

## • Addai

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Addai doesn't have blazing speed, but Indianapolis has always sought someone a little different.

Their trademark no-huddle, one-back system calls for backs who can finish rushes, pick up blitzes, catch passes and run without a lead blocker, all without wearing down.

That's part of the reason they passed on former Heisman Trophy winner Ricky Williams in 1999 and selected James with the fourth pick in the draft. James responded by becoming the franchise's career rushing leader in seven seasons.

Addai fits the same mold.

While he was never the feature back at LSU, most considered Addai the best blocking back in the draft.

A face-to-face meeting with Dungy revealed something else: Addai understood blocking assignments, an essential part of his transition to the NFL.

Indy officials were so impressed that when they met the night before the draft, Polian told Dungy that if he had the No. 1 pick, he'd take Addai over anyone else in the field.

"Bill really thought Joseph was the guy," Dungy said. "What I liked was that he was so precise in explaining what he did. I thought he'd understand what we needed to do."

Many, however, believed the Colts were making a major gamble when they let James hit the free-agent market.

Polian didn't fret. Content to save a few bucks and get a younger star from a deep running back pool, he took Addai when given the chance.

The result: Addai joined Mar-

shall Faulk, James and Rhodes as the only Colts rookies to top 1,000 yards. Last week, Addai became the sixth player in franchise history with a 100-yard playoff game.

He's shown strong bursts, quick moves and the ability to cut and run over defenders while deftly protecting two-time MVP Peyton Manning in passing situations. Addai has also excelled at the little things that made James so productive.

Addai never worried about the comparisons.

"I understand what I can do," he said. "I watched Edgerrin for a long time, and I've tried to do some of the things he's been doing. But I know what I can do, and I'm not going to force myself to do something I can't do."

Addai's emergence could create an interesting chess match for the Ravens in Saturday's divisional-round game.

If they stack the line of scrimmage to shut down the run, Manning could take advantage by throwing in the middle of the field. If they back off, Manning won't hesitate to let Addai carry it.

That's assuming Addai plays. He suffered a chest injury in Saturday's wild-card game and was listed as questionable on the team's injury report after he did not practice Tuesday.

Safety Bob Sanders practiced Tuesday and is expected to play Saturday.

If Sanders does play, it would mark the first time since mid-September he has been available in back-to-back games. He had arthroscopic knee surgery after a Sept. 17 win against Houston.

The biggest concerns remain guard Ryan Lilja, who has missed the past two games with a strained right knee, and receiver Ricky Proehl (hamstring).

Both missed at least part of practice Tuesday. Dungy closed practice to the media for the second straight week.

In the season finale at Houston a week later, however, Ron Dayne rushed for 153 of the Texans' 191 yards as the Colts were defeated.

"We just fell apart at the end of the season," Brock said. "It just happened; I can't explain it."

The Colts' defenders wish to declare all that bad news ancient history, however.

"We don't feel any different," safety Bob Sanders said. "We didn't put in a new defense; we didn't do anything different than we did all year."

"It was pretty much the same guys out there just showing we could be effective."

Baltimore, however, won't exactly provide a carbon copy of Kansas City.

Brackett said the Ravens' ball-control approach and accompanying solid defense makes them a more difficult opponent than the Chiefs.

Brock highlighted McNair's superior scrambling ability as a chief concern.

"Steve brings another atmosphere to the game," Brock said. "He knows how to get his receivers open, so that's another thing we have to worry about."

As much as the Colts' defense wants to disregard its poor regular season, coach Tony Dungy said erasing the memory of the most recent impressive performance is just as important.

"Not much carries over," Dungy said. "You have to take care of business one week and then forget it."

# Irish hang on to top West Virginia

The Associated Press

## SOUTH BEND

Russell Carter scored 19 points and kept West Virginia's Frank Young from getting off a shot at the buzzer as No. 22 Notre Dame rebounded from its biggest loss in seven seasons with a 61-58 victory against No. 21 West Virginia on Tuesday night.

The Mountaineers (13-2, 3-1 Big East), who trailed by as many as 14 points early in the second half, closed to 55-53 when Darris Nichols hit a 3-pointer with 1:53 left.

West Virginia had a chance to go ahead, but Alex Ruoff put up an air ball from 3-point range. West Virginia's Da'Sean Butler got the rebound, but Irish guard Tory Jackson stole it.

