

NCAA VOLLEYBALL | ELITE EIGHT

Pressley powers potent attack for Baylor

STATE JOURNAL WIRE SERVICES

The top-seeded Baylor volleyball team used a dominant offensive performance to earn its first berth to the NCAA Final Four. The Bears hit a season-high .479 in posting a 25-20, 21-25, 25-19, 25-18 victory over eighth-seeded Washington in the Elite Eight on Saturday in Waco, Texas. Baylor (29-1) will face the fourth-seeded University of Wisconsin in a national semifinal

Thursday in Pittsburgh. It will be a rematch from Sept. 6, when the Bears prevailed 21-25, 25-22, 27-25, 25-17 at the UW Field House. Junior Yossiana Pressley, a 6-foot junior outside hitter, was named the Waco Regional Most Outstanding Player after putting down 24 kills on .512 hitting efficiency. Senior Shelly Stafford logged 11 kills on a .667 clip while Hannah Lockin led with 48 assists.



Pressley

“We’ve had a good run so far, and Yossi in my humble opinion is the national player of the

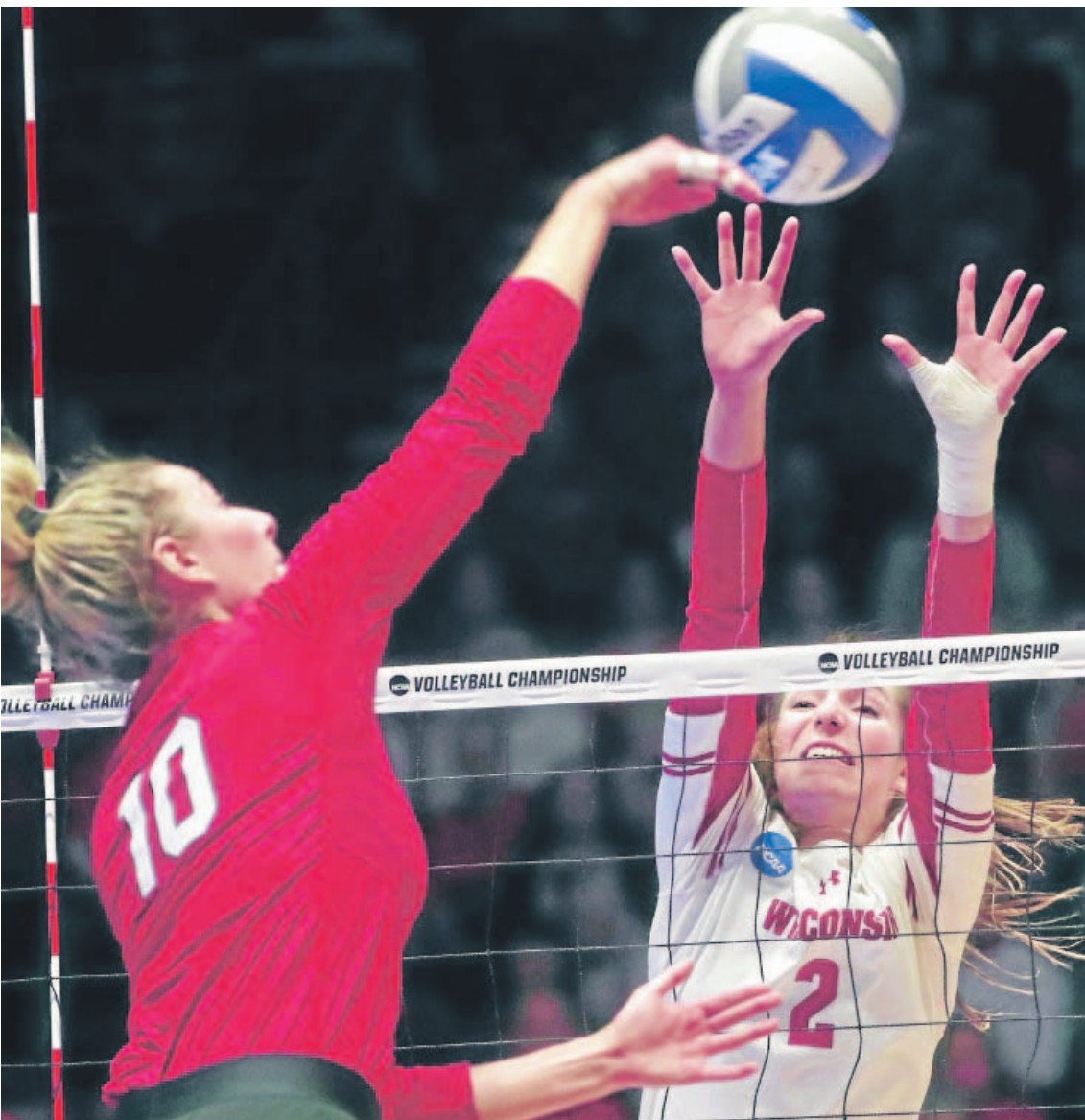
year,” Baylor coach Ryan McGuyre said. “If we didn’t get that performance that we got out of her tonight, it would have been a different story.” Pressley had 31 kills against the Badgers. **Minnesota 3, Louisville 0** Adanna Rollins had 12 kills while hitting .379 and the No. 7-seeded Golden Gophers (27-5) advanced to the Final Four with a

