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SPORTS

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SECTION B

How sweet it is: Three high seeds fall

Buckeyes, 'Heels, Panthers bounced in second round

By JIM O'CONNELL
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

None of last year's Final Four teams will be around for this year's regional semifinals, and George Mason sent half of them home early.

The 11th-seeded Patriots, one of the more controversial at-large selections in the field of 65, beat Michigan State in the first round and eliminated defending national champion North Carolina 65-60 on Sunday.



AP PHOTO

Bradley guards Will Franklin, left, and J.J. Tauai celebrate their 72-66 upset victory against Pittsburgh in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Sunday in Auburn Hills, Mich.

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Purdue women open NCAA Tournament with rout of Missouri State; Tennessee player dunks her way to history. **Page B3**

Georgetown eliminated Ohio State 70-52, and Bradley upended Pittsburgh 72-66 to round out Sunday's upsets.

Illinois, the 2005 runner-up, was **(SEE SEEDS, PAGE B3)**

Next coach will live in Davis, Knight shadows

Who's going to be Indiana University's next men's basketball coach?

Randy Wittman? Mark Few? Rick Majerus? Steve Alford? Despite the assertions of the talk-radio intelligentsia, only athletics director Rick Greenspan knows.

However, here are the qualities he should be seeking in a replacement for Mike Davis, who bowed out after Saturday's night's NCAA tournament second-round loss to Gonzaga:

Greenspan needs a coach who can take the heat. He needs a guy who can recruit the state. And he needs a man with lofty vision and



Jason Martin

The specter of Bobby Knight will never be removed from the position. And on top of that public onus, the next coach will be constantly reminded that "even Davis got 'em to the Final Four his first full season."

Along those lines, the new coach needs to have some composure on the sidelines.

Feel like IU never got any calls the past few years? That might be Davis' fault. He had a sideline demeanor in which he whined and moaned his heart out over every call. Referees don't let you

an ability to produce serious results within three years.

On the first note, the next IU coach is going to take double the criticism of Davis from the start. There likely won't be a honeymoon period. **(SEE COACH, PAGE B3)**

Bench drives win for Celtics

Pacers go cold after opening quarter, lose season series to Boston

By STEVE HERMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS

Tony Allen and the rest of the Boston Celtics' backups found their range just when the Indiana Pacers lost theirs.

Paul Pierce scored 22 points, and Allen had 11 of his season-high 14 in the fourth quarter to help the Celtics to a 103-88 victory Sunday and a three-game sweep of the season series with the Pacers.

Indiana shot 67 percent and led by 14 points in the opening period, but the Pacers shot only 28 percent over the final three periods.

"We were just trying to play through it," Allen said. "I was going to do whatever I could, no matter what. When I'm out there playing I have to give my all."

"The second unit, we were all talking on the bench, just saying we need to go in there and bring some energy."

Al Jefferson added eight points and five rebounds in a reserve role for Boston, and Kendrick Perkins had seven points, five rebounds and three blocked shots. Overall, the Celtics reserves outscored the Pacers bench 31-20.

"That was the difference in the game," Pierce said. "They gave the starters a cushion at the start of the fourth quarter. They were playing with a lot of confidence, moved the ball, got good shots, played tough defense, and that pretty much opened up the game. So the starters got back in and put it away."

Boston trailed by 12 after one quarter, but Pierce and rookie

(SEE PACERS, PAGE B2)

GYMNASTICS: IHSAA FINALS

Vaulting to the top

Freshman wins state title, CG has best finals ever

By GREG DODDRIDGE
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

INDIANAPOLIS

In an early-season gymnastics competition, Katelyn Fernandes landed on her butt during a vault attempt.

That was understandable, considering the Center Grove High School freshman hadn't competed regularly in three years.

But with encouragement from her family, teammates and coach, Fernandes persevered throughout the season and won the state championship in vault with a score of 9.9 during Saturday's IHSAA state finals at Perry Meridian High School.

"I was very shocked because I never got that score before in my life," Fernandes said. "I thought I had a chance to get a high score and place. Of course, winning was my goal, but I never thought that I could actually win."

Even though there were still 14 competitors after Fernandes, Center Grove coach Eric Howe felt confident in her score. A 9.9 on vault had won the state title the past two years.

"When she landed the second one, we knew that that was something special," Howe said.

Fernandes participated in gymnastics until she was in sixth grade but the nightly three-hour practices started to take their toll.

"I got burned out," Fernandes said. "It was just too much."

