

Hoosiers upset Badgers; Boilers fall

Ratliff leads way for Indiana

By STEVE HERMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BLOOMINGTON

A.J. Ratliff's scariest moment came after the game was over. Ratliff scored 18 of his season-high 20 points in the second half, and Indiana held off No. 2 Wisconsin 71-66 on Wednesday night, ending the Badgers' 17-game winning streak. But before Ratliff and the rest of his teammates could get off the court, several thousand delirious fans stormed out of the stands and onto the floor in celebration. "I'm claustrophobic anyway," said Ratliff, who was quickly

mobbed by the Indiana fans. "I was just trying to get to the locker room. It was funny, but it was kind of scary at the same time." Ratliff was even scarier for the Badgers during the game. He had a pair of 3-pointers during a 13-1 run and another 3-pointer that gave the Hoosiers (16-5, 6-2 Big Ten) a 53-43 lead with under 10 minutes remaining. A rebound basket by Alando Tucker, who led Wisconsin (21-2, 7-1) with 23 points, and two 3-pointers by Kamron Taylor helped the Badgers tie the game at 59. But Ratliff scored six of

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AP PHOTO
Wisconsin's Marcus Landry, right, is defended by Indiana's Lance Stemler during the first half of Wednesday's Big Ten game in Bloomington.

Oden factor in Buckeyes' win

By CLIFF BRUNT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST LAFAYETTE

Greg Oden didn't dominate the stat sheet, but his imprint was on Ohio State's sixth straight win. The 7-foot center had just nine points, six rebounds and two blocks in No. 4 Ohio State's 78-60 win against Purdue on Wednesday night, but he found other ways to control the game. Oden's defensive presence forced Purdue's leading scorer, Carl Landry, out of his comfort zone. Landry, a 6-foot-7 power forward, scored 16 points, but he

shot mostly jumpers and was only 6 of 17 from the field. When the Buckeyes had the ball, Purdue paid so much attention to Oden that the Boiler-makers left Ohio State's perimeter shooters open. The Buckeyes made 8 of 18 3-pointers. "These guys are getting looks off of Greg Oden getting the ball, or they're beating us off the dribble off of Greg Oden getting the ball, and that leads to baskets," Purdue coach Matt Painter said. "That kind of stuff doesn't show up in a box score. And not just blocking shots, but altering shots,"

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AP PHOTO
Purdue's Johnathan Uchendu, left, and Ohio State's Matt Terwilliger battle for a rebound during Wednesday's game in West Lafayette.

