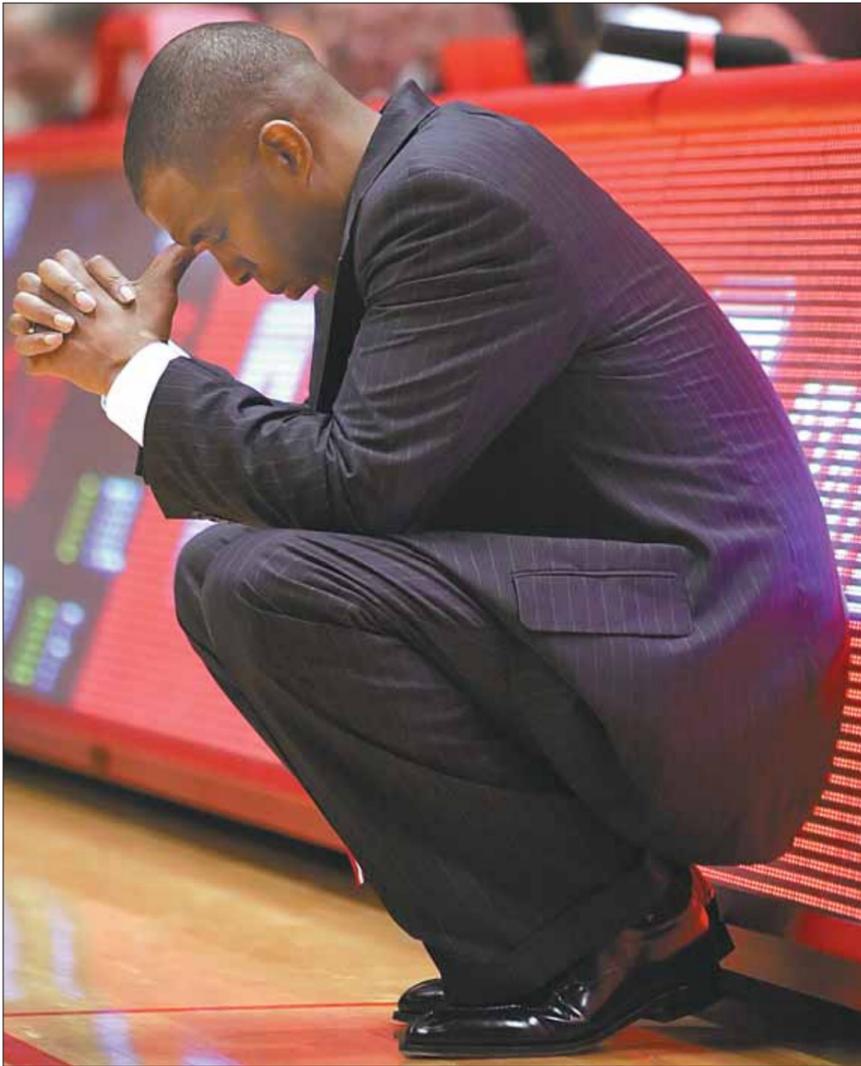
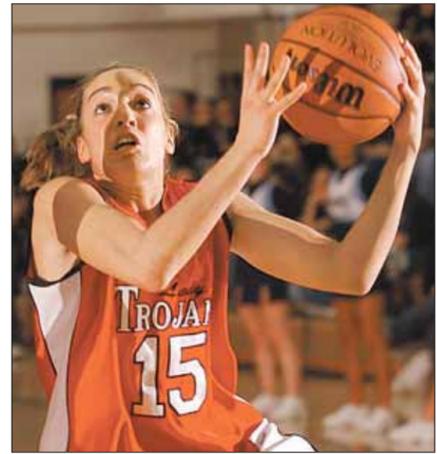


COLLEGE BASKETBALL

On the hot seat



Indiana University men's basketball coach Mike Davis bows his head as the Hoosiers' Marco Killingsworth shoots a free throw in the closing seconds of Tuesday's 62-60 Big Ten Conference victory against visiting Illinois.



Center Grove High School senior Traci Lippold goes up for a shot during Wednesday's game at Perry Meridian. Lippold scored eight of her 12 points during a 10-0 run in the first half as the Class 4A No. 6-ranked Trojans took control and went on to a 52-38 win against the Falcons.

