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# SPORTS

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## SECTION B



STAFF PHOTO BY JOE SABA

Center Grove High School senior Megan Roller practices a balance-beam routine during a recent practice. The Trojans open the season today against visiting Columbus East.

## Trojans tempt FATE

### Center Grove gymnasts seek championship

By MATTHEW GLENESK

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER  
mglenesk@thejournalnet.com

Fifth. Fourth. Third. Second. First?

Since 2003, Center Grove's gymnastics team has bettered its finish at the state finals by one place each year.

After last year's runner-up finish, the next step would be the school's first gymnastics state championship. And the Trojans have a slogan to remind them of that: First at the End (FATE).

"The girls do a pretty good job of reminding themselves of what we're after," Trojans coach Eric Howe said. "It's becoming more and more real to them. If we do want to continue that progression, it starts on (Jan. 2)."

Center Grove opens the season at 6:30 p.m. today when it plays host to Columbus East.

The Trojans, who have won four straight sectional and regional titles, enter the season with unanswered questions.

Lost to graduation are Angela Blankenship and Elaine Maurer, both All-State performers last year, leaving big shoes to fill for a relatively inexperienced team.

"It's going to be hard filling in the gaps," senior Megan Roller said. "They were extremely successful in their four years. Some of the younger girls are going to step up and fill those voids, hopefully, this year."

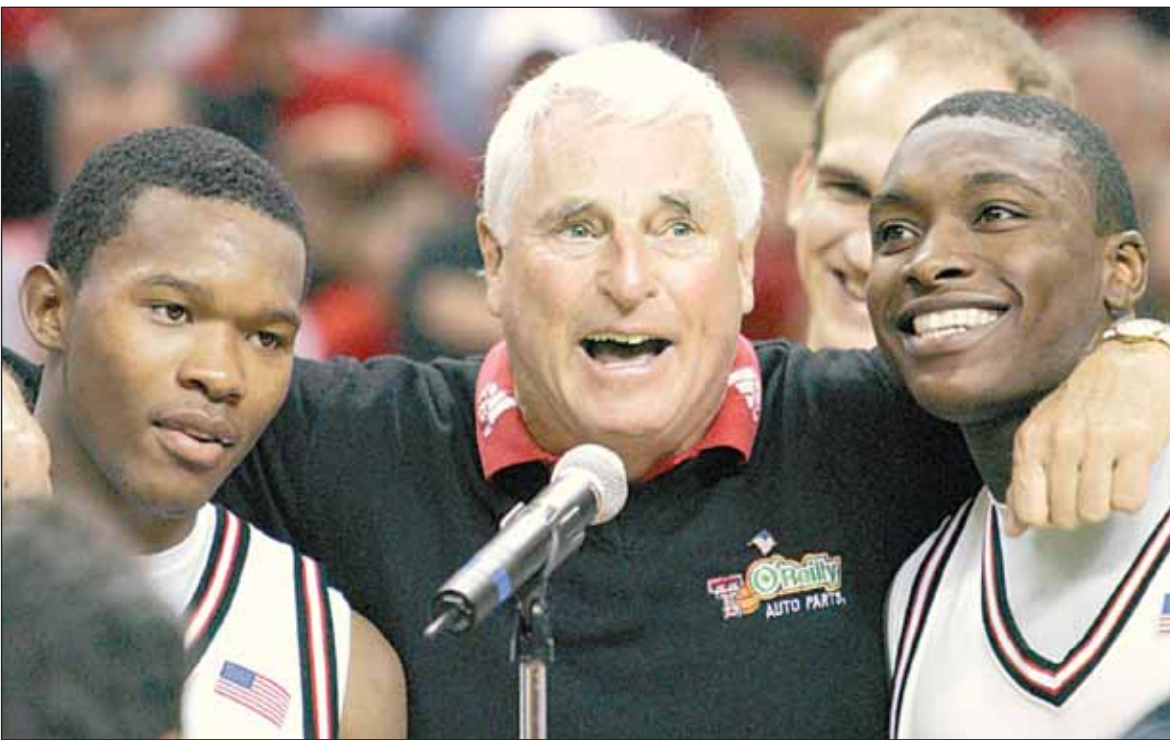
Despite the losses, Center Grove returns two girls who also earned All-State honors: Roller and sophomore Katelyn Fernandes, who won the school's second individual state title a year ago, capturing the vault crown.

Howe is counting on key contributions from junior Adrienne Cristofoli, who got lost in the mix

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### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Knight's big day



AP PHOTOS

Above: Texas Tech coach Bob Knight, center, celebrates with guard Charlie Burgess, left, and forward Martin Zeno following the team's game against New Mexico in Lubbock, Texas, on Monday. Texas Tech won 70-68, giving Knight his 880th career victory, an NCAA record. Top: A banner is unfurled in Texas Tech's arena after Knight's historic victory.

## Texas Tech coach passes Dean Smith for career wins mark with No. 880

By JAIME ARON  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### LUBBOCK, Texas

Bob Knight won 880 games doing things his way. And he sure celebrated it his way.

Long appreciated for his strategy and long questioned for his methods, Knight added the crowning achievement to his Hall of Fame career by becoming the leader in Division I men's basketball victories when Texas Tech beat New Mexico 70-68 on Monday.

Having finally reached the pinnacle he's long insisted didn't matter, Knight proved otherwise by soaking in every moment of the party that followed, especially the soundtrack.

"I've always thought that if there's ever an occasion for a song to be played on my behalf, I wanted it to

### WEB EXTRA

#### Change of opinion

Daily Journal Web blogger Brian Moore, an Indian Creek High School graduate, used to think it was best for all involved when Bob Knight was fired by Indiana University. But he's taken a second look at the volatile coach and likes what he sees.



