

Purdue extends streak • Hoosiers

The Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich.

Until Sunday, Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton lived without a basketball nickname.

In a span of three minutes, that may have all changed.

The Boilermakers forward scored six timely points while Aya Traore provided a game-high 13 as No. 14 Purdue held off Michigan.

"She's clutch," Purdue guard Katie Gearlds said of Wisdom-Hylton's performance. "She's got a sense of urgency, she gets the job done and finishes the game."

"Clutch. I like that," Wisdom-Hylton said. "You can use that."

With the victory, Purdue (12-2, 4-0 Big Ten) extended its winning streak to eight games after Wisdom-Hylton's late heroics kept the Wolverines winless in conference play.

Katie Dierdorf led Michigan (6-10, 0-4) with 10 points.

Purdue, which led by as many as 14 points in the second half, went 6:03 without scoring, allowing the Wolverines to get within 43-41 when Ta'Shia Walker scored on a driving lay-up with 3:16 left in the game.

But over the next three minutes, Wisdom-Hylton connected on a baseline jump shot, a layup and two key free throws. She also grabbed a strong rebound and made a backdoor assist that kept Michigan from getting closer than two the rest of the way.

Purdue finished by scoring the game's final six points, but not before getting a scare from a team it beat soundly in the two schools' meetings last season.

"We need to start putting teams away early, and we didn't do that tonight," Gearlds said. "Michigan hung around, and every minute, we just gave them confidence."



Purdue guard Katie Gearlds, right, drives the ball past Michigan guard Janelle Cooper during the second half of their game Sunday in Ann Arbor, Mich. Purdue won 51-43 for its eighth straight victory.

In other NCAA action

MEN

Wisconsin 82 No. 7 Michigan State 63

MADISON, Wis. — Kammron Taylor scored 27 points as Wisconsin upset No. 7 Michigan State.

The junior guard opened the second half with a jumper and a 3-pointer, touching off a 13-0 run that put the Badgers ahead 49-26 only three minutes into the half.

With the victory, the Badgers (12-2, 2-0 Big Ten) are one of only three Big Ten teams to survive the first week of conference play undefeated, as conference heavyweights Illinois and Ohio State also lost over the weekend.

Indiana and Northwestern are the only other unbeaten in conference play.

Shannon Brown scored 31 points for Michigan State (12-4, 0-2), as the Badgers held the Spartans' other two scoring threats, Maurice Ager and Paul Davis, in check.

Ager, the Spartans' leading scorer, was held to 11 points. The senior guard, who went into the game as the league's second-leading scorer with 21.1 points per game, had only four first-half points.

Ager was held to 9 points in the Spartans' loss at Illinois on Thursday, the first time he hadn't scored in double figures this season.

WOMEN

No. 2 Duke 86 No. 6 Maryland 68

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — The bench is deep, the defense is sound and several players can score.

Coach Gail Goetseniors believes this

might be her best team at Duke, and no one on No. 6 Maryland could dispute that assertion Sunday.

Lindsey Harding and Chante Black each scored 19 points, and the second-ranked Blue Devils remained unbeaten by cruising to a double-digit win.

Duke (14-0, 3-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) built a 17-point halftime lead in its 13th straight win against the Terrapins. Monique Currie scored 18 for the Blue Devils, off to the second-best start in school history.

Goetseniors has won five ACC titles and been to the Final Four in three of the past seven years, but she can't remember having a roster with so much skill from top to bottom.

"This could be our best team ever," she said. "We've had talent before, but now we have more experienced talent, and we've certainly got more depth than we've ever had before."

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

achieve until Jan. 24 last year, and their rally from a 17-point first-half deficit Saturday seemed like a throwback to the grittiness that carried them to the 2002 national championship game.

But perhaps more amazing is the way the Hoosiers have been winning with a different player each game.

Against Michigan, Robert Vaden dominated the final few minutes to help the Hoosiers protect their home court.

Against the Buckeyes, it was Marshall Strickland's frenetic play in the final 25 seconds and a solid second half from Lewis Monroe, who played his best game in a Hoosiers uniform. Monroe finished with 11 points, all in the second half, and six assists after a halftime plea from Davis to attack Ohio State's defense more aggressively.

"Lewis is good. I know you guys don't know that because you don't always see it," Davis said. "I told Lewis if they're not going to guard you, that gives you opportunities to drive and to drive and kick, and he did that."

What the Hoosiers have is a winning combination. If Marco Killingsworth isn't dominating inside, Vaden and Strickland can dominate the outside, and when D.J. White isn't swatting away shots, the Hoosiers' scrappy defense is tying up opponents other ways, like Strickland did against Ohio State.

In the past 25 seconds, Strickland wrestled away a rebound from J.J. Sullinger to force a jump ball that gave Indiana possession. After calling time-out with 9.8 seconds left, Strickland then set a pick against 260-pound Terence Dials, who ran him over, and he bounced up to hit two free throws to break a 79-79 tie with 5.7 seconds to go.

