

McDyess, 34, has been on a tear during the last 12 games. **PISTONS 3D**



Fordson wrestler advances at state meet, 17-0. **HIGH SCHOOLS 8D**

Covering the bases 2D
Local/state 2D
For the record 6D
Golf 6D

Third period dooms Wings

Flames score three in 2:02, then cap comeback victory with two more goals in the shootout.

By TED KULFAN
The Detroit News

DETROIT — This wasn't as horrific as giving up eight goals to the Nashville Predators and Columbus Blue Jackets recently. But Thursday's 6-5 shootout loss to the Calgary Flames was nearly as astounding.

Flames 6, Red Wings 5 (SO)

Only Dan Cleary's goal with 42 seconds left in regulation salvaged at least one point in the standings.

The Wings led 4-2 entering the third period, but the Flames scored three goals (two by Jamie Lundmark) in 2:02.

Cleary scored 38 seconds after

Wild finish

The Red Wings and Flames combined for seven shots and four goals in the final 3:22. Here's a closer look at the frantic finish:

- 19:18: goal, Cleary (Wings)
- 18:40: goal, Lundmark (Flames)
- 18:19: shot, Aucoin (Flames)
- 18:00: shot, Glencross (Flames)
- 17:29: goal, Jokinen (Flames)
- 17:19: shot, Glencross
- 16:38: goal, Lundmark

Lundmark gave the Flames a 5-4 lead.

After an uneventful overtime, the Flames' Mike Cammalleri (Michigan) and Olli Jokinen scored against Ty Conklin in the shootout.

Only Pavel Datsyuk scored against Flames goalie Miikka Kiprusoff.

"We weren't aggressive enough," Red Wings coach Mike Babcock said. "When you're on

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Olli Jokinen of the Flames scores against Ty Conklin in the shootout. Jokinen also scored twice in regulation. Conklin made 28 saves but lost his 13-game winning streak at Joe Louis Arena snapped.



Daniel Mears/The Detroit News

Tigers look ready to use Porcello now

Pitcher's stellar outings appear to have earned him ticket to the majors, but is team being hasty?

By LYNN HENNING
The Detroit News

LAKELAND, Fla. — Fans are nervous. Fans are excited. Rick Porcello is coming to town, as near as we can tell today, as part of Tigers manager Jim Leyland's rotation.

The cautionary crowd isn't sure it likes it. Don't the Tigers remember Jeremy Bonderman moving straight from Class A to the big leagues? Aren't the Tigers still trying to teach Bonderman a change-up that he should have learned in the minors?

And why take chances with a franchise pitcher's arm? Porcello threw a maximum of 75 pitches per game during last summer's baptism at Class A Lakeland. Why would the Tigers risk ruining his arm by making him throw 100 or more pitches a game in the big

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leagues?

The worrywarts are grief-stricken. They fret about destroying his confidence as Porcello runs into that inevitable bad day when he learns what big league batters do to imprecise pitches.

So, they prefer that a 20-year-old right-hander not quite two years out of high school do an internship at Double-A Erie. Then, maybe, the Tigers can give him a start or two in September and let him compete for a job next spring, when he's at least of drinking age.

They have their points, which the Tigers are considering.

But it looks as if one over-arching argument will win:

Porcello is good enough to pitch — and win — in the majors.

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John T. Grelick/The Detroit News

Tigers prized prospect Rick Porcello, less than two years out of high school, wasn't expected to contend for a roster spot this season.

Michigan makes case, then some



Dale G. Young/The Detroit News

Manny Harris comes down with one of his seven rebounds in Michigan's 73-45 romp past Iowa in a first-round Big Ten tournament game. He also had 18 points and eight assists.

Big Ten tournament

1 Michigan State Today, Noon		2 Illinois Today, 6:30 p.m.
8 Minnesota	Saturday 1:40 p.m.	7 Michigan
4 Wisconsin Today 2:30 p.m.	Sunday, 3:30 p.m.	3 Purdue Today, 9 p.m.
5 Ohio State	BIG TEN CHAMPION	6 Penn State

Sims, Harris pad resume for NCAA bid

By ANGELIQUE S. CHENGELIS
The Detroit News

INDIANAPOLIS — Considering the NCAA Tournament selection committee is sequestered nearby at the Westin Hotel trying to figure out teams deserving of at-large bids, perhaps it wouldn't be a bad idea for the Michigan Wolverines to head over there and slip their season resume under the meeting-room door.

The Wolverines added some punch to that resume by improving their record to 20-12 with a dominating 73-45 victory Thursday over Iowa in the first round of the Big Ten tournament at Consecro Fieldhouse.

"Hopefully," Michigan senior co-captain David Merritt said, "our resume speaks for itself."

DeShawn Sims had 27 points, including the first 14 of the game, and Manny Harris had 18 points, eight assists and seven rebounds to lead the Wolverines, who haven't been to the NCAA Tournament since 1998.

Most national bracket projections had U-M in the NCAA Tournament field before Thursday's game, but the prevailing opinion was a victory in the first round of the Big Ten tournament would make the Wolverines a lock.

Jerry Palm, publisher of CollegeRPI.com, said the Wolverines certainly made an impression with their victory against Iowa. Michigan, which had two early season victories against then-top-five teams UCLA and Duke, has won five of its last seven, including a sweep of Minnesota and a strong home victory against then-No. 16 Purdue.

"One thing they had to do was play their non-conference back in-

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WOJO
Wolverines proved they belong in NCAA Tournament. **4D**

SOUPED-UP SIMS
Michigan junior says confidence helped him to 27 points. **4D**

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Lucas is Spartans' general

Kalin Lucas - by the numbers

- 1** Finish in Big Ten player of the year voting
- 2.26** Assist-to-turnover ratio, fourth in the Big Ten and 33rd in the country
- 16.5** Scoring average in the Big Ten (2nd)
- 42** Career double-figure scoring games; Michigan State is 35-7 when he hits double figures

Talented sophomore guard has overcome a rough patch to lead Michigan State into the postseason.

By ERIC LACY
The Detroit News

EAST LANSING — As reporters walked out of Michigan State's locker room last weekend, Kalin Lucas had one last point to make about his bruised right hand.

"We're all warriors!" Lucas exclaimed, his hand wrapped heavily in ice. "Whatever I gotta do, I gotta do."

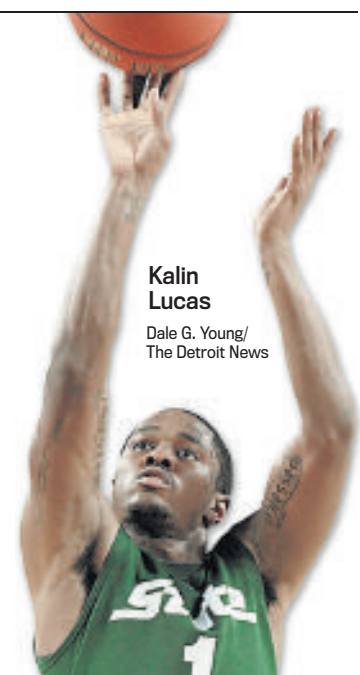
And that was just one sign of

Lucas' desire and determination.

After the Spartans wrapped up their first outright Big Ten regular-season title since the 1998-99 season, coach Tom Izzo mentioned he saw Lucas near a trash can at halftime because he was "a little sick" — a moment Lucas denied.

"No," said Lucas, shaking his head. "I was a little woozy (during the game)."

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Kalin Lucas

Dale G. Young/The Detroit News