

## FRANKLIN COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Senior keys win for FC women

## Roberson takes advantage of lax defense to lead Grizzlies with 25

By RUSS HUGHES

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Franklin College women's basketball team solidified its position at the top of the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference with a win against the visiting Defiance College Yellow Jackets on Saturday.

Senior guard Lindsey Roberson led the team with 25 points, as the Grizzlies (16-3, 7-1 HCAC) clawed their way to a 70-62 win.

Roberson, a four-year starter and team leader, was less than confident about her jump shot before the game.

"I was out there in warm-ups thinking, 'I can't hit a darn thing,'" Roberson said. "But I got in the game, and I felt unconscious for a while. It was just one of those days where the shots just seemed to go in."

Roberson benefited from both Defiance's loose defensive scheme and her teammates' assistance.

As the second-leading scorer in the conference at 17 points per game, Roberson is used to receiv-

"It was just one of those days where the shots just seemed to go in."

Lindsey Roberson  
Franklin College senior

ing a lot of attention from opposing teams.

She was pleasantly surprised when Defiance (5-14, 2-6 HCAC) did not key on her as she chalked up 25 points for the game.

"I don't understand why they gave me so much room, but I'm glad they did," Roberson said. "Of course, I can't do it on my own. My teammates gave me good screens and passes; the team just did an awesome job today."

The Grizzlies started slowly, falling behind in the first few minutes before sophomore guard Courtney Swain gave them their first lead with a long jumper at the 10:14 mark of the first half.

After the Yellow Jackets swarmed back into the lead, the Grizzlies regained the advantage when Roberson and junior guard Rachelle Durcholz teamed up for

two baskets. A few seconds after Roberson fed Durcholz for a layup, Durcholz dished the ball to Roberson for a wide open 3-pointer.

Franklin led at halftime by a score of 34-28.

The Grizzlies picked up their defense in the second half and increased their lead in the early minutes. With 11:42 remaining, the Grizzlies gained their biggest lead when Durcholz hit a 3-pointer to put Franklin up 50-39.

Senior post player Leslie Mehrlich came off the bench to score 13 second-half points to help maintain the Grizzlies' lead.

A late second-half Defiance rally cut the lead to 61-58 with 2:03 left in the game and precipitated two consecutive timeouts by Franklin coach Kim Eiler.

"We kind of slowed up a little bit there," said Roberson. "Maybe

we thought the game was over.

"We got yelled at a little, and we basically needed that wakeup. Coach told us to start playing to win instead of trying not to lose.

"We should have won by a lot more points than we did."

Mehrlich finished the game with 15 points and five rebounds. Sophomore forward Jennifer Redicker led the team with six rebounds to go with six points.

Junior point guard Brittany Beehler, the conference's leading assist producer (7.5 per game), dished out nine assists. Beehler, who also is the conference's leader in assists-to-turnover ratio, committed no turnovers.

Roberson contributed three blocks, three steals, two assists and three rebounds to go along with her points.

The Grizzlies scored 24 of their points off turnovers, and their bench players outscored the Yellow Jackets 29-1.

Franklin (8-1 conference, 17-3 overall) travels to Bluffton University on Wednesday, before returning home to face the Anderson University Ravens on Feb. 4.



Minnesota's J'son Stamper, left, tries to strip the ball from Indiana's Marshall Strickland during their game Sunday in Minneapolis.

## Loss

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

turnovers and badly missed shots since the Big Ten season began. Minnesota played its most aggressive defense of the year, hounding Indiana's ball handlers, contesting every shot it could and diving for loose balls.

"I need to get him on my team," Indiana coach Mike Davis said of Puchtel. "This guy was so clean with his fundamentals, and defensively."

J'son Stamper added 12 points for the Gophers, who held Indiana to 32 percent shooting, including 5 for 23 from 3-point range. The shooting woes came five days after the Hoosiers shot 37 percent from the field in a loss at Iowa.

Indiana (12-5, 4-3) entered last week leading the nation in 3-point shooting percentage (46 percent) and second in overall field-goal percentage (51).