On Ohio State's last possession, Matt Terwilliger turned with the ball into Strickland, who poked it away and heaved it into the air to preserve the Hoosiers' victory.

Strickland finished with 15



AP PHOTO

Indiana's Lewis Monroe, left, battles Ohio State's Matt Terwilliger for a loose ball during the second half of their game Saturday in Bloomington.

points, four rebounds and three assists. Killingsworth had 26 points and four blocks.

"I don't think I've ever been down that much and came back and won against a team that's so talented," Monroe said. "And that's an offensive power team."

Dials had 25 points and eight rebounds but spent much of the second half in foul trouble.

The Hoosiers faced their largest deficit of the season, 38-21, with 3:54 left in the first half, but used a 9-0 run to get within 40-32 at halftime.

Then Vaden and Strickland opened the second half by hitting three 3-pointers, and when Killingsworth followed that with five straight points, the Hoosiers led 46-45. Ohio State regrouped, rebuilding a 56-49 lead, then watched Indiana rally again to take a 66-64 lead with 7:56 left.

But Dials dominated the closing minutes, scoring 12 of 15 Ohio State's points during one stretch to retake a 79-78 lead with 1:52 to go.

Monroe tied the score with a free throw and Strickland's big finish gave Indiana its sixth straight win, something the Hoosiers haven't done since starting 8-0 in 2002-03.

"We have to keep our composure and continue to go inside," Davis said. "But I'm proud of this team, and I'm really happy with this team."

FRANKLIN COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Grizzlies hold on to pick up first HCAC victory of season

By STEVE McCCLURE

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Franklin College men's basketball team got its first conference win of the season Saturday with a gritty 87-77 win against Defiance College.

With a little more than five minutes left in the game and the score knotted at 68, Grizzlies junior Luke Tudor connected on a 3-pointer from long range. On the next possession, he dished off to Redman for an 18-foot jumper to make it 73-68.

Franklin freshman Dustin Marshall hit a string of free throws to give the Grizzlies a comfortable edge and put the game out of the Yellow Jackets' reach.

The tight game wasn't a surprise to Grizzlies' coach Kerry Prather. He expects nearly every game on the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference portion of the schedule to be hotly contested.

"You could take a dart and throw it at an HCAC schedule and you'll be in the same spot," he said.

"That sounds repetitive year after year after year, but that's just the way it's going to be."

Thanks to some hot shooting from 3-point range, the host Grizzlies (1-1 HCAC, 9-4 overall) jumped to a 13-5 lead before the Yellow Jackets shrank the margin to end the first half with

Franklin leading 40-36.

Marshall, who got his first start, ignited the Grizzlies' second half attack and finished with a team-leading 19 points on 5-of-7 shooting and 3 of 5 3-point attempts. He also went 6 of 6 from the line and tallied nine points in the final 2:25.

Marshall gave credit to Franklin's big men, Nick Kane, Marty Young and Josh Finke, for opening things up on the outside.

"They're always getting double-teamed, and that allows them to kick the ball back outside to our guards and we have a lot of good shooters," Marshall said.

Redman finished with 13 points, and sophomore forward Jon Neill came off the bench to add 12 points including 7 of 7 from the line.

Sophomore guard C.J. Johnson led the Yellow Jackets (0-2, 7-5) with 32 points on 11-of-18 shooting and five 3-pointers.

Prather praised his team for its toughness, energy and intensity, especially since the team continues to go deep into its roster, using 10 to 11 players every night.

"To have this many guys capable of playing," Prather said, "everybody has to accept the fact that every dog is going to have his day based on what we need."

Franklin's next game is Wednesday against host Bluffton University.

Senior's near-career high helps FC women to big win

Special to the Daily Journal

DEFIANCE, Ohio

Senior Becky Ballard poured in 25 points, one shy of her career high, in leading Franklin College to an 80-51 rout of Defiance College in women's basketball Saturday afternoon.

Ballard hit 12 of 15 field goal attempts and had nine rebounds, helping the Grizzlies improve to 2-0 in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference and 11-2 overall.

Franklin shot 50 percent from the field to lead by 11 points at the half and continued its offensive barrage, outscoring Defiance (3-10, 0-2) by 18 points after the intermission.

The Grizzlies pounded the Yellow Jackets underneath the board, outscoring Defiance 42-20

in the paint and grabbing 45 total rebounds to the Jackets' 24. Franklin, which led the game from start to finish, had 20 second-chance points.

Following Ballard for Franklin were senior Lindsey Roberson with 16 points and junior Rachelle Durholz with 10. Junior point guard Brittany Beehler added four points and had a game-best eight assists.

Defiance, which shot 38 percent for the afternoon, was paced by Sarah Bird with 17 points and Sarah Grubbe with 12 points and seven rebounds.

Franklin held the Yellow Jackets' top player, Meghann Savard, to eight points. Savard has earned the conference's player of the week honor for two consecutive weeks.

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