25-21, 25-14, 25-16 victory against the unseeded Cardinals (22-10) in Austin, Texas. Alexis Hart and Stephanie Samedy each had nine kills for Minnesota, which will face either No. 11 Penn State or No. 3 Stanford. Their match did not end in time for this edition. Former Sun Prairie athlete Claire Chaussee, a sophomore outside hitter, had four kills and 11 digs for Louisville.

Badgers

From B1

aces by Hilley and put it away with the help of three more aces down the stretch. They trailed by as many as four points in the second set before chipping away. After getting even at 17, the teams traded points and were tied at 22 before the Badgers finished with a 3-0 run on three attack errors by the Cornhuskers. As Hilley predicted, the third set was a back-and-forth affair with neither team leading by more than three points, with the Huskers tying the match at 18 with a three-point run. Sheffield called a timeout at that point and the Badgers came out and finished off the match on a 7-1 run. Junior middle blocker Dana Rettke, who had a relatively quiet offensive match with seven kills, had two kills and combined on three blocks during the final 5-0 run. She and Haggerty combined on a block of Jazz Sweet for match point. “At a time like that there’s no holding back,” Rettke said. “When it comes out like that it’s pretty exciting.” It was appropriate the match would end on a defensive play, as the top two defenses during the Big Ten season ruled the day. The Badgers were held to a .192 hitting percentage, more than 100 points below their season average. But their defense more than made up for that by holding the Huskers to a .062 hitting percentage, by far their lowest of the season. It was in stark contrast to the teams’ first meeting in Lincoln,



UW’s Sydney Hilley attempts to block a shot by Nebraska’s Madi Kubik during the third set. Hilley had a match-high 31 assists.

when the Badgers hit .376 and the Huskers .336. UW had a .331-.239

advantage in the regular-season rematch. “It couldn’t have been a more different match than the first time

we played in Lincoln,” Sheffield said. “There, it was two teams just teeing off on each other offensively, hitting big, huge numbers. And this game was just really gritty, you know, in the dirt, which is how Tiffany enjoys playing, a lot of defense. To hold that team under a hundred is pretty cool. I thought that was a really, really gritty performance by us.” The Huskers committed 27 attack errors, their high mark for a three-set match this season. The Badgers had an 11-4 edge in blocks and Nebraska coach John Cook attributed some of the other miscues to the UW defense behind the block. “You’ve got to give Wisconsin credit,” Cook said. “They made some great digs, and when teams are digging you and pressuring you, you try a little bit harder.” Hilley sensed early on that this one would be a defensive type of match. “In the tournament, I expect every match to be like that,” she said. “I expect it to just be a battle for both teams. We know Nebraska is a great team, and you can never count them out in the tournament because they are always so good. “That was really fun and it’s all credit to my blockers and my defenders there. They did amazing, my O-line. That was just a great game to play.”