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be Frank Sinatra singing 'My Way,'" said Knight, whose usually glaring facade showed hints of cracking during the outpouring of emotions.

"I don't expect you people to have

agreed with what I've done, and, if I did (care), I would have asked your opinion. And I have never asked the opinions of very many.

"I've simply tried to do what I think is best in the way that I think you have to do it. I think I've put myself out on a limb at times, knowingly, simply because I thought what I was going to do or say was the best way to get this kid to be the best player or the best student."

Knight has been a college coach for 41 of his 66 years, having broken in at Army and made his mark by winning three national titles in 29 years at Indiana.

Fired by Indiana after administrators could no longer tolerate his behavior, he resurfaced at Texas Tech in 2001 and has guided the Red

(SEE MARK, PAGE B3)

## Winningest coach not yet in IU Hall of Fame

By MICHAEL MAROT  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### BLOOMINGTON

Bob Knight won 662 games and three national championships at Indiana.

Apparently, those are not yet Hall of Fame credentials.

The longtime face of Hoosiers basketball already has been bypassed twice for induction into the school's hall of fame, and his supporters think it's a befuddling omission.

"For what he's done for Indiana,

absolutely he belongs," former player John Laskowski said. "I'm not sure what the qualifications are, but he's certainly won enough games."

Knight, now at Texas Tech, won his 880th career game Monday, passing North Carolina's Dean Smith for the most in Division I history.

His greatest success came at Indiana, where he celebrated more than three-quarters of his career victories. Knight's 1976 national championship team is the most recent Division I school to complete an undefeated season, and Laskowski

played on the 1975 team that many Hoosiers fans insist was even better.

Among the accomplishments are a NIT title, an Olympic gold medal and putting Indiana's program back on the national college basketball map.

Coaches become eligible for induction five years after leaving the school, said assistant athletic director Kit Klingelhoffer, a nonvoting member of the school's Hall of Fame committee who declined to

(SEE HALL, PAGE B3)

"I've simply tried to do what I think is best. ... I did it my way, and when I look back on it, I don't think my way was all that bad."

Bob Knight

Texas Tech men's basketball coach on his methods following his record-breaking 880th career win

## AFC WILD-CARD GAME

Kansas City Chiefs (9-7) at Indianapolis Colts (12-4)

Time: 4:30 p.m. Saturday  
TV: WTHR-Channel 13  
Radio: WFBO-94.7 FM

# Trying to break the trend

## Colts hoping to win when it matters most

By MICHAEL MAROT  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### INDIANAPOLIS

Indianapolis has endured the postseason indignity of losing at New England twice, the shock of losing at home to Pittsburgh and even getting shut out by the New York Jets.

It's not a post-season trend they like, but the only way the Colts can change their image as Team October is to start winning games in January.

"Yes, you are judged by that," coach Tony Dungy said Monday. "That's how our league is set up, and that's how you win championships, by winning in the playoffs."

Indianapolis (12-4) understands the lesson better than most teams.

A year ago, the public virtually crowned Indianapolis the AFC champions after going 13-0, capturing the No. 1 seed and earning the right to play indoors through the playoffs. A stumble against Pittsburgh in the divisional round ruined what many considered its best Super Bowl shot.

(SEE TREND, PAGE B3)

# Denver player killed while riding in limo

By ARNIE STAPLETON  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### DENVER

Denver Broncos cornerback Darrent Williams was killed early Monday when his white stretch Hummer was sprayed by bullets after a nightclub dispute following a New Year's Eve party.

Police have no motive and no indication the 24-year-old player was targeted in the drive-by shooting of the limousine. The burst of violence occurred hours after the Broncos were eliminated from playoff contention.

"All of us are devastated by this tragedy," Broncos owner Pat Bowlen said in a statement. "To lose a young player, and more important, a great young man such as Darrent Williams, is incomprehensible. To lose him in such a senseless manner as this is beyond words."

A little after 2 a.m., the limousine was fired on from a vehicle that pulled up along its side, hitting three people, police spokesman Sonny Jackson said. As many as a dozen bullet holes were visible on the driver's side of the vehicle.

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AP PHOTO

Michigan's Leon Hall tackles Southern California's Dwayne Jarrett, right, during the second quarter of the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., on Monday.

## Michigan has no answer for USC's talented Trojans

By EDDIE PELLIS  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### PASADENA, Calif.

There were no Heismans or national titles up for grabs for Southern California in Monday's Rose Bowl.

Given the way Dwayne Jarrett, John David Booty and that suffocating USC defense played, it was hard to tell.

Jarrett, the sensational USC receiver, caught 11 passes for 205 yards and two touchdowns to help the eighth-ranked Trojans finish their season with a statement Monday in a 32-18 Rose Bowl romp against Michigan.

Booty threw for 391 yards and four scores to land himself on the early short list of next season's Heisman favorites. Jarrett could be there, too, if he decides to come back.

Linebacker Brian Cushing had 2½ sacks, and defensive end Lawrence Jackson came up with two turnovers, a fumble recovery and an interception, on a day when USC allowed only 321 yards.

The Trojans (11-2) salvaged something positive at the Rose Bowl and set themselves up as next year's possible preseason No. 1. All this came just four weeks after a 13-9 loss to UCLA in the same stadium wrecked

(SEE ANSWER, PAGE B2)

## MONDAY'S BOWL SCORES

- Outback Bowl**  
Penn State 20, Tennessee 10
- Cotton Bowl**  
Auburn 17, Nebraska 14
- Capital One Bowl**  
Wisconsin 17, Arkansas 14
- Gator Bowl**  
West Virginia 38, Georgia Tech 35
- Rose Bowl**  
Southern Cal 32, Michigan 18
- Fiesta Bowl**  
Boise State vs. Oklahoma, (n)