

WYOMING 73, GONZAGA 66

Bulldogs hit pothole



Dan Pelle/The Spokesman-Review

Wyoming's Uche Nsomwu-Amadi strong-arms Gonzaga University guard Blake Stepp underneath the basket in the second half. The Cowboys finished with 12 blocked shots while holding the Bulldogs to 26.8-percent shooting.

After three great runs, the averages catch up

John Blanchette observes that after every victory, there is another side.

The Spokesman-Review

ALBUQUERQUE — So this is how it feels. In Gonzaga's giddy rides through the three previous NCAA basketball tournaments — otherwise known as The Run, The Rerun and Syndication — the aspect generally ignored or dismissed was how the other side must have felt.

How painful it was to have a big reputation busted, to leave a destiny dangling, to be something of a punchline, even.

How miserable it was to get Zagged.

Now the Gonzaga Bulldogs know, and it is knowledge that will be forever imprinted next to the joy of all those high times, because they cannot be separated — not when you go from 29-and-3 to 0-and-out.

"This is terrible," said guard Kyle Bankhead. "This is sad."

**John Blanchette**Continued: **Blanchette/C6**

Christopher Anderson/The Spokesman-Review

GU coach Mark Few finds Wyoming's celebration hard to watch.

NCAA road ends in Pit

Wyoming registers upset as cold shooting brings GU's season to jarring conclusion

By Steve Bergum
Staff writer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — All season it had been, at worst, an either-or thing with Gonzaga University's sixth-ranked men's basketball team.

Either the Bulldogs' guards would light it up from the perimeter, or the bigs would muscle up and score inside. On most nights, the Zags had both working.

But in Thursday's opening round of the NCAA West Regional men's basketball tournament, GU had neither the "either" nor the "or." And 10th-seeded Wyoming took advantage of the sixth-seeded Bulldogs' weakened condition by saddling them with an unexpected 73-66 loss at The Pit.

The defeat snapped Gonzaga's 14-game winning and ended the Zags' remarkable string of three consecutive runs to the NCAA's Sweet 16.

Now, instead of preparing for a much-anticipated second-round matchup against third-seeded Arizona, the Bulldogs (29-4) will

INSIDE

Quick exit

■ **Notebook:** Former Gonzaga recruit Josh Davis plays key role in Wyoming's victory.

■ **Shut down:** Even Gonzaga's players find it hard to believe they shot so poorly.

Coverage, C6-C7

pack their bags, sack up the basketballs and head for home.

"It's going to seem weird," admitted GU coach Mark Few, the architect of the best season in school history and the mastermind of the Bulldogs' two previous tournament runs. "I'm not going to have anything to do tomorrow at 3 o'clock."

Few can blame his team's frigid shooting for that.

The Zags suffered through a pair of extended field-goal droughts, one in each half, and shot a

Continued: **Gonzaga/C6**

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Who's hot

- **12 seeds:** Missouri and Tulsa knock off five seeds Miami and Marquette, respectively.
- **Brian Brown,** Ohio State: scored a career-high 33 points against Davidson.
- **Mo Williams,** Alabama: career-high 33 points, 10 rebounds and six assists against Florida Atlantic.
- **The number 19:** Kent State's winning streak and the number of consecutive first-round victories for Kansas.
- **Duke:** won its first-round game by 47 points this year and by 43 last year.

Who's not

- **Miami:** outscored 12-0 in the first 3 minutes and only once drew within five points of Missouri.
- **Gonzaga:** shot 26.8 percent from the floor in its loss to Wyoming.
- **Chris Marcus,** Western Kentucky: had 10 points and two rebounds. He averages 16.4 points and 9.4 rebounds.
- **Pepperdine:** fell to 0-12 against ACC teams, including four first-round tournament losses.
- **The WCC:** 0-2 on Thursday.

TUNING IN

On the air

Today on TV

■ **9 a.m.:** Oklahoma vs. Illinois-Chicago, followed by California vs. Penn, CBS

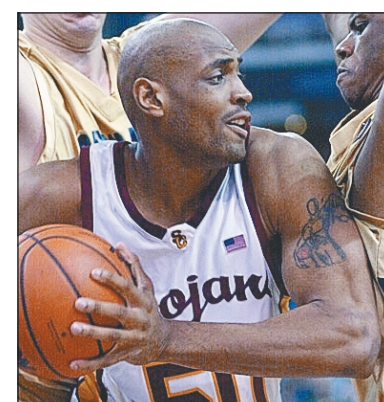
■ **4:30 p.m.:** Texas Tech vs. Southern Illinois, followed by UCLA vs. Mississippi, CBS

Today on radio

■ **9 a.m., 4:15 p.m.:** Two sets of two games, 630-AM

Today online

www.SpokesmanReview.com/Zags



INSIDE / C5-C7

Upset specials

Sam Clancy, No. 4 seed USC bit roadblock vs. Wilmington

Fifth-seeded teams Marquette, Miami make surprise exits