

COLLEGE BASKETBALL | NCAA TOURNAMENT

Wild weekend sets up Sweet 16



Texas Tech guard Adonis Arms (25) reacts with teammates at the end of a second-round NCAA Tournament game against Notre Dame on Sunday in San Diego. Texas Tech won 59-53. Denis Poroy/AP

Double-digit seeds continue winning in women's tourney

BY DOUG FEINBERG
AP Basketball Writer

Double-digit seeds are leaving their mark on the first weekend of the women's NCAA Tournament and bouncing some of the top players and teams in the country, including Iowa's Caitlin Clark and Baylor's NaLyssa Smith. Creighton and South Dakota continued the run of upsets as the two No. 10 seeds advanced to the Sweet 16 for the first time ever.

The Bluejays got the second round started, shocking Clark and Iowa with a two-point win that silenced the sellout crowd in Iowa City. Hours later, South Dakota knocked off No. 2 Baylor, ending Smith's college career on her home court. If you're counting, that's eight wins by double-digit seeds in this tournament — tying the most ever in NCAA women's basketball history through two rounds, a mark set in 2018.

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South Dakota center Hannah Sjerven (34) screams as she heads to huddle with guard Chloe Lamb (22) and other teammates during the first half against Baylor in the second round of the NCAA Tournament in Waco, Texas, on Sunday. LM Otero/AP



Villanova's Eric Dixon (43) passes from the floor as Ohio State's Kyle Young tries for the ball during the second half of Sunday's game in Pittsburgh. Villanova won 71-61 to advance to the Sweet 16. Keith Srakotic/AP

Miami dominates No. 2 seed Auburn; all eyes on Peacocks

BY ERIC OLSON
Associated Press

Top seeds Gonzaga and Kansas are in. So is little Saint Peter's, the giant killer and only the third No. 15 seed to make it this far in the NCAA Tournament. And Coach K's farewell tour continues as he and his Duke Blue Devils made it to the Sweet 16, too. All eight of the regional semifinal matchups were set by late Sunday night, capping a wild opening weekend that saw seven double-digit seeds win in the first round and

four of them move on. This is the second year in a row a No. 15 seed has captured the imagination of basketball fans. Last year, it was Oral Roberts, which came within a missed 3-pointer at the buzzer from beating Arkansas and going to the Elite Eight. This time, it's those lovable Saint Peter's Peacocks, who knocked off Kentucky and Murray State and don't have a single player that made the All-Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference first team.

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GOLF | ROUNDUP

Burns beats Riley in playoff for 2nd straight Valspar win

Associated Press
PALM HARBOR, Fla. — Sam Burns is a winner again in the Valspar Championship, this time with a lot more stress and plenty of more emotion. Burns holed a birdie putt from just over 30 feet on the 16th hole to beat Davis Riley on the second playoff hole, giving him three PGA Tour victories in his last 22 starts.

Burns, who closed with a 2-under 69 to match Riley at 17-under 267, is the second straight back-to-back winner at Innisbrook following Paul Casey's consecutive wins in 2018 and 2019. The tournament was canceled in 2020 because of the pandemic. The victory moves Burns to No. 10 in the world for the first time, knocking Dustin Johnson out of the top 10 for the first time in

seven years. Burns won last year by three shots. Riley, a rookie contending for the first time on the PGA Tour, overcame a triple bogey on the par-5 fifth hole with a clutch 5-iron for birdie on the par-3 17th. He had a 15-foot birdie putt on the 18th for the win and left it out to the right, closing with a 72.

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Sam Burns reacts after making a birdie putt in a playoff to win during the final round of the Valspar Championship Sunday at Innisbrook in Palm Harbor, Florida. Chris O'Meara/AP