

Former CG player leads Lions

By **WALT VANDERBUSH**
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Six-foot-two junior **Maria Eichhold** led the Mount St. Joseph women's basketball team (6-15, 1-12) in scoring with 19 points (7 for 12, 5 for 6) and had six rebounds and one steal in 26 minutes in the Lions' 65-56 loss to Defiance.

The Center Grove High School graduate leads her team in scoring for the season with a 10.7 per-game average in 21 games. She is shooting 45 percent from the field and 58.3 percent from the free-throw line, while averaging five rebounds and playing 28 minutes per contest.

Center Grove

- The University of Indianapolis women's basketball team (12-8, 6-7) defeated Wisconsin-Parkside 69-59 and lost to Lewis 45-39.

Deanna Thomson had 16 points (7 for 17, 0 for 1, 2 for 3), 15 rebounds, three assists, two blocked shots and two steals in 71 minutes in the two games.

- Ohio Wesleyan's women's basketball team (13-8, 8-4) defeated Earlham 74-40 and lost 62-57 to Wooster.

Stacy Aaron had six points (2 for 7, 1 for 3, 1 for 2), two rebounds, two steals and one assist in 22 minutes in the two contests.

- Molly Lauck** played eight minutes in each of the St. Joseph's women's basketball team's losses to Wisconsin-Parkside (77-69) and Lewis (74-63). She had two points (1 for 2, 0 for 0, 0 for 1), one rebound and one assist in the games. The Pumas are 4-16, 1-11.

- The Wisconsin-Stout gymnasts were fifth of six teams in the Gershon/McClellan Invitational at LaCrosse, Wis. **Angela Blankenship** was 23rd in the vault (8.975), 19th on the uneven bars (8.45), 24th on the balance beam (8.85), 16th on the floor (9.20) and ninth in the all-around (35.475).

Stout defeated Winona State and



THOMSON

COLLEGE UPDATE

lost to Hamline in a three-way meet. The freshman was third in the vault (9.175), 17th on the balance beam (7.60), fourth on the floor (9.075), 15th on the uneven bars (7.90) and sixth in the all-around (33.75).

- The Vincennes men's swimming team lost to Butler and Xavier in a three-way meet. **Josh Goff** was sixth of seven in both the 50-yard freestyle (25.45) and the 100-yard freestyle (57.36).

- Eastern Michigan's swimmers defeated Miami (Ohio) 150-88. Miami's **Blake Norman** was fifth of 10 in the 200-meter breaststroke (2:09.77) and seventh of nine in the 200 IM (1:59.42).

- The Ball State men's tennis team (1-4) fell 6-1 to Michigan State. **Joe Epkey** lost 6-4, 6-4 at No. 1 singles and won 8-6 at No. 1 doubles.

- Evansville's women's tennis team defeated Southeast Missouri 7-0. No. 6 singles player **Stephanie Millis** won 6-2, 1-6, 10-6. She won 8-5 at No. 3 doubles.

- University of Southern Indiana distance runner **Andrew Menner** was 23rd of 30 competitors in the 5,000-meter run (15:49.54) at the Indiana Indoor Relays. Indiana's **Tyler Skelton** was sixth of 12 in the long jump (22 feet, 9 inches).

- Marian College's **Ty Jessup** was seventh of 18 in the shot put (44-2) and 10th of 17 in the weight throw (36-1) at the Taylor Invitational Indoor Track and Field Meet. The Knights' **Joshua Griffith** was 12th of 17 in the 400-meter sprint (56.92) and ninth of 11 in the long jump (18-6½).

- Murray State freshman **Meagan Richeson** was sixth of 21 runners in the 400-meter race (1:03.10) at the Southern Illinois University McDonald's Indoor Track and Field Invitational.

Franklin

- IUPUI distance runner **Brad Wheeler** finished 16th of 21 runners in the invitational 3,000-meter run (8:47.10) at the Indiana Indoor Relays.

- Wabash freshman wrestler **Cody Johnson** has an 8-8 record.

- The Purdue wrestlers lost to Wisconsin (27-12) and Michigan State (21-14). **Sean Schmaltz** lost 3-1 to the Spartans at 133 pounds and was pinned by his Badgers opponent.

- Marian distance runner **Jessica VanVleet** finished 14th of 31 runners in the 3,000-yard run in 11:44.49 at the Taylor Indoor Track and Field Invitational.

- The Butler men's and women's swimming teams defeated Vincennes and lost to Xavier in a three-way meet. The Bulldogs' **Ben Shafer** was fifth of eight in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:07.10) and third of four in the 1,000-yard freestyle (10:44.97). **Elizabeth Shafer** was third of five in the women's 500-yard freestyle (5:34.20) and fourth of six in the 200-yard freestyle (2:05.36). The Trailblazers' **Lauren Swanson** was fourth of five in the 500-yard freestyle (5:35.11) and fifth of six in the 200-yard freestyle (2:06.30).

Whiteland

- The IUPUI men's swimmers lost 136-100 to Ball State. Jaguars diver **Josh Davis** was third of six at 1 meter and fourth of six at 3 meters. **Justin Shaw** was fourth of eight in the 200 IM (2:04.72) and seventh of eight in the 500 freestyle (5:18.39).