ROAD TO THE SUPER BOWL



Super Bowl XLI: Indianapolis Colts vs. Chicago Bears

Time: 6 p.m. Sunday TV: WISH-Channel 8 Radio: WFBQ-94.7 FM



He's the mastermind

Coordinator Tom Moore doesn't take credit for team's success

By RICK MORWICK
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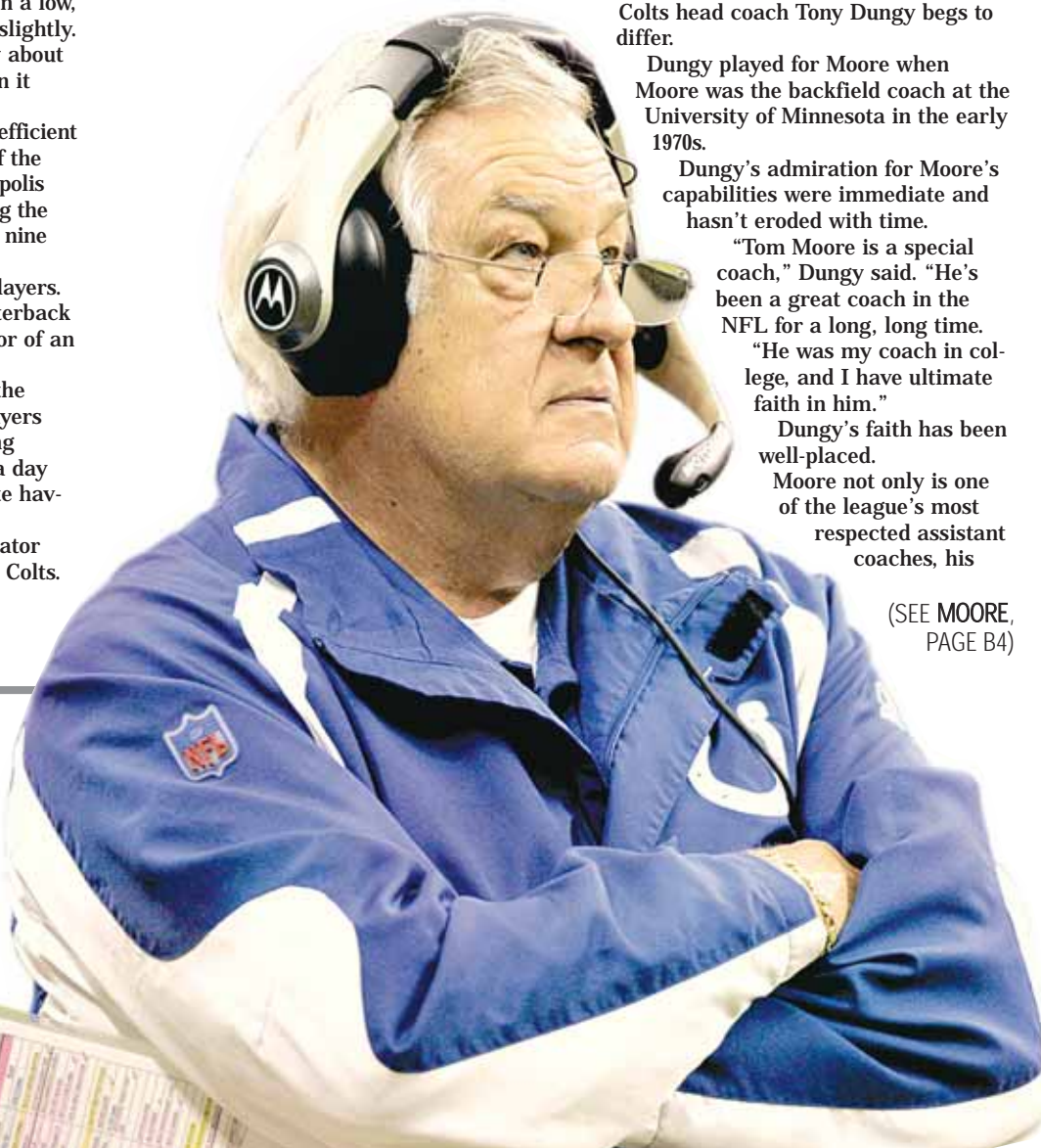
MIAMI

With his gray hair, sleepy eyes and retro reading glasses, Tom Moore projects a grandfatherly image. He sounds the part, too. When the 68-year-old speaks, it's in a low, measured tone that quivers ever so slightly. But there is nothing old or creaky about his football acumen, especially when it comes to designing offenses. Innovative, cutting edge and laser-efficient are far more accurate descriptions of the schemes he draws up for the Indianapolis Colts, who have routinely been among the NFL's top offensive teams during his nine seasons as offensive coordinator. Moore credits all success to the players. But others disagree, including quarterback Peyton Manning, the chief benefactor of an offense designed around his skills. "Tom Moore would tell you that (the Colts' success) is because of the players that he has, but that's just Tom being Tom," Manning said. "There is not a day that goes by that we don't appreciate having him as our coordinator. "Tom Moore has been the coordinator the entire time I have been with the Colts. I feel like I have really grown in his offense." To the point where the Colts are

poised to win the Super Bowl, a fact Moore takes little credit for even though his innovations, particularly with the no-huddle, have paved the way on offense, the team's primary strength. Moore, who is winding down his ninth season with the Colts and his 30th overall as an NFL assistant, acknowledges only

that he comes up with an outline that he gives to Manning and the quarterback does the rest. "I give him an idea of what we're thinking," Moore said. "We have a set game plan, and I give him certain ideas; and he goes from there. "He makes a lot of great calls. Any of the bad ones are mine." Colts head coach Tony Dungy begs to differ. Dungy played for Moore when Moore was the backfield coach at the University of Minnesota in the early 1970s. Dungy's admiration for Moore's capabilities were immediate and hasn't eroded with time. "Tom Moore is a special coach," Dungy said. "He's been a great coach in the NFL for a long, long time. "He was my coach in college, and I have ultimate faith in him." Dungy's faith has been well-placed. Moore not only is one of the league's most respected assistant coaches, his

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THE MOORE FILE

Name: Tom Moore
Team: Indianapolis Colts
Job: Offensive coordinator
Age: 68
Born: Nov. 7, 1938 in Owatonna, Minn.
College: Iowa
Experience: Is in his ninth season as the Colts' offensive coordinator. Moore has 43 years of coaching experience, 29 of those in the NFL. He has 19 years experience as an offensive coordinator with three NFL teams.
Accomplishments: Has led the Colts to nine straight seasons of at least 5,000 total yards. The Colts scored 522 points in 2004, a team record and the fifth-highest total in NFL history.
Family: Wife, Emily; children, Terry and Dan

AP PHOTO
Colts offensive coordinator Tom Moore watches the action during Indianapolis' loss to the Texans at Houston on Dec. 24.



