

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL: PIKE REGIONAL

Junior leadership



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/roberson@thejournalnet.com

Franklin junior Adrian Moss gets a hug from his coach, Dave Clark, after the Grizzly Cubs beat Center Grove in the championship game of the Class 4A Southport boys basketball sectional Saturday.

THE MOSS FILE

Name: Adrian Moss
High school: Franklin Community
Age: 17
Year: Junior
Position: Point guard
Uniform number: 21
Parents: Terri and Angi Moss
Siblings: Two sisters, Monique and Talena, and brother, Terre
Residence: Franklin
Hobbies: Fishing, playing football and PlayStation 2
One thing people don't know about him: He's from Illinois.

IF YOU GO

What: IHSAA Class 4A Pike boys basketball regional
When: Saturday
Where: Hinkle Fieldhouse in Indianapolis
Pairings
10 a.m. — Pike (20-3) vs. Franklin (14-10)
Noon — Lawrence North (25-0) vs. Carmel (17-7)
8 p.m. — Championship

Cubs' coach pushes Moss into greater role

By JOHN GROTH
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Every time Adrian Moss drives the lane, he knows he'll take a beating. But after each hit, the Franklin Community High School boys basketball team's point guard bounces right back up.

Resilient and determined, the junior gladly sacrifices his body for the points. "It's basketball," Moss said. "I just go in and take the pounding. It's worth it if you go in and get the pounding and (a basket and free throw)."

"I have a basketball mentality. I take pride in it."

Franklin (14-10) faces No. 2 Pike (20-3) in Saturday's IHSAA Pike Regional at Hinkle Fieldhouse. The two teams play in the first semifinal at 10 a.m. No. 1

"We're not intimidated just because of the name Pike and they're No. 2 in the state. If we go out and play scared, we'll get killed."

Adrian Moss

Franklin Community High School basketball player on regional opponent Pike

Lawrence North (25-0) plays Carmel (17-7) in the second semifinal at noon. The Grizzly Cubs enter the game on a seven-game winning streak and are making their first regional appearance since 1999.

Pike is making its fifth regional appearance in seven years. During that

span, the Red Devils have won the Class 4A state championship twice and advanced to the state finals three times.

But the challenge doesn't scare Moss. Playing against elite competition only motivates him more.

"We just have to go out and play," Moss said. "We're not intimidated just because of the name Pike and they're No. 2 in the state. If we go out and play scared, we'll get killed."

Moss' play will set the tone. He leads the Grizzly Cubs in scoring (15.9 points), assists (5.9), steals (2.5) and minutes played (28.9) per game. But it's his mental toughness that coach Dave Clark admires more.

In two years, Moss has developed into the Cubs' floor leader. He has transformed

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Pike Regional is proof Hoosier Hysteria still thrives

Is it a regional or a Final Four? On paper, it sure looks like a Final Four. In reality, the Pike Regional on Saturday is a regional — a very, very strong one that will have the attention of high school basketball fans across the state.

Consider: Two of the nation's top teams are on display. So is its premier player. And the setting couldn't be better: Hinkle Fieldhouse.

Put it all together, and the stage is set for a rare occurrence in the era of multi-class basketball. Hoosier Hysteria, in all its glory, will roar to life in the big city.

Capacity crowds, star players, marquee teams and even a profound underdog will all be there.



Rick Morwick

For high school basketball fans, it really doesn't get much better. Most, if not all, of the 11,043 seats are expected to be filled. The noon semifinal will be broadcast live on cable television to a statewide audience.

This is what Hoosier Hysteria used to be, even in urban areas like Indianapolis.

Ben Gordon relishes being part of it. "It's kind of crazy," the Franklin Community High School senior said. "We've never played in front of a crowd as big as we're going to get on Saturday, but I like the pressure."

Franklin (14-10) will get its first taste of action in the 10 a.m. semifinal against Pike (20-3).

Ranked No. 2 in Class 4A, the Red Devils are one of two nationally ranked teams in a startlingly talented regional field. The other is, of course, No. 1 Lawrence North.

Carmel (17-7) is no slouch. And the unranked Grizzly Cubs have a fairly

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Embarrassing: Pacers fall to lowly Knicks

By RICK MORWICK
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS EDITOR
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INDIANAPOLIS

Maybe the road isn't so bad after all.

Because home certainly wasn't sweet Tuesday night for the Indiana Pacers, who were humiliated at Conseco Fieldhouse by one of the NBA's worst teams.

After winning three of five on the road, where they've struggled all season, the Pacers were humbled at home 107-92 by the New York Knicks.

A thin crowd, generously announced at 14,801, watched the Pacers take a beating on the boards, a beating on defense and an overall beating from an opponent with the second-worst record in the league.

"It was one of those disappointing nights," Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said. "They competed at a higher level than we did. That was probably the most disappointing part of it."

"We just didn't have it."

But the Knicks did.

Outrebounding the Pacers 45-35, New York also outshot the Pacers from the field (47.8 percent to 35.4) and had seven players score in double figures.



AP PHOTO

The Pacers' Stephen Jackson, right, goes up for a shot over the Knicks' Jalen Rose during Tuesday's game at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

Former Pacers player Jalen Rose led the way with a game-high 21 points. Jamal Crawford had 16 off the bench, and starting center Eddy Curry had 15 points and a game-high 11 rebounds.

Forward Malik Rose added 12 points, 10 rebounds and four steals for the Knicks (17-43), who

(SEE PACERS, PAGE B2)



TONIGHT'S GAME

Indiana Pacers (30-27) at Houston Rockets (28-33)
Time: 8:30 p.m.
TV: WTTV-Channel 4
Radio: WIBC-1070 AM



Book: Bonds started steroids use in 1998

The Associated Press

NEW YORK

Barry Bonds used a vast array of performance-enhancing drugs, including steroids and human growth hormone, for at least five seasons beginning in 1998, according to a book written by two San Francisco Chronicle reporters.



BONDS

An excerpt from "Game of Shadows," which details the Giants slugger's extensive doping program, appears in the March 13 issue of Sports Illustrated.

"I won't even look at it. For what? There's no need to," Bonds said Tuesday at Giants camp in Scottsdale, Ariz. The Giants said

Bonds would not comment any further.

Bonds, who testified before a California federal grand jury looking into steroid use by top athletes, repeatedly has denied using performance-enhancing drugs.

"I've read what was reported," Bonds' agent, Jeff Borris, said. "Barry is looking forward to playing this year and the improved health of his knee and being as productive as he's ever been."

Phone messages left by the AP seeking comment from Bonds' attorney and publicist were not immediately returned Tuesday.

Baseball did not ban performance-enhancing drugs until after the 2002 season.

Authors Mark Fainaru-Wada and Lance Williams, who led the newspaper's coverage of the

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INSIDE

NFL owners met Tuesday to discuss a labor-agreement proposal by the players' association but opted not to make a decision until meeting again today.



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