time."

"But, in a way, I feel bad for the Cardinals. They're a good ballclub and people didn't get to see what kind of good hitting and running club they really are."

While the Cardinals were struggling at the plate, the Royals came alive offensively after a slow start. They wound up batting .288 as a team and averaged four runs a game, although 11 of them came in the deciding game.

"Our pitching staff has been outstanding," Saberhagen said, "but there is more to this club than pitching."

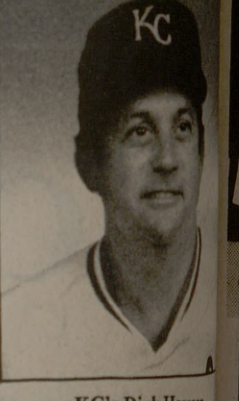
Without McRae in a Series minus DH, Frank White moved into the cleanup spot, becoming the first second baseman since Jackie Robinson in 1952 to hit fourth in a World Series. Although White hit only .250, he led the club with six RBI and four extra-base hits, including a homer.

Brett hit .370, with four hits in Game 7, but still he only drove in one run and had only one extra-base hit, a double. But Lonnie Smith contributed four RBI while hitting .333, and Willie Wilson had three RBI and a .367 average.

And, in the final game, the Royals demolished the Cardinals' best pitcher, Tudor, who already had won Games 1 and 4. Tudor lasted only 2 2/3 innings, giving up five runs on three hits and four uncharacteristic walks in his shortest outing of the year.

"Some of the guys said they dreamed about facing Tudor didn't sleep much the night before," KC's Lonnie Smith said. "But they got to the ballpark, they got out and did it."

The Cardinals' lack of success probably can be explained in parts. First, and most obvious, man didn't play. Second, the Cardinals threw three left-handed starters. St. Louis and all three Cardinals were caught stealing virtually pickoffs. And third, the Cardinals broke on top in five of the games, taking away many opportunities.



KC's Dick Howser

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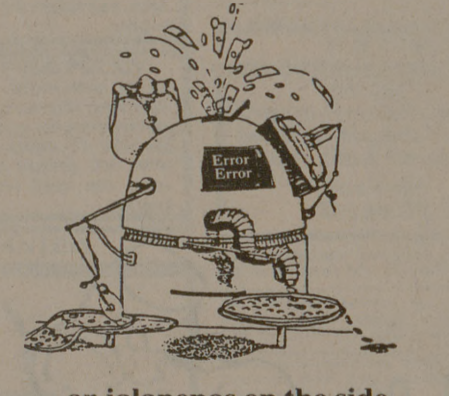
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