Jim Litke

Colts' Lilja learns to love heavy lifting

MIAMI

A couple of beers. No doubt you've heard plenty of stories about the road not taken. That's why most of the guys lucky enough to reach the Super Bowl dwell on all the support, the sacrifices and all of the hard work it took to get to the big game. On his first full day in Miami, somebody reminded Colts guard Ryan Lilja how those couple of beers at a party one night nearly knocked him off that road for good. "Oh, man," Lilja said, rubbing the few days growth of beard on his chin. "It was my senior year of high school. I was 17 years old. Somebody put in a new rule, 'One strike and you're out,' and I'd played exactly two games to that point. Then, boom!" All for a couple of beers. "Honestly, I thought there was a chance I'd never play anywhere near the top again. Especially once the Division I schools that were offering scholarships dropped me," he said. "So it's unbelievable to think how much luck it took to get this point. It's all gone by pretty fast." Offensive linemen are football's forgotten men. Their defensive counterparts do sack dances, their teammates who handle the ball do commercials, and their coaches get most of the credit.



LILJA

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MORWICK IN MIAMI

Daily Journal sports editor Rick Morwick is in Miami this week. He'll bring you all the hoopla that is Super Bowl XLI this week and will be there for the big game.



COACHES MAKE THEIR CALLS

The Daily Journal asked area high school and college football coaches what they think will happen in Sunday's Super Bowl XLI. They offer their keys to the game between the Colts and Bears and predict the final score.



Mike Campbell
Greenwood Community High School
"The key is going to be play action passing because the Bears linebackers are so aggressive. I look for Dallas Clark over the middle to pose a match-up problem and with Reggie and Marvin on the outside, they're almost impossible to stop."
Prediction: Colts 27, Bears 17



Mike Leonard
Franklin College
"The Colts need to keep Chicago off balance with a mix of run and pass plays and get off to a fast start. I'm expecting kind of a blowout."
Prediction: Colts 34, Bears 15



Darrin Fisher
Whiteland Community High School
"The kicking game is going to be critical. The biggest thing is the Colts' coverage teams vs. the Bears' return game. The Colts better do some directional kicking."
Prediction: Colts 21, Bears 17



Mike Gillin
Indian Creek High School
"I think the Colts are tailor-made for the Cover-2 defense because they send three and four people vertical and put pressure on the two safeties. They're going to have to hit the seams and stay out of third and long situations."
Prediction: Colts 24, Bears 14



Mike McClure
Franklin Community High School
"The Colts can't get conservative. They need to attack and mix it up, be a diverse offense. I think their ability to attack both with the run and the pass is going to make them tough to stop."
Prediction: Colts 28, Bears 10



Eric Moore
Center Grove High School
"In the Miami heat on a natural surface, it's going to be almost impossible for the Bears to cover the Colts receivers. I'm thinking over 350 yards passing and maybe four or five touchdowns."
Prediction: Colts 38, Bears 17



Kyle Wheeler
Edinburgh Community High School
"I'd try to exploit the middle of the field. Chicago has excellent linebackers, but they are missing a key safety in Mike Brown and in that Cover-2 defense you can hit them over the middle."
Prediction: Colts 27, Bears 10

INSIDE

Indiana is known for "Hoosier Hysteria," its love for basketball at all levels. But local high school and college football coaches say they believe the Colts' current string of success and their trip to Super Bowl XLI could transform the state into a hotbed for football.

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Area football coaches predict win for Colts

By MATTHEW GLENESK
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Their schemes and coaching styles might differ, but Johnson County's football coaches agree on one thing: The Indianapolis Colts will win Super Bowl XLI. "I'm thinking it's going to be kind of a blowout," Franklin College coach Mike Leonard said. "Most people pick games always close. I'm picking the Colts in a snoozer." Not all of the area's coaches are Colts fans. Edinburgh's Kyle Wheeler roots for the New York Jets. Greenwood coach Mike Campbell prefers Cincinnati. But Sunday, they are all adopting the Colts. No matter what, Leonard and Franklin Community High School

coach Mike McClure weren't going to root for the Bears. The two grew up Green Bay Packers fans and have been taught to harbor disdain for their arch rivals. With the Colts facing the Bears in Miami, McClure and Leonard have even more reason to cheer against the NFC champions. Indian Creek coach Mike Gillin grew up a Bears fan; but when the Colts relocated to Indianapolis from Baltimore in 1984, he switched allegiances. Gillin said there would be no conflict of interest. He's blue and white, not blue and orange. He was a season-ticket holder for the team's first 10 seasons in the Circle City but let them go because of his busy schedule during the high school season.

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