

Buckeyes surge past Hoosiers

Oden scores 21 in victory

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio

Greg Oden scored 21 points, Othello Hunter had 14, and both provided key defensive stops down the stretch to help No. 6 Ohio State beat Indiana 74-67

Tuesday night, spoiling Hoosiers coach Kelvin Sampson's first Big Ten game.

Daequan Cook added 12 points, and Ron Lewis had 10 for the Buckeyes (12-2, 1-0 Big Ten), who overcame 12-of-22 3-point shooting by Indiana (9-4, 0-1) to improve to 10-0 at Value City Arena.

In what also was the conference debut for Ohio State's highly regarded recruiting class, the two tallest of the five newcomers sparked the Buckeyes down the stretch.

With the 7-foot Oden on the bench after picking up his fourth foul with 6:13 remaining, the 6-9 Hunter gave Ohio State a defensive presence in the low post by blocking two shots by Indiana's D.J. White.

Hunter, a junior college transfer, followed up the first block with a dunk as the Buckeyes, without Oden on the floor, added four points to their lead to go up 67-60.

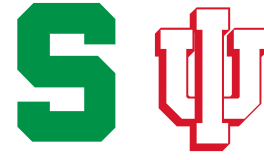
Armon Bassett's made two free throws with 2:48 left to

bring Indiana within 67-62, and Oden returned to the game. His two free throws with 1:19 left made it 72-64. Roderick Wilmont's 3 brought Indiana within five points.

But Oden dashed the Hoosiers' hopes when he emphatically blocked a layup by Bassett.

Freshman Joey Shaw led Indiana with a career-high 16 points.

The Hoosiers return to action Sunday when they play host to Michigan State.



NEXT UP

Michigan State Spartans (13-2, 0-0 in the Big Ten) at Indiana Hoosiers (9-4, 0-1)

Time: 4:30 p.m. Sunday
TV: WISH-Channel 8
Radio: WLHK-97.1 FM



Indiana's D.J. White, right, runs into Ohio State's Greg Oden during the first half of Tuesday's Big Ten game in Columbus, Ohio.

NFL: WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS

Kansas City Chiefs (9-7) at Indianapolis Colts (12-4)
Time: 4:30 p.m. Saturday TV: WTHR-Channel 13 Radio: WFBR-94.7 FM

Legacy no concern



Colts quarterback Peyton Manning, right, evades Miami Dolphins defensive end Jason Taylor on an 11-yard touchdown run during Sunday's game in Indianapolis. The Colts will host Kansas City in an AFC wild-card game Saturday.

Manning focuses on future, not failures

By MICHAEL MAROT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS

Peyton Manning has this routine down.

Each January, he's asked about the one missing link to an otherwise full résumé: no Super Bowl appearances.

Truth is, the two-time MVP is content letting others write his legacy; he worries more about winning games.

"I'm caught up in the Chiefs right now," he said, glancing down at the podium Tuesday. "We're trying to catch up with the shorter week. You lose a whole study day, and that's what I'm into right now. That, and getting a win against the Chiefs."

Manning has achieved virtually every conceivable goal a nine-year veteran could.

He's won two MVP awards, set the single-season record for touchdown passes, produced the most 4,000-yard seasons of any quarterback in league history and led his Indianapolis Colts (12-4) to seven playoff appearances, five division titles and four straight AFC South crowns.

Critics contend those regular-season accomplishments pale in comparison to Manning's playoff problems. He enters Saturday's wild-card game against Kansas City

(SEE LEGACY, PAGE B3)

Dungy not interested in coaching for alma mater

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS

Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy has no plans for returning to college, even if he gets a call from his alma mater, the University of Minnesota.

Dungy on Tuesday denied a report out of Minneapolis saying he was near the top of the Golden Gophers' wish list and that there was mutual interest.

The job opened Sunday when coach Glen Mason was fired, two days after his team blew a 31-point lead in a 44-41 loss to Texas Tech. It was the largest rally in Division I-A bowl history.

Dungy said he understood why his name



DUNGY

(SEE DUNGY, PAGE B3)



Rick Morwick
COLTS BEAT

Momentum comes with no guarantees in postseason

Conventional wisdom goes something like this:

By virtue of Sunday's victory, the Indianapolis Colts take momentum into the playoffs.

Moreover, unbeaten this season in the RCA Dome, the Colts are sure to dispatch visiting Kansas City in Saturday's AFC wild-card game before losing the following week, or the week after, on the road.

Interesting theory, but faulty. Consider:

Hailing the win against Miami as anything other than a fortunate outcome against a losing opponent is grasping at straws.

The Dolphins are 6-10. They played a quarterback who was making his first NFL start. They were in contention until the very end.

The final was 27-22. It was largely the result of an improbable scoring flourish in the final 1:30 of the first half, when — who else? — Peyton Manning saved the day with a pair of improbable drives that ended, respectively, with a touchdown and a field goal.

