



PURDUE FOOTBALL

## Robinson offers unique perspective

Linebacker, former QB has walked a mile in Etling's shoes as well as Henry's

By Mike Carmin  
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If Danny Etling needs suggestions on how to handle his first start as a freshman quarterback, ask Sean Robinson.

If Rob Henry needs help making the transition from quarterback to defense, ask Sean Robinson.

He's done both.



Sean Robinson

"I giggle at Rob being out here just because we've been in the same room and we were together this weekend and joking that we're both on defense now. It's an interesting perspective," said Robinson, a junior.

It's a view only Robinson can offer the pair of Boilermakers. Etling and Henry would have to search long and hard to find one guy with Robinson's history. Knowledge about both situations is only a few feet away in the locker room.



SATURDAY'S GAME

Nebraska (4-1) at Purdue (1-4)  
Time: Noon TV: BTN Radio: WAZY(96.5)  
Tickets: \$35 to \$80. Available at Purdue Athletic Ticket Office or www.purduesports.com.

Etling makes his starting debut Saturday when Purdue hosts Nebraska. Meanwhile, Henry volunteered to make the switch to safety once playing quarterback wasn't part of coach Darrell

Hazell's future plans for him.

Robinson came to Purdue as a quarterback. He's now a linebacker.

In 2010, the Illinois native was thrust into the role as starting quarterback because of injuries to Robert Marve and Henry. He was a freshman, and the plan was to redshirt Robinson. He wasn't ready to play quarterback three years ago. There was no other choice.

Marve had torn his anterior cruciate ligament in the fourth game against Toledo. Henry took over, but mangled his right index finger against Ohio State

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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER: LAFAYETTE JEFF SECTIONAL



Harrison's Matthew Roop tries to get a head on a corner kick in front of Frankfort goalie Gerardo Morales. BRENT DRINKUT/JOURNAL & COURIER

## HEAD-ON COLLISION

Harrison, McCutcheon win to set up date in sectional title match

By Sam King  
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A year ago, Quentin Perez stood in front of the goal feeling helpless after Hamilton Southeastern was able to poke four shots past him in penalty kicks during the boys soccer regional.

He's waited a year for another opportunity.

AT JCONLINE.COM

Look for video interviews from Wednesday's matches at the Lafayette Jeff Sectional.

After keeping his match scoreless all night, Perez got that chance in Wednesday's Class 2A Sectional semifinals against West Lafayette.

Facing the first pressure-packed penalty kick, Perez dove towards the corner and stuffed Free Burton's shot, eventually setting up teammate Sean Nicol to be the hero.

Nicol fired at the lower left corner, just beyond Logan Sotelo's outstretched

fingertips, before being mauled by teammates celebrating the Mavericks' 4-3 edge in penalty kicks.

"Last year in regionals, we had PKs and I am still recovering," Perez said. "I wasn't going to lose again in PKs."

McCutcheon advances to Saturday's 7 p.m. Class 2A championship against Harrison, which was dominant in a 4-0 victory over Frankfort.

Opposite Perez was Sotelo, who gave West Lafayette 94 minutes of dazzling play in goal, making leaping saves and diving saves that kept McCutcheon off

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PURDUE VOLLEYBALL

## Weekend means a bit more to Jones

Junior's grandmother survived cancer fight

By Sam King  
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Kierra Jones saw her grandmother go through the rigors of battling breast cancer.

Over a four-year fight, Jones' grandmother has persevered and now is on the road to a full recovery.

Saturday's home match against Northwestern is the Purdue volleyball team's annual Dig for a Cure match, where the Boilermakers wear pink for breast cancer awareness and money is raised for the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

"I know my grandma is very proud of our team and how we always supported the cause," Jones said.

Jones' grandmother had the cancer removed via a double mastectomy.

Purdue's match against Northwestern is part two of a big weekend in West Lafayette.

At 1-3 in a Big Ten full of parity, the Boilermakers are not out of the conference race.

But beginning with Friday's match against Illinois in Mackey Arena, they can't afford to fall behind any farther in the league standings.

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AT JCONLINE.COM

Rachel Davis and Kierra Jones talk about raising awareness for breast cancer.

THIS WEEKEND

**Friday**  
At Mackey Arena  
Illinois at No. 20 Purdue  
Time: 7 p.m.  
Promotions: Free admission to Purdue students. Two free tickets to all Boilermaker Kids Club members.  
**Saturday**  
Northwestern at Purdue  
Time: 6 p.m.  
TV: BTN  
Promotion: Dig for a Cure. Fans are encouraged to wear pink.  
Tickets: (800) 497-7678

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

## Cards advance to NLCS

Wainwright, Freese end Pirates' run

By R.B. Fallstrom  
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Adam Wainwright went all the way and the St. Louis Cardinals got two-run homers from David Freese and Matt Adams to beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-1 on Wednesday night, advancing to the NL Championship Series.

Wainwright scattered eight

hits in his second dominant win of the division series, coming through for the Cardinals in a winner-take-all Game 5.

St. Louis gets to stay at home to open the NLCS against the well-rested Los Angeles Dodgers on Friday night.

