

sideline

TODAY IN SPORTS

Dallas star indicted on drug charges

DALLAS (AP) — Michael Irvin, the Dallas Cowboys' all-time leading receiver and one of the NFL's most popular players, was indicted on two counts of drug possession Monday. He faces up to 20 years in prison if convicted.

Irvin and two female companions were indicted by a grand jury less than a month after police found them in a motel room littered with cocaine and marijuana.

The indictment charges Irvin with felony possession of at least four grams of cocaine and misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

Irvin, former teammate Alfredo Roberts and the two women, described by police as topless dancers, were found in an Irving motel room on March 4 with drugs and paraphernalia.

Jail officials said Irvin was arrested shortly after the indictments were returned, then released on \$5,500 bond. Telephone messages left with Irvin's attorney, Kevin Clancy, were not immediately returned. No trial date has been set for the case.

Irvin and one of the women, 22-year-old Angela Renee Beck, face punishment of two to 20 years and a fine of \$10,000 if convicted on the cocaine charge. The misdemeanor charge is punishable by up to 180 days in county jail and or a \$2,000 fine.

Golf teams swing through Break

The Oregon women's golf team finished ninth in the Arizona State/ Ping Invitational tournament last week-end with a score of 929.

The Sun Devils, who hosted the tournament, took first place honors with a three-day total of 891.

Sophomore Paula Patterson was the highest Oregon finisher at 20th as she shot an even-par 72 in the final round.

The Oregon men's golf team traveled to California during Spring Break.

The Ducks finished sixth in the Cleveland Golf Southwestern Intercollegiate men's golf tournament in Westlake Village on March 26. Freshman Andrew Tredway tied for sixth in the tournament, which was won by Arizona State.

The Ducks also played in the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate men's golf championship, which ended March 30.

Oregon placed 14th in the tournament played in Santa Barbara. The highest finisher for the Ducks was sophomore Jeff Barney, who placed 30th.

Kentucky bombards Syracuse zone

■ MEN'S BASKETBALL: Despite streaks of poor shooting, the Wildcats tie a record with 12 three-pointers en route to a 76-67 victory and the national title

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Kentucky has its first national championship in 18 years, the one it was supposed to win all season.

The Wildcats got it with a 76-67 victory over Syracuse on Monday night, a loss that earned the Orangemen the respect few gave them going in.

The sixth national title in school history, second only to UCLA's 11, came through the scoring of senior Tony Delk and freshman Ron Mercer. And, of course, the famed pressure defense and the ability to use college basketball's deepest roster.

"We're a little bit like the Green Bay Packers," Kentucky coach Rick Pitino said. "The entire state of Kentucky owns our basketball team."

Syracuse, a 14-point underdog, has the most NCAA tournament victories without a title. A 36th NCAA win would have meant a first national championship. Now, this Syracuse team joins the one-point losers to Indiana in the 1987 championship game in sustaining the most bitter defeats in school history.

"They showed tremendous heart and guts," Pitino said.

Delk, voted the outstanding player, finished with 24 points and tied the championship game record with seven three-pointers. The Wildcats finished with 12 three-pointers, something critical in cracking Syracuse's 2-3 zone. Kentucky tied the championship game record for threes by a team.

Mercer came up with a career-high 20 points, all but six of the points the deep Kentucky bench provided. More importantly, the extra bodies enabled the Wildcats to keep up the defensive pressure; Syracuse finished with 24 turnovers, 19 more than it had in the semi-final win over Mississippi State.

The blowout that most people expected looked like a distinct possibility when Delk's four-point play with 11:12 left gave the Wildcats a 59-46 lead, their largest of the game and one point less than the point spread.

But the Orangemen came up with a 12-3 run and Wallace's three-point play got them within 62-58 with 7:58 left.

Wallace made two free throws with 4:46 left to make it 64-62; Syracuse was there long after it had been expected to fold up and go away. In fact, Kentucky called a timeout with 5:24 to play because its players looked exhausted.