- Eastern Illinois' women's basketball team (7-16, 4-10) lost 103-98 in double overtime to Jacksonville State and 63-41 to Samford.

Jessica Huffman scored 26 points (11 for 29, 2 for 7, 2 for 7) in 45 minutes against Jacksonville and had four assists, three rebounds and two steals. In 26 minutes against Samford, she had three points (1 for 5, 1 for 3, 0 for 0), three rebounds, two steals and two assists.

- The Vincennes women swimmers lost to Butler and Xavier in a three-way meet. The Trailblazers' **Lindsay Gieseking** was fourth of five in the 1,000-yard freestyle (12:12.53) and

fifth of six in the 100-yard backstroke (1:10.50).

- IUPUI's **Evan Fruits** ran in the Indiana Relays open 3,000-meter race and finished 21st of 27 participants in 9:13.97.

Greenwood

- Wabash sophomore wrestler **Rob Arnett** won three matches at 285 pounds, one by forfeit, to bring his record to 11-12. He won 10-4 in the Little Giants' 30-12 win against Ohio Northern and 1-0 in a 29-9 win against Millikin.

- The Marian men's basketball team (7-14, 2-11) lost to Spring Arbor (68-59) and Indiana Wesleyan (78-66). **Matt Allee** had 16 points (7 for 17, 2 for 9, 0 for 0), eight rebounds, two assists, one steal and one blocked shot in 63 minutes in the two losses.



ALLEE

- The Asbury men's basketball team (17-7, 4-1) defeated IU-Southeast 77-70 and IU-East 106-80. In 25 minutes against IU-Southeast, **Jon Ensign** had nine points (3 for 5, 1 for 1, 2 for 2), four rebounds and four assists. He had two points (1 for 3, 0 for 1, 0 for 1), three assists and one rebound in 15 minutes against IU East. **Matt Pittman** played 14 minutes against IU-East and had five points (2 for 4, 1 for 1, 0 for 0), five assists, four rebounds and four steals.

- Competing in the Taylor Indoor Track and Field Invitational, Marian College's **Kyle Murray** anchored the Knights' distance medley relay team, which finished first of seven teams. **Shawn Murray** of Marian was 28th of 41 runners in the 3,000-yard run (9:43.04).

Indian Creek

Competing in the Taylor Indoor Track and Field Invitational, Marian College's **Kyle Murray** anchored the Knights' distance medley relay team, which finished first of seven teams. **Shawn Murray** of Marian was 28th of 41 runners in the 3,000-yard run (9:43.04).

Walt Vanderbush is a former principal at Franklin Community High School. Ideas for the weekly College Update should be sent to sports editor Rick Morwick at rmorwick@thejournalnet.com.

Former NBA player ready to come out

The Associated Press

NEW YORK

John Amaechi is gay, and now the first NBA player to come out publicly is ready to talk about it.

Amaechi, a center who spent five seasons with four teams, is scheduled to appear on ESPN's "Outside the Lines" on Sunday, and his autobiography "Man in the Middle," will be released Feb. 14.

"He is coming out of the closet as a gay man," Amaechi's publicist, Howard Bragman, said Wednesday.

NBA commissioner David Stern said a player's sexuality is not important.

"We have a very diverse league. The question at the NBA is always, 'Have you got game?' That's it, end of inquiry," he said.

Three years after his playing career ended, Amaechi has become the sixth professional male athlete from one of the four major American sports (NBA, MLB, NFL and NHL) to publicly discuss his homosexuality.

Former NFL running back David Kopay came out in 1977, and offensive lineman Roy Simmons and defensive lineman Esera Tuoalo came out more recently. Glenn Burke, an outfielder for the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Oakland A's in the 1970s, and Billy Bean, a utility player in the 1980s and 1990s, also have come out.

In his book, Amaechi describes the challenge of being gay in a league where it is assumed that all players are heterosexual. He writes that while playing in Utah, coach Jerry Sloan used anti-gay innuendo to describe him.

Sloan said Wednesday that although his relationship with Amaechi was shaky because of the player's attitude, he didn't know Amaechi was gay. Sloan had no comment about Amaechi's contention in the book that Sloan used anti-gay innuendo when referring to him. Amaechi said he found out about it in e-mails from friends in the Jazz front office.

When asked if knowing Amaechi was gay would have mattered, Sloan said: "Oh yeah, it would have probably mattered. I don't know exactly, but I always have peoples' feelings at heart. People do what they want to do. I don't have a problem with that."



AMAECHE

Track coach returns diploma as show of anger about cuts

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Ohio

A former Ohio University track coach mailed his master's diploma back to the university last week to protest its decision to eliminate men's indoor and outdoor track and field.

The university also is dropping men's swimming and women's

lacrosse as the school tries to save money and meet a federal requirement that says men's and women's athletic scholarships must roughly equal the ratio of men and women on campus.

Stan Huntsman, a coach at the school for 14 years, also demanded that a plaque honoring him be taken off the wall in the university athletic hall of fame.

"I hope the university would reconsider all this," he said this week. "I've talked to a lot of former athletes, and they feel as strongly as I do. I'm really concerned about what has happened. This is shocking. I thought Ohio University was above this."

Athletic director Kirby Hocutt said the university will comply with Huntsman's wishes.

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