Nebraska	18	22	19
Wisconsin	25	25	25

NEBRASKA (kills-digs-blocks) — Hames 1-7-1, Knudviks 0-22-0, Miller 0-6-0, Szabo 0-1-1, Sweet 11-0-2, Kubik 7-11-0, Sun 11-11-0, Drennick 0-0-0, Schwarzenbach 2-0-1, Stivrins 3-0-3, Densberger 0-2-0, Totals 35-60-4. **WISCONSIN (kills-digs-blocks)** — Barnes 0-9-0, Hilley 2-3-2, Ashburn 0-8-0, Duello 2-4-3, Rettke 7-2-8, Clark 0-17-0, Hart 4-1-3, Dodge 0-10-0, Loberg 9-2-1, Haggerty 14-1-3, Totals 38-57-11. **Hitting percentage** — N .062, W .192. **Aces** — N 1 (Kubik), W 5 (Hilley 3). **Assists** — N 34 (Hames 26), W 35 (Hilley 31). **Att.** — 7,052.

STANDINGS & SCHEDULE

EASTERN CONFERENCE										
Atlantic	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf	
Philadelphia	20	7	.741	—	9-1	W-5	14-0	6-7	13-3	
Boston	17	7	.708	1½	6-4	L-2	10-1	7-6	11-4	
Toronto	17	8	.680	2	6-4	W-1	10-3	7-5	11-4	
Brooklyn	13	12	.520	6	6-4	L-2	7-5	6-7	8-7	
New York	6	20	.231	13½	2-8	W-2	3-10	3-10	2-15	
Southeast	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf	
Miami	18	7	.720	—	7-3	L-1	11-1	7-6	13-2	
Orlando	11	14	.440	7	5-5	L-3	8-6	3-8	7-9	
Charlotte	12	16	.429	7½	6-4	W-3	6-8	6-8	9-10	
Washington	7	17	.292	10½	2-8	L-4	4-6	3-11	3-7	
Atlanta	6	20	.231	12½	2-8	L-3	3-9	3-11	3-13	
Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf	
Milwaukee	24	3	.889	—	10-0W-18	13-1	11-2	15-2		
Indiana	17	9	.654	6½	7-3	W-2	10-3	7-6	12-7	
Detroit	10	15	.400	13	5-5	L-1	7-6	3-9	8-13	
Chicago	10	18	.357	14½	4-6	W-1	6-10	4-8	6-12	
Cleveland	6	20	.231	17½	1-9	L-1	3-10	3-10	4-17	
WESTERN CONFERENCE										
Southwest	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf	
Dallas	17	7	.708	—	8-2	W-1	8-5	9-2	11-4	
Houston	17	8	.680	½	6-4	W-2	9-3	8-5	9-5	
San Antonio	10	15	.400	7½	5-5	W-1	7-7	3-8	7-8	
Memphis	9	17	.346	9	4-6	W-1	4-11	5-6	6-10	
New Orleans	6	20	.231	12	0-10	L-11	4-9	2-11	5-13	
Northwest	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf	
Denver	15	8	.652	—	5-5	W-1	9-3	6-5	8-4	
Utah	15	11	.577	1½	4-6	W-2	10-3	5-8	12-7	
Okla. City	11	13	.458	4½	6-4	L-1	7-5	4-8	9-9	
Minnesota	10	15	.400	6	2-8	L-7	3-9	7-6	4-12	
Portland	10	16	.385	6½	5-5	L-1	5-6	5-10	6-11	
Pacific	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf	
L.A. Lakers	23	3	.885	—	9-1	W-6	10-2	13-1	16-2	
L.A. Clippers	20	8	.714	4	7-3	L-1	13-1	7-7	12-5	
Phoenix	11	14	.440	11½	3-7	L-2	6-9	5-5	7-10	
Sacramento	11	14	.440	11½	4-6	L-1	6-5	5-9	7-7	
Golden State	5	22	.185	18½	2-8	L-3	2-9	3-13	3-15	

Friday’s results
Houston 130, Orlando 107
L.A. Lakers 113, Miami 110
Philadelphia 116, New Orleans 109
Indiana 110, Atlanta 100
Charlotte 83, Chicago 73
Milwaukee 127, Memphis 114
Utah 114, Golden State 106
L.A. Clippers 124, Minnesota 117
New York 103, Sacramento 101

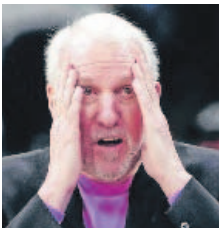
Saturday’s results
San Antonio 121, Phoenix 119, OT
Toronto 110, Brooklyn 102

Chicago 109, L.A. Clippers 106
Memphis 128, Washington 111
Milwaukee 125, Cleveland 108
Miami at Dallas, (n)
Detroit at Houston, (n)
Oklahoma City at Denver, (n)

Today’s games
Orlando at New Orleans, 2:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Indiana, 4 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Atlanta, 5 p.m.
Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 5 p.m.
New York at Denver, 7 p.m.
Sac. at Golden State, 7:30 p.m.

