

SPORTS

Samuelson's 32 points lead No. 3 UConn to rout of Memphis

No. 1 Baylor women clinch share of 9th Big 12 title in row

WACO, Texas, Feb 21, (AP): Kallani Brown reached career milestones of 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds, and No. 1 Baylor clinched at least a share of its ninth consecutive Big 12 regular-season championship with an 80-40 win over Kansas on Wednesday night.

The Lady Bears (24-1, 14-0 Big 12) won their 10th Big 12 regular season title overall in coach Kim Mulkey's 19th seasons. They need to win only one of their four re-

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maining conference games to win the title outright.

Brown finished with 11 points and 14 rebounds to run her career totals to 2,000 and 1,012, respectively.

Christalah Lyons had 10 points to lead Kansas (12-13, 2-12).

UConn 102, Memphis 45

In Hartford, Connecticut, Katie Lou Samuelson scored a season-high 32 points and grabbed 10 rebounds as UConn routed Memphis to remain unbeaten in six seasons of American Athletic Conference play.

Napheesa Collier added 22 points

and 12 rebounds for the Huskies (24-2, 12-0 American), who improved to 10-0 against the over-matched Tigers. It was her 15th double-double of the season and 39th of her career.

Samuelson has six of her seven career double-doubles this season.

Crystal Dangerfield added 15 points and eight assists for the Huskies, who shot 55 percent from the floor and 52 percent from behind the arc.

Jada Stinson and Jasmine James each had 12 points for Memphis (10-16, 5-8), which has lost four of its last five games.

Iowa St 91, Oklahoma 70

In Norman, Oklahoma, Bridget Carleton had 28 points and 10 rebounds to help Iowa State beat Oklahoma, the Cyclones' first victory over the Sooners in Norman since the 2013-14 season.

Carleton was 11 of 17 from the field, making 4 of 8 3-pointers. Kristin Scott added 16 points, Madison Wise had 14, and Ashley Joens 13 for Iowa State (20-6, 10-4).

Shaina Pellington led Oklahoma (6-19, 2-12) with 14 points. Jessi Murcer and Ana Llanusa each had 11 points.

Maye rallies No. 8 UNC past No. 1 Duke, Williamson hurt

San Diego State stuns Caroline, No. 6 Nevada 65-57

DURHAM, North Carolina, Feb 21, (AP): Luke Maye took full advantage of a freak injury to freshman sensation Zion Williamson, finishing with 30 points and 15 rebounds to lead No. 8 North Carolina past No. 1 Duke 88-72 on Wednesday night.

The ACC's second-leading scorer sprained his right knee during the Blue Devils' opening possession. Williamson grabbed his right knee in pain after slipping awkwardly and falling when his left shoe fell apart as he planted hard while dribbling near the free throw line.

The blue rubber sole ripped loose from the white shoe from the heel to the toes along the outside edge, with

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Williamson's foot coming all the way through the large gap.

Coach Mike Krzyzewski classified the injury as mild, but said he doesn't know how much time Williamson will miss.

Cameron Johnson added 26 points and Garrison Brooks had 14 to help the Tar Heels (21-5, 11-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) earn their most lopsided win at Cameron Indoor Stadium in 30 years.

By winning their ninth in 10 games and beating a top-ranked team for the first time since 2013, they pulled into a first-place tie with the Blue Devils (23-3, 11-2).

R.J. Barrett matched a season best with 33 points and fellow freshman Cameron Reddish added a season-high 27 for Duke — but the rest of the team combined to score just 12.

SDSU 65, Nevada 57

In San Diego, Jeremy Hemsley and Devin Watson scored 15 points apiece for San Diego State, which shut down Jordan Caroline and beat cold-shooting Nevada for the third straight time.

Jalen McDaniels added 10 points for SDSU (17-9, 9-4 Mountain West), which won for the seventh time in



Duke's Zion Williamson (1) falls to the floor with an injury while chasing the ball with North Carolina's Luke Maye (32) during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in Durham, North Carolina on Feb 20. (AP)

eight games and snapped a 10-game winning streak by the Wolf Pack (24-2, 11-2), prompting fans to rush the court. It was the highest ranked team that SDSU had ever beaten.

Caleb Martin had 20 points for Nevada, which was held to its lowest point total this season.

Michigan St 71, Rutgers 60

In East Lansing, Michigan, Cassius Winston scored 28 points and Xavier Tillman had a career-high 19 points and 10 rebounds to lead Michigan State.

The Spartans (22-5, 13-3 Big Ten) moved a half-game ahead of No. 7 Michigan and No. 15 Purdue in the Big Ten standings.

Geo Baker scored 17 points and Ron Harper had 11 points for Rutgers. The Scarlet Knights (12-14, 5-11) have lost five of their past six games. Michigan State missed Nick Ward

and Joshua Langford on offense against defensive-minded Rutgers. Ward had hand surgery Sunday and Langford had season-ending foot surgery earlier this month, taking more than 30 points of scoring out of Tom Izzo's lineup.

Marquette 79, Butler 69

In Milwaukee, Markus Howard scored 28 points and Theo John added 15 points and 11 rebounds as Marquette pulled away in the second half for the win.

Marquette (22-4, 11-2 Big East) erased an eight-point deficit early in the second half with a 25-7 run.

Sean McDermott had 27 points and Kamar Baldwin 12 for Butler (15-12, 6-8).

With No. 17 Villanova's 85-73 loss at Georgetown on Wednesday, the Golden Eagles moved into the Big East lead a half-game ahead of the Wildcats.

Howard, the Big East's leading scorer, made 9 of 20 shots, including 6 of 13 from beyond the arc.