STAFF PHOTO BY MATT OOLEY/mooley@thejournalnet.com

Trojans girls go on run to beat Falcons

Center Grove wins 13th contest despite sometimes sluggish play

By GREG DODDRIDGE
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

INDIANAPOLIS
With a number of scorers, the Center Grove High School girls basketball team can start a run of points almost suddenly.

TROJANS	52
FALCONS	38

Perry Meridian found that out at the wrong time Wednesday night.

The Falcons had a chance to pull within two points late in the game, but then Center Grove started one of its runs. Class 4A No. 6 Center Grove was able to outscore the Falcons 21-6 in the fourth quarter on its way to a 52-38 win.

Falcons freshman Katelyn Walker missed two free throws with 3:30 to go in the game, and Center Grove (13-2) kept its 38-34 advantage.

On the Trojans' next possession, junior Heidi Reisinger hit a 3-pointer. Two possessions later, she hit another 3-pointer. She scored 10 of her 12 points in the final few minutes of the game.

"Heidi has been like that all year," Center Grove coach Joe Lentz said. "She'll be streaky." But the streakiness isn't limited to Reisinger.

"We're kind of a streaky team as

STILL RISING

The Center Grove girls basketball team continues to climb in the state coaches' Class 4A poll. Here's a look at this week's top 4A teams, with records through Wednesday (not including late games):

Team	W-L
1. South Bend Washington	16-1
2. Kokomo	14-1
3. Carmel	15-3
4. Merrillville	15-1
5. Jeffersonville	16-1
6. Center Grove	13-2
7. North Central	14-3
8. Hamilton Southeastern	15-2
9. Martinsville	14-2
10. Columbus North	13-2

Others receiving votes: Columbus East 22, Castle 12, Fort Wayne South 6, Pike 3, Valparaiso 2, Bloomington South 1.

far as our offense goes," Lentz said. "We can go a long time with good execution and not score because we are missing shots. And then all of sudden, we can't miss."

Senior Traci Lippold couldn't miss in the second quarter.

After missing her first seven

(SEE TROJANS, PAGE B2)

Veteran guard lifts Pacers past Bobcats

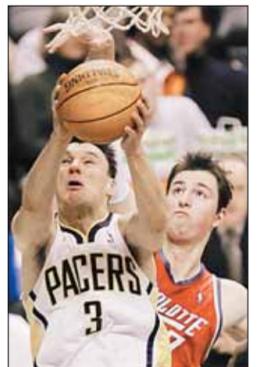
By CLIFF BRUNT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS
Anthony Johnson did it all against the Charlotte Bobcats. He scored 16 of his career-high 27 points in the second half to help the Indiana Pacers win 98-92 on Wednesday night.

Johnson had 10 rebounds and dished out four assists.

He even had a transition dunk in the fourth quarter, a rare occurrence for the 31-year-old point guard. The two-handed jam gave the Pacers a 90-83 lead with three minutes left.

"It's nice," he said. "Now that I'm a little older in age — I'm one of the older guys — they (younger teammates) always give me a hard time



The Pacers' Sarunas Jasikevicius, front, shoots while being guarded by Charlotte's Primoz Brezec during Wednesday's game in Indianapolis.

(SEE PACERS, PAGE B2)

Fans expect results from Indiana coach Davis

By JOHN GROTH
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER
jgroth@thejournalnet.com

Jack Purdy has hoped Indiana University would hire a new men's basketball coach for years.

He doesn't like the Hoosiers' head coach, Mike Davis, or his coaching philosophy. And he especially can't stand Davis' playing and substitution patterns. Purdy, 63, has been an IU basketball fan all his life. But if Davis can't guide the talented Hoosiers to a deep NCAA Tournament run this season, Purdy wants Indiana to get rid of him.

"If they can't get (to the Final Four), then the hell with him," said Purdy, a Franklin resident. "He's a pretty good recruiter. But he doesn't make the right kind of (coaching) decisions. Ben Allen

INSIDE

Purdue men go on the road to face Big Ten foe Penn State, plus a roundup of Wednesday's state and national college basketball games.

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hit two 3-pointers, and he took him right out of the game (against Illinois on Tuesday night)."

