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SPORTS

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SECTION **B**



AP PHOTO
The Celtics' Al Jefferson, center, loses the ball as he is defended by the Pacers' Jermaine O'Neal, left, and Stephen Jackson during Wednesday's game in Boston.

Pacers down Celtics

Indiana wins for fifth time in six games on road

The Associated Press

BOSTON

Jermaine O'Neal scored 17 of his 23 points in the second half, and Jamaal Tinsley added 17 points and 13 assists to help the Indiana Pacers beat the Boston Celtics 97-84 on Wednesday night.



NEXT UP
Dallas Mavericks (28-8) at Indiana Pacers (20-16)
Time: 7 p.m.
Friday
TV: Fox Sports
Radio: WIBC-1070 AM

Danny Granger had 16 points, and Stephen Jackson added 15 for the Pacers, who have won three straight overall and five of six road games.

Tony Allen scored 19 points for Boston before leaving with an injured left knee with 3:01 remaining in the third quarter.

A few moments after Jackson was called for a foul, Allen went up for a free dunk and landed awkwardly, writhing in pain for several minutes until his teammates carried him off the court.

Allen was taken to New England Baptist Hospital for an MRI.

Sebastian Telfair had 15 points, and Gerald Green added 14 for the Celtics, who have lost nine of 11.

O'Neal was held to six points on 3-of-6 shooting in the first half as the teams entered the break tied at 52.

But O'Neal scored eight points in the third quarter to help Indiana outscore Boston 28-14.

O'Neal then opened the fourth with back-to-back baskets to

(SEE PACERS, PAGE B3)

Hawk lifts Falcons past Grizzly Cubs

By Jeff Skirvin
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

INDIANAPOLIS

Perry Meridian girls basketball coach Mike Armstrong moved sophomore forward Sam Hawk from her normal position in the post to the wing before the Falcons played Columbus North on Saturday.

Falcons 68
Cubs 54

Hawk scored just six points against the Bull Dogs and made only one field goal. But on Wednesday, she had what Armstrong calls a breakout game and a career-high 26 points in the Falcons' 68-54 victory against Franklin.

"She shot the ball well, and we were able to move her around a bit in her new spot in the offense," Armstrong said. "She had been improving, but that's truly how well she can play when she's on her game."

Hawk went 9 of 10 from the field, including five 3-pointers, and hit all three of her free throws against the Grizzly Cubs (6-9).

(SEE HAWK, PAGE B2)



MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL: PURDUE VS. INDIANA

HOOSIERS 85, BOILERMAKERS 58



Rivalry game not even close



AP PHOTO

Indiana guard A.J. Ratliff reacts after forcing a Purdue turnover during the second half of Wednesday's Big Ten game in Bloomington. Ratliff finished with 16 points as the Hoosiers defeated the Boilermakers 85-58.

IU scores biggest win in series since '91

By Cliff Brunt
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BLOOMINGTON

New Indiana coach Kelvin Sampson made some new friends the day of his introduction to the rivalry with Purdue.

"Our maintenance people hadn't talked to me all year," Sampson said. "They talked to me today. They let me know how important it was. I said we were going to try our hardest."

It looks like Sampson will keep those new buddies, at least for a while. Joey Shaw scored a career-high 19 points and A.J. Ratliff added 16 points as Indiana beat Purdue 85-58 on Wednesday night. The Hoosiers (11-4, 2-1 Big Ten)

INSIDE

The Franklin College men and women face Transylvania in HCAC contests.

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made 10 of 20 3-pointers to win their fifth straight game in the intrastate rivalry. It was the largest margin of victory by either team in the series since Indiana beat Purdue 106-65 in 1991.

A.J. Ratliff, who had been out with a torn ligament in his left wrist, added 16 points. He shot 6 of 6 from the field and 4 of 4 from 3-point range while wearing a soft cast.

The Hoosiers held Purdue to 41 percent shooting, forced 18 turnovers and blocked nine shots. It was a tough loss for the

Boilermakers (12-5, 1-2), who have improved dramatically in their second season under coach Matt Painter but found they're still short of their past glory.

Purdue senior David Teague was devastated that his final trip to Bloomington was such a failure.

"Never mind losing," he said. "You win some and you lose some. But to play with no heart, no energy against a rival like IU is embarrassing. To not be up and be ready to play in this environment, in this game, on this floor is a disgrace."

The fact that Purdue gave up so many 3-pointers also bothered Teague.

