By: Kiran Pathy

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THE SPORTIER

College Basketball is Back!

This past Tuesday marked the return of NCAA Basketball. With a new season comes all new squads. The new number one ranked team in the country, Michigan State, is led by their fiery guard Cassius Winston, who led his team to the Final Four last season. Duke, though losing Zion and Co. to the NBA, were able to snag four top 40 ranked prospects, two of them ranked in the top 15. Unfortunately for them, they are only ranked 4th in the country, behind number two Kentucky and number three Kansas. Kentucky picked up three top 25 prospects, among other players. Kansas' star center, Udoka Azubuike, who was out majority of last season with a torn ligament in his hand, has returned. Additionally, a new school has entered contention for a title. That school is Memphis. Head coach and former NBA Star Penny Hardaway was able to pull in three top 40 recruits, including the Wiseman. Though things are looking up for 14th ranked Memphis, Wiseman has been ruled ineligible Hardaway gave thousands of dollars to the Wiseman family, assisting their move to Memphis before becoming head coach of the program. It will be interesting to see what will become of the situation, and of the team.

Upset Alert!

17 Minnesota defeats 4 Penn State

When all was looking up for Penn State, sitting undefeated at 8-0 and becoming a large contender in the upcoming College Football Playoffs, they took a trip to meet Minnesota. Also an 8-0 team, Minnesota had a nice halftime lead behind three 20+ yard touchdown passes from quarterback Tanner Morgan, at 13-24. Penn State came back to within five points, and had the ball down six points after recovering a fumble with 2:40 left to play. After reaching the 25 yard line of their opponent and closing in on a game-tying score, a pass bound for the end zone was intercepted by Minnesota, sealing the final result, a Minnesota win with a score of 31-26.

What This Means: With this win, Minnesota can potentially leap into the top 10, pushing them closer into one of the top 4 spots, which would allow them to play in the College Football Playoffs. For Penn State, they will most likely fall behind Minnesota, out of the top 10, making it a difficult challenge for them to regain their ground in the rankings.



The scene on the field after the Minnesota-Penn State game

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Historic Night in the NBA

This past Friday night, multiple historical feats were accomplished in the NBA. Warriors guard D'Angelo Russell, who was traded to Golden State from the Brooklyn Nets in the offseason, scored a career-high 52 points against the Minnesota Timberwolves. Additionally, All-Star guard for the Portland Trail Blazers Damian Lillard scored a career-high AND franchise best 60 points against the Brooklyn Nets. This occurrence of two players scoring 50+ points on the same night was last achieved by Allen Iverson of the Philadelphia 76ers and Vince Carter of the New Jersey Nets, back in 2005. Unfortunately for these two, the Warriors had the majority of their team injured, and the Trail Blazers are lacking additional offensive and defensive support, leading to both of their teams to take close losses. Finally, two game winning shots were made last night. Bojan Bogdanovic of the Utah Jazz made an off balance 3-pointer from the corner at the buzzer, sealing a 103-100 win over the Milwaukee Bucks. Nikola Jokic of the Denver shot, but his was a little different. Jokic took a deep 2-pointer with the clock winding down, and was able to get off a shot that went in, while getting slapped on the arm during the shot. Jokic's shot

In The Rulebook

Did you know: The halftime intermission of a regular season college football game may not exceed 20 minutes? Additionally, intermissions between the 1st and 2nd Quarter, as well as the 3rd and 4th Quarter, last only 1 minute, but may be extended due to television and radio timeouts.



Sources:

NBA, 247 Sports, NCAA, ESPN, NCAA Football Rules