

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

SUNDAY'S  
NCAA ROUNDUP

The Associated Press

Does IU  
have shot  
at Big Ten?

The Associated Press

## BLOOMINGTON

Mike Davis wanted to forget about Connecticut soon after Saturday's eight-point loss.

Instead, he tried to focus on the things that really matter now: learning, growing, winning on the road, getting into the NCAA tournament and chasing a Big Ten title.

"We've got a chance to win the conference if we take care of home and win some road games," Davis said after the No. 22 Hoosiers' 88-80 loss. "I think sometimes people forget we're in second place, and it's a shame these guys have to hear and read what they hear and read. We're trying to win a Big Ten title."

Davis didn't elaborate on specifics, but clearly the critics are becoming weary of the Hoosiers' up-and-down season.

But before they can shoot for a conference championship, the Hoosiers must find solutions to the problems that have plagued them.

- While they've played well at home, going 8-2 with both losses coming by eight points to No. 1 ranked teams — Duke and Connecticut — they are a meager 3-4 on the road. They are also 0-3 in Big Ten play, including a disheartening 19-point loss at Minnesota.

- Opponents have tried to take Indiana's biggest inside presence, Marco Killingsworth, out of the mix by ganging up on him inside and daring other Hoosiers to shoot from outside.

The result has been a reduction in Killingsworth's productivity, an increase in fouls and a reduction in Indiana's 3-point shooting percentage.

- Davis has tried to shake up things with lineup changes. Ben Allen made one start before returning to the bench. A.J. Ratliff was inserted into the lineup at Iowa but was bogged down with foul trouble and has been relegated to bench duty.

The Hoosiers' top two point guards, Lewis Monroe and Earl Calloway, have opened the past two games as backups, and the Hoosiers have lost three of those five games.

- Some even wonder whether Indiana is too fragile to rebound from this offensive funk, a question players reject.

"You think we're fragile mentally?" swingman Robert Vaden said. "I don't think so at all. I mean, we've got a good team, and if you think we're fragile that's from you all's perspective. But we've got a good team, and we're going to fight on the road."

## Franklin men win tight contest against Ravens

Special to the Daily Journal

## ANDERSON

In a game that was almost even in every way, the Franklin College men's basketball team made the difference at crunch time, winning 73-63 at host Anderson University on Saturday afternoon.

Besides trading the lead on 20 occasions, the Grizzlies and Ravens were comparable in rebounds (38 to 37 in

## WOMEN

No. 8 Purdue 72  
Penn State 61

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Katie Gearlds scored 17 points, and No. 8 Purdue capitalized on Penn State's sloppy second-half play with hot outside shooting in a win against the Lions.

Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton added 12 points and eight rebounds as the Boilermakers (18-3, 10-1 Big Ten) hit nine of their first 11 shots after half-time to break open a tight game. The Boilermakers overcame 29 points from Penn State's Amanda Brown and stayed atop the Big Ten race with the win.

Leading 34-30 at the half, Wisdom-Hylton opened a 21-5 second-half run with a 17-foot jumper. Aya Traore closed the spurt with a layup after stealing the ball from Mashea Williams to give Purdue a 55-35 lead with about 13 minutes remaining.

The Boilermakers then got sloppy, too. Penn State (10-12, 4-7) forced some turnovers and Charity Renfro's desperation 3-pointer with the clock winding down got the Lions within 65-56 with just more than four minutes left in the game.

But Penn State then had trouble getting off a good shot and Purdue hit its free throws late. The Boilermakers bounced back from a 77-71 overtime loss to Iowa on Thursday that snapped a 13-game winning streak.

Brown shot 12 of 14 from the field and had eight rebounds to lead the Lions, while Renfro added eight points and five boards.

No. 7 Ohio State 61  
Indiana 45

BLOOMINGTON — Ohio State was ready for the big Indiana run.

Jessica Davenport scored 23 points, and Brandie Hoskins added 17 as the No. 7 Buckeyes held off Indiana's second-half comeback and beat the Hoosiers.

"Every time we play IU, it's a tough game," Davenport said. "They're aggressive defensively, but if we take our time, we'll get good shots."

It was the ninth straight victory for the Buckeyes (18-2, 9-1 Big Ten) and their fifth in a row against Indiana (12-10, 6-5).

Ohio State never trailed and led by as many as 12 points in the first half. The Buckeyes still led by

## Grizzlies survive Anderson surge

By RUSS HUGHES  
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Franklin College women's basketball team watched a 13-point second-half lead disappear during a home contest Saturday against Anderson. But a strong finish gave the Grizzlies a 66-58 win.

Franklin led 38-25 with a 15:17 left in the game, and it appeared the conference leading Grizzlies (9-1 conference, 18-3 overall) were going to post an easy victory.

But the Ravens went on a 24-7 run and found themselves with a 49-45 lead at the 7:05 mark in the second half.

