

# Chiefs' defense suffers big relapse

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Quick! Somebody call Blowouts Anonymous. The Kansas City defense has suffered a relapse.

For three straight weeks, things had looked so much better. Against Buffalo on Nov. 17, the defense that already this season had given up double-digit leads three times in the fourth quarter actually got a key turnover to save the victory in the final minutes.

But in a 39-32 loss at Seattle on Sunday, it was September all over again. Back for an encore performance was the same generous bunch that had allowed 300-yard passing performances by six of its first seven opponents.

A repeat performance at home this week against the Arizona Cardinals would likely mean a second straight loss to a sub-.500 team. It would also

probably lead to a second straight losing season for a Kansas City team (5-6) that had begun by harboring serious playoff hopes.

"It was very disappointing," agreed coach Dick Vermeil.

In an encouraging three-game span starting Oct. 27, the beleaguered unit that fans labeled "The 32 Defense" for its place in league standings had held Oakland to 10 points, San Francisco to 17 and Buffalo to 16.

Three offenses among the top 10 in the league couldn't even get close to their season average.

A relieved Vermeil said he'd been confident all along that it was just a matter of time until his defense came together. Players agreed, most saying they'd never paid any attention to critics anyway.

But then Seattle quarterback Matt Hasselbeck, who's never been confused with Dan Marino, passed for a career-best 362 yards and three touchdowns. The Seahawks rang up 534 yards total offense.

The Chiefs dropped to the brink of playoff elimination and stepped back to reconsider the progress of their defense.

"The way a few of our guys played on defense, I would say their minds

weren't right," said Vermeil.

Making the defensive collapse even more painful was the way it wasted a brilliant performance by Priest Holmes, who had more than 300 yards in total offense.

"Their minds weren't right. And that's my fault," Vermeil said. "They just weren't concentrating and focused and playing up to the standards they had set for themselves. I'm sure they've got enough pride to correct that."

## Station buys tickets to lift blackout

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — WDAF-TV, the Fox affiliate in Kansas City, committed Wednesday to purchasing about 1,700 remaining tickets to the Chiefs' game against Arizona, making sure the local TV blackout is

lifted for the 98th consecutive game.

For the Chiefs, it's another sign that a weakening economy and five straight non-playoff seasons are taking a gradual toll on one of the NFL's most successful franchises.

## Bufs won't look past Nebraska game Friday

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Colorado coach Gary Barnett promises the No. 13 Buffaloes are focused on Friday's game at Nebraska, (1:30 p.m., ABC) not the Dec. 7 Big 12 championship.

"We will take this game as seriously as any game we have played or will play this year," Barnett said Tuesday.

Colorado (8-3, 6-1, Big 12) clinched the Big 12 North Division championship on Nov. 16 with a 41-27 victory over Iowa State. The Buffaloes play No. 3 Oklahoma in Houston for the conference championship.

Nebraska (7-5, 3-4) is out of contention for the Big 12 title for the first time in the conference's seven-year history.

But the Huskers are 23-6 against

Colorado in Lincoln and have won the last five games between the two schools there. CU last won in Lincoln in 1990.

"Obviously, we do not have a great track record (in Lincoln)," Barnett said. "It is going to be a difficult task and we know that."

Colorado players expect a lot of noise from the Nebraska fans. "While it's exciting, it is really hard to win in," cornerback Phil Jackson said.

Colorado also expects Nebraska to be hungry for revenge. The Huskers were ranked No. 1 in the Bowl Championship Series standings last year when the Buffaloes embarrassed them 62-36.

"This game is really more of a matter of pride than anything else," Barnett said.

## nfl standings, schedules

By The Associated Press

### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

#### East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	7	4	0	.636	266	190
New England	6	5	0	.545	283	239
N.Y. Jets	6	5	0	.545	235	243
Buffalo	5	6	0	.455	277	317

#### South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	7	4	0	.636	238	203
Tennessee	6	5	0	.545	243	258
Jacksonville	5	6	0	.455	233	206
Houston	3	8	0	.273	154	269

#### North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	6	4	1	.591	278	246
Cleveland	6	5	0	.545	256	230
Baltimore	5	6	0	.455	197	227
Cincinnati	1	10	0	.091	181	308

#### West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	7	4	0	.636	268	236
Oakland	7	4	0	.636	328	238
San Diego	7	4	0	.636	233	238
Kansas City	5	6	0	.455	321	312

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

#### East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	8	3	0	.727	310	184
N.Y. Giants	6	5	0	.545	173	185
Washington	5	6	0	.455	199	253
Dallas	4	7	0	.364	139	194

