

C4 STAR TRIBUNE

SPORTS

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# COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Davison toughing out season

Former Maple Grove star ignoring shoulder injury to lead Badgers tonight spot

By MARK IS FULLER  
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Head Davison's playing through injury as a Wisconsin freshman might end up becoming the team's leader. Badgers fans surely will look back on his career from now and recall that time when Davison located his left shoulder against Baylor in November, got it popped back in and returned to the game.

Fans will remember Davison becoming Wisconsin's No. 2 scoring option and starting point guard 10 games into the season after D'Mitrik Trice had foot surgery. But that Davison played basically with one arm because he had to brace to keep his shoulder in place. Fans will remember that second half rally Davison fared and his 36 points in a 57-53 upset of No. 6 Purdue that resulted in a court-strengthening win at the Kohl Center on Thursday.

"He's playing out of position and playing with one arm — we've all heard that plenty of times," Badgers coach Greg Gard said after the Purdue victory.

The 6-foot-5, 205-pound Davison, who has scored in double figures in 12 of the past 17 games, wanted to establish himself as one of Wisconsin's top players, as well as a step-up on campus, he said.

"I put a lot of time in to get to this point," said Davison, who is averaging 15.5 points, 2.4 assists and 2.1 rebounds

### GOPHERS GAMEDAY

8 p.m. at Wisconsin • PSL 1130-AM, 101.5-PM

### Badgers coming off upset

**Preview:** The Gophers (14-14, 5-12 Big Ten) enter Monday's Koehn battle against Wisconsin on an eight-game losing streak, their longest since they lost 34 in a blow during the 2013-14 season. Coach Rick Pitino announced the latest injury blow Saturday, saying that sophomore G Amir Coffey will miss the remainder of the season to undergo surgery on his right shoulder. Coffey has missed 20 games this season, including the past five. Junior G Cooper McWayne, who has missed the past two games because of a lower left leg injury, will be a game-time decision. Coffey and McWayne have missed 13 games combined. The Badgers (12-16, 5-10) have played without two of their best backcourt players since December. Starting PG D'Mitrik Trice hasn't returned since foot surgery, and G Kobe King is out for the year because of knee surgery. Wisconsin leaned on its defense to upset No. 6 Purdue on Thursday. The Boilermakers were held to 39.5 percent shooting, including 4-16 on 3s from those-point range.

**Players to watch:** Gophers freshman G Isaiah Washington has taken advantage of his expanded role with Coffey and McWayne limited or absent in the past few games. Washington is averaging 14.6 points, 4.4 assists, 3.4 rebounds, shooting 67.5 percent from the free line, 47 percent from the field and 58.8 percent from three-point range in 31.8 minutes. Wisconsin junior forward Ethan Happ is averaging 25.7 points and 6.3 rebounds in his past three games, which included 21 points and 12 rebounds in UW's 57-53 win over Purdue.

**Numbers:** The Gophers have lost seven in a row to Wisconsin, last beating the Badgers on Jan. 22, 2014, at the Bama. They have not won at the Kohl Center since a 78-74 overtime victory in 2009.

MARK IS FULLER

to the U from high school." He said they're always talking about it, but Wisconsin is the place where I wanted to end up. I got nothing but respect for Minnesota, and I'm really excited for the opportunity to play against them and Coach [Richard] Pitino. Should be a lot of fun." Davison came off the bench for Wisconsin's first four games but scored 34 points in his first career start Nov. 21 against UCLA. After moving to point guard Dec. 9 vs. Marquette, he had a rough time taking care of the ball, including four game-time stretch with 17 turnovers combined. "It didn't make it easier that he was limited with a bum shoulder that surely had him shut down for the season."

"It's been extremely tough," Davison said. "There have been times it popped out during the game, but I thought I could manage the pain and get through it mentally. I needed it. I'm just thankful to the Lord that I have the opportunity to play. I have two teammates who can't play [Trice and Kobe King]. So I don't have time to be sorry for myself."

Wisconsin's streak of 39 consecutive trips to the NCAA tournament likely will cement its end. Gard has been forced to rely on several underclassmen as a supporting cast for All-America candidate Ethan Happ, including former Labete North Star State Reavers. The opportunity to play immediately was there for Davison. As for Reavers, he was planning to redshirt but now has started 12 of the past 17 games. It helped having Davison to show him how to always compete at this level. "He's a competitor," Reavers said. "He pushes us to get better every day."

### BIG TEN ROUNDOUP



Illinois forward Loren Black dunked near Nebraska forward Isaac Copeland during the first half Sunday.

## Black, Illini halt Huskers' streak

NEWS SERVICES

**No. 4 Purdue 76, Penn State 78:** Carven Edwards scored 27 points as the host Boilermakers (24-13) ended a three-game losing streak by holding off the Nittany Lions (19-19), 9-7, who had won six of seven.

It wasn't easy for Purdue, in search of the offensive flair that made it unbeatable during its previous record 19-game winning streak. Ryan Cline's three-pointers with 5:51 left put the Boilermakers up 61-58, and they held on from there.

Vincent Edwards sat on the bench wearing a walking boot after spraining his left ankle in practice on Saturday. The team disclosed the injury in a statement before tipoff.

Tony Carr had 19 points, five rebounds and five assists, and Shap Garner had 17 points for Penn State.

**No. 22 Michigan 74, No. 8 Ohio State 62:** Freshman Jordan Poole scored 12 of his 16 points in the first half to help the host Wolverines (22-13) take the lead, and they never trailed in the second half as the Buckeyes (22-13-3), who fell out of first place during the game.

