

NBA: INDIANA PACERS

Winning shots won't drop



Pacers guard Darrell Armstrong, left, outruns Seattle SuperSonics forward Mickael Gelabale on a fast break in the second quarter of Wednesday's game in Indianapolis. The SuperSonics downed the Pacers 103-102.

Pacers get chances but lose to Sonics

BY STEVE HERMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS

Ray Allen scored 33 points, and rookie Andre Brown made the go-ahead basket with 23 seconds remaining, lifting the Seattle SuperSonics past the Indiana Pacers 103-102 on Wednesday night.

Allen had 10 points in the fourth quarter, including two straight baskets after the Pacers went ahead 99-92 in the final minutes.

Brown scored on a layup, was fouled and hit the free throw to put the Sonics up 101-100 with 54 seconds left.

Jamaal Tinsley, who led Indiana with 25 points, then scored on a drive to the basket for the Pacers' final lead seconds later. Brown scored again but missed a free throw, giving the Pacers one more chance to take the lead.

Tinsley missed another drive to the hoop, and desperation shots off rebounds by Danny Granger and Tinsley were no good.

The Pacers were without All-



NEXT UP

Denver Nuggets (23-23)
at Indiana Pacers (26-23)

Time: 7 p.m. Friday
TV: Fox Sports
Radio: WIBX-1070 AM

Star Jermaine O'Neal, who did not play because of swelling from a bruise on his left knee.

Tinsley, reportedly involved in a bar fight after Monday's game against Golden State, received a smattering of boos from the home crowd during introductions.

Chris Wilcox added 17 points for Seattle. Brown finished with nine points, one off his career high.

Troy Murphy scored 22 points for the Pacers, his most since he came in a trade with Golden State three weeks ago.

Murphy bettered his previous high of 17 in the third quarter, when he hit four 3-pointers that helped the Pacers overcome Seattle's 51-48 halftime lead.

His first 3 tied the game for the first time since the middle of the second quarter. His next, on the following possession after a Sonics turnover, gave the Pacers their first lead since late in the first quarter.

The Pacers stretched their lead to 79-72 after three quarters. Granger, who finished with 18 points, then had the first two baskets of the fourth quarter as the Pacers took their biggest lead.

Ike Diogu, who came with Murphy, Mike Dunleavy and Keith McLeod in the eight-player trade with Golden State, had nine points and a season-high 10 rebounds.

Seattle missed its first five shots and trailed by as many as seven points before Allen made his first field goal late in the opening quarter. A 3-pointer by Allen gave the Sonics their first lead at 23-22 with just more than a minute left in the first quarter.



Jamaal Tinsley was one of three Indiana Pacers players who police say were involved in a fight with a bar manager early Tuesday. The players deny the report.

Three Pacers deny being in bar fight

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS

Indiana Pacers guard Jamaal Tinsley and teammates Marquis Daniels and Keith McLeod were involved in a fight with a bar manager after a home loss to Golden State, police said.

No one was immediately arrested or charged after the fight early Tuesday. Indianapolis police Lt. Doug Scheffel said Wednesday it would take several days to complete the investigation to determine if charges would be filed.

"I know those guys have all issued statements denying the kind of involvement that's been alleged, and there's a legal process that we've got to respect," Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said Wednesday. "That's kind of where we are."

"I'm not going to get into details of any conversations I had with them," he said.

The players all denied any involvement in statements released by the team.

The Indianapolis police report said the bar manager of the 8 Seconds Saloon might have a fractured jaw and severed earlobe. He told officers that Tinsley had threatened to kill him, the report said. Witnesses told officers that McLeod had shoved

(SEE FIGHT, PAGE B3)



Rick Morwick
PACERS BEAT

Hanging out in bars no way to become winner

Maybe Jamaal Tinsley didn't punch anybody. Maybe Marquis Daniels and Keith McLeod were innocent bystanders.

Maybe all three were simply minding their own business when a fight broke out in the wee hours of Tuesday morning at a westside Indianapolis bar.

Heck, maybe they weren't there at all.

Maybe it was all a figment of eyewitnesses' imagination.

Yes, maybe.