STAT OF THE DAY

32 Coach **Gregg Popovich** and the Spurs have been below the .500 mark for more days this season than they have been in the previous 10 seasons combined; 32 and counting this season, 28 in the previous decade. The Spurs will soon spend their 100th day with a losing record over the past 22 years — amazingly, every other team in the NBA has spent at least 1,000 days below .500 in that span.



— Associated Press

NBA ROUNDUP



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Spurs guard DeMar DeRozan dunks on Suns forward Frank Kaminsky during Saturday’s game in Mexico City, the 30th game — 10th in the regular season — that the NBA has held in Mexico.

Spurs outlast Suns in a record-setting overtime

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEXICO CITY — San Antonio set a record. Patty Mills got the Spurs a win, too. Mills made a jumper from the free throw line with 0.3 seconds left in the Spurs’ record-setting fourth consecutive overtime game, and they outlasted the Phoenix Suns 121-119 on Saturday. The NBA record book shows 20 instances of teams playing three straight overtime games — but never four straight, like the Spurs have. They’re 3-1 in those games, their best stretch since opening the season 4-1. “We’ve had four overtime games in a row now and we’ve won three of them and I think there’s something positive to be said for that,” Mills said. “Tonight it was the execution. We

haven’t had the greatest of seasons but we’re learning as we go.” DeMar DeRozan pulled the Spurs even with a drive and fling — after a foul by Mikal Bridges — down the right side of the lane, but missed the free throw. The ball went out of bounds on a scramble after the missed free throw, and San Antonio kept the ball after a replay review. Mills led the Spurs with 26 points. **BULLS 109, CLIPPERS 106:** Zach LaVine scored 31 points and converted a decisive three-point play in Chicago’s home victory over Los Angeles, which played without Kawhi Leonard, Lou Williams and Patrick Beverly. **GRIZZLIES 128, WIZARDS 111:** Dillon Brooks scored

27 points, rookie Brandon Clarke added 25 and Memphis sent visiting Washington to its fourth straight loss. **RAPTORS 110, NETS 102:** Pascal Siakam scored 30 points, Marc Gasol set season highs with 17 points and 15 rebounds and Toronto beat Brooklyn to snap a three-game home losing streak. **Doncic leaves early after injuring ankle:** Mavericks star Luka Doncic left the game against Miami early and did not return after he sprained his right ankle while driving to the basket. The reigning rookie of the year’s right foot landed on the foot of Heat guard Kendrick Nunn less than two minutes into the game Saturday night.

AROUND THE NBA

Pair of non-calls hurt Heat in loss

DALLAS — The Miami Heat may have been two missed calls away from a different fate in their 113-110 loss to the Los Angeles Lakers on Friday. Per the NBA’s last 2-minute report, the Lakers committed two fouls against Jimmy Butler that weren’t called on the Heat’s final possession of the game. The first foul occurred during the inbound with 4.1 seconds left in the game. Had the foul been called, Butler would’ve received one free throw and the Heat would’ve had possession of the ball with 4.1 seconds remaining because the foul on Butler was during an in-bounds play. The second missed call happened during Butler’s potential game-tying 3-pointer.

Bulls stay the course for now

CHICAGO — Bulls executive John Paxson said the team plans to stand pat despite its disappointing record. “I take responsibility for where we’re at,” Paxson told the Chicago Sun-Times. Paxson specifically said there were no plans to fire second-year coach Jim Boylen or make any major personnel moves. **BRIEFLY** **HORNETS:** Rookie forward P.J. Washington broke the pinkie finger on his right hand and will miss Sunday’s game and possibly more, the team said. **OBITUARY:** Carl Scheer, the first general manager in Hornets history and the inventor of the slam-dunk contest, died Friday in Charlotte. He was 82. The original slam-dunk contest, initiated by Scheer at the 1976 ABA All-Star game, was won by Julius Erving.

— Wire reports