Franklin coach Kim Eiler countered the run by taking a timeout to encourage her team to play its own game.

"(Eiler) told us there was plenty of time left," said senior post-player Leslie Mehrlich. "She reminded us that we were better than the way we were playing and that a better defensive effort would spark our offense. We went out and played bet-



Penn State's Amanda Brown, center, looks to pass as Purdue's Carol Duncan, left, and Natasha Bogdanova guard her in the first half of their game Sunday in State College, Pa.

eight at halftime, but baskets by Whitney Thomas and Cyndi Valentin started Indiana's comeback at the start of the second period.

No. 17 Michigan State 57  
Illinois 51

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Liz Shimek scored 15 points, and Lindsay Bowen added 13 as No. 17 Michigan State rallied to defeat Illinois.

The Illini led 41-33 lead before the Spartans went on a 13-2 run. Bowen's 3-pointer with 11:33 left helped Michigan State (17-7, 7-4 Big Ten) take a 46-43 lead.

Janelle Hughes had 16 points, and Erin Wigley and Audrey Tabon added 14 apiece for Illinois (12-10, 3-7), which lost its fifth straight game.

Wigley hit two free throws with 4:30 left to tie the score at 51. But Michigan State went to a full-court press and Illinois missed four shots and committed two turnovers down the stretch.

Shimek, who had nine rebounds, hit two free throws and a basket for a 55-51 Spartans' lead. Rene Haynes and Alisha Jefferson each made one free throw in the final minute.

Illinois, which lost at home by 15 points to

Minnesota on Thursday, built an 18-9 lead before the Spartans started finding their range.

## MEN

No. 17 Georgetown 61  
No. 9 Pittsburgh 58

WASHINGTON — Jeff Green matched his career high with 22 points, and No. 17 Georgetown overcame a 15-point first-half deficit and survived a late rally to beat No. 9 Pittsburgh for its sixth straight victory.

Georgetown was outrebounded 35-23, got only two points from its bench and for 20 minutes allowed Pittsburgh 7-footer Aaron Gray to look like the next coming of Patrick Ewing. But the Hoyas shut out Gray in the second half and held the Panthers to four field goals and one free throw during the final 10 minutes.

The Panthers trailed by 10 with 39 seconds remaining, but a pair of 3-pointers and two misses by the Hoyas at the free throw line cut Georgetown's lead to 59-58. Darrel Owens then made two free throws for the Hoyas with 3.6 seconds to play, and Ronald Ramon's long 3-pointer to tie hit the rim and bounced away at the final buzzer.

ter defense, and we started to score."

After the timeout, senior guard Lindsey Roberson hit a 3-pointer to cut the lead to one at 49-48.

Those points were the first of the Grizzlies' 13-0 run that put them ahead by a 58-49 count with 2:02 left in the contest. Anderson was then forced to foul, and Franklin hit enough free throws to let the enthusiastic crowd rest a little.

Mehrlich played a key role in the win with eight second-half points off the bench to go with ten in the opening half. Senior Becky Ballard, who shares the post position with Mehrlich, chipped in seven points.

Freshman guard Allison Lewis played an important role for the Grizzlies, hitting some big baskets on the way to 13 points.

One of her baskets was a key 3-pointer in the second half to tie the game. Another was a layup in the closing moments after she made a smart cut to the left side of the lane when her defender left to double-team Mehrlich.

Eiler was pleased with Lewis' perfor-

mance, but she wasn't too surprised.

"We are all about team, and I always know someone is going to step up," Eiler said. "I don't always know who it's going to be, but I know it's going to happen."

"Our opponents target Leslie, Lindsay and Becky, and that means other players need to step up to make us better. In a way, it's the other players that make us as good as we are."

Mehrlich had six rebounds and two assists to go with her 18 points. Roberson chipped in with 14 points, and sophomore forward Kelly Snider grabbed six rebounds and scored seven points. Junior point guard Brittany Beehler, the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference leader, dished out four assists. The win was Franklin's 15th consecutive win at home.

Franklin travels to second-place Manchester College (7-3 in the conference) on Wednesday and hosts the College of Mount St. Joseph on Saturday. Mount St. Joseph is the only conference team to beat Franklin this season.

favor of Franklin), points in the paint (34 to 32 Franklin), points off turnovers (14 to 12 Anderson) and second-chance points (even at 13).

But Franklin took control of obviously the most important statistic, the score, with a 9-2 run in the final 4½ minutes.

That burst enabled Franklin to improve to 7-3 in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference and 15-6 overall and dropped Anderson to 2-8 in the league and 7-14. The victory also marked Franklin's third straight road win.

The Grizzlies' key run began with two free throws by freshman guard Jace Redman with 4:31, giving the visitors the lead at 56-54. Franklin sophomore Jon Neill followed with a lay-in.

