

An exciting week of ball

By Larry Pritchett

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If you had the time and are into watching college football, last Saturday was a banner day.

Sometimes for me if it doesn't involve the Husker football team or KU (KU football is hard to watch no matter how much of a fan you are), games are not all that interesting. But the last couple of weeks there have been some good ones that kept your interest.

The Huskers looked better against Purdue defensively, but offensively were a little on the sloppy side at times, but still put up some points and the defense kept Purdue off the scoreboard until the last 30 seconds of the game. You hope the Huskers are improving, but you have to temper your thoughts of the game with reality and, in reality, Purdue is not very good.

Another bye week to get things worked out, and to see if Taylor Martinez's turf toe gets any better and then see how the quarterback situation is going to play out the rest of the season. That is going to be interesting.

The Husker volleyball team lost over the weekend and that knocked them out of a tie for the Big Ten lead. But they are a pretty talented bunch and I would bet they will be ready for a run by the time the Big Ten tournament rolls around and post season play starts.

I ended up watching another Big Ten game and then an SEC game in the evening and they both were pretty good games.

Michigan and Penn State went four overtimes before Penn State pulled out a 43-40 victory. This was a game where I almost stopped watching because it appeared Michigan had it wrapped up. They trailed at half time 21-10 and then mounted a come back and lead 34-27 with a little over six minutes to go. Then they went on a five-and-a-half minute drive but ended up with a punt instead of a score. Penn State then got the ball and scored on a five-play 80-yard drive. Michigan had another chance in regulation but missed a 52-yard field goal.

Four overtime periods later Penn State wins it. Michigan probably will look at the films and go nuts because they had numerous chances to win but came up short. Brady Hoke, the second-year head coach at Michigan, is 19-6 since taking over, but Michigan fans are somewhat like Nebraska fans. They are getting restless.

Michigan has lost to Ohio State in a game that they had chances to win and now the next week another game they should have won. Hoke can't win the big ONE. Every game is the BIG ONE in college football.

The SEC game was Texas A&M and Ole Miss. I watched that one just to watch Johnny Football.

Regardless of what you might think of his off-the-field attitude, the kid is a gamer. He got hurt early in the game, but put on a knee brace and just when the announcers commented that the brace would probably make him less mobile and he'd have to stay in the pocket more, he took off on a 30-yard run that looked very mobile.

Ole Miss was just as competitive, but every time they took a lead, Manziel answered either with an outstanding pass or a run that left tacklers hanging and grasping air.

The Aggies ended up with a road win getting by 41-38. Manziel went 31-39 passing for 346 yards and rushed for 113 yards. Pretty Heisman-like, I would say, and after the game he signed autographs for the A&M fans and the Ole Miss fans and you can make up any kind of joke you want to about that.

This is about the only time I really like baseball, and there were a couple of really good games there also. What I like better is when I find stuff like the Top 50 Funniest Baseball Quotes so here are a few, not 50 but you know Yogi Berra will be in these.

“Ninety percent of this game is half mental.” ~Yogi Berra

“I never threw an illegal pitch. The trouble is, once in a while I toss one that ain’t never been seen by this generation.” ~Satchel Paige

“Bob Gibson is the luckiest pitcher I ever saw. He always pitches when the other team doesn’t score any runs.” ~Tim McCarver

“There’s no crying in Baseball!” ~Tom Hanks in A League of Their Own.

“Slump? I ain’t in no slump. I just ain’t hitting.” ~Yogi Berra

“The best way to catch a knuckleball is wait until the ball stops rolling and then to pick it up.”

~Bob Uecker

See you at the games!