

# Sports

## NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

### 12 seed Murray St. wins

**By Ralph D. Russo**  
AP College Sports Writer

HARTFORD, Conn. — The game was in hand for Murray State and sensational point guard Ja Morant, who dominated Marquette in every way. With a chance to make some NCAA Tournament history, Morant's coach told him to hit the boards and grab the rebound that would push him to an elusive triple-double. Morant went up for a missed shot, snatched the

ball away from an eager teammate, and that was it. Murray State fans began chanting "Tri-ple dou-ble!" to celebrate an upset in the first round of the West Region. Morant seized the moment on college basketball's big stage, slicing through Marquette with 16 assists, 17 points and 11 rebounds as Murray State trounced the fifth-seeded Golden Eagles 83-64 on Thursday. The triple-double was the ninth in the tournament

since the NCAA started tracking them in 1987 and first since 2012. Murray State (28-4) continued a trend of 12 seeds beating 5s in March. It has happened every year but three since 2001, but this looked nothing like an upset. The Racers have won 12 consecutive games, including the Ohio Valley Conference tournament. Murray State was never threatened in the second half by Marquette of the Big East.

### Michigan routs Montana

**By Eric Olson**  
AP Sports Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa — Michigan coach John Beilein didn't need to worry

after all. Four days after his Wolverines' disappointing loss in the Big Ten Tournament championship game,

they did exactly what they were supposed to against 15th-seeded Montana in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

### Adoptable Pet Of The Week

#### Bella

*I'm Bella, a 4 year old spayed Yellow Lab. In the past, I sat in a yard watching the world go by and I would much rather be a part of someone's family! I am crate trained at night, calm when indoors and use a doggie door. I do not like loud noises, so I shouldn't be a bird dog. I charmed everyone at the Baker City Herald office!*

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## BAKER TENNIS



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Shane Cunningham, serving in a previous match, earned a singles win against Pendleton Wednesday.

### Baker boys defeat Bucks

**By Gerry Steele**  
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Baker's boys tennis team picked up its first win of the season Wednesday, blanking the Buckaroos 5-0 at Pendleton. Baker's girls team finished 1-3-1. "The boys match was a strong confidence builder for us," said Baker coach Kristin Schwin. Zach Schwin and Shane Cunningham swept the

No. 1 and No. 2 singles in straight sets. Alex Davila did likewise in the third singles. Isaac Nemece and Luke Barnes won the No. 1 doubles, not losing a game. Eli Lien and Anthony Cowan won the No. 2 doubles in straight sets. Baker's lone girls victory was by Emma Finley and Kaylee Dalke in three sets in No. 1 girls doubles. "They played very aggres-

sive," said Schwin. Baker is now idle until after April 1.

**Baker at Pendleton**

**Boys singles**  
Schwin (B) def. Phelan 6-1, 6-2  
Cunningham (B) def. Phelan 6-1, 6-2  
Devila (B) def. Johnston 6-2, 6-3

**Boys doubles**  
Nemece/Barnes (B) def. Butler/Schiller 6-0, 6-0  
Lien/Cowan (B) def. Early/ght/Walker 6-3, 6-1

**Girls singles**  
Flanagan (P) def. Johnson 6-3, 6-2  
Bradt (P) def. Treblecock 6-1, 6-2  
Pettit (B) tied House 5-7, 6-4

**Girls doubles**  
Dalke/Finley (B) def. Walker/Chambers 6-7 (7-4), 6-1, 10-2  
Duvant/Heriza (P) def. Mecias/Woodward 6-3, 6-1

### Gonzaga rolls to first-round win

**By Eddie Pells**  
AP National Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — When it comes to a 16 seed beating a 1, it's still true — anything really can happen in the NCAA Tournament. Just not on Thursday night. And not against Gonzaga. One year after dreamers and underdog lovers rejoiced at top-seeded Virginia's first-of-its-kind, first-round loss, the Gonzaga Bulldogs crushed any thought of a repeat with a wire-to-wire 87-49 thumping of Fairleigh Dickin-

son in the West Region. "I don't know who in America could've played Gonzaga and beat them tonight," Fairleigh Dickinson coach Greg Herenda said. Rui Hachimura led the Zags (31-3) with 21 points and eight rebounds, and this game looked every bit as lopsided as most of the 1-vs.-16 contests since 1985, when the bracket was expanded to 64 teams. Gonzaga led by 10 after the first 4:12, by 20 after 10:25 and by the score of 53-17 at halftime.

### Blazers top Mavericks, aim for home court in playoffs

**By Anne M. Peterson**  
AP Sports Writer

PORTLAND — Damian Lillard and the Portland Trail Blazers believe they can use games like this one against Dallas to help them prepare for the final push toward the playoffs. "It's not about who our opponent is, it's about the style of play that we want to play, the discipline we want to have, the things we want to do well, that will translate to when we play against the top teams," Lillard said. "As long as we have that right attitude and we do things the right way, I think we'll keep getting this result when we play against teams we should beat." Lillard had 33 points and 12 assists to lead Portland past the struggling Mavericks

126-118 on Wednesday night. Seth Curry scored 20 off the bench for the Blazers, who have won five of six as they try to secure home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs. Portland (44-27) led by as many as 25, and Lillard hit six of the team's 16 3-pointers. Luka Doncic had 24 points for the Mavericks, who have lost nine of 10 and are ahead of only Phoenix in the Western Conference. The Trail Blazers are fourth in the West, a half-game back of Houston and in front of a cluster that includes the Spurs, Thunder, Jazz and Clippers. Portland rested Lillard in the final period after a 17-point third quarter, which included a stretch when he hit four straight 3-pointers.

Enes Kanter added 14 points and 10 rebounds off the bench for his first double-double since joining the Blazers just before the All-Star break. "I thought it was another very special night by Damian," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "I thought he pretty much controlled the game from our standpoint. He took advantage of his scoring opportunities, had another great night passing, finding people." Portland was coming off a 106-98 victory at home over Indiana on Monday. That was the team's first game without starting guard CJ McCollum, who strained his left knee last weekend. McCollum will be re-evaluated next week, and no timetable has been set for his return.