



## Mirror image

The Gonzaga women face an opponent Sunday in James Madison that possesses many similarities to the Bulldogs.

STORY, PAGE C3

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**BULLDOGS 85, COWBOYS 77**  
**SUNDAY: GONZAGA VS. ARIZONA, 6:40 P.M. TV: TBS**

# Worth tweeting

## Zags persevere through whistle-filled marathon for hard-fought win

By Jim Meehan

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SAN DIEGO – There was an echo inside Viejas Arena, and it wasn't just the endless sound of officials wearing out their whistles.

Gonzaga jumped in front early and spent a good chunk of the rest of the game repelling challenge after challenge from Oklahoma State. The Bulldogs had their share of answers and an equal

number of players supplying those answers in an 85-77 NCAA tournament win viewed by 11,196 Friday.

"It would have been easy to relax when you have a lead like that," said junior guard Kevin Pangos, who had 26 points, his highest total since scoring 34 against Arkansas in November in Maui. "The game kind of had a weird flow to it but we did a good job staying involved and grinding it out."

**ALSO TODAY**  
 ▶ **Notebook:** Bell enjoys healthy performance/C4

After missing six straight free throws that briefly kept OSU's comeback hopes alive, the eighth-seeded Zags (29-6) made 12 of their last 14 – 10 straight by Pangos – to secure an opening-round NCAA win for the sixth straight season.

Gonzaga will face top-seeded Arizona (31-4) on Sunday. Gary Bell Jr. launched GU's early burst with a pair of 3-pointers and he finished with 17 points on 6-of-8 shooting.

Przemek Karnowski had 15 points and 10 rebounds and Kyle Dranginis contributed 12 points.

The Zags needed widespread contributions, a boost from their bench and healthy amounts of patience and toughness to reach the finish line of this 2-hour, 35-minute marathon. There were 61 fouls called and 78 free throws attempted. Five players fouled out.

See **GONZAGA, C5**



DAN PELLE danp@spokesman.com

Gonzaga's Kevin Pangos slices between Cowboys Leyton Hammonds, left, and Markel Brown. Pangos led the Zags with 26 points, his highest total since November.

## Bulldogs happy to show off black eye after winning this scrap

SAN DIEGO – In the Gonzaga locker room, trainer Jen Nyland set a school record for icebags distributed. Someone eyed a suspicious discoloration on the mascot's costume and wondered if it was a bruise.

Sitting in front of his locker, Kyle Dranginis looked to be sprouting a black eye, but explained that it was more precisely a broken nose.

Not that it was part of the damages from Gonzaga's 85-77 foul-a-rama victory over Oklahoma State in the NCAA Noon-Goons-at-the-Y

JOHN BLANCHETTE



Tournament. "I didn't tell anybody but it happened in practice a couple days ago," the Bulldogs guard explained. "I wanted to play and didn't want to wear a mask or anything."

Apparently, the Zags did a great job of mimicking game conditions in practice this week.

There are no prizes for single victories in the bracket until championship Monday, but surely the NCAA generals in Indianapolis could come up with their own version of the Purple Heart

for a game like this.

For the fans and viewers, if not for the players. This was bad television even beyond TNT announcer Andrew Catalon going Archie Bunker on Zags center Przemek Karnowski, who graciously and cheerfully forgave him – thrilled to have contributed a double-double to Gonzaga's advance to the next round against top-seeded Arizona.

The ugly math: Sixty-one fouls – including two flagrant – plus one technical. Seventy-eight free throws. Running time of 2 hours, 35 minutes.

See **BLANCHETTE, C4**

### More GU inside

Notes, box score, more tidbits after second-round win/C5

### At the Arena

Notes, breakdowns from today's pair of games/C4

### Elsewhere

Recaps, box scores from Friday's 16 games/C6-8

### No perfection

After first round, no perfect brackets remain/C7

NCAA MEN IN SPOKANE | Jim Allen, jima@spokesman.com

## Strong Spartans ready for hardworking Harvard

The Michigan State players said all the right things Friday afternoon.

Asked about the challenges of tonight's NCAA third-round East Regional game at the Arena against 12th-seeded Harvard, forward Branden Dawson praised the Crimson's teamwork, patience on offense and an ability to avoid mistakes. "If we don't jump on them

early it's going to be a long game for us," Spartans guard Gary Harris said.

That's precisely what a talented Cincinnati team didn't do in a second-round game Thursday, a wire-to-wire 61-57 Harvard win that would have been even more convincing had the Crimson hit more free throws.

See **MSU-HARVARD, C4**

**ALSO TODAY**  
 ▶ **Inside:** Look at SDSU-NDSU matchup, Arena notebook/C5



COLIN MULVANY The S-R  
 Containing Adreian Payne (5) will be key for Harvard.

WHL PLAYOFFS | Chris Derrick, chrisd@spokesman.com

## Past performance no indicator for this series

The Spokane Chiefs began the 2013-14 Western Hockey League season with a 10-2 record, including back-to-back lopsided wins over the Victoria Royals.

Victoria stumbled to a 3-5 record to open the season, including losses to Prince George and Kamloops, the only Western Conference teams that didn't qualify for postseason.

Those first impressions are

long forgotten as the Chiefs and Royals prepare to open their first-round playoff series at 7:05

tonight at Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre in Victoria, British Columbia.

The sixth-seeded Chiefs (40-26-3-3) had a solid regular season, but they were 13-13-1-1 in the last eight

See **CHIEFS, C8**

**COMING UP**  
 ▶ **Tonight:** Spokane at Victoria, 7:05. **Radio:** 1510-AM

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