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SPORTS

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SECTION B



Matthew Glenesk

IU needs to start winning on the road

Good teams win at home. Bad teams don't. That's the message from Indiana University men's basketball coach Kelvin Sampson.

Conveniently enough, that means Sampson believes his team is good. The Hoosiers are a perfect 13-0 at home this season.

But what about road games?

Do good teams win on the road or do they simply worry about holding serve at home?

Sampson is a bit cloudier on that subject.

And rightfully so.

In true road games this season (meaning games not played in Bloomington or Consecro Fieldhouse), the Hoosiers are just 2-5.

After capturing its signature win of the season against No. 2 Wisconsin at home Jan. 31, IU went on to lose its next game on the road to a mediocre Iowa ball club.

The scene was a familiar one to many Hoosier fans.

It's called a letdown.

But Sampson isn't too concerned.

"Coaches have to be careful not to overreact to road losses. I don't," Sampson said. "If you look around the country, it's not an isolated dilemma.

"That is something every coach has to face. I have faced it every year I have coached. I'll face it next year. I'll face it five or even 10 years from now."

Since 2002, IU has won just 10 of its 36 conference road games. In contrast, over that same period, the Hoosiers are 31-7 at Assembly Hall against Big Ten opponents.

Road woes in the Big Ten aren't anything new.

But if a team is looking to make the jump from good to great or even elite, it needs to win more than two road games through the middle of February.

After losing to Iowa away from home, the Hoosiers had a full week to prepare for Saturday's home contest against Illinois.

IU won the game but didn't do so convincingly.

The wave of optimism that surrounded Sampson's first three months at the helm has seemed to wane a bit. And with four of the team's final six games scheduled away from Assembly Hall, IU has its work cut out for it. The question remains, are the Hoosiers up for it?

"You are going to have things go against you, you just have to bow your head and grit your teeth and get through it," Sampson said.

We shall see.

IU can possibly lose three of its final six games and still limp into a third-place finish in the conference. But a sliver of hope remains that the Hoosiers can still stake claim to a share of the regular-season title. At 7-3 in conference play, the Hoosiers are two games behind Wisconsin and Ohio State (both 10-1).

Wisconsin has two games remaining against up-and-down Michigan State and a critical road game against Ohio State on Feb. 25.

Ohio State has three road games remaining, but contests against Penn State, Minnesota and Michigan won't exactly strike fear in the young Buckeyes. But you never know.

If IU harbors any title hopes, it has to win on the road starting with a Thursday meeting with arch-rival Purdue.

While the Hoosiers already have all but guaranteed themselves a spot in the NCAA Tournament, the Boiler-makers are fighting for their tournament lives.

Nothing will come easy for IU. It never does, especially on the road.

But that's what separates the great teams from the good ones.

Matthew Glenesk is a sports writer for the Daily Journal. Send comment to mglensk@thejournalnet.com.

Practice, interrupted

Winter storm derails regional-bound girls basketball teams



AP PHOTO

A blizzard warning is displayed on an interstate sign in Indianapolis on Tuesday.

By RICK MORWICK
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Most coaches agree there's never a good time to cancel practice.

But having to do it right before a postseason tournament is especially bad timing.

Mother Nature gave the Center Grove and Whiteland girls basketball teams no choice.

Both teams are gearing up for regional games Saturday. And both had to forego practice Tuesday because of slick roads that canceled school.

It's not exactly the way the

Trojans and Warriors wanted to start preparing for a potentially long day against high-quality opposition.

"We've lost a day, and we're not going to be able to completely make that up," said Center Grove coach Joe Lentz, whose team plays Class 4A No. 8 Ben Davis in a semifinal of the Southport Regional.

The winner advances to Saturday night's championship final against No. 1 Hamilton Southeastern or No. 10 Lawrence North.

In light of the strength of the tournament field, Lentz would have preferred to conduct practice

Tuesday. But since he couldn't, he's trying to look at the possible benefits of an idle day, which most teams around the state had because of snow and ice.

"I don't know if it's a huge disadvantage because everybody's in the same boat," Lentz said. "Sometimes the rest is good for you. Who knows?"

Whiteland coach Bill Hogue isn't expecting to get a lift from the unexpected day off. But he shares the sentiment that most if not all area teams have the same disadvantage.