The last three seasons, the Cardinals are 8-1 when facing elimination. They also won Game 5 of the NL Division Series at Washington last year and at Philadelphia in 2011.

Freese homered in the sec-

ond inning off rookie Gerrit Cole and Adams connected in the eighth against reliever Mark Melancon to make it 5-1. Pete Kozma added an RBI infield single, and Wainwright finished it off by striking out Pedro Alvarez with two on.

Alvarez became the first player with an RBI in his first six postseason games on a fluke hit that caromed off first base in the seventh. But the Pirates were held to one run in each of the final two games in

See CARDINALS, Page B3



David Freese's two-run homer put the Cardinals in front to stay. JEFF ROBERSON/AP



## NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

## Filipinos set to embrace Pacers

Sloan has seen nation's hoop passion firsthand

By Candace Buckner  
Indianapolis Star

Here, Donald Sloan is just a 6-3 second-year pro with a non-guaranteed contract. Even his best projection has a low ceiling, the Indiana Pacers' third point guard behind George Hill and C.J. Watson.

Sloan could walk the downtown streets of Indianapolis dribbling a basketball in his Pacers uniform and he would still go unrecognized.

But over there, Sloan is the man in Manila.

"It's like I could barely go anywhere without security (and a translator)," Sloan said, recalling his brief time playing in the Philippines Basketball Association. "It was like I was one of the guys they've been following their whole life. I had just got there and they just knew about me, (and) since I played for that team, it was crazy."

Basketball takes on a different life — almost larger than life — in the Republic of the Philippines.

Over the last few days to start their NBA Global Games tour, the Pacers have seen the madness that Sloan once experienced with the Barangay Ginebra Kings in 2011: Cornered by hundreds of credentialed media members inside the Mall of Asia arena and fawned over by screaming children.

This morning, when the Pacers

and Houston Rockets play just the second NBA exhibition ever held in the country at 7:30 a.m., the adoration should reach new levels.

"They're very passionate," Sloan said of the Filipino fans. "... They're looking for guys to come over there and pretty much be heroes."

## Why the Pacers?

While the NBA picked several popular and premier franchises for the largest slate of international preseason games in league history — the Lakers play in China, the Thunder in the United Kingdom and the Bulls visit Brazil — somehow the Pacers got tabbed to play two games in the Asian market. They play the Rockets again in Taiwan on Sunday at 1:30 a.m. ET.

"I know we had a good time when we went to China a few years back, so our owner was probably in favor of doing it again," coach Frank Vogel said, "but I'm not sure how they chose (us)."

Scott Levy, NBA Senior Vice President and Managing Director for NBA Asia, explains that when the league branches out overseas, it looks for teams that will serve as good ambassadors. Although this current Global Games schedule had been decided more than 18 months ago, the Pacers threw an assist to their intercontinental marketing with Paul George's All-Star selection and the team's fearless performance in the Eastern Conference finals last spring.

"We think they're a great showcase internationally," Levy said. "They have a lot of exciting young players."

Carlo Singson, the NBA country manager for the Philippines, offers an even more compelling reason for the Pacers' inclusion.

"Everyone is so excited that (Pacers president) Larry Bird is coming to the Philippines for the first time," said Singson, who was born and raised in Manila. "That's what everybody is talking about."

Growing up in Manila, Singson would hear stories of neighborhood families receiving VHS tapes of six-week old NBA games from relatives in the U.S. As space and land became valuable during the population boom, baseball diamonds were the first to be bulldozed. However, the Americanization of the country remained strong as the love of basketball blossomed along with the population.

"Even if there was no space," Singson said. "Filipinos will find a way to set up a basketball court."

When NBA games aired in the 1980s, the nation became fans of the Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers. Those awestruck kids are now nostalgic adults and, though Bird has traded his green No. 33 for a Pacers polo, The Legend lives on.

"People have been asking us specifically if Larry Bird is coming," Singson said. "... They can't get enough of the NBA. They want to be connected to us. They want to be part of this phenomenon."



This leaping save by Harrison's Zach Beeler helped keep Frankfort off the scoreboard in the first half.

Brent Drinkut/Journal &amp; Courier

## MAVS

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the scoreboard.

At the end of the night, West Lafayette's senior and Nicol stood feet apart under the Scheumann Stadium lights to decide a defensive battle.

"He is a heck of a goalie, all the way around," Nicol said. "He made huge saves for them and kept them in the game, but in the end, we got it done."

Prior to the nightcap, Harrison (11-5-2) got goals from Halid Apoudjak, Austin Webb, Austin Harris and Anson Call and used a suffocating defense to advance to the championship.

Zach Beeler's leaping save kept Frankfort from an early 1-0 lead and Apoudjak scored in the 22nd minute, eight minutes before Webb scored on a penalty kick to provide some separation, but not quite a sigh of relief.

"Two to zero is probably the most dangerous score in the game, because it can be a momentum shifter because you think you're through," Apoudjak said. "A lot of the pressure was put off of us, but we were still pretty cautious in case they came back."

The Hot Dogs (12-5) managed just two shots on goal, one coming in the final minute.

"We wanted to make sure they weren't going to score," senior defender Jacob Lempke said.