But the Hoosiers looked unprepared for Minnesota's suddenly aggressive defense.

"This is definitely a win to build on," Grier said.

Indiana has lost its past three road games, all by more than 13 points.

Killingsworth led Indiana with 15 points but looked frustrated throughout as the Hoosiers failed to find any kind of a scoring rhythm. Robert Vaden added 11 for Indiana, which has dropped four of its last five to Minnesota.

"It's embarrassing to lose by 20 points," Marshall Strickland said. "We have to learn from these experiences."

Minnesota held Indiana to its lowest scoring output of the year and raced to a 34-16 halftime lead. The Gophers took their biggest lead at 10:28 of the second half when Stamper's jumper made it 49-25.

Indiana's frustrations boiled over in the second half. Killingsworth gave Stamper an extra shove after Stamper collected a missed free throw by Grier. And Sean Kline later picked up an intentional foul for throwing Stamper to the ground at 3:44 after Minnesota pulled down another of its missed foul shots.

Playing with two early fouls, Killingsworth played only 10 minutes in the first half and the Hoosiers were outscored 19-4 during a 10-minute span in the first.

Minnesota hit 16 of its 26 first-half shots and held Indiana to its lowest scoring half of the year.

"We've got to put this behind us," Killingsworth said.

## FC men win despite letting big lead slip away

Special to the Daily Journal

## DEFIANCE, Ohio

Franklin College let a big second-half lead get away but regrouped in the final minutes to win 66-59 against men's basketball host Defiance College in their Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference contest Saturday afternoon.

The Grizzlies, who improved to 5-3 in the HCAC and 13-5 overall, jumped out to a 16-point halftime

advantage and had the game in hand for the first eight minutes of the second period.

But the Yellow Jackets (8-10 overall, 1-7 HCAC) rallied to pull within seven points with 11:59 left. Defiance's comeback was complete when the hosts grabbed the lead at 55-54 on a layup by Matt Laudick with 3:37 to go.

But Franklin answered at crunch time with 3-point baskets by sophomores Brandon Ray and Jon Neill and a layup by senior

Nick Kane — all in a span of 2½ minutes — to regain command.

Defiance's Curt Croy pulled the hosts back to within three points with a 3-point basket with 36 seconds remaining. But the Grizzlies put away their fifth straight victory against Defiance with a pair of foul shots by freshman Dustin Marshall with 31 seconds left and a dunk by senior Josh Finke with six seconds to go.

The Grizzlies shot 51 percent for the afternoon. Their bench

proved to be another difference-maker, as Franklin's subs totaled 22 points while Defiance's reserves had nine.

Franklin was led by Neill and Kane, who each tallied 13 points. Kane also pulled down 11 rebounds. Ray contributed 12 points for the winners.

Laudick scored 17 of his game-high 21 points after halftime with Croy adding 13 points and Anthony Pettaway chipping in 12 for the Yellow Jackets.

## SUNDAY'S

## NCAA ROUNDUP

The Associated Press

## WOMEN

No. 8 Purdue 71  
Northwestern 63

WEST LAFAYETTE — Aya Traore scored 18 points, and No. 8 Purdue survived an error-filled first half to beat Northwestern for their 13th straight win.

Katie Gearlds also scored 17 for the Boilermakers (17-2, 9-0 Big Ten), who have won 15 consecutive games against the Wildcats. The Boilermakers committed 21 turnovers, including 15 in the first half when Northwestern (5-15, 1-8) cut an 11-point deficit to two by repeatedly scoring off the Purdue mistakes.

The Wildcats tied the game for the first time on a basket by A.J. Glasauer at the start of the second half, and there was one more tie before a 3-pointer by Gearlds, two free throws by Traore and a rebound basket by Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton put the Boilermakers in front for good.

Purdue took a 56-47 lead on another 3-pointer by Gearlds and its biggest lead at 65-49 on her third 3-point basket minutes later. Northwestern cut the lead to 10 with just over a minute to go and Glasauer scored the final basket with 3 seconds left.

Glasauer matched her career high with 26 points, while Ifeoma Okonkwo added 17 for the Wildcats. Wisdom-Hylton finished with 16 points for Purdue.

