



Notre Dame coach Mike Brey is on board with the idea of his Fighting Irish playing in Irish-friendly Spokane this weekend. He says he might even take part in a local St. Patrick's Day tradition. The Oregon Ducks and their fans seem at home, too.

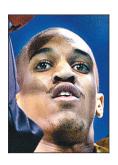
SPOKANE SUBREGIONAL NOTEBOOK, PAGE C6

#### TODAY AT THE ARENA

**11:30 a.m.:** Notre Dame (24-7) vs. Winthrop (28-4) 1:55 p.m.: Oregon (26-7) vs. Miami-Ohio (18-14) **4:25 p.m.:** Texas (24-9) vs. New Mexico St. (25-8)

**6:45 p.m.:** USC (23-11) vs. Arkansas (21-13)





## **Duke dumped**

Eric Maynor's late shot lifts Virginia Commonwealth past Blue Devils.

STORY, PAGE C4

MARCH 16, 2007

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

#### **TOURNEY REPLAY**

Winston-Salem, N.C. Boston College 84, Texas Tech 75

Belmont 55 Michigan State 61, Marquette 49 North Carolina 86,

Eastern Kentucky 65

Georgetown 80,

Sacramento, Calif. Washington State 70, Oral Roberts 54

Vanderbilt 77, George Washington 44 Midwest

**Buffalo, N.Y.** Maryland 82, Davidson 70 Butler 57,

Old Dominion 46

South Lexington, Ky. Louisville 78. Stanford 58

Texas A&M 68 Pennsylvania 52 Ohio State 78. Central Connecticut St. 57 Xavier 79,

West Buffalo, N.Y. Va. Commonwealth 79, Duke 77

Pittsburgh 79, Wright State 58 Sacramento, Calif. UCLA 70, Weber State 42

Indiana 70, Gonzaga 57

#### TODAY'S **GAMES**

Spokane

Texas vs. New Mexico State 4:25 p.m. Southern Californi vs. Arkansas

South Columbus, Ohio Virginia vs. Albany,

Tennessee vs. Long Beach State

**New Orleans** Memphis vs. North Texas, 9:30 a.m. Nevada vs.

**Midwest** Chicago UNLV vs. Georgia Tech, 9:25 a.m.

Creighton

Wisconsin vs. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Spokane Notre Dame vs.

Winthrop, 11:30 a.m. Oregon vs. Miami (Ohio)

**New Orleans** Arizona vs. Purdue, 4:20 p.m Florida vs.

Jackson State

West Chicago Kansas vs. Niagara, 4:10 p.m

Kentucky vs. Villanova Columbus, Ohio

Virginia Tech vs. Illinois, 4:10 p.m. Southern Illinois vs. Holy Cross

On the  $(\mathbf{a})$ Web:

Check out the most timely news, blogs, multimedia, and a searchable photo feed at spokesmanreview

.com/ncaa

## NCAA TOURNAMENT: SACRAMENTO SUBREGIONAL

# WON AND DONE



Washington State University senior forward Ivory Clark records one of the five blocked shots he had Thursday during the Cougars' NCAA tournament opener against Oral Roberts.

## WSU advances, just like that

**BY GLENN KASSES** Staff writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - All it took for 24 years of history to turn on its head was three seconds.

The Cougars, trailing by six and playing generally bad basketball for the first half of its first-round NCAA tournament game against Oral Roberts, changed their fortunes in a flurry of action just before halftime.

First, Taylor Rochesite drove the lane and hit a tough, hanging bank shot with 5 seconds left. Then, Kyle Weaver See COUGARS, C5

stole the inbounds pass from ORU's Yemi Ogunoye and threw down a twohanded dunk with two ticks left. Suddenly, the Cougar deficit had

shrunk to two as WSU skipped into the locker room with the exuberance of a

The second half proved that WSU (26-7) was just that, as the third-seeded Cougars dominated the final 20 minutes and won 70-54. It's the school's first NCAA tournament win since 1983, and this turnaround team has now

## Cougars' Clark bears it, then grins

ACRAMENTO, Calif. – What is it in a smile that can offend? Ivory Clark can't explain it, exactly. But he is a serious man, not outwardly light of heart and especially not here in March, when his minutes on the court for the Washington State Cougars had been choked to a trickle.

