

NCAA Women's Tournament

Cardinals meet Dayton in Sweet 16

East Oregonian

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The University of Louisville women's basketball faces No. 7 Dayton on Saturday in the team's sixth NCAA Sweet 16.

Pendleton's Jude Schimmel will try to extend her senior season at least one more game as the Cardinals take on the Flyers at 11:30 a.m. in a game that will air on ESPN.

Schimmel was key to No. 3-seed Louisville's 60-52 win over USF on its home floor. Schimmel finished the game with 13 points, six rebounds, and five assists, with 10 of her points com-

ing in the second half, and the Cardinals scored 22 points off of USF's 16 turnovers.

Schimmel leads the team with 73 steals this season, and averages 7.3 points a game.

Mariya Moore paces the Cardinals in scoring (13.5), 3-pointers (62), and free throws (119), and is second with 120 assists. Myisha Hines-Allen, who has scored in double figures in 20 games, is averaging 11.8 points and 4.9 rebounds. Sara Hammond is contributing 10.5 points and 6.4 rebounds.

Louisville opened the tournament with a 86-53 rout of BYU, and enters

Saturday's game with a 27-6 record — tied for fourth most wins in program history.

Dayton, a No. 7 seed, heads to the NCAA Sweet 16 after a 78-66 win over Iowa State and then a 99-94 upset of No. 2-seed Kentucky in Lexington. The Flyers (27-6) shot a stellar 55.6 percent from the field and knocked down 11 3-pointers and 28 of its 31 free throws in the victory over the Wildcats.

Ally Malott had a team-high 28 points and 13 rebounds, and Amber Deane added 23 points to advance the regional semifinal.



Sam Barbee photo

Echo's McKenzie Gonzales (in blue) nabs third as the throw heads into left field in Echo's 9-4 win over Colton on Thursday in Echo.

COUGARS: Six Echo players with two hits

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But with how well Gonzales was pitching, Echo didn't need to score much.

The sophomore was lights out from the second to the sixth innings. The first three Vikings to reach were all put on base by Gonzales. She beamed Janey Ethington, and walked Catilyn Weinberger and Becky Patterson. Cassondra Neff rocketed a single through the glove of Hannah McCarty at third, scoring Ethington, and Shelby Marshall drove in Weinberger with a base on balls. But Gonzales bared down, inducing a slick 5-2-3 double play to both slip out of a jam and gain some confidence.

"She has faith in her defense, too," senior Bailey Strofe said. "She knows it's not all on her. She knows that we're there to back her up."

Echo's next contest is Friday, April 3 when the Cougars host Riverside/Arlington for a doubleheader. First pitch is set for 1 p.m.

ning was all Mustangs coach Petra Payne felt blemished an otherwise strong effort from her team on Thursday at the Heppner Tournament.

Heppner (1-4) committed five errors in a six-run third inning by Clatskanie, and never recovered in a 15-6 loss that ended the day.

"I think we're still figuring stuff out, we're a young team," Payne said. "I would have been happy with the girls' effort other than that third inning."

Payne said the Mustangs were stronger in the field against hard-hitting Loggers on Thursday, cutting their errors from eight to four.

"I felt bad giving errors to my shortstop because (the balls) were hit so hard," Payne said.

Heppner will try to stop its three-game losing streak on Tuesday in a doubleheader against Grant Union that starts at 3 p.m. in Heppner.

KNAPPA 5, HEPPNER 2	R	H	E
KHS 001200	2	5	5
HHS 000002	0	2	4

K. Cameron and K. Truax. Meranda Lemmon, Onna DeLoach (5) and Catilyn Bailey. W — Cameron. L — Lemmon. 3B — Lemmon (Heppner). HR — Cameron (Knappa).

CLATSKANIE 15, HEPPNER 6	R	H	E
CHS 306103	2	15	14
HHS 000141	0	6	6

K. Mitchell and O. Warren. Meranda Lemmon, Onna DeLoach (5) and Catilyn Bailey, Taylor Hamby (5). W — Mitchell. L — Lemmon. 2B — Warren 2 (Clatskanie). HR — Miller (Clatskanie).

TOURNAMENT: Arizona, Wisconsin set for rematch

Continued from 1B

from some of those stunning upsets in football and hoops they have pulled off in the past.

Kentucky is a monster this March.

With stunning ease, the Wildcats built a 26-point lead in the first half over the Mountaineers (25-10), who led the nation in steals and figured their full-court press would at least bother Kentucky into some turnovers. Not only did the press not work, West Virginia shot only 24.1 percent (13 of 54), including 2 of 15 from 3-point range, against the Wildcats, who resemble a forest of blue-tinted redwoods inside the paint.