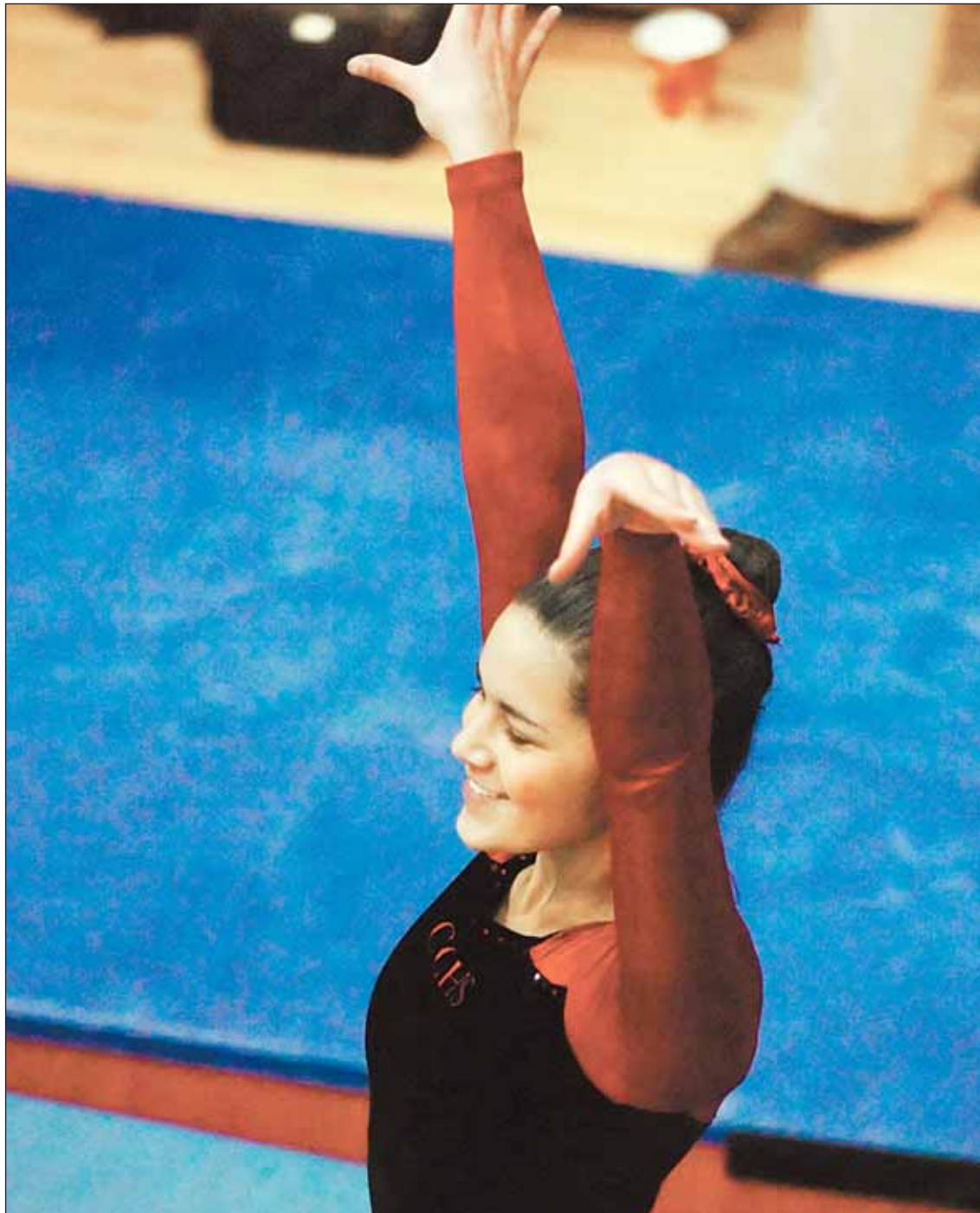
But as she reached high-school age, Fernandes' mother, Angie Fernandes, encouraged her to go back to gymnastics because of the caliber of Center Grove's program.

"I strongly encouraged her to do it," Angie Fernandes said. "She was apprehensive about it."

But Katelyn Fernandes knew some of the other girls who were in the Center Grove program and also

INSIDE
CG comes short of state finals despite best showing in school history. **Page B4**

(SEE VAULTING, PAGE B4)



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON@roberson@thejournalnet.com

Center Grove freshman Katelyn Fernandes finishes her second vault during Saturday's IHSAA gymnastics championship at Perry Meridian High School. Fernandes won the state title in the event.

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