If squeaking by Miami, which had absolutely nothing to play for, constitutes playoff momentum, then the definition has been dramatically changed.

Which brings us to the Chiefs. World-beaters, no. They backed into the playoffs. Under normal circumstances, they would be written off as first-round fodder.

But the Chiefs do have the one commodity the Colts can't buy a defense against: a running game. Not just a good one, but a great one.

Ever wonder what LaDainian Tomlinson would do to the Colts if they make it to San Diego? Saturday should provide a keen insight.

(SEE MOMENTUM, PAGE B3)

Woodmen turn up pressure to put away Saints

By JEFF SKIRVIN
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Woodmen 60, Saints 27

The Greenwood girls basketball team held Lutheran to 29 percent shooting and allowed just seven second-half points in a 60-27 win against the visiting Saints on Tuesday.

Lutheran (4-9) turned the ball over 11 times in 17 first-quarter possessions as it struggled to break Greenwood's full-court press. The Woodmen (7-6) shot 9 of 15 from the field on their way to a 20-3 lead.

But Greenwood backed off its press in the second quarter, allowing Lutheran to gain confidence by using dribble penetration from its guards. Lutheran forward Morgan

Robinson scored the Saints' first field goal two minutes into the second quarter, the first of three straight baskets.

During the next 4½ minutes, the Saints, fueled by Robinson's eight points and seven rebounds in the quarter, outscored Greenwood 13-4 to pull within 26-20 at halftime.

Greenwood coach Debbie Guckenberger called only one timeout during Lutheran's run, electing to let her players shoot their way out of the slump that allowed the Saints to get closer before the half.

"When I did take the timeout, I told the girls we needed to step up our defense,"

Guckenberger said. "We were getting good shots; we just weren't knocking them down."

In the third quarter, the Woodmen went back to the press that helped them build their early lead.

Greenwood held the Saints scoreless for the first 6½ minutes and allowed just one point in the quarter. Lutheran again turned the ball over 11 times and struggled to get the ball across midcourt.

Of Greenwood's 14 varsity players, 11 scored. The Woodmen were led by sophomore guard Jamie Unversaw's game-high 11 points. Allie Osen scored 10 points and

(SEE WOODMEN, PAGE B2)

"We were getting good shots; we just weren't knocking them down."

Debbie Guckenberger Greenwood girls basketball coach on her team's play in Tuesday's win against Lutheran

Going the distance for good cause

CG grad to make lengthy bicycle trip through Florida

By MATTHEW GLENESK

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER
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Sports and fitness have always been a part of Karl McGarvey's life.

And while competing in intramural sports at Indiana State University is a nice athletic release, the former Center Grove High School soccer player was looking for something more.

When representatives from Push America, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising money for people with disabilities, visited his fraternity promoting their cycling programs, McGarvey was sold on the idea.

"One of my fraternity brothers did a 3,000-mile bike ride from Oregon to Washington, D.C., and that really inspired me," he said.

"I thought it sounded kind of cool, and it's a good way to get out and help people and give back. And it's a cool thing to do as far as fitness as well."

This spring, McGarvey, an enlisted member of the Indiana Air National Guard, will team with a group of fraternity brothers and cycle 800 miles from Miami to Tallahassee, Fla.

Push America was formed in 1977 by Pi Kappa Phi fraternity brothers, and since 1988, members of the group have been cycling across the country to

(SEE DISTANCE, PAGE B4)



Center Grove High School graduate Karl McGarvey plans to make an 800-mile bicycle trip through Florida as part of a Push America fund-raising effort.

RALLY CAP

Former Greenwood resident Ed Coyle, who now lives in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, owns and manages Rally Raid Mexico Team Yamaha, a two-motorcycle team entered in the Dakar Rally. The rally is a trek of nearly 6,000 miles from Lisbon, Portugal, to Dakar, Senegal, on the west coast of Africa. It begins Saturday and concludes Jan. 20. This is Coyle's first attempt at fielding a team in the annual event.

Daily Journal assistant sports editor and motorsports columnist Jeff Decker is following the progress of Rally Raid Mexico Team Yamaha. The following are excerpts from the team's Web site, www.rallyraidmex.com, written by Juan Diaz Rivera.

Posted Tuesday

"As I write this post I'm sitting in Lisbon, along with the rest of the team, waiting for good news from ABX Logistics, the company that helped us ship our equipment from L.A. to Lisbon. The vessel that has our gear hostage is (hopefully) currently docking in the port of Lisbon. It was originally to arrive on Dec. 12, then this was revised to the 28th. On the evening of the 27th, as (Coyle's wife) Lety, Ed, Leslie (my girlfriend along to see us off in Lisbon) and I were having dinner with some relatives in La Coruna, Spain, (Spanish brewers of Estrella de Galicia, the best beer on earth), we get an e-mail from our

(SEE RALLY, PAGE B2)