(SEE PRACTICE, PAGE B2)

POSTPONED

Several prep sports events scheduled for this evening were postponed due to Tuesday's winter storm.

Boys basketball

Mooresville at Center Grove, rescheduled for 7:30 p.m. Feb. 22

Franklin at Perry Meridian, rescheduled for 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21

Triton Central at Edinburg, 7:30 tonight, weather permitting

Southport at Greenwood, rescheduled for 7:30 tonight. Will be played Saturday if school is canceled again today.

Gymnastics

Carmel at Center Grove, rescheduled for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 22

ON TO COLLEGE

Academic decision

Whiteland senior moving on to Ivy League school

By MATTHEW GLENESK
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Many high school athletes choose a college based on how likely they are to play.

Adam Money of Whiteland used his football talent to gain admission to one of the country's most selective universities.

Yale University recruited him to play ball, but Money chose the school because of its academics.

"A lot of kids go play football in college and worry about the next four years," he said. "I'm going to play and set myself up for the next 40 years."

Money, a standout quarterback and defensive back for the Warriors football team, plans to major in biology on a pre-med track and hopes to

become an orthopedic surgeon.

And he'll pay for the privilege. Yale offers no athletic scholarships.

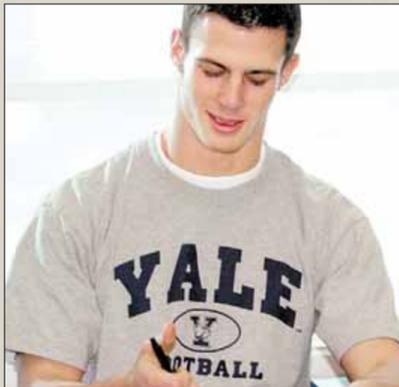
Money, who also plays baseball and basketball for Whiteland, boasts a 4.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale and ranks fourth in his class of 310 students.

Guidance counselor Dave McMillan has worked at Whiteland Community High School for 18 years and can't remember a Whiteland student going on to attend an Ivy League college.

U.S. News World and Report, which annually ranks the nation's top colleges, rates Yale's admissions as "most selective." Ninety-five percent of Yale's incoming freshmen ranked in the top 10

(SEE DECISION, PAGE B2)

Whiteland senior Adam Money will start classes at Yale University in the fall. Money, a standout quarterback and defensive back for the Warriors, is likely to play defense for Yale.



STAFF PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROBERSON
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Crew chiefs suspended, drivers docked before season starts

By JENNA FRYER
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.

NASCAR took its strongest stance yet against cheating Tuesday, suspending the crew chiefs for Matt Kenseth, Kasey Kahne, Scott Riggs and Elliott Sadler and docking all four drivers points before the season-opening Daytona 500 for failing inspections.

Kahne, Riggs and Sadler are teammates at Evernham Motorsports. Kenseth, the

2003 series champion and runner-up last season, drives for Roush Racing.

Robbie Reiser, crew chief for Kenseth, and Kenny Francis, crew chief for Kahne, were suspended four races. Rodney Childers, crew chief for Riggs, and Josh Brown, crew chief for Sadler, were suspended two races.

All four can appeal, a process that could allow them to work the Daytona 500. If they do appeal, and the committee cannot schedule a hearing before Sunday's race, they would be allowed to participate.

In toughening its penalties, NASCAR

made the unprecedented move of taking points away before the season has even started. Kahne and Kenseth were docked 50 points apiece, while Riggs and Sadler lost 25 each.

Reiser and Francis also were fined \$50,000 each, while Childers and Brown were fined \$25,000 each.

All four drivers will start the season with negative points, a move that most likely infuriated the teams but sent a strong message that NASCAR will no longer tolerate rule-breakers.

NASCAR still is investigating Michael

Waltrip's startup Toyota team, which failed a pre-qualifying inspection and had a key part shipped back to North Carolina for further analysis.

It's the second straight season that NASCAR's biggest event has been marred by cheating scandals.

Last year, Jimmie Johnson's crew chief was sent home for four races when he was caught cheating in qualifying. Johnson won the race without Chad Knaus, who rejoined the team in March and helped Johnson win the Nextel Cup title.



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