#### South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	9	2	0	.818	247	126
Atlanta	7	3	1	.682	286	187

New Orleans 7 4 0 .636 322 281

Carolina 3 8 0 .273 145 215

#### North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	3	0	.727	295	230
Chicago	6	5	0	.545	218	270
Detroit	3	8	0	.273	203	311
Minnesota	3	8	0	.273	254	302

#### West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	7	4	0	.636	254	235
St. Louis	5	6	0	.455	232	232
Arizona	4	7	0	.364	190	264
Seattle	4	7	0	.364	220	249

#### Sunday's Games

N.Y. Jets 31, Buffalo 13  
Chicago 20, Detroit 17, OT

Washington 20, St. Louis 17

Miami 30, San Diego 3

Atlanta 41, Carolina 0

Dallas 21, Jacksonville 19

Pittsburgh 29, Cincinnati 21

New England 24, Minnesota 17

Cleveland 24, New Orleans 15

Baltimore 13, Tennessee 12

Oakland 41, Arizona 20

Seattle 39, Kansas City 32

Houston 16, N.Y. Giants 14

Tampa Bay 21, Green Bay 7

Indianapolis 23, Denver 20, OT

**Monday's Game**  
Philadelphia 38, San Francisco 17

**Thursday's Games**  
New England at Detroit, 10:30 a.m.

Washington at Dallas, 2:05 p.m.

#### Sunday

Miami at Buffalo, 11 a.m.

Chicago at Green Bay, 11 a.m.

Tennessee at N.Y. Giants, 11 a.m.

Arizona at Kansas City, 11 a.m.

Baltimore at Cincinnati, 11 a.m.

Carolina at Cleveland, 11 a.m.

Pittsburgh at Jacksonville, 11 a.m.

Atlanta at Minnesota, 11 a.m.

Houston at Indianapolis, 2:05 p.m.

Denver at San Diego, 2:05 p.m.

St. Louis at Philadelphia, 2:15 p.m.

Seattle at San Francisco, 2:15 p.m.

Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 6:30 p.m.

**Monday**  
N.Y. Jets at Oakland, 7 p.m.

## bowling results

### Monday Afternoon Ladies League

Bowladium Lanes tied Jim Alcorn/Shelter Ins 2-2  
McClung's Appliance over Mann's Jewelry 3-1  
Medical Arts Pharmacy over KLOE 4-0  
Lonny's Auto Body tied Clawson's 2-2  
Callahan Transport over Team #10 4-0

**Individual high game:** Georgia Pancake-225  
**Individual high series:** Lori Amthor-510

**League Standings:** No. 1 Mann's Jewelry 32-12;  
No. 2 Lonny's Auto Body 27-17; No. 3 Bowladium Lanes 25-19

### Wednesday Night Men's Scratch Classic League

Bowladium Lanes over Witzel and Rhea 15.5-4.5  
Basgall Construction over Fitzgibbons Inc 15-5  
L & M Steel over Sunflower Satellite 16-4  
Weber Kennel over Sigco 11-9  
ProLine over Western Ks Valley 13-7

**Individual high game:** Tony Brown-243  
**Individual high series:** Jerry Amthor-874

**Team high game:** Bowladium Lanes-661  
**Team high series:** Bowladium Lanes-2336

**League Standings:** Bowladium Lanes 34.5-5.5;  
L & M Steel 29.5-10.5; Weber Kennel 26-14; Sigco 24-16; Basgall Construction 21.5-18.5; Fitzgibbons 21-19; ProLine 14-26; Western Ks Valley 12-28; Witzel and Rhea Imp. 9.5-30.5; Sunflower Satellite 8-32.

### Wednesday Night Mixed League

Guzzlin Socializers over Shear Dimensions 3-1  
Fun Lovers over Blind #10 4-0  
Palace Barber Shop tied JIBG 2-2  
D&G Clan over Phillips Brothers 3-1  
The Gamblers over The Pitts 4-0

**Men's high game:** Gary McClung-277  
**Men's high series:** Harold Gillihan-657

**Women's high game:** Marilyn Snethen-189  
**Women's high series:** Marilyn Snethen-486

**Team high game:** Guzzlin Socializers-701  
**Team high series:** The Gamblers-1929

**League Standings:** Guzzlin Socializers; Palace Barber Shop; Shear Dimensions.

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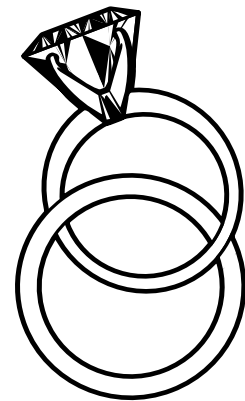


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