Arkansas-Pine Bluff d. Winthrop 61-44

Robert Morris 70 (OT) 73 Villanova
Saint Mary’s (CA) 80 71 Richmond
Sam Houston State 51 50 Notre Dame
Baylor 51 50 Siena
Duke 50 77 West Virginia
Washington 80 73 Marquette
Wofford 49 53 Wisconsin
Wisconsin 53 65 Cornell
Texas (OT) 80 77 East Tenn. St.

Butler 59

Butler’s Gordon Hayward gets two chances to be the ultimate hero. The sophomore wing misses a baseline jumper over the outstretched arms of Duke’s Brian Zoubek that would have given the Bluejays a late lead. Then, after a missed Zoubek free throw with 3.6 seconds left, his half-court heave caroms off the backboard and rim, ending one of the greatest Cinderella runs in NCAA history.

With less than nine minutes remaining and the outcome of the game still very much in doubt, De’Sean Butler, West Virginia’s offensive catalyst, drives to the left side of the basket and then crumpled to the ground in agony. Tests later reveal that Butler suffered a torn ACL.

Fear the beard! Led by junior guard Jacob Pullen and his famous facial growth, Kansas State battles with Xavier for 40 minutes and two overtimes before Pullen scores eight of the Wildcats’ last 10 points to give K-State the win.

Cornell shoots 61.1% from the field overall and hits 53.3% of its treys in shredding Wisconsin, one of the country’s best defensive teams. The Big Red becomes the first Ivy to make the Sweet 16 since Penn’s Final Four run in 1979. “You can’t sleep on us,” warns guard Louis Dale.

The Gaels’ magical run comes to an end at the hands (and claws) of the Baylor Bears. LaSalle’s Brian Dunne leads all scorers with 23, but it’s Baylor’s smoothing 0 that sends St. Mary’s, with five Aussies on its roster, down under.

Nova’s Corey Fisher and Scottie Reynolds begin the game on the bench as a “teaching moment.” The Colonials lead by six at the half, but their 20 turnovers allow the Wildcats to advance.

Butler’s victory over Michigan State is hardly a work of art—the Bulldogs go almost 11 minutes in the second half without scoring—but their grit and defense (and Gordon Hayward’s 19 points and nine rebounds) propel them to victory. “If I wasn’t playing, I’d be a Butler fan,” MSU coach Tom Izzo would say afterward.