Luke Harangody then made two free throws for the Irish (14-2, 2-1), and Carter scored on a 10-foot baseline jumper to give the Irish a 59-53 lead. The Mountaineers cut the lead to 61-58 on a 3-pointer by Young with 5 seconds left.

But after Rob Kurz missed the front end of a 1-and-1, Young raced up the right side of the court with Carter beside him and couldn't get the shot off.

Colin Falls scored 14 points for the Irish, who shot 53.5 percent for the game, and Harangody added 11.

Ruoff led West Virginia with 14 points and Young added 13.

## In other NCAA action

### MEN

#### No. 17 Clemson 87 North Carolina State 76

RALEIGH, N.C. — Vernon Hamilton scored 21 points, and No. 17 Clemson beat North Carolina State to match the best start in school history and remain the only unbeaten team in Division I.

The Tigers (17-0, 3-0 Atlantic Coast

## • Rivalry

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tension both feel when the schools face each other on the court.

Bragging rights are important on the recruiting trail.

IU is 10-4 overall and 1-1 in the Big Ten. Purdue is 12-4 and also 1-1 in the conference.

But it seems the fortunes of the Hoosiers might be a bit brighter than the Boilers' right now.

IU is coming off a game in which Billy Packer called the Hoosiers the best Indiana basketball team he had seen in a long time.

When the usually acerbic veteran CBS announcer offers praise, you know you've done something right.

And after IU's complete performance against Big Ten rival Michigan State on Sunday, the Hoosiers deserved every bit of Packer's praise.

IU dominated the contest from start to finish, winning nearly every statistical category. The 73-51 loss was Michigan State's most lopsided conference defeat in three seasons, and the 22-point margin of victory was IU's largest against the Spartans since 1993.

started on time with Sunny. A few minutes later, about 8 a.m., as I retreat, finally, into my sleeping bag for a few hours, I get a cell call from Sunny. He is 60 km into his liaison and broken down. The bike will simply not start. This is like something out of a bad comedy. ...

"Terry comes back as I run out of my tent to go find Ed and tell him the bad news. (Terry) is definitely out of the race.

"That quickly, that simply, months of prep, thousands of dollars in savings are over. As I write this now, nearly 12 hours later, I don't think it's fully sunk in to any of us.

"Terry, Ed and I race after Sunny only to get there and never find him. We hope he was able to get the bike started and is on his way to his special. When we get back to our camp it's nearly midday. ... As we drive to Ouarzazate we get a call from Sunny, who has finished his special. ...

"Tonight we will not see Sunny. Bike riders are sequestered in a different bivouac. ...

## FOOTBALL

LOUISVILLE, Ky.

### Tulsa's Kragthorpe named Louisville coach

Tulsa's Steve Kragthorpe was introduced Tuesday as the new head football coach at the University of Louisville, less than 48 hours after Bobby Petrino left for the NFL.

Kragthorpe and Louisville athletic director Tom Jurich agreed to a five-year, \$1.1-million deal that runs through the 2012 season. The contract was approved by the Louisville Athletic Association's Board of Directors on Tuesday afternoon.

"This truly is a destination for us," Kragthorpe said at an afternoon news conference. "There's no question that we feel like this is a place that we've come to stay."

Kragthorpe went 29-22 in four seasons at Tulsa, winning the Conference USA title in 2005. The Cardinals went 12-1 in 2006, won

the Big East and the Orange Bowl and finished sixth in the final AP poll. Petrino resigned on Sunday night to coach the Atlanta Falcons.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.

### Louisville running back Bush jumping to NFL

Louisville running back Michael Bush will enter the NFL draft in April rather than return to the Cardinals next season.

Bush, who announced his decision Tuesday, broke his right leg in Louisville's season-opener against Kentucky on Sept. 3 and hasn't played since.

A senior, Bush applied for a medical redshirt in case he decided to come back but opted for the NFL instead.

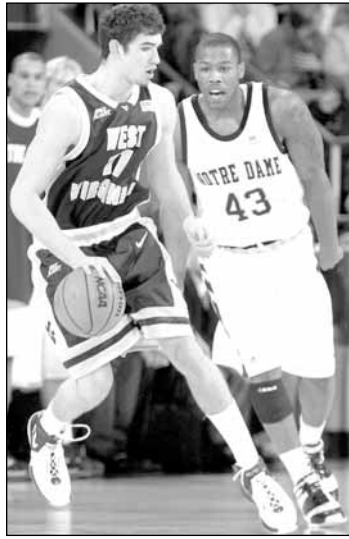
"I loved my time here at U of L, but I think it's time for me to move on," Bush said.