West Virginia didn't eclipse 20 points until the 11:41 mark of the second half.

It was over long before then. At halftime, the Mountaineers had nearly as many fouls (14) as points (18) and there was no hint they would be able to cut into Kentucky's lead. The Wildcats, seeking to become the first team to go undefeated since Indiana in 1976, seemed to be sending a message to the rest of the tournament that everyone else is playing for second place.

Five years ago in the Elite Eight, West Virginia stunned a top-seeded Kentucky team that's a lot like this one, loaded with high school All-Americans and future NBA players. But the Wildcats weren't going to let that happen again, and they blistered the Mountaineers in the opening 20 minutes, leaving the court with superfan/actress Ashley Judd dancing along with the thousands who made the trip north to Cleveland.

Judd then tweeted she's staying around for a few more days.

"I think it's okay to extend my hotel room," she wrote.

Aaron Harrison scored 12 points in the first half, Devin Booker dropped two 3-pointers and Marcus Lee and Willie Cauley-Stein took turns soaring to convert alley-oop passes into dunks that had West Virginia fans longing to take the country road back home.

Dakari Johnson scored 12 points and Cauley-Stein added 10 rebounds for Kentucky, which hasn't faced Notre Dame in the tournament since 1970.

WISCONSIN 79, NORTH CAROLINA 72 — At Los Angeles, Wisconsin looked like a beaten team for much of the game.

Frank Kaminsky got off to a slow start, his team couldn't make a shot in the first half and then fell behind by seven midway through the second half.

It looked like a repeat of the Big Ten Conference title game, when the Badgers were left for road kill against Michigan State before coming back to win in overtime.

The top-seeded Badgers again proved their grit, rallying in the final 10 minutes to hold off North Carolina 79-72 Thursday night and advance to the final eight of the NCAA Tournament.

Sam Dekker had a career-high 23 points and 10 rebounds, Kaminsky added 19 and Nigel Hayes 12 to send Wisconsin (34-3) into the West Regional final Saturday against No. 2 seed Arizona.

"The toughness that they showed today was really something," Carolina coach Roy Williams said. "It's strange, the difference between winning and losing is so small."

Marcus Paige hit consecutive 3-pointers that drew Carolina within one with 54 seconds to go, but Wisconsin made all eight of its free throws — four by Kaminsky — over the closing



AP photos

TOP: Xavier forward Trevon Bluiett (5) tries to hold on to the ball against Arizona during the second half of Thursday's Sweet 16 game in Los Angeles.

RIGHT: Wisconsin forward Frank Kaminsky, left, and teammate forward Sam Dekker react after beating North Carolina in a Sweet 16 game in Los Angeles.



seconds.

"Everyone knows that once we get to free throw time at the end of the game, we've got to make our free throws or they're going to come down and score," Kaminsky said. "We've been through that a lot this season with situations like that. So it's just nice to be able to go out there and do it."

The teams shot exactly the same — 46 percent — for the game, but the Badgers improved to 58 percent in the second half and made 20 of 23 free throws to keep their hopes of a second straight Final Four berth alive.

NOTRE DAME 81, WICHITA STATE 70 — At Cleveland, Momentum sagging and Wichita State surging, Mike Brey called time out and offered his Notre Dame players a reminder.

There was no screaming. No frantic scribbling of Xs-and-Os. That's not Brey's style. Or his team's either.

"I said 'Fellas, been here before,'" Brey said. "Little did I know it was going to be a lightning strike, a flat-out lightning strike."

One that carried the Irish all the way to the brink of the Final Four.

Demetrius Jackson scored 20 points and third-seeded Notre Dame blitzed the Shockers in the second half of a surprisingly easy 81-70 victory Thursday night in the Midwest Regional semifinal to advance to the Elite Eight for the first time in 36 years.

The Irish (32-5) shot 75 percent (18 of 24) over the final 20 minutes, overwhelming the seventh-seeded Shockers (30-5) with a barrage of 3-pointers, expert cuts to the basket and enough fancy passing to fill an And-One mixtape.

The 38-18 burst that turned a tight game into something else entirely came after Wichita State took its first and only lead on a layup by Darius Carter with 16:37 to go. Jackson drilled a 3-pointer on Notre Dame's next trip down then added another one moments later.

After that, the Irish were gone. The lead ballooned to as many as 19 points before the Shockers settled themselves. By then, it was far too late.