In the second semifinal, it was West Lafayette that only got two shots on goal, but the Red Devils managed to provide their own strong defense, including a clearout by junior Stephen Sutton that stopped a 3-on-1 McCutcheon attack midway through the second half.

After two scoreless halves and two scoreless seven-minute overtime periods, penalty kicks had to decide it.

"When it comes to those things, it's just hard to control," Sotelo said. "Sometimes you win and sometimes you lose. I have no regrets."

Jake Shake's shot went high, but the McCutcheon senior was off the hook after Perez made a diving stop of Burton to keep the Red Devils from gaining an edge. Pedro Zaldivar, Danison Cruz and Chase Bennett evened Lev Zemlyanov, Clemens Reisenblacher and Lowell Knight, setting up Nicol to be the hero.

"I knew he had it," said Perez, who moments earlier turned his back to blind himself of the high-pressure situations his teammates were in. "I was nervous on that one, but I know Sean. Sean usually makes this. He is clutch."

## HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER: BENTON CENTRAL SECTIONAL

## Faith tops Carroll in shootout to reach final

Delphi advances with first sectional victory

By Clyde Hughes  
For the Journal & Courier

OXFORD — The budding soccer rivalry between Faith Christian and Carroll added another dramatic chapter Wednesday night, with the Eagles edging the Cougars 2-1 on penalty kicks in the Class A sectional semifinals at Benton Central High School.

The victory avenged Carroll's shootout victory in last year's sectional finals at Benton Central, Faith's first season in IHSAA play.

Faith Christian (11-4) will now take on Delphi, a 2-1 winner over host Benton Central, in the sectional finals on Saturday. Carroll, which lost to Faith 1-0 earlier in the season, ends its season at 9-8-1.

"It feels great to win this game," said Faith's Sam Ewing, who knocked in the Eagles' clinching penalty kick. "We've been practicing for this game, and we knew it would be the hardest game of the year. We were fortunate to have beaten them earlier in the season, but I love playing them."

Faith goalie Will Gephart proved to be hero during the penalty kick session, stretching out to get enough of his fingers on an Elliot Packard kick to bat it out from the goal's mouth in the second round of kicks.

"I saw his body was angling toward the right side, so I started moving in that direction, and it played out to where I got my hands out," Gephart said. (After the block) I stood right away and I just screamed. I was pumping everybody up. That was awesome."

Gephart was able to make another diving stop on Justin Wiloughby's kick, clearing the way for his teammates. Zane Merkle, Daniel Rausch, Andrew Schumm and Ewing all made consecutive penalty kicks for a 4-2 Eagle advantage.

"My heart was doing flip-flops in my chest after Will made the first save," Faith Christian coach Kevin Johns said. "I knew the guys we had going up there had been nailing their PKs in practice, and I had all the belief in the world that they would make them."

It was a disappointing end for Carroll, which had repeatedly turned back Faith Christian's scoring attempts in the second half. The contest had all the feel of the sectional final the two teams played last year.

Carroll, which subbed little over the course of the game, seemed to apply its best defensive pressure every time the Eagles got in scoring range.

The Cougars took a 1-0 lead on a Leonard Bradley shot from Alex Eldridge with 30:26 left in the first half. Carroll could only enjoy the edge for 15 seconds, as Faith's Derrick Grass drilled a goal from about

20 yards to tie the game.

"It came down to one mental breakdown we had after our goal," said Carroll coach Dave Falkenberg. "It was a hard-fought game, but I wouldn't have expected anything less from them. They were definitely fresher. We lost two starters to season-ending injuries at the beginning of the year. Their rotation was much bigger than ours."

Delphi (3-10-2) made school history with its first-ever sectional win against host Benton Central (0-11-1) in the first semifinal. Kenneth Zaldivar scored both of Delphi's goals, including one on a corner kick that curled out of the reach of Benton Central goalie Patrick McMillan with 24:00 left in the game to give the Oracles the lead for good.

"I was very happy that it went in," Zaldivar said. "I know this is the first time we ever won a sectional game, so I'm glad to be a part of that. The coaches have really helped me a lot. I did it for them and my teammates."

Delphi coach Daniel Hernandez said he believes the Oracles will be able to challenge Faith Christian, who beat the Oracles 4-0 in a regular season game about three weeks ago.

"I think we can compete with anyone in the sectional," Hernandez said. "What happened in the regular season really doesn't have a bearing of what will happen in tournament play."

## HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

## Chargers edge Mounties on PKs

Staff reports

North Montgomery's Clay Marshall scored the decisive goal in the second round of penalty kicks and Wes Boone's final save lifted the Chargers past Southmont in the opening game of Crawfordsville Sectional play on Wednesday.

The Chargers advance to Saturday's final against Western Boone, a 5-1 winner over Crawfordsville in the nightcap.

In other local sectional action, Covington was a 3-0 winner at West Vigo behind two goals from Zeb Newlin and one from Travis Coleman. Rossville's season came to an end with an 8-0 defeat at Northwestern.

## Boys tennis

## Crawfordsville Regional

The host Athenians suffered a 5-0 defeat against Terre Haute South in Wednesday's title match.

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