

Michigan, Louisville Complete Final Four Field

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — With tears in their eyes and Kevin Ware in their hearts, there was no way Louisville was losing this game.

Russ Smith scored 23 points, Gorgui Dieng had 14 points, 11 rebounds and four blocks and top-seeded Louisville put aside the shock from Ware's gruesome leg injury to beat Duke 85-63 on Sunday and earn a second straight trip to the Final Four.

It will be some time before the Cardinals can celebrate this victory, however. Ware, who's played a key role in Louisville's 14-game winning streak, was hospitalized after appearing to snap

his lower right leg with 6:33 left in the first half.

MICHIGAN 79, FLORIDA 59: ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Freshman guard Nik Stauskas scored 22 points including six 3-pointers and Michigan is going to the Final Four for the first time since the Fab Five era after a 79-59 rout of Florida in the South Regional final Sunday.

The Wolverines (30-7) scored the game's first 13 points and maintained a double-digit lead the rest of the game against the SEC regular-season champion Gators (29-8), who lost in a regional final for the third straight year.

Stauskas hit all six of his 3-point attempts, including consecutive makes from the left corner for to give Michigan a 41-17 lead.

Sophomore Trey Burke, the Big Ten player of the year, added 15 points for Michigan. Mitch McGary, another freshman, had 11 points and nine rebounds. He scored eight in the opening 13-0 run.

Kenny Boynton and Will Yeguette had 13

points each for Florida.

Saturday

WICHITA STATE 70, OHIO STATE 66: LOS ANGELES (AP) — Malcolm Armstead scored 14 points, Fred Van Vleet bounced in a big basket with 1 minute left, and ninth-seeded Wichita State earned its first trip to the Final Four since 1965 with a 70-66 victory over Ohio State on Saturday.

Van Vleet scored 12 points as the Shockers (30-8) followed up last week's win over top-ranked Gonzaga with a nail-biting victory over the second-seeded Buckeyes (29-8), whose 11-game winning streak ended one game short of their second straight Final Four.

Wichita State roared to a 20-point lead with 11 minutes to play after Ohio State played an awful first half, but LaQuinton Ross scored 15 of his 19 points after halftime, leading a ferocious rally to within three points in the final minutes.

SYRACUSE 55, MARQUETTE 39: WASHINGTON (AP) — Using its trapping, shot-challenging 2-3 zone defense to perfect effect, No. 4-seeded Syracuse shut down No. 3 Marquette 55-39 in the East Regional final Saturday, reaching the Final Four for the first time in a decade.

Coach Jim Boeheim and the Orange (30-9) haven't been to the national semifinals since a freshman named Carmelo Anthony led them to the 2003 championship.

Fittingly, a matchup between schools from the soon-to-break-apart, rough-and-tumble Big East became quite a struggle to score. Syracuse was led by senior forward James Southerland's 16 points.

Marquette (26-9) hadn't scored fewer than 47 points this season. But with Syracuse playing Boeheim's beloved zone throughout, Marquette kept turning the ball over, seeing its shots blocked or just plain missing.

CIT

WEBER ST. 59, NORTHERN IOWA 56: CEDAR FALLS, Iowa (AP) — Davion Berry scored 15 points, Scott Bamforth added 14 and Weber State beat Northern Iowa 59-56 to reach the finals of the CollegiateInsider.com tournament Saturday night.

Bamforth shot 4 of 7 from the 3-point line for the Wildcats (30-6), who will face East Carolina in the CIT title game Tuesday night.

The Wildcats started the game on a 14-2 run, capped by a 3-pointer by Bamforth.

The Panthers opened the second half on a 13-3 run, but went 0 for 8 from the 3-point line to close the game. Berry recorded four straight points with just over 4 minutes left to give the Wildcats the lead for good.

Seth Tuttle had 16 points and 10 rebounds to lead Northern Iowa (22-14), which shot just 17.6 percent from beyond the arc.

