

Sports

Terps outlast Hoosiers, 64-52

ATLANTA (AP) — Maryland did not play like Maryland until it mattered. Now the Terrapins are national champions.

With All-American guard Juan Dixon snapping out of a scoring drought just in time, Maryland ended Indiana's magical tournament run with a 64-52 victory Monday night.

This was the Terrapins' first appearance in a national championship game and the senior-laden lineup came through over the final 9:42, pulling away from the Hoosiers to become the fourth straight No. 1 seed and eighth in the last 10 years to win it all.

Coach Gary Williams brought his alma mater from the depths of probation 13 years ago to the pinnacle of college basketball. The man considered among the most intense in the game was able to celebrate with his team, which featured four players who had started at least 100 games in their careers.

"We had to really grind it," Williams said. "It took us a good 25 minutes before we really ran our offense."

Dixon scored at least 27 points in four of the first five tournament games, including 33 in the semifinal win over fellow top seed Kansas. He started the title game at that pace, scoring 11 points in the opening 10 minutes. He did not score again for 20 minutes.

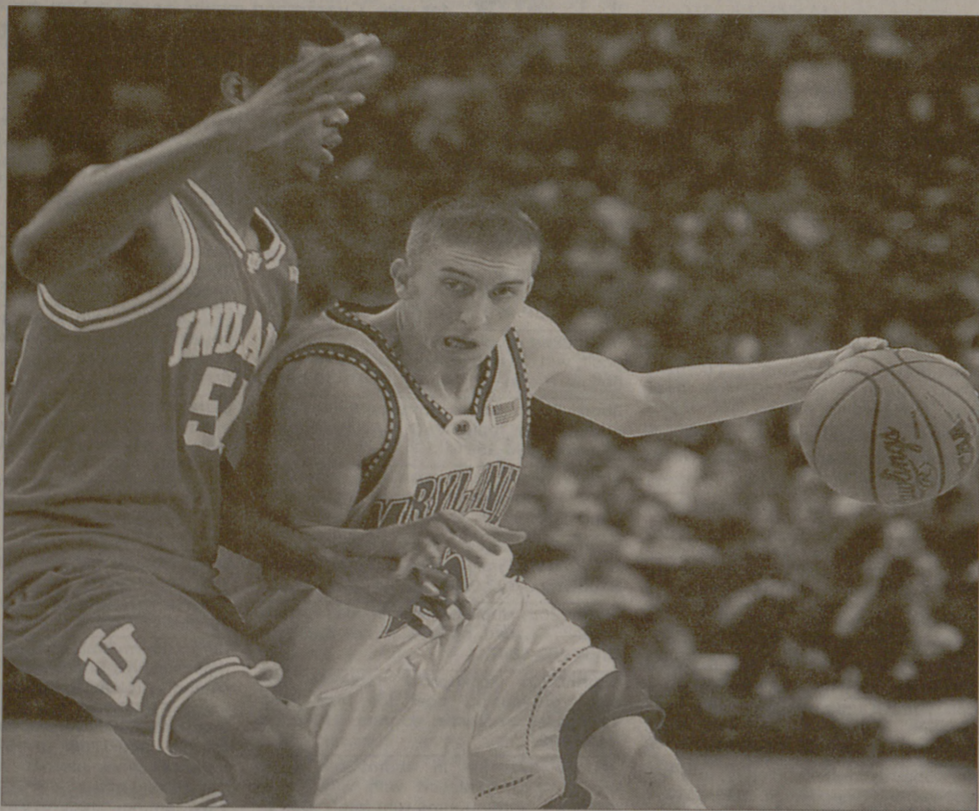
When he hit a 3-pointer with 9:42 to go, it gave Maryland (32-4) the lead for good at 45-44 and the Terrapins made sure even a small lead was safe this time.

"I was trying to be patient," he said. "I was trying to let the game come to me. I hit a big shot."

Dixon finished with 18 points and he and fellow senior Lonny Baxter combined for all the points in the 9-2 run that Dixon started with the 3 and Baxter ended with a dunk that made it 51-46 with 7:22 to play.

Indiana (25-12), which upset top-seeded Duke then shocked second-seeded Oklahoma in the semifinals, could not come up with another stunner.

The team that had the country almost



Maryland's Steve Blake drives in the lane against Indiana's Jeff Newton in the first half of the men's NCAA championship game. Maryland's 64-52 win gave the Terps their first national title.

forgetting about Bob Knight, again used the 3-point shot as its main weapon.

The Hoosiers, who were 23-for-32 from behind the arc in the regional final against Kent State and Oklahoma, made eight of their first 12 Monday night. When Jared Jeffries' layup was goaltended with 9:53 left, Indiana had its only lead of the game, 44-42.

When Dixon and Baxter, who finished with 15 points and 14 rebounds, stepped up, the long shots stopped falling. Indiana

made just two of its 11 shots from behind the arc and its dream of being the first No. 5 seed to win a national championship and match Kansas in 1988 for the most losses by a champion started to fade.

Kyle Hornsby led Indiana with 14 points and Dane Fife added 11. Jeffries, the Big Ten's player of the year, finished with eight points on 4-for-11 shooting. The Hoosiers finished 20-for-58 from the field (34.5 percent), the first time in the tournament they shot below 50 percent.

Offensive drills take center stage



The Texas A&M football team resumed practice after the Easter holiday on Monday with a session in full pads. The Aggies continue to prepare for the Maroon & White spring game this Saturday at Kyle Field.

Working on the Offense

The offense spent most of the day working on various drills with the quarterbacks having good moments and bad moments.

The offense started with a one-on-one drill, with a quarterback trying to throw to a receiver covered by one defensive back.

Mark Farris and Dustin Long participated in the drill and had a shaky start. They combined to miss their first four passes before Farris hit John Roberson with a strike over the middle, beating Richard Whitaker.

The completion got Farris on a roll as he completed his next four passes.

Long was not as sharp — he missed his first seven passes and

went 1-for-9 in the drill.

Jason Carter then joined the quarterbacks as they moved to a 7-on-7 drill.

Carter was the hottest during the drill, completing 5-of-7 passes. Long had the best pass of the drill, hitting Thomas Carriger down the middle of the field, over two defenders.

The first team defense joined the offense for the next two drills and the 11-on-11 drill got off to a shaky start for the offense, as Farris fumbled the first snap. It was a sign of things to come in the drill as he completed only 1-of-6 passes.

Long heated up, completing 4-of-5 passes in the drill, including a long pass over the middle to Roberson.

The last drill the Aggies worked on was an 11-on-11 red zone drill. The ball was placed on the 18-yard line and the offense had three plays to either score or get a first down.

The Aggies got one touchdown on an 11-yard pass from Farris to Jamaar Taylor. They also got a first down courtesy of three-straight runs by Derek Farmer.

Quote of the Day

"That was fluky."
— Cornerback Sammy Davis, after a pass he tipped and nearly intercepted from Jason Carter was caught by Terrance Thomas.

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- April 3: ♦ GLBTA Social: For more info email Justin: spenserve@yahoo.com
♦ Same Sex Marriage at Rudder Fountain: tamunow@yahoo.com
- April 4: ♦ National Day of Silence: Support materials at Rudder Fountain
♦ *Ending Gender Stereotypes: A New Path to Full Equality* by Riki Wilchins at 7 pm in MSC 206
- April 5: ♦ *Evening of the Arts: Going Beyond Opression* in MSC 201 at 7 pm
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