Michigan gave Michigan State a one-game lead atop the conference with two games left in the regular season.

The Wolverines have won three in a row for the first time since ending a seven-game streak on Jan. 6. "We're playing the right way at the right time," coach John Beilein said.

Ohio State's Kente Reddy had his second straight lachester game, missing 12 of 17 shots and scoring 17 points.

## U wins a blowout at Barn



Maryland guard Kristen Conroy was stripped of the ball by Gophers guard Caitie Wagner, right, and Gavia Hubbard when she drove into traffic Sunday at Williams Arena.

### THE BIG TEN RACE

The Gophers climbed into a tie for third place in the Big Ten with their victory on Sunday and now just a game out with two regular-season games left. Here are the top eight:

Overall	Conf.
Maryland	25-5 11-3
Ohio State	22-4 10-2
Gophers	21-6 10-4
Nebraska	19-8 10-4
Iowa	21-6 9-5
Michigan	20-8 9-6
Purdue	17-11 8-6
Indiana	15-12 8-6

### • GOPHERS ON 3 playing extremely well.

Maryland (22-5, 11-3), which has won five of the Big Ten regular-season tie games since joining the conference in 2014-15, has dropped two consecutive games and fallen into a tie for first place with Ohio State. Usually a solid defensive team, the Terrapins surrendered at least 90 points for only the third time this season in November they gave up 94 to No. 3 South Carolina and 97 to No. 1 Connecticut.

Maryland coach Brenda Frese called Minnesota's performance "sensational and efficient." "The basket was as big as an ocean," the former Gophers coach said. "The Gophers, who had been 0-2 against the Terps, rattled off a 14-4 run to end the first quarter up by five. The lead only ballooned from there. They kept the pressure on in the second quarter with a 7-0 run that took 84 seconds, resulting in Maryland taking a timeout down by 11.

### HIGH POINTS

Some of what happened: Gophers accomplished on Sunday. • Headed Maryland its worst conference loss since joining the Big Ten in 2014-15. • Scored 50 or more points for the third straight game, a program first in Big Ten play. • Led for 34 minutes, 22 seconds. Their longest lead was 27.

Sophomore guard Gavia Hubbard, who scored a game-high 22 points with four three-pointers, could see the turning point in that quarter. "They were getting tired, and we looked like we just got our second wind," Hubbard said. "We were pushing the pace." The Terrapins got within seven at 39-32, but the Gophers responded with a string of four three-pointers in a span of 2 minutes, 38 seconds from Pitts and senior Carle Wagner to push the lead to 34 points. The Gophers led 45-39 at the half and went up by as many as 27 in the third quarter, reaching 90 points for a third consecutive Big Ten game for the first time in program history. Junior guard Kaitie Bell reached the 1,000-point mark on a shot from beyond the arc in the second quarter as part of her 21-point effort. She is the 24th player in team history to reach the milestone. Pitts finished with 20 points, taking all her shots from three-point range, going 6-of-11. She also had nine rebounds and four assists. Wagner reached double figures (17 points) for the 100th time in her career, tying Lindsay Whalen for second on the Gophers' all-time list. "At this point, I think it's confidence," Wagner said. "The ball's really rolling for us right now so it's exciting."

### Kristie Bell, who scored 21 points, drove her left on Terps guard Kristen Conroy.

PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

GOPHERS ST. BIL MARYLAND 74	W	L	OT	PT
Overall	21	6	0	10-4
Conf.	10	4	0	10-4
Overall	25	5	11-3	
Conf.	11	3	11-3	
Overall	22	4	10-2	
Conf.	10	2	10-2	
Overall	21	6	10-4	
Conf.	10	4	10-4	
Overall	19	8	10-4	
Conf.	10	4	10-4	
Overall	21	6	9-5	
Conf.	9	5	9-5	
Overall	20	8	9-6	
Conf.	9	6	9-6	
Overall	17	11	8-6	
Conf.	8	6	8-6	

### ROUNDUP

## Trent's late free throws lift Duke past Clemson

NEWS SERVICES

**Big Ten**  
Gary Trent II hit three foul shots with 39 seconds left to put No. 12 Duke ahead for good, and the Blue Devils won their third in a row with Marvin Bagley III on the sidelines, 66-57, in 10-ranked Clemson on Sunday.

For six, Trent's three wins with arguably as talented a kid as there is in the country out of the Big Ten.

The Blue Devils gave up all of their lead and over a 10-minute stretch when the Terps tied it at 55-55 on David Shaw's jumper. That's when Apple Valley's Trent was off the mark on his three from the right corner but got graded by Clemson reserve Scott Spivey.

Trent's first shot rattled around before falling through and he finished the next two for Duke (23-5, 8-4 Atlantic Coast Conference). The Blue Devils outscored the Terps (23-4, 9-9) the final 100 seconds.

**No. 19 Wichita State 76, No. 5 Cincinnati 63:** Lashay Sharratt scored 19 points, and the Shockers (23-11-0) ended the nation's longest home-court winning streak, beating the Bearcats (24-8, 12-3) to leave the American Athletic Conference race wide open.

### Women

**Big Ten**  
Maryland (22-5, 11-3) won its first Big Ten game since joining the conference in 2014-15, as the host Blue Devils (22-4, 10-2) held off the host Boilermakers (22-13, 8-6) for a share of the Big Ten lead with No. 10 Maryland, 83-69, on Saturday.

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