Florida 82, LSU 77, OT

In Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Kevaughn Allen highlighted a 21-point performance with a pair of 3-pointers late in overtime, and Florida beat a ranked team for the first time this season.

Jalen Hudson and Noah Locke each scored 15 for Florida (15-11, 7-6 SEC), which has won three straight on the heels of competitive losses to Kentucky, Tennessee and Auburn.

Naz Reid had 16 points and 15 rebounds for LSU (21-5, 11-2), which lost for only the second time in 16 games and saw its four-game winning streak snapped. Skylar Mays scored 18 points for the Tigers.

Tremont Waters, Kavell Bigby-Williams and Marlon Taylor each scored 10 points for LSU.

Georgetown 85, Villanova 73

In Washington, Jessie Govan had 21 points and 11 rebounds, Mac McClung scored 21 points and Georgetown snapped a nine-game losing streak to Villanova.

Georgetown (16-10, 6-7 Big East) beat a ranked opponent for the first time since 2017, and second-year coach Patrick Ewing earned his first win against a Top-25 foe in eight tries.

James Akinjola had 10 points and nine assists as the Hoyas ended a two-game slide and beat Villanova at home for the first time since 2015.

Villanova (20-7, 11-3) lost consecutive conference games for the first time in 104 games. Phil Booth had 26 points, and Eric Paschall added 16. Colin Gillespie scored 13 points.

Syracuse 69, Louisville 49

In Syracuse, New York, Elijah Hughes scored 18 points and Oshae Brissett had 16 to lead four players in double figures as Syracuse topped Louisville.

Syracuse (18-8, 9-4 ACC) found their mark from behind the arc against Louisville, hitting 11 3-pointers and holding the Cardinals in check throughout. Buddy Boeheim had 14 points and Tyus Battle 11 for Syracuse.

The Cardinals (18-9, 9-5 Atlantic Coast Conference) were coming off two tough games. They blew a 23-point second-half lead and lost to top-ranked Duke just over a week ago, and on Saturday barely eked out a 56-55 win over Clemson.

Louisville entered the game shooting 36.3 percent from 3-point range and finished 14 of 54 (25.9 percent), a season low, and 6 of 28 from 3.

Jordan Nwora had 11 points on 3-of-13 shooting to lead Louisville. Dwayne Sutton was 1 of 10 for five points.



Kansas coach Brandon Schneider (second from left), and the team celebrate clinching at least a share of the Big 12 regular season title with an 80-40 win over Kansas in an NCAA college basketball game in Waco, Texas, on Feb 20. (AP)

3-way tie in 2nd place

Ji leads LPGA Thailand by two shots after opening 63

CHONBURI, Thailand, Feb 21, (AP): Eun-Hee Ji of South Korea led the LPGA Thailand by two shots after opening with a 9-under-par 63 on Thursday.

Ji won her fifth US LPGA Tour title in her previous event last month, the season-opening Tournament of Champions in Florida.

She picked up right where she left off, in Chonburi.

After an opening birdie and a bogey on the third hole, Ji birdied nine out of the following 14 holes on the Siam Country Club Pattaya's Old Course.

In her wake were Minjee Lee of Australia, Danielle Kang of the United States, and Jenny Shin of

South Korea, each with a 65.

"I felt really great. I didn't miss any fairways and missed just two greens," Ji said. "I have a lot of confidence."

Lee was bogey free as she eagled the 15th and birdied five holes on a humid day.

"I was little bit slow starting out."

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I finished with three birdies on the last three holes at the front nine, and got a little bit better momentum," Lee said.

A group of four, three strokes off the lead, included Americans Jennifer Song and Lizette Salas, Canadian Brooke Henderson, and Australian Katherine Kirk.

World No. 1 Ariya Jutanugarn, the 2013 runner-up, carded a 4 under 68, mixing an eagle and six birdies with two bogeys and a double bogey.



Ji

Embiid sidelined

Wizards center Howard to resume on-court workouts

WASHINGTON, Feb 21, (RTS): Washington Wizards center Dwight Howard will return on-court workouts, the latest step in his attempt to return from spinal surgery.

Shams Charania of The Athletic and Stadium reported Howard has been rehabbing from the surgery, performed in November, in Atlanta.

Howard, 33, has played just nine games this season for the Wizards, who signed him to a two-year, \$11 million contract last July. In his limited action, he averaged 12.8 points and 9.2 rebounds per game, far below his career averages of 17.4 points and 12.6 rebounds.



Joel Embiid's return from the All-Star break is expected to be delayed as the Philadelphia 76ers forward/center is experiencing left knee soreness, the team announced Wednesday.

In addition, an MRI on the right knee of guard/forward Furkan Korkmaz revealed a meniscus tear, with a surgical procedure a possibility to repair the injury.

According to Sixers vice-president of athlete care Daniel Medina, Embiid will be out of action immediately and will be re-evaluated in one week. An MRI showed no structural damage.



Houston center Clint Capela said he expects to be back in the lineup Thursday when the Rockets meet the Lakers in Los Angeles.

He has been out with ligament damage to his right thumb since Jan 13. The Rockets went 9-6 in his absence.

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Capela has played in 42 games, averaging 17.6 points and 12.6 rebounds.



The Golden State Warriors do not plan to limit DeMarcus Cousins' playing time for the duration of the regular season. The team had been careful with Cousins' workload since the big man returned to the court in mid-January after recovering from a torn left Achilles tendon.

Cousins had been limited to 25 minutes per game, but coach Steve Kerr said he and his staff would be more lenient as the team returns from the All-Star break.



Nevada forward Jordan Caroline (24) shoots as San Diego State forward Jalen McDaniels (5) defends during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game on Feb 20 in San Diego. (AP)

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