ARIZONA 68, XAVIER 60 — At

Los Angeles, Just when Arizona appeared to be in serious trouble against underdog Xavier, T.J. McConnell sparked his Wildcats back to the brink of the Final Four.

McConnell scored 13 of his 17 points in the second half, freshman Stanley Johnson added 12 points, and second-seeded Arizona made a dominant late rally for a 68-60 victory over sixth-seeded Xavier in the West Regional semifinals on Thursday night.

Kaleb Tarczewski had 12 points and 12 rebounds as the Wildcats (34-3) weathered a major scare from the Musketeers (23-14) and clamped down defensively during a game-ending 19-7 run.

With its third Elite Eight berth in five years, Arizona gets another shot its first Final Four under coach Sean Miller, who led Xavier for five years until 2009.

The Wildcats will face top-seeded Wisconsin (34-3) on Saturday at Staples Center in a rematch of last season's West final.

"It's almost as if we had a summer to think about it, and we have to somehow make that to our advantage," Miller said.

Matt Stainbrook had 17 points and 10 rebounds in his final game for Xavier, which fell just short of its first trip to the Elite Eight since 2008. Those Musketeers were coached by Miller and assistant Chris Mack, who replaced his boss.

With its 14th straight victory, Arizona has another chance to reach its first Final Four since 2001 — but only after getting a late boost from McConnell, the senior who turned 23 on Wednesday.



Stanfield's Tony Flores throws from the mound in the top of the fourth inning of the Tigers' 10-0 win against Union on Thursday in Stanfield.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

TIGERS: Wampler, Kennedy begin surge

Continued from 1B

Johnson said. "It's been a little bit of a slow process. We're capable of playing a little bit better and our kids keep working hard in practice. We're just really young."

Stanfield was held scoreless until the bottom of the fifth inning when Keith Wampler, hitting out of the eighth slot, and freshman Justin Keeney, in the nine hole, started things off with a pair of singles to right. Monkus then singled and two batters later Grogan doubled to plate a couple more. That opened up the

flood gates.

It was all Flores would ever need. He was efficient and the defense was error-free behind him. The sophomore right-hander never allowed a runner past second base in the dominant outing.

Stanfield resumes its own tournament today with a doubleheader against Sheridan at 1:30 p.m. and Dufur at 4 p.m.

STANFIELD 10, UNION 0 (6 innings)	R	H	E
UHS 000 000	0	0	1
SHS 000 064	10	11	0

J. Graves, J. Alexander (6), and C. Loftis. Tony Flores and Thyler Monkus. W — T. Flores. L — J. Graves. 2B — Hunter Barnes (SHS), Klay Jensen (SHS), Dylan Grogan (SHS) 2, Keith Wampler (SHS).

BUCKAROOS: Smith with lone PHS run batted in

Continued from 1B

bers on the scoreboard in the next four innings to finish the contest in five innings.

The Buckaroos would get just one more base hit after the first — a Smith single. The sophomore finished 2-for-2 with one RBI in the loss.

Pendleton senior pitcher Brady Smith pitched all four innings. Brady Smith allowed seven earned runs, but the other five were of the unearned variety.

Pendleton will face Hillcrest (ID) and Twin Falls (ID) today, during the classic's second day of action.

VALLIVUE (ID) 12, PENDLETON 1 (5 innings)	R	H	E
PHS 100 00	1	3	4
VHS 233 4X	12	10	0

Tyler Laird and Jacob Bowman. Brady Smith and Alex O'Rourke. W — T. Laird. L — B. Smith. 2B — A. O'Rourke.

WAITSBURG / PRESCOTT (WA) 7, MAC-HI 2 — At Prescott, Wash., the first four Cardinal batters recorded base hits, and Waitsburg/Prescott (WA) hung seven runs on the board in the first two innings in a victory over the Pioneers.

The loss was the first for Mac-Hi (1-1) which won its first game of the season over Weston-McEwen last week.

Kody Banek walked with the bases loaded and Hunter Yenson brought in Miguel Garcia with one of his two singles in the sixth.

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WAITSBURG/PRESCOTT (WA) 7, MAC-HI 2	R	H	E
MAC 010001	0	2	8
WP 340000	X	7	11

Talon Larson, Grant (3), Federson (7) and Dunn. Jacob Cheney, Bailey DeBord (2), Jesus Vella (6) and Kody Banek. W — T. Larson. L — J. Cheney. 2B — K. Banek (MAC).

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

KEEGAN CRAFTON

Senior - Hermiston Golf

Crafton led Hermiston to a season-opening win at The Dalles Country Club, shooting a team-best 77 as the Bulldogs finished with a combined score of 327.

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