

GIRLS BASKETBALL: IHSAA SECTIONALS

Braves, Cubs ousted



Indian Creek High School junior Tracie Walters, left, tries to steal the ball from Park Tudor's Kelley Scanlon during the first half of Tuesday's IHSAA Class 2A sectional game at Triton Central. Indian Creek's season ended with a 42-38 loss.

Familiar story: Cold shooting hurts Franklin

By GREG DODDRIDGE
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Franklin Community High School girls basketball coach Walt Raines knew that Southport junior Sarah Bassler was capable of hitting the big shot.

He was right. Bassler's 3-pointer with a minute to play provided the impetus for Southport's 46-42 win Tuesday night against Franklin in the Class 4A sectional opener at Greenwood.

Bassler's basket broke a 41-41 tie and swung momentum the Cardinals' direction. They never surrendered it.

Southport (7-13) advances to Friday's 6 p.m. semifinal against No. 5-ranked Center Grove (17-3).

Franklin, meanwhile, finishes the season with six straight losses.

Heading in, the Grizzly Cubs (9-13) did not overlook Southport, despite its losing record. Bassler is a reason why.

"People look at Southport's record, and they don't think much," Raines said. "But we knew they're tough. Bassler is a good player. We had

CARDINALS 46

GRIZZLY CUBS 42

(SEE FRANKLIN, PAGE B2)

Getting another chance

Former CG star Zapp gets deal with Dodgers

By RICK MORWICK
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS EDITOR
morwick@thejournalnet.com

A.J. Zapp has no intention of calling it a career. At least not yet.

He still swings a mean bat, still fields efficiently and still has an insatiable desire to play in the major leagues after 10 seasons in the minors.

And he's about to begin season No. 11, this time with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"I've just been working this offseason to try to get back to what I'm capable of doing," said Zapp, who signed a minor-league contract with the Dodgers on Monday.

A first-round draft pick of the Atlanta Braves in 1996, the former Center Grove High School star reports for spring training in Vero Beach, Fla., in early March.

Zapp, 27, expects to start the season with the Dodgers' Double-A affiliate in Jacksonville, Fla. If all goes well, he hopes to conclude the summer with the Triple-A team in Las Vegas or with the big-league team in Los Angeles.

Either way, Zapp looks forward to suiting up for the Dodgers' organization.

"It's an opportunity to work my way back up," said Zapp, a power-hitting first baseman who spent the previous two seasons in Triple-A. One was good, the other wasn't so good.

(SEE ZAPP, PAGE B3)

Straying from game plan downfall of IC



Indian Creek senior Breanna Davis, bottom, tries to gain control of the ball as Park Tudor's Eleanor Flores falls on her during Tuesday's Class 2A sectional game at Triton Central.

By KEN SEVERSON
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

FAIRLAND

Indian Creek girls basketball coach Andi Ferris' worst fear came true.

Heading into Tuesday night's first-round Class 2A sectional game against Park Tudor, she feared that the only team that team that could beat Indian Creek was Indian Creek.

That's pretty much what happened. In one of their worst performances of the season, the Braves missed free throws and layups, committed turnovers and were sloppy during a 42-38 loss.

Park Tudor (7-14) moves onto Friday night's semifinal against No. 1 Heritage Christian, which beat tournament host Triton Central 49-33 in Tuesday's other first-round game.

PANTHERS 42

BRAVES 38

Indian Creek, meanwhile, was left pondering what went wrong.

"We blew this game," Ferris said. "We didn't execute our game plan. I told the girls not to force the passes. But the guards kept falling asleep and (were) doing just that. They know the game plan works. And when it did, we scored. "When they went away from it, we didn't score."

For the third straight game, Indian Creek senior Kelsey Harvey sat out with an ankle sprain. Yet the Braves still had chances but didn't capitalize.

They couldn't sustain momentum and never got in an offensive rhythm.

Fouls were also a major problem for the Braves. They committed 25, which allowed the Panthers to score 23 points at the free-throw line.

Indian Creek also had a difficult time finding the basket. The Braves were 14

(SEE PLAN, PAGE B2)



Franklin junior Kristin Chaney, front, puts up a shot as sophomore Chelsea Bujarsky, left, watches for the rebound during Tuesday's Class 4A sectional game against Southport at Greenwood.

SECTIONAL RESULTS, SCHEDULES

A look at the results and schedules for the IHSAA girls basketball sectionals that include Johnson County schools:

Class 4A
At Greenwood
Tuesday's score
Southport 46, Franklin 42
Today's games
6 p.m. — Franklin Central vs. Decatur Central
7:30 p.m. — Greenwood vs. Perry Meridian
Friday's games
6 p.m. — Center Grove vs. Southport
7:30 p.m. — Winners of today's games
Saturday's game
7:30 p.m. — Championship game

Class 3A
At Beech Grove
Tuesday's scores
Washington vs. Roncalli
Beech Grove vs. Howe
Note: Scores not available
Friday's games
6 p.m. — Winners of Tuesday's games
7:30 p.m. — Chatard vs. Whiteland
Saturday's game
7:30 p.m. — Championship game

Class 2A
At Triton Central
Tuesday's scores
Heritage Christian 49, Triton Central 33
Park Tudor 42, Indian Creek 38
Friday's games
6 p.m. — Heritage Christian vs. Park Tudor
7:30 p.m. — Speedway vs. Secciana
Saturday's game
7:30 p.m. — Championship game

Class A
At Southwestern (Shelby)
Tuesday's score
Waldron 57, Hauser 53
Friday's games
6 p.m. — Edinburg vs. Morristown
7:30 p.m. — Southwestern vs. Waldron
Saturday's game
7:30 p.m. — Championship game

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