

SKIING



AP PHOTO

Austria's Benjamin Raich celebrates after winning a World Cup men's giant slalom at the World Cup finals in Are, Sweden, on Friday.

ARE, Sweden

Raich wins giant slalom; Kostelic takes slalom

Benjamin Raich and Janica Kostelic added to their World Cup overall titles by winning their races at Friday's finals.

Raich won the men's giant slalom finale, taking that season title for the second straight year, and Kostelic captured the final women's slalom of the season.

The Olympic giant slalom champion, Raich was second to Massimiliano Blardone of Italy after the opening leg, but the Austrian skied an aggressive second run down the Olympia course to win in a combined time of 2 minutes, 22.50 seconds.

Blardone was second in 2:23.44 and Sweden's Fredrik Nyberg third in 2:23.52.

GOLF

ORLANDO, Fla.

Glover takes lead at Bay Hill Invitational

Five months after a stunning victory down the road at Disney, Lucas Glover surged into the lead Friday at the Bay Hill Invitational with birdies on two of his final three holes for his second straight 5-under 67 and a one-shot lead over Robert Allenby and Rod Pampling. Halfway through a sun-baked tournament, Glover has a chance to join some elite company. Tiger Woods and the late Payne Stewart are the only players to win individual titles at both Orlando events on the PGA Tour, and Woods is the only player to win them consecutively.

BASKETBALL

INDIANAPOLIS

Stretch of U.S. 31 to be named for Miller

Reggie Miller soon will have a stretch of Indiana highway named for him, one that matches the jersey number he wore for 18 years as an Indiana Pacer.



MILLER

U.S. 31 from Interstate 465 north to the Hamilton/Tipton County line will be named Reggie Miller Highway within a month, Indiana Department of Transportation spokeswoman Megan Kaderavek said Friday. Miller joked that he doesn't

Alexander confident in NFC repeat

Breaking a recent trend

The Seattle Seahawks look to undo the fate of the past five Super Bowl runners-up who failed to make a playoff berth the following season.

Reversal of fortunes

Teams that did not make the playoffs after losing in the Super Bowl the previous season:

LOSING TEAM	YEAR	SUPER BOWL	NEXT SEASON
Philadelphia	2005	XXXIX	6-10
Carolina	2004	XXXVIII	7-9
Oakland	2003	XXXVII	4-12
St. Louis	2002	XXXVI	7-9
N.Y. Giants	2001	XXXV	7-9
Atlanta	1999	XXXIII	5-11
Buffalo	1994	XXVIII	7-9
Denver	1990	XXIV	5-11
Cincinnati	1989	XXIII	8-8
Denver	1988	XXII	8-8
Baltimore	1969	III	8-5-1
Kansas City	1967	I	9-5

SOURCE: NFL

Recent Super Bowl losers haven't made playoffs next season

By GREGG BELL
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE

Shaun Alexander barely had finished putting down his pen after signing a new \$62 million Seahawks contract when he set some high expectations.

"It is going to be exciting to see us come out next year and prepare our trip to Miami," the league MVP said earlier this month, referring to the site of next season's Super Bowl.

Seahawks president Tim Ruskell, seated next to Alexander, added to the optimism.

"We have a good football team. This team went to the Super Bowl, and we are on a run right now," Ruskell said. "We are excited about what the future holds,

and a big part of it is this guy sitting to my right."

Finally, Seahawks chief executive officer Tod Leiweke spoke of the team's hopes of immediately returning to the Super Bowl after taking 29 years to get there.

"When Shaun talked ... about going to Miami and doing it all over again, that excited a lot of us," Leiweke said, "not just our fans, but everybody from Paul Allen down."

From team owner Allen to groundskeepers to coffee brewers in every nook of town, Alexander's return spawned the belief the Seahawks should be sunning on South Beach next February.

But history is not on their side.

The past five teams to lose the Super Bowl have not even qualified for the playoffs the following

season. In fact, the Tennessee Titans of 2000 are the only Super Bowl runner-up in the past seven years to manage a .500 record in their hangover year.

Seattle's optimism got another boost with Wednesday's agreement to bring back sack leader Rocky Bernard. That left the re-signing of Steve Hutchinson, a two-time All-Pro left guard, as the last major piece to the Seahawks' puzzle.

That will be Seattle's toughest task. Hutchinson, the team's transition player, signed a \$49 million, seven-year offer sheet with Minnesota on Sunday. The Vikings contract would guarantee Hutchinson \$16 million, which the Seahawks could afford.

But the offer also includes a provision that if Hutchinson is not the team's highest-paid offen-

sive lineman at any time during the contract, the entire contract becomes guaranteed after the first season.

The Seahawks' seven-day window to answer the Minnesota offer was supposed to end Sunday. But now there will be an arbitration process beginning today to hear a complaint the league filed on the Seahawks' behalf that the guarantee clause violates the NFL's labor agreement.

A decision is not expected until Monday, at the earliest.

Ruskell has said Alexander's signing was "the beginning of getting our free agents back in the fold."

"That is what we are going to do," Ruskell said. "Maybe we won't get them all, but we want to keep our core together."

Jets trade for Ramsey

The Associated Press

The New York Jets obtained quarterback Patrick Ramsey from the Washington Redskins on Friday for a sixth-round pick in next month's draft, giving them insurance if Chad Pennington is slow to recover from his second shoulder injury in two years.