Duke Women Oust Nebraska

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Lindsey Moore's memorable career at Nebraska ended with a forgettable performance.

The senior point guard, part of the only two teams in Cornhuskers' history to reach the round of 16, missed 13 of her 18 field goal attempts as Nebraska lost to Duke 53-45 in the Norfolk Regional on Sunday.

Duke will play top-seeded Notre Dame on Tuesday.

Moore also made the round of 16 as a freshman, but was at a loss to explain the shooting woes.

"It wasn't like I was doing anything different," she said. "They just weren't falling."

She wasn't alone as scoring leader Jordan Hooper missed all eight of her shots in the first half and finished 3 for 14 before leaving with an ankle injury. No. 3 scorer Emily Cady was 2 for 7.

When Hooper was helped off the court, the Cornhuskers trailed 40-32.

"You've still got to have other players do some things," Nebraska coach Connie Yori said. "I mean, we were still in the ballgame. We still had a chance."

Nebraska closed within 44-28 on Moore's jumper in the lane with 3:53 left, but Duke quickly countered with seven of the next nine points and held on to advance.

Yori couldn't fault her defense at all.

"I would have taken 53," she said of Duke's point total. "I mean, giving up 53 against Duke when they average 75? We did a lot of things right."

Tricia Liston scored 17 points and Alexis Jones added 14 for the Blue Devils (33-2).

The Cornhuskers (25-9) got 11 points from Moore, but shot 30.3 percent and hit just 3 of 24 3-point tries. Nebraska came in averaging 6.4 3s and made eight last week in stunning Texas A&M on its home floor.

Trailing 23-18 at halftime, Hooper hit a foul-line jumper 30 seconds into the second half, sparking an 8-4 run that got the Cornhuskers within 27-26, but Duke responded with a 13-4 run.

Liston started it with a 3-pointer, and Haley Peters and Richa Jackson each scored four in the run.

Moore's basket got the Cornhuskers within 44-38 with 3:53 to play, but Jones and Peters converted Nebraska turnovers with inside baskets.

After Katie Simon scored for Nebraska, two free throws each by Liston and Jones extended the lead to 51-40 with 1:04 left and it was all but over.

Duke's Elizabeth Williams, a native of Virginia Beach, finished with 10 points, nine rebounds and seven blocks, but missed 10 of her 15 shots. Duke finished with 32.8 percent shooting (21 of 64).

NOTRE DAME 93, KANSAS 63: NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Skylar Diggins scored 22 of her 27 points by halftime Sunday and became the school's career scoring leader, helping the top-seeded Fighting Irish to a 93-63 victory against Kansas in the semifinals of the Norfolk Regional.

And Diggins made it look easy, adding nine assists and three steals, and scoring nine straight during a 16-2 first-half run that put the Irish (34-1) ahead to stay.

The victory was the 29th in a row for Notre Dame, and left the Irish one victory shy of a third consecutive trip to the Final Four. They have lost in the title game each of the last two years.

Carolyn Davis led the upstart Jayhawks (20-14) with 25 points on 11-for-17 shooting, but the second No. 12 seed ever to get this far in the women's tournament since the seeding format began in 1994 didn't stick around long.

Oklahoma City Regional

LOUISVILLE 82, BAYLOR 81: OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Shoni Schimmel scored 22 points and Monique Reid hit two free throws with 2.6 seconds left to lift sixth-seeded Louisville to a stunning 82-81 upset of top-ranked, defending national champion Baylor on Sunday night in the regional semifinals of the NCAA women's tournament.

Odissey Sims scored 28 points and hit a pair of free throws with 9.1 seconds left to give the Lady Bears (34-2) their only lead of the game.

Reid caught an inbound pass near the baseline after that and went coast to coast before getting fouled by All-American Brittney Griner on her way to the basket.

Sims had one last chance to save Baylor's season after Reid's free throws but was off-target and late on a desperation heave.

The Lady Bears had been practically invincible for the past four months, winning 32 straight games mostly by double digits.

