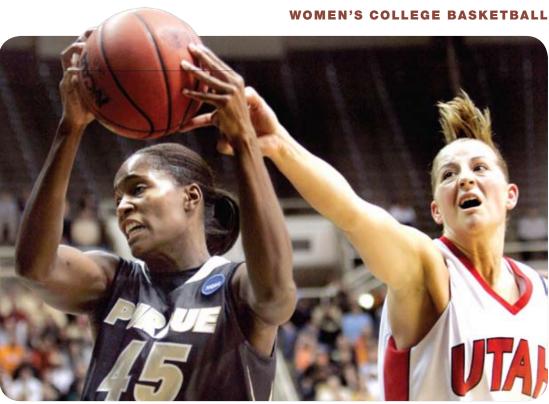
Olympic Protest » Protesters disrupted the Beijing Olympics flame-lighting ceremony in Ancient Olympia today, and a Tibetan woman covered in fake blood briefly blocked the path of the torchbearer.

sports&rec



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Utah forward Kalee Whipple attempts to knock the rebound away from Purdue guard Kalika France in the first half of a first-round women's NCAA basketball tournament game in West Lafayette, Ind., on Sunday.

Game, Interrupted

The Lady Utes thought their season would end in the Sweet 16, or maybe the Elite Eight if things broke right. But, as everyone finds out at one point or another, life throws curveballs at the least expected times. The Utes, playing a virtual road game on Sunday night against Purdue, were beaten 66-59 by the Boilermakers in the first round of the NCAA Tournament at Mackey Arena.

UNHAPPY ENDINGS • The defeat brings an abrupt end to a year that featured a 22-game winning streak, an undefeated Mountain West Conference regular season. And the end the career of Leilani Mitchell, the sensational point guard who transferred to Utah for her senior season.

UNEXPECTED • Utah returns home with a two-game losing streak, which is a shocker considering the 22 consecutive wins that preceded it.

TIDE SHIFT • The turning point came late in the game. Down 54-52, Utah missed three point-blank layups, two by Morgan Warburton and the other coming from Kalee Whipple. A score there would have tied the game.

POINTS • Mitchell led the Utes with 14 points, nine assists and six rebounds. But the defense of Purdue guard FahKara Malone caused her to turn the ball over seven times.

Warburton, a junior guard, scored a game-high 18 points to go along with seven rebounds, and Whipple scored 14 points despite shooting 3-for-11 from the field.

PURDUE • Purdue took control of the game thanks in large part to a season-high seven three-pointers. With the victory, the No. 9 Boilermakers advance to face Tennessee, a winner over Oral Roberts in the final game of the evening.

RODEO

Persistence Pays Off for Utah Riders

Bareback rider Jessy Davis of Payson and bull rider Jerry Shepherd of Nephi were among the big winners as the 22nd annual National Circuit Finals Rodeo concluded Saturday night at Pocatello, Idaho's Holt Arena.

Davis was the leading money-winner in bareback riding, pocketing \$16,597 in the four-day event. He tied for first in Saturday's semifinal round with an 86 atop Let's Play. But in the final round Davis was third with an 82, as Chris Harris of Itasca, Texas, won with an 87 on Street Dance.

In bull riding, Shepherd was the leading money-winner with \$7,815. However, he was disappointed Saturday, failing to post a score in either the semifinal round or the final round.

Delta's Tracee Young tied for fourth overall, winning \$3,942.

FOOTBALL

Ute Receiver Wilson Gets Suspended

Utah senior receiver Marquis Wilson, who had 18 catches for 285 yards and three touchdowns in 2007, has been indefinitely suspended, according to Utah coach Kyle Whittingham.

Wilson remains in school and his reinstatement is contingent upon him meeting several undisclosed requirements.

This is the second suspension for Wilson, a graduate of Juan Diego High in Sandy. He cannot join in any team activities.

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