Ramsey, Washington's first-round pick in 2002, was benched when Joe Gibbs took over for Steve Spurrier and the team obtained veteran Mark Brunell to start.

In his four seasons, Ramsey has started 24 games, throwing for 34 touchdowns with 29 interceptions.

"I have a lot of respect for both Brooks Bollinger and Chad Pennington and the work they have put into the Jets," Ramsey said in a statement. "I look forward to working with my new teammates and coaches."

The Jets also are trying to trade disgruntled defensive end John Abraham to the Seattle Seahawks. A person familiar with the negotiations, who didn't want to be identified because the talks were ongoing, said Friday the Seahawks have presented the

best trade package for Abraham: a first-round pick.

In other moves Friday:

- Green Bay signed former St. Louis defensive tackle Ryan Pickett and had Adam Vinatieri in town for a visit. Vinatieri, who kicked two Super Bowl-winning field goals for New England, had been the Patriots' franchise player for two straight seasons.

- New Orleans signed former Minnesota RB Michael Bennett as insurance for Deuce McAllister, who injured a knee last season. The Saints also signed former Seattle linebacker Anthony Simmons and journeyman safety Omar Stoutmire.

- Kansas City signed former Denver running back Quentin Griffin, giving them a backup for Larry Johnson if Priest Holmes decides to retire.

- Pittsburgh re-signed cornerback Deshaea Townsend, their last remaining unrestricted free agent. The Steelers also signed veteran defensive lineman Rodney Bailey.

- Baltimore made tender offers to two restricted free agents, running back Musa Smith and defensive lineman Jarret Johnson.

expect much trouble from law enforcement when he drives on his highway.

"If I ever get a speeding ticket there, I'm just taking it to city hall," Miller said.

Miller, now a TNT basketball analyst, is the all-time NBA leader in 3-point goals. He is the league's 14th all-time scorer and is seventh all-time in games played.

AMES, Iowa

Iowa State fires coach Wayne Morgan, staff

Iowa State fired basketball coach Wayne Morgan and his staff Friday in the wake of a reported recruiting scam.

ISU Athletics Director Jamie Pollard said during a news conference that he met Thursday

evening with school president Gregory Geoffroy and Morgan.

"We informed him that we were making a change in the leadership of our men's basketball program, effective immediately," Pollard said.

He said the firing came after poor performance from the program but that there were other reasons.

"The fact that we didn't make the NCAA Tournament or the NIT contributed to this decision, but I want to emphasize it clearly is not the only reason for making this decision," he said.

Morgan's firing came two days after a report surfaced that a number of college basketball programs may have steered more than \$100,000 to a California business run by a junior college coach.

Entire Store on SALE!
Excluding Cosmetics and Fragrances.
L.S. AYRES
These locations only
Castleton Square, Indianapolis
Greenwood Park Mall, Greenwood
Mon-Thurs. 10AM-9:30PM, Fri-Sat. 10AM-10PM, Sun. 11AM-7PM

Oriental Rugs Clearance Sale!
now save **60% to 70% OFF** ORIGINAL PRICES
Other Storewide savings of **30-50% OFF** LOWEST TICKETED PRICE
Excluding Cosmetics and Fragrances.
We accept Cash, Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Travelers Checks and L.S. Ayres Credit Cards. Sorry, no checks. ALL SALES FINAL. NO RETURNS OR ADJUSTMENTS. On purchases made before 1/29/06 we will accept returns with receipt. Due to the nature of this sale, we can no longer honor coupons, mall certificates or advertised prices offered at other Macy's/L.S. Ayres locations. During this sale, we will continue to accept Gift Cards and Gift Certificates. **FURS, RUGS AND FINE JEWELRY ARE LEASED DEPARTMENTS WHOSE DISCOUNTS MAY VARY FROM STOREWIDE DISCOUNTS.** Cosmetics and Fragrances are excluded from the storewide discount.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS DIVISION 1 RUNNER-UP
Tabernacle Christian High School in Martinsville advanced to the Indiana Association of Christian Schools Division 1 state basketball championship game for the first time. Baptist Academy won the final game 62-55 on March 4. Members of the Tabernacle Christian team are, front row from left, Anthony Cottrell, Kyle Gilstrap, Wesley Schnizler, Bobby Long, Andrew Hancock, Shawn Mason of Bargersville, Daniel Ralph and Leeds Chow; and back row from left, coach David Schneider, Joe Clendenen, Travis Justice, Justin Surface of Bargersville, Nick Smith, Damon Baird of the Trafalgar area, Daniel Voris and Justin Morris.

Got a story idea?
Call us, not them.
736-2712

4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT \$59.95
Please call for an appointment. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer.
Expires 3/31/06 018RZD1

ROTATE & BALANCE BRAKE INSPECTION \$29.95
Please call for an appointment. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer.
Expires 3/31/06 348RZD1

Reeves
BUICK - PONTIAC
www.reevesauto.com
1250 U.S. 31 South, Greenwood
882-8425
Service, Parts & Body Shop
Mon.- Fri. 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Parts Department: Open Sat. 9 a.m. - Noon
PRO SHOP DEPARTMENT Mon.- Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. - Noon
Service Before and After the Sale!

10% OFF ANY SERVICE WORK OVER \$100
Please call for an appointment. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer.
Expires 3/31/06 188RZD1

\$24.95 Oil Change & Car Wash
Up to 5 Quarts
Please call for an appointment. Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer.
Expires 3/31/06 358RZD1