



Monday, March 4, 2002

## Men's basketball season ends at quarterfinals

OU's **men's basketball team** ended its season by losing to IUPUI in the first round of the Mid-Continent Conference Tournament.

No. 6 IUPUI proved it is difficult to beat a team three times in one season as the Jaguars upset No. 3 Oakland, 90-84, in the final quarterfinal game of the tournament on Sunday, March 3.

Oakland (17-13) beat IUPUI twice during the regular season, but the Jaguars used strong inside play and a solid effort from the free throw line to advance to the semifinals for the second straight year.

The two teams played a close contest for much of the first half and were tied 27-27 with just under seven minutes left in the half. IUPUI (14-14) outscored Oakland by a 21-11 margin to close the first 20 minutes of play and led by ten (48-38) at the half.

Oakland, playing in its first-ever Mid-Con Tournament, went on a 19-10 run to start the second half, cutting the lead to one point (58-57) at the 13-minute mark. IUPUI could only push its lead to seven points over the next nine minutes. A three-pointer by Brian Buchanan pushed IUPUI's lead to eight points, but that was the last field goal the Jaguars would score. IUPUI made 13 of 15 free throws the rest of the way, holding off a variety of Oakland rallies. The Jaguars made 32-of-39 free throws for the game, outscoring the Golden Grizzlies by 20 points (32-12).

All five starters scored in double figures for Oakland, including Mike Helms and Jason Rozycki, who each had 20. Brad Buddenborg added 19, while Mychal Covington posted 12 points and 12 assists — the latter number tied a tournament record.

IUPUI goes on to play No.2 Oral Roberts in the second semifinal of the 2002 Mid-Con Tournament on Monday, March 4, at 8:30 p.m.

### SUMMARY

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Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Monday, March 4, 2002

Article Start Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2003