And maybe that was it. Maybe seeing his own participation ebb was enough to make him chafe at any expression or suggestion that opportunity is a lark.

Which is apparently what Caleb



BLANCHETTE

Green's smile suggested to Ivory Clark.

"This is business," he said. "We're in the NCAA tournament. This is no time to be smiling."

So on Thursday, Ivory Clark took care of business.

He put aside his hurt over his diminished role. He made himself

See BLANCHETTE, C10



WSU's Aron Baynes is fouled on a shot attempt.

## NCAA Day 1

WSU

Ivory Clark revives old nickname/C5

Gonzaga

The Zags just couldn't get things going on the offensive end/C8

And the rest

Georgetown finds unlikely hero; VCU upsets Duke/C4

## Zags' up-and-down season ends with huge downer

**BY STEVE BERGUM** Staff writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - The Gonzaga Bulldogs had been playing with a small margin for error, yet somehow surviving, for several weeks heading into this year's NCAA tournament.

But on Thursday night, in the opening round of the West Regional in Arco Arena, the Zags finally failed to find a way.

Plagued by bad shooting, poor decision-making, untimely turnovers, a baffling lack of energy and Indiana's solid defensive pressure, the Bulldogs wrote a rather uninspired ending to a crazily uneven basketball season, falling to the Hoosiers 70-57 in what proved to be the final game for seniors Derek Raivio and Sean Mallon.

The 10th-seeded Zags, who led once – and briefly, at that – never found any kind of offensive rhythm against seventh-seeded IU, shooting a season-low 33.9 percent (19 of 56) from the field. missing far too many close-range gimmes and turning the ball over 13 times.



**Gonzaga senior Derek Raivio** watches the season slip away.

In addition, GU (23-11) was abused on the boards by a 45-30 margin that left coaches and players stumbling to find explanations.

"We hit a bump in the road at the wrong time," said junior forward David Pendergraft, who finished with 12 points, despite missing several wide-open shots. "There were some people, myself included, missing layins that we never miss.

"And then all of those in-andout shots ... I know I had a couple

See ZAGS, C10

#### **FAST BREAK**

BASEBALL

### **Bowie Kuhn dies**

Bowie Kuhn, the bespectacled lawyer who oversaw baseball's transformation from sport to a business of free agents making multimillion-dollar

salaries, died Thursday. He was 80. The former commissioner died at St. Luke's Hospital in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., following a short illness, spokesman Bob Wirz said.

> More on Kuhn, C2 **HOCKEY**

## **Chiefs playoff schedule set**

The Spokane Chiefs will host the third and fourth games of their first-round Western Hockey League playoff series against the Everett Silvertips on March 27 and 28.

The Chiefs, who have clinched the fourth seed in the U.S. Division, will travel to the top-seeded, division champion Silvertips for the first two games, March 23 and 24.

Everett will have home-ice advantage with Game 5, if necessary, on March 30. Game 6, if necessary, would be April 1 in Spokane and Game 7 would return to Everett on April 3.

Tickets to the third and fourth games in the Spokane Arena will go on sale Monday at the Chiefs ticket office at 535-PUCK or TicketsWest at (800) 325-SEAT.

**BASKETBALL** 

## **Hoopfest signup open**

Team registration for Hoopfest 2007 is open. Entry forms are available at all Bruchi's restaurants, Thomas Hammer Coffee locations and Yoke's Fresh Market locations. Teams may also register at Hoopfest's new online registration at www.spokanehoopfest.net

The guaranteed registration deadline is May 7. The event is June 30 and July 1.