Bush said coach Bobby Petrino's decision to leave the team was a factor in his decision.

Bush rushed for 1,143 yards and an NCAA-best 23 touchdowns as a junior in 2005.



Kragthorpe



AP PHOTO

West Virginia's Joe Alexander, left, attempts to drive around Notre Dame's Russell Carter during Tuesday's game in South Bend.

Conference) shot nearly 56 percent and used a 15-3 run which bridged halftime to equal the school records for best start and longest winning streak.

K.C. Rivers and James Mays both added 16 points for Clemson, which also started 17-0 in 1986-87.

Gavin Grant had 22 points, and Ben McCauley added 15 for outmanned N.C. State (10-6, 0-3), which lost its second straight since a three-game winning streak against non-conference foes.

### WOMEN

#### No. 7 Connecticut 106 Seton Hall 58

STORRS, Conn. — Mel Thomas scored 23 points, freshman Tina Charles added a career-high 20, and No. 7 Connecticut rebounded from a loss to archrival Tennessee by routing Seton Hall.

Connecticut (13-1, 3-0 Big East), which had only one player score more than 10 points in Saturday's 70-64 loss to the Vols, had four players in double figures by halftime against the Pirates.

Charde Houston, who scored 23 Saturday, finished with 19 points.

Not a bad start for Sampson in his maiden voyage in Bloomington. But it wasn't a perfect afternoon.

The Hoosiers made just three of their 17 3-point attempts.

And Lance Stemler continues to be a feast-or-famine long-range shooter after a 1-for-8 performance.

Spartans coach Tom Izzo said after the game that if the Hoosiers had shot better "it really would have been ugly."

The Boilers got off to a good start this season with some nice non-conference wins, but they have been less impressive in the past two weeks, losing by 19 to Indiana State and dropping their conference opener to lowly Minnesota (7-9).

On Saturday, the Boilers nearly squandered a lead at home against Penn State.

In a conference where it's perceived there are two top dogs (Ohio State and Wisconsin) and the rest of the teams are fighting for scraps, tonight's contest is that much more important.

Plus, it's Indiana vs. Purdue. A rivalry renewed.

Matthew Glensk is a sports writer for the Daily Journal. Send comments to mglensk@thejournal.net.

## • Defense

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

That victory, along with a roster of active players who are as healthy as they have been all season, has boosted the defense's confidence.

"Only having to go for 41 plays (against the Chiefs) really helped us out," Colts defensive lineman Raheem Brock said. "That kept us fresh."

"Everybody's feeling good."

The Colts' inconsistent performance in the second half of the season may temper some of that optimism, however.

Indianapolis hasn't won consecutive games since edging Buffalo 17-16 at home Nov. 12 and hasn't won on the road since prevailing 27-20 in New England on Nov. 5 thanks to five Patriots turnovers.

In terms of defense, the Colts have established a pattern of a solid showing on the turf and amid the noise of the RCA Dome followed by a lackluster performance on the road.

After defeating Buffalo, the Colts lost at Dallas on Nov. 19.

The next week brought a 24-point home defeat of Philadelphia, followed by allowing 219 rushing yards in a loss at Tennessee.

Jacksonville gouged the visiting Colts for 375 yards rushing Dec. 10, but Indy rebounded with a convincing defeat of Cincinnati back in the dome the next week.

## • Rally

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

on my cell from Sunny: "Terry has problems, we are stopped at a small town about 88 km from you." Welcome to the Dakar. ...

"We are now driving against race traffic on the liaison road, and the racers (large and small) give up nothing. The track we are forced onto is a small one-lane paved road. Traffic moving in opposite directions each gets one set of wheels on the paved surface where possible, or most of the time one vehicle gets the right of way, usually the bigger one. ...

"We arrive to find Terry has had some transmission problems. It seems his fifth gear is no longer and may have seriously damaged the rest of the gear box. We lend assistance, and we all begin to limp our way back to camp. ...

"With only a couple of hours of sleep

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