Delk missed a three-pointer, but Walter McCarty tipped it in, and after Jason Cipolla missed a driving jumper for Syracuse, Derek Anderson got the backbreaker of the 12 three-pointers with 3:52 left.

The Orangemen were able to get within five points one more time, but soon Kentucky had

its title and Pitino was able to cut down the nets.

Anderson and Antoine Walker each had 11 points for Kentucky. Forward Todd Burgan, who did a great job helping handle the full-court pressure, finished with 19 points.

Lazarus Sims, the Syracuse point guard expected to have trouble against the pressure, finished with six points, seven assists and seven turnovers. He missed a couple of minutes in the second half after he injured his left wrist in a collision. The Orangemen turned the ball over on each of the three possessions he missed.

Syracuse couldn't have asked for more from the zone in the first half as Kentucky struggled with its shooting from everywhere. With the exception of Delk's three three-pointers in the opening eight minutes, the Wildcats were missing layups, drives, short jumpers and long ones.

A three-pointer by Wallace with 3:00 left in the half tied it 28-28, then Mercer and Delk combined for all the points in a 12-2 run over the next 1:49.

Mercer, considered the best high school player in the country last season, started the spurt with a three-point play, and his second three-pointer of the game was sandwiched by two 3s from Delk.

Otis Hill's three-point play got Syracuse within 40-33, but Walker made two free throws with 36 seconds left and the Wildcats had a 42-33 halftime lead.

Just kickin' it



Tony Morefield (left), a junior business major, and Laurent Castailiac, a junior French major, used a break in the clouds to practice their soccer moves.

NL umpire dies after suffering heart attack

■ BASEBALL: John McSherry collapsed in the first inning of the Reds-Expos game and later died in a hospital

CINCINNATI (AP) — Umpire John McSherry, who planned to see doctors the next day about an irregular heart beat, collapsed on the field seven pitches into Cincinnati's opener Monday and died at a hospital about an hour later.

The devastated Reds and Montreal Expos postponed the game about an hour after McSherry collapsed. It will be replayed in its entirety Tuesday.

University Hospital said McSherry died of "sudden cardiac death," a condition in which the heart beats out of control.

McSherry, 51, was listed at 328 pounds and had a history of medical problems. He had told the other umpires he was going to be treated Tuesday for arrhythmia, or abnormal heart beat.

"I wish he would have done it sooner," Reds catcher Eddie Taubensee said.

McSherry, the crew chief and home plate umpire, turned away two minutes into the top of the first inning and headed for the tunnel behind the plate that leads to the umpires' dressing room. He fell face-first when he reached the warning track.

The other umpires covered their faces and players gathered around while the crowd

of roughly 53,000 fans went silent. Doctors in the crowd rushed onto the field to try to help revive McSherry, who never regained consciousness.

He was declared dead at 3:04 p.m. EST at University Hospital. A spokeswoman said McSherry's heart had stopped beating properly.

McSherry was believed to be the first major league umpire to be fatally stricken during a game. Ray Chapman is the only player to die after an on-field accident — he was beaned by Carl Mays in 1920 and died shortly thereafter.

The Expos-Reds postponement was believed to be the first major league game called off because of a death.

Reds manager Ray Knight put his arm around umpire Tom Hallion as they watched doctors try to revive McSherry.

"He said John was supposed to go get his arrhythmia [treated] earlier, and he didn't want to do that," Knight said. "He made the statement that, 'I'm going to be here opening day with them and then go get that tomorrow.'"

Last August, McSherry was forced to leave a game between Atlanta and Chicago because of heat exhaustion. In 1993, he left a game in Cincinnati against Los Angeles after becoming ill in 87-degree heat.

McSherry was forced to leave Game 7 of the 1992 NL playoffs between Pittsburgh and Atlanta in the second inning because of dizziness.