Since the facts aren't in, speculating on what really happened during the latest late-night bar brawl involving multiple Indiana Pacers players is just, well, speculation.

I won't do that here.

But I will assert with confidence that whatever the trio were doing at that bar on another work night — or should I say, a work morning — wasn't helping the Indiana Pacers win games.

It was having the opposite effect.

Here's a wild guess: The players

(SEE BARS, PAGE B3)

GIRLS BASKETBALL SECTIONALS



STAFF PHOTO BY JOE SABA

Greenwood sophomore Tessa Ratliff, right, has her shot blocked by Decatur Central sophomore Olivia Yaryand during Wednesday's Center Grove sectional game.

Woodmen rally but fall short

Lethargic start erased by battling Greenwood

BY GREG DODDRIDGE

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

After the way the Greenwood Community High School girls basketball team played for the first 30 minutes, it didn't look like the Woodmen would even contend for a win.

But that changed in the final two minutes of Wednesday's Class 4A sectional game against Decatur Central at Center Grove.

The Hawks led the Woodmen by 11 points but escaped with a 54-51 win only after Greenwood sophomore Joy DeBaun missed a 3-pointer from the wing with seconds left in the game.

The Woodmen scored 15 points in the final 1:40, but Decatur Central held on for the win with 7-of-10 shooting from the free-throw line in that stretch.

Decatur Central (10-11) ended Greenwood's three-game winning streak and avenged a 59-55 loss to the Woodmen (11-11) on Jan. 19.

The Hawks dominated most of the game, applying a stingy defense that held Greenwood to 19-of-45 shooting and forced 18 turnovers. They took advantage of 25 Greenwood fouls, hitting 20 of 35 free throws, while Greenwood shot 10 of 21 from the free-throw line.

"I want the first 29 minutes back," Greenwood

(SEE WOODMEN, PAGE B2)

Slow start doesn't stop Whiteland

BY JEFF SKIRVIN

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

BEECH GROVE

It's been a season of streaks for the Whiteland girls basketball team.

Warriors coach Bill Hogue is hopeful that Wednesday night's 72-45 sectional quarterfinal victory against Washington at Beech Grove High School is a win that starts another streak, one that ends in the state title game at Consecro Fieldhouse.

The Warriors (15-6) had a five-game winning streak and won four games in a row twice but also lost four in a row in the middle of the season. Hogue stressed getting back to fundamentals to break the Warriors' skid, and Whiteland hit sectional play in stride.

Led by its senior class, Whiteland got 59 points from its starting lineup against the Continentals (6-14).

Senior point guard Sarah Condra scored a game-high 21 points, dished out four assists and grabbed four rebounds. Amy Orender had 18 points.

(SEE WHITELAND, PAGE B2)



Colts quarterback Peyton Manning, center, talks to reporters after the AFC's Pro Bowl practice Wednesday in Kapolei, Hawaii. The game is Saturday.

Manning happy with late arrival in Hawaii

BY GREG BEACHAM
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KAPOLEI, Hawaii

Peyton Manning always wanted to be late to the Pro Bowl.

He finally got the chance to make the dramatic entrance reserved for champions, thanks to the four teammates with him in Hawaii and the other 48 who delivered a title to Indianapolis.

When Manning and the rest of the Colts' All-Pro selections took the

practice field with the AFC squad Wednesday, they received the customary greetings for new champs: backslaps, best wishes and plenty of rib-crunching hugs.

In his previous six trips to the Pro Bowl, Manning tried to be among the first to hand out those greetings, to everybody from Colts nemesis Tom Brady to Pittsburgh's Alan Faneca last season.

This time, Manning was on the receiving end, and the Colts' championship suddenly seemed real.

"I'd always noticed at the Tuesday practices that the champions aren't here yet," Manning recalled. "I thought it would be nice to come over here late. ... I truly appreciate the support, (but) you get a little bit embarrassed, especially when people are loud. I just don't like a lot of noise, especially when somebody comes up and picks you up, grabs you."

After a late night of postgame partying and a raucous rally back

(SEE HAWAII, PAGE B4)



PRO BOWL

AFC vs. NFC

Where: Honolulu
When: 6 p.m. Saturday
TV: WISH-Channel 8