"We can't stop the dribble," he

(SEE RIVALRY, PAGE B2)

NFL: DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS



SATURDAY'S GAME

Indianapolis Colts (13-4) at Baltimore Ravens (13-3)



Time: 4:30 p.m. TV: WISH-Channel 8 Radio: WFBQ-94.7 FM

Defense presents problems

Colts must take care of ball against Ravens

By Rick Morwick

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS EDITOR
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Peyton Manning isn't worried about Ray Lewis. Or Ed Reed. Or Chris McAlister. Or Terrell Suggs and Adalius Thomas.

He's concerned about every player on the Baltimore Ravens' star-studded defense.

"The entire defense is a tremendous challenge," said Manning, whose job is to try to dissect it in Saturday's AFC divisional playoff game at Baltimore.

But the Indianapolis Colts quarterback knows it won't be easy.

Ranked No. 1 in the NFL, the Ravens' defense features four Pro Bowlers (Reed, Thomas, McAlister and Suggs) and at least three others (Lewis, Bart Scott and Kelly Gregg) with Pro Bowl ability.

But personnel isn't their only quality. The Ravens are physical, opportunistic, swarming, cocky and, perhaps most unnerving of all, unpredictable.

They show a variety of looks at the line of scrimmage. They can blitz at any time, from any position, or fall back into pass coverage when an offense least expects it.

"They're probably the best defense we've faced all season," Colts Pro Bowl center Jeff Saturday said. "They bring a lot of different looks, and

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INSIDE



Colts defensive end Dwight Freeney looks forward to facing Ravens tackle Jonathan Ogden.

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Center Grove graduate becomes role player during Colts' practices

By Rick Morwick

DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS EDITOR
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INDIANAPOLIS

Aaron Halterman won't play Saturday or even make the trip to Baltimore with the Indianapolis Colts.

But the former Center Grove High School football standout is doing his part to help the Colts prepare for the next round of the AFC playoffs.

And he couldn't be happier.

Signed to the practice squad in late December, Halterman is getting his first taste of the NFL playoffs.

Although he can't suit up for games, he does practice daily and is getting a first-hand look at how the Colts prepare for the playoff stage.

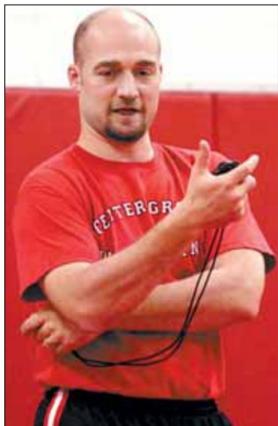
"There's definitely a buzz in the atmosphere," said Halterman, a 6-foot-5, 256-pound tight end. "The playoffs are definitely a different situation, different than the regular season. This is a great experience for me."

"Everything here's very professional. We handle

(SEE ROLE, PAGE B4)

New coach has CG wrestlers aiming high

By Matthew Glinesk
DAILY JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER
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STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON
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Center Grove High School wrestling coach Cale Hoover times a drill during practice Wednesday. Hoover is in his first season with the Trojans.

Heading into his first season as Center Grove's wrestling coach, Cale Hoover wasn't sure what to expect from his team.

He was at a new school trying to build a foundation for a program.

It didn't take long for him to realize he already had a championship-caliber team on his hands.

"When we got everything sorted out, we got into the first tournament and went 5-0. I went, 'I think we're going to be OK,'" Hoover said.

Center Grove's solid 2006-07 debut did more than cement Hoover's belief in his team. It provided Center Grove's wrestlers the evidence that their coach had a recipe for success.

"That was the validation that I think they needed," he said. "As a first-year coach, you couldn't ask for a better outcome in your first tournament than that."

The outcomes would get better for the Trojans.

On Dec. 16, Center Grove wrestled away the Johnson County championship from Franklin, which had won the previous 11 titles.

Hoover admits he wasn't versed in the history of the county meet nor of Franklin's dominance when he arrived. But Center Grove's wrestling community and wrestlers certainly were, he said.

Senior Blake Harvey said he still thinks about the county win whenever he's having a bad day.

Now, Hoover wants to start a streak of his own.

(SEE COACH, PAGE B3)

THE HOOVER FILE

- Name:** Cale Hoover
- Age:** 29
- Family:** Wife, Nora
- Position:** U.S. history and economics teacher and wrestling coach at Center Grove High School
- College:** Purdue
- Hobbies:** Watching movies and sports on TV, playing with his two miniature dachshunds Walter Payton and George Halas Hoover
- Favorite movies:** "Animal House," "Pulp Fiction," "Billy Madison," "The Usual Suspects"
- Wrestling background:** Wrestled at Central Noble High School in Albion; wrestled at Purdue for two seasons; was an assistant coach at Anderson Highland High School for three years before taking the head coaching job at Hamilton Southeastern High School in Fishers, where he coached for two seasons.