Since becoming the Hoosiers' head coach in 2000, Davis has faced an enormous amount of pressure. Replacing legendary coach Bob Knight, along with recruiting and keeping the Hoosiers' winning tradition, haven't been easy tasks.

After leading Indiana to a 2001-02 NCAA title game appearance, Davis has struggled. Indiana has hovered around medioc-

rity the past two seasons, going 14-15 and 15-14. In fact, the Hoosiers haven't even made the NCAA Tournament since the 2002-03 season, when IU lost to Pittsburgh in the second round.

This season, Indiana has improved dramatically. The No. 13 Hoosiers are 11-3 and are coming off a 62-60 upset win against No. 7 Illinois in Bloomington. The Hoosiers sit in second place in the Big Ten with a 3-1 record and have now won 11 straight Big Ten home games.

Indiana has what may be its most talented team ever during Davis' tenure. With star senior transfer Marco Killingsworth and guards Marshall Strickland, Roderick Wilmont, A.J. Ratliff and Robert Vaden, the pressure to win is

(SEE DAVIS, PAGE B3)

IN THEIR OPINION

What some local residents had to say about Mike Davis' status as Indiana University's men's basketball coach:



Gary Miller Franklin

"I'm a die-hard Bob Knight fan. So it's been hard to make the adjustment. (Davis) has run on hard times. He's lost key players who've gone pro in the middle of the program, and that hurts. ... But you do the best with what you have. "I'm still optimistic. If he doesn't have any injuries or anything unexpected happen, then the program will start ... giving people what they want to see."



Greg Patterson Franklin

"I think Mike Davis will be back next year. He's been able to put together a team composed of many first-year players and many young players." "I listened to the first half of Tuesday's game on the radio and watched the second half at my neighbor's house. It was a nail-biter. There's nothing better than that. That's what makes the Big Ten fun."



Jack Purdy Franklin

"If they can't get (to the Final Four), then the hell with him. "He's a pretty good recruiter. But he doesn't make the right kind of (coaching) decisions. Ben Allen hit two 3-pointers, and he took him right out of the game (against Illinois on Tuesday night)."



Wyatt Sprague Greenwood

"I think (Davis) could be better if people leave him alone and let him do his job. "IU needs to worry less about sports and more about (its) administration. It's just basketball."



Former NFL quarterback Archie Manning, shown in a promotional photo for a credit-card company, has spent part of the past couple of weeks consoling his sons, Peyton and Eli Manning, following disappointing playoff losses.

Father of Mannings dealing with two playoff defeats

By JOHN LINDSAY
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

No matter how old your children get, you never stop being a father. Just ask Archie Manning.

The first father of NFL quarterbacks has spent a lot of time recently consoling his QB sons, Peyton and Eli, after the favored Indianapolis Colts and New York Giants fell in their respective playoff openers.

Son Peyton's demise with the Colts, who lost 21-18 to Pittsburgh on Sunday in the AFC semifinals, was particularly tough, especial-

COLUMN

ly considering that Indianapolis sprinted out to a 13-0 start, raising hopes of the franchise's first Super Bowl appearance since 1971.

"Peyton's tough," Archie Manning said earlier this week. "I talked to him after the game. He's been through this before (the Colts are 3-6 in the playoffs under Manning). He'll be OK. He knows they just have to go back to work at it next year."

Peyton Manning has been criti-

cized for his own critical comments questioning the Colts' leaky offensive line in Sunday's loss.

"If you've watched Peyton play the last seven years, he hasn't been hit like that," Archie said of the Colts' five sacks allowed, though Manning still threw for 290 yards and a touchdown. "It was the worst for Peyton since his rookie year (when Indianapolis went 3-13 in 1998)."

The elder Manning also said he believes a good dose of perspective will help soothe Peyton's pain. "I mean when you consider

(SEE FATHER, PAGE B4)

TALE OF TWO QBS

A statistical comparison of Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning and his brother, New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning:

Peyton	Category	Eli
104.1	Passer rating	75.9
453	Pass attempts	557
395	Pass completions	294
67.3	Completion pct.	52.8
3,747	Passing yards	3,762
28	TD passes	24
10	Interceptions	17
17	Sacks	28