After trading layups, freshman Dustin Marshall gave Franklin a seven-point edge with a 3-point basket with 2:24 to go. The Ravens would not get closer than five points the rest of the way.

Franklin was led by Neill with 18 points and four assists and Redman

with a career-high 18 points, including nine foul shots. Senior Nick Kane had 17 points and 13 rebounds.

Anderson was paced by Terry Coleman, who had 18 points and matched Kane's 13 rebounds.

Lloyd DeLoatch was the only other Raven to score in double figures with 11. After shooting 46 percent in the opening half, Anderson was held to 34 percent by Franklin in the second period. The Ravens never led by more than four points.

## LOCAL

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Kane named top HCAC  
player for January

Franklin College's Nick Kane, who helped the Grizzlies men's basketball team post a 5-3 mark in January, was named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Men's Player of the Month.



KANE

The senior center averaged 19.6 points and 8.4 rebounds a game during the eight-game stretch. He was consistent from the field, knocking down 65 of 111 field-goal attempts (58.6 percent) and also contributed 2.4 blocked shots and 2.2 assists per game. At the free-throw line, Kane was 27 of 40 (67.5 percent).

Included in Kane's top performances was a 32-point, 11-rebound outburst at Bluffton on Jan. 11. He posted 10 or more rebounds in four games during the month and was also named HCAC Player of the Week on Jan. 23.

Kane is the first Franklin male athlete to receive the HCAC Player of the Month award, which the league added this academic year. The recipients of the award are voted on by the sports information directors of the conference's eight member institutions.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Roberson voted HCAC  
player of the month

Franklin College's Lindsey Roberson was named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference's Women's Player of the Month for January.



ROBERSON

The senior guard guided the Grizzlies basketball team to a 7-1 record in conference play during the month.

Roberson averaged 17.3 points and 8.5 rebounds per game. She was 50 of 117 from the field (42.7 percent), 18 of 56 from the 3-point line (32.1 percent) and 20 of 23 from the free-throw line (87 percent) during the eight-game span. She also contributed two assists, 1.6 steals and 1.1 blocked shots per contest.

Included in her efforts was a season-high 27 points in Franklin's 70-62 win against Defiance on Jan. 28.

Roberson is the first Franklin female athlete to receive the HCAC Player of the Month award.

## TENNIS

TOKYO

Hingis loses to Dementieva  
in Pan Pacific final

Martina Hingis got a taste of the power game in women's tennis, losing her first singles final since making her comeback.

The Swiss star had no answer for Elena Dementieva's big serves and returns, falling 6-2, 6-0 Sunday in the final of the Pan Pacific Open. The ninth-ranked Dementieva needed only an hour to beat the player who has won five Grand Slam singles.

Hingis upset No. 4 Maria Sharapova in the semifinals, but she was broken three times in the first set and had a series of unforced errors in her fourth tournament of 2006 after a three-year retirement.

With the tone set early, Dementieva took the final three games of the set.

## Perfect start to year for Woods

By STEPHEN WADE  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## DUBAI, United Arab Emirates

Two tournaments, two continents, two playoff victories.

Tiger Woods' year is off to a perfect start.

Two shots behind with two holes to play, Woods drove the green on the 359-yard 17th hole to set up a birdie-birdie finish that got him into a playoff, where he defeated Ernie Els on the first extra hole Sunday to win the Dubai Desert Classic.

"I couldn't ask for anything more than that," said Woods, who hasn't started a season with two victories since his record-setting year in 2000. "Two playoffs, too. Very stressful, but I was somehow able to come out on top. I was very fortunate today."

It was similar to last week in San Diego, where Woods birdied the final hole to get into a playoff at the Buick Invitational and won with pars when his opponents made mistakes.

Els also birdied the final hole



Tiger Woods plays out of a bunker on the second green during his final round at the Dubai Desert Classic on Sunday. Woods won in a playoff.

with a 6-foot putt. But on the par-5 18th hole in the playoff, he pulled his tee shot into the sandy grove of palms, and his approach came up about a yard short into the water. He took a drop and pitched 20 feet beyond the hole, missing his par putt.

Woods, who went just over the

back of the green in the playoff, chipped to 6 feet and two-putted for par.

"I had a two-way miss going," Woods said. "I could hit it right or left at any given time, and that's not a whole lot of fun. Somehow I just hung in there with my short game and hit some very good shots on the back nine."

Woods closed with a 3-under 69, finishing with a birdie from behind the 18th green in regulation to join Els at 19-under 269. Richard Green of Australia birdied four of five holes down the stretch to take the lead, but he drove into a plugged lie in the sandy palm grove and took bogey on the 18th.

Els shot 5-under 67, but the ending was all too familiar: It was the third time he has lost in a playoff to Woods, and the seventh time the 36-year-old South African has finished second to Woods.

"I cannot complain," said Els, who is coming back from knee surgery last year. "After all the hassle I had with the leg to come back ... and to almost win is fine."

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