The Boilermakers never trailed but couldn't take control because of their repeated turnovers.

No. 16 Michigan State 65  
Indiana 59

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Liz Shimek scored 17 points, and Lindsay Bowen had 15 to help rally No. 16 Michigan State to a win against Indiana.

Victoria Lucas-Perry had 11 points and Haynes added 10 for the Spartans (15-7, 5-4 Big Ten), who climbed back from a nine-point deficit with seven steals in an 8-minute span.

Jenny DeMuth and Cyndi Valentin scored 24 points apiece for the Hoosiers (11-9, 5-4). No other Indiana starter had more than two points, and four Hoosiers fouled out in the closing minutes.

Valentin, who has 22 second-half points, helped Indiana to a 44-35 lead. But the Hoosiers struggled in the final 10 minutes as the Spartans went on a 17-2 run.

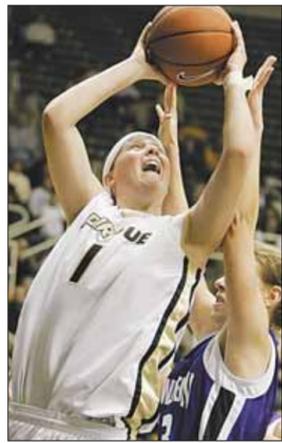
Tennessee 89  
Alabama 54

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Candace Parker scored 15 points and top-ranked Tennessee beat Alabama 89-54 on Sunday to finally give coach Pat Summitt win No. 901.

The Vols (19-2, 5-1 Southeastern Conference) were coming off consecutive road losses at No. 2 Duke and Kentucky, their first losing streak since the 1996-97 season.

Summitt reached No. 900 last week at Vanderbilt, but Tennessee's next two opponents exposed the Lady Vols' weaknesses in defense and rebounding.

Alabama (8-12, 2-5) could not, and Tennessee was quickly headed for its 63rd straight SEC home victory. Navonda Moore, who played despite dislocating her right knee cap earlier this week, led Alabama with 26 points.



AP PHOTO

Purdue's Katie Gearlds, left, puts up a shot against Northwestern's Kristen Cartwright during the second half of their game Sunday in West Lafayette. Purdue won 71-63.

No. 7 Ohio State 75  
Illinois 49

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Marsilla Packer made five 3-pointers to complement center Jessica Davenport's 19 points, leading Ohio State.

It marked the Buckeyes' eighth consecutive win and kept the defending co-champions a game behind front-running Purdue in the Big Ten.

Packer's 15 points all came from behind the arc for Ohio State (17-2, 8-1).

Janelle Hughes scored 14 points for Illinois (12-8, 4-5), which lost its fourth game in a row.

## MEN

Missouri St. 80  
Indiana St. 58

TERRE HAUTE — Blake Ahearn scored 13 points to lead four Bears in double figures as Missouri State beat Indiana State in a Missouri Valley Conference game.

The hot-shooting Bears (13-6, 6-5 MVC) hit 58.5 percent (31 of 53) for the game, while the struggling Sycamores managed just 33.9 percent (19 of 56).

Indiana State's (8-11, 1-10) only lead came with the game's first field goal, by David Moss. Ahearn quickly tied it up with a jumper and after a Shane Laurie 3-pointer made it 5-2, the Bears never trailed.

Missouri State outscored the Sycamores 31-20 in the first half and 49-38 in the second.

Ball State 69  
Toledo 56

MUNCIE — Skip Mills scored 18 points and Maurice Acker 14 as Ball State beat Toledo in the Mid-American Conference.

Chris Ames scored 12 and Jalon Perryman 11 for the Cardinals (7-10, 3-6 MAC).

Acker hit a 3-pointer with 12:05 left in the first period to give Ball State a 13-12 lead, and the Cardinals stayed ahead the rest of the way.

Koonta Howell shot 7 of 11 from the field — including 2 of 3 from beyond the arc — to lead the Rockets with 16. Justin Howell, with 10, was the only other player in double figures for Toledo (10-8, 3-7).

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