

Ewing comes through for Knicks, finally

NEW YORK (AP) — Slowed by injuries, often in foul trouble and outscored by Rik Smits, Patrick Ewing still managed to save the New York Knicks when it counted most.

Just when it appeared the Knicks had given away another game in the last minute, Ewing stepped forward with one of the biggest shots of his career.

His spinning jumper from the lane with 1.8 seconds left Wednesday night gave the Knicks a 96-95 victory over the Indiana Pacers, keeping them alive in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The Pacers, who lead the best-of-7 series 3-2, have another chance to close it out Friday night in Indianapolis.

"When all seems lost, you have to stay the course," Knicks coach Pat Riley said. "As

trite as it sounds, you have to keep believing. We saved the game here at home and upped the ante."

Ewing hadn't been the star in any game of this series, dominated by Smits in the post. This time, Ewing finished with 19 points despite playing the final two minutes with five fouls.

After Ewing picked up his fifth, New York took a seven-point lead only to give it all back.

Two free throws by Anthony Mason, who had all 13 of his points in the final period, gave New York a 94-87 lead with 53 seconds to play. The Pacers scored the next eight points, including back-to-back 3-pointers by Reggie Miller and Byron Scott in the last 32.6 seconds, giving Indiana a 95-94 edge

with 5.9 seconds left. Miller hadn't hit a field goal in the quarter, and Scott had been 4-of-17 in the series.

"It was a little bit of deja vu from Game 1," said Smits, who led Indiana with 28 points but didn't score in the fourth quarter. "But it didn't work out. Reggie made a big shot, Byron made a big shot and Patrick made a big shot."

But Ewing made sure Game 6 didn't end up like Game 1, when the Knicks blew a six-point lead in the last 18 seconds.

After each team took a timeout, Ewing caught a pass from John Starks, took one dribble and spun into the lane for the basket. It was the kind of move he hadn't been able to make often lately, mainly because Smits

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Kidd, Hill share NBA Rookie nod

NEW YORK (AP) — In the first tie in 24 years, Jason Kidd of the Dallas Mavericks and Grant Hill of the Detroit Pistons shared the NBA Rookie of the Year award announced today.

Hill and Kidd each received 43 of a possible 105 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Milwaukee's Glenn Robinson was third with 15 votes.

Also receiving votes were Eddie Jones of the Los Angeles Lakers, who had two, and Sacramento's Brian Grant and Washington's Juwan Howard with one each.

Kidd, the second pick in last summer's draft, averaged 11.7 points, 7.7 assists, 5.4 rebounds and 1.91 steals per game for Dallas. He was the only rookie to finish in the top 10 among league leaders in two categories, ranking seventh in steals and tied for ninth in assists.

Hill, who was picked third in the draft, averaged 19.9 points, 6.4 rebounds, five assists and 1.77 steals per game. He was the first rookie ever to lead the league's All-Star balloting and scored 10 points in the midseason game.

The only other tie in the rookie vote occurred in 1970-71 when Dave Cowens of the Boston Celtics and Geoff Petrie of the Portland Trail Blazers shared the award. In the league's early years, before the voting was standardized, awards were made by local groups and at least twice two players were honored.

Running home



Elizabeth Rohl, an MBA candidate graduate student, runs safely to first base for her team, Rennie's Brew Crew Wednesday night; as part of RIM softball.

NCAA committee taking spirit out of football



KRIS HENRY

The NCAA football rules committee recently struck a blow for decency and decorum in the overbearing col-

legiate football ranks.

Or so they say. A 12-man committee and a panel of players and administrators spent last Thursday reviewing 144 plays from the 1994 college season to show what unsportsmanlike conduct looks like.

After further review on Friday, they pared the images down to about 40 plays that will be packaged into a 30-minute film for schools, conferences, coaches and officials.

"The purpose [of the film] is to reduce the large gray area between what is obviously excessive and what is genuine enthusiasm," said Georgia Athletic Director Vince Dooley, chairman of the NCAA football rules committee.

Sounds innocent enough, right? But wait, there's more.

"Striking a Heisman Trophy pose in the end zone is a classic example of what is not going to be permitted," Dooley said. "Another example is a great

tackle where an individual might run out and perform some kind of gesture and play to the crowd, or isolate himself from the rest of the team and call attention to himself. Any kind of act with the intention of bringing attention away from the team and to himself."

You should have stopped while you were ahead Vince.

This is just another example of a good idea gone awry. If you

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Legendary "Toe" dead at 82

MONTREAL (AP) — Toe Blake, the dour-faced disciplinarian whose eight Stanley Cup championships in 13 seasons as coach of the Montreal Canadiens is an NHL record, died Wednesday. He was 82.

Blake succumbed after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's disease, the same malady that claimed the lives of his two brothers and a sister.

Blake was a star with the Canadiens long before he coached the team.

Nicknamed Toe by childhood friends — his first name was Hector — he joined the Canadiens as a player in 1935.

His 13-year career, spent largely as a left winger on the famed Punch Line with Maurice Richard and Elmer Lach, produced 527 points, including 235 goals.

Blake won the Hart Trophy in 1939 as the league's most valuable player and the same season won the Art Ross Trophy as NHL scoring leader.

Cougars and Trojans square off for Pac-10 baseball title

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — Washington State faces No. 4 Southern California on Thursday in the first game of a best-of-three Pacific-10 Conference baseball championship series.

The winner claims the league's automatic invitation to the NCAA regional baseball tournament.

Both the Trojans (39-18 overall, 21-9 Pac-10 South) and Washington State (28-28, 18-12 Pac-10 North) made it to the championship series by winning their first division titles since 1991.

Sonics give Karl another chance

SEATTLE (AP) — George Karl, whose team was knocked out of the playoffs in the first round each of the past two years, will return as coach of the Seattle SuperSonics, the club said today.

Club spokeswoman Cheri White confirmed a Tuesday night report on KJR-AM, which is owned by the same company that owns the Sonics. Karl had confirmed his return earlier in the evening.

Karl, 44, has two seasons left on his contract with Sonics owner Barry Ackerley, but only the next season of the contract is guaranteed. The Sonics have the option to pick up Karl's contract for the 1996-97 season.