Louisville (27-8) tied an NCAA record with 16 3-pointers to pull off the upset.

TENNESSEE 74, OKLAHOMA 59: OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kamiko Williams scored 15 points, Cierre Burdick had 13 and second-seeded Tennessee routed Oklahoma 74-59 in the regional semifinals of the NCAA women's tournament on Sunday.

The Lady Vols (27-7) opened a 20-point lead in the first half and never let Oklahoma make a comeback, improving to 26-5 in regional semifinals.

Tennessee will face either top-ranked Baylor or No. 5 seed Louisville Tuesday night in the round of eight. The Lady Vols have lost in the regional finals the past two seasons and haven't made it to the Final Four since winning the national title in 2008.

Sharane Campbell scored 22 points and Joanna McFarland had 14 for No. 6 seed Oklahoma (24-11), which got an upset to make it to the round of 16, but couldn't capitalize on a friendly home environment in the Oklahoma City regional. McFarland also matched her career best with 16 rebounds.



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

ABOVE: Mount Marty first baseman Jared Miller, left, slaps down a tag a second too late on Dordt runner Dustin Brisel during the opener of their GPAC baseball doubleheader Saturday at Riverside Field. MMC scored a pair of one-run victories over the Defenders to improve to 3-1 in league play.

BELOW: Cassidy Key-Darlington pitched nine innings, allowing one earned run and striking out 11, as the Lancers won the opener 3-2. MMC won the second game 7-6.

MMC Earns Home Sweep



Pekarek Blast Lifts Lancers To 3-2 Win In Opener; MMC Claims 7-6 Victory In Nightcap

BY KEITH A. BROCKBERG

P&D Correspondent

The Mount Marty Lancers played their fourth 1-run game in as many Great Plains Athletic Conference outings, but the results were in their favor Saturday as they swept the Dordt Defenders at a sun-splashed Riverside Field.

A walk-off home run from Kyle Pekarek and a gritty pitching performance from Cassidy Key-Darlington gave the Lancers a 3-2 win in the opener. Freshman Asau Rodriguez was the fourth Lancer pitcher to appear and helped made a six-run sixth inning hold up in a 7-6 win.

"In this conference, you don't expect to get a walk-off home run from your eighth-place hitter and you don't expect a freshman to close out a win," said Mount Marty head coach Andy Bernatow. "If you get some of that stuff, you're going to have a good season; it was definitely a team effort."

First-game scoring was minimal, and the bulk of it happened early.

The Defenders scored in the first inning as Dustin Brisel drove in Nathan Fraley with a sacrifice fly as two Lancer errors put the Dordt lead-off man in scoring position.

The Lancers answered in the home-half with a pair of runs to take a 2-1 lead.

Zac Hollenback, who led off

the Lancer first with a sharp single, scored on a Defender error, and Michael O'Connell banged a long double into the leftfield corner to score Jared Miller, who was hit by a Lucas Carls pitch.

The Defenders tied the game in the second as Jon Holwerda led off with a triple and scored on a groundout from Mark Lyzenga.

From there, the defense and pitching took over and both teams played to a draw over the following six innings.

Key-Darlington turned in a spectacular defensive play as he pounced from the mound and went to his knees to field a weak grounder off the bat of Bryan Wallman and fired to first to end the second inning.

Catcher Pekarek added to the Lancer 'D' by diving into foul territory to snag a popped-up bunt, keeping Dordt at bay in the fourth inning.

Key-Darlington erased a Dordt opportunity by picking off Nick Serrato, who led off the Defender sixth by reaching on a MMC error.

Not to be outdone, Dordt's Lyzenga slid through Riverside's rightfield to snare a bloop off the bat of O'Connell in the Lancer sixth.

As the Lancers entered extra innings for the third time this season, the defense needed to continue to shine.

Dordt's Dustin Brisel reached with one out in the ninth, but that Defender threat was erased as

Lancer third-sacker O'Connell initiated an inning-ending double play off a sharp hot from Andy Kollbaum.

A pitch later, Pekarek sent Dordt reliever Jeremy Engbers' only offering of the game over the left-centerfield for the fence that had the Lancers celebrating a 3-2 walk-off win at home plate.

Key-Darlington finished strong, striking out seven Defenders over that last four innings in picking up the 9-inning win. The senior from Peshastin, WA finished with 11 strikeouts and walked none.

"We really rode his shoulders; he really buckled down coming back with a pair of strikeouts after the two errors," Bernatow said of the senior righthander. "I really liked his demeanor; we left some guys on base but he just kept going out there and did his job."

"He didn't want to come out and that's what you want to see from your senior and what you want the rest of the team to learn from," Bernatow added.

Engbers took the loss. Dordt starter Carls struck out three and walked three in his 8-inning no-decision.

"Carls is one of the better pitchers in the GPAC and if you're into watching pitching matchups, this was a pretty good one," Bernatow said.

Hollenback had two singles as both teams combined for only seven hits over the nine innings.

Both teams opened it up offensively in the second game, but a fine defensive play by the Lancers alluded to another 1-run affair.

The Defenders ran themselves out of an opportunity in the first inning as Pekarek tracked down a

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MMC Women's Recruits Shine In 3-Class Shootout

SALEM — A trio of Mount Marty College basketball recruits had great outings at the 3 Class Shootout all-star basketball games, held on Saturday at McCook Central Auditorium in Salem.

Sioux Falls Washington's Denae Veldkamp had a double-double with 10 points, 10 assists and six rebounds to lead Class AA to a 108-85 victory over Class B in the girls' final. Centerville grad Kieran O'Malley was the Class B MVP, finishing with 14 points and seven rebounds, while future teammate Kellie Winckler (Andes Central) had 11 points and eight rebounds.

Washington teammate Emma Hanson earned MVP honors with 21 points, four rebounds and three assists. Roosevelt's Lauren Kunz posted 16 points, five rebounds and four assists. Brandon Valley's Allie Koehn also had 16 points in the win.

BreeAna Olson (Oldham-Ramona-Rutland) scored a team-high 15 points to lead Class B. Logan O'Farrell (Summit) had 10 points, seven rebounds and four assists.

Earlier in the day, Class AA beat Class B 72-63 behind 15 points from Cera Ledbetter (Lincoln). Koehn scored 11 points and Brynn Flakus (Aberdeen Cen-

tral) had 10 points, eight rebounds and four assists in the win.

South Dakota State recruit Chynna Stevens (Clark-Willow Lake) was the Class A MVP, recording 21 points and eight rebounds. Beresford native Alyson Johnsen had 15 points. Hayley McCarron (Sioux Falls Christian) added nine points and 14 rebounds.

Boys

Pierre's Lane Severyn was double-honored, earning Class AA MVP honors and winning the dunk contest as Class AA beat

Class A 119-116 in the boys' 3-Class Shootout on Saturday.

Severyn finished the game with 18 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists. Seth Cavanaugh (Mitchell) had 17 points, while Kyle Scholten (O'Gorman) had 15 points.

Milbank's Isaac Lindquist posted 19 points and 14 rebounds to earn Class A MVP honors. Skylar Flatten (Clark-Willow Lake) had a game-high 25 points, as well as six rebounds. Jordan Baker (Sioux Falls Christian) added 21 points and seven rebounds.

Earlier in the day, Class A needed overtime to beat Class B 121-106.

Lindquist had 23 points and nine rebounds, and Flatten had 18 points and six rebounds to lead Class A. Brandon Reif (McCook Central-Montrose) had 18 points and seven rebounds. Baker added 16 points and 15 rebounds in the win.

Viborg-Hurley's Andrew Hora earned Class B MVP honors, posting 19 points, eight rebounds and three assists. Wyatt Krogman (White River) had 17 points, five rebounds and three assists. Adam Hofer (James Valley Christian) posted 16 points and four assists. Jesse Taylor (Kimball-White Lake) added 15 points.