

# Post-Tribune SPORTS

## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Ruling goes in favor of IHSAA

Appeals court decision in Griffith-Hammond saga backs organization's right to impose varying sanctions

By **MIKE HUTTON**  
Post-Tribune

A week after the Indiana Court of Appeals ruled on the punishment for a fight that ended a boys basketball game last season between Hammond and Griffith, Mike Jasaitis, the attorney for Hammond, still isn't sure he understands the decision.

"We are in the process of reviewing the recent opinion of the Court of Appeals. Thereafter, all available options will be considered and evaluated moving forward," Jasaitis wrote in a statement.

This much is almost certain: Expect a protracted legal battle.

Initially, after Griffith and Hammond were involved in a melee Feb. 7, 2015, the IHSAA ruled a week later to cancel the remainder of the programs' seasons.

The bench-clearing incident started after Hammond's Tim Echoles committed a hard foul on Griffith's Anthony Murphy from behind. Fans spilled onto the floor, and players engaged in fights before officials canceled the game.

After the IHSAA canceled both teams' seasons, the schools went to court and got a temporary restraining order. They were allowed to resume their seasons after a judge ruled the punishment was arbitrary and inconsistent with past punishments for similar offenses.

Griffith went on to reach the Class 4A state championship game, where it lost to Guerin Catholic.

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## WHITE SOX

# Sale rips Williams' 'lies' about LaRoche

Pitcher doesn't hold back, says White Sox executive VP should be tossed

By **COLLEEN KANE**  
Chicago Tribune

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Adam LaRoche officially ended his career with the White Sox on Friday, filing retirement paperwork after what he called a "fundamental disagreement" with executive vice president Ken Williams over his son's time in the clubhouse.

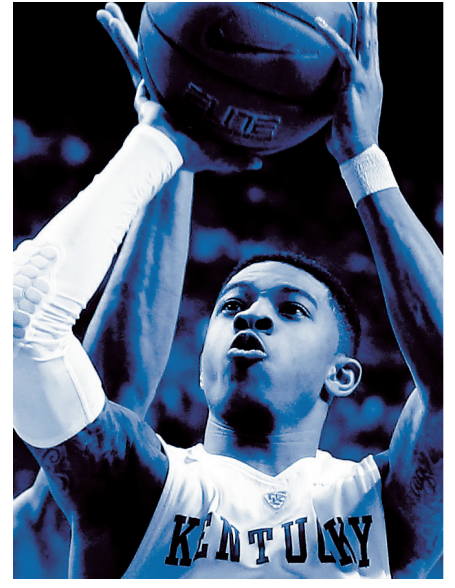
But the turmoil between Sox players and Williams is not over.

With a jersey LaRoche's son had signed hanging behind him, Sox pitcher Chris Sale said Williams created trust issues within the organization when he made contradictory statements about why he wanted to limit the time Drake LaRoche, 14, spent with the team.

Sale said Williams generated an unnecessary distraction and said he believes the players "got (bald)-faced lied to by someone we are supposed to be able to trust."

"If we're truly here to win a championship and come together ... and win as a team, these issues don't come up," Sale said. "Somebody walked out those doors the other day, and it was the wrong guy, plain and simple."

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## MEN'S BASKETBALL NCAA TOURNAMENT

# JUST LIKE OLD TIMES

Indiana takes on rival Kentucky in tourney after 4-year break in series

From left: (top row) IU's Yogi Ferrell, UK's Alex Poythress, IU coach Tom Crean; (second row) UK's Jamal Murray and Tyler Ulis; (third row) IU's Thomas Bryant, UK coach John Calipari, IU's Troy Williams; (fourth row) UK's Marcus Lee.

By **PETE DIPRIMIO**  
The News-Sentinel (Fort Wayne)

DES MOINES, Iowa — It's here at last, here as we wish it was every December, here with all the rich passion, blues and reds, drama and intrigue.

Indiana and Kentucky are back where they belong — on a basketball court with national implications. The stubbornness that ruined what had been must-see rivalry has been restored for one highly anticipated meeting.

That will come Saturday at Wells Fargo Arena, in the weekend's biggest showdown between a pair of college basketball powerhouses.

"It's kind of unfortunate this game is being played this early," Kentucky coach John Calipari said. "It should be another round or two."

IU comes in with a 26-7 record and a South Regional fifth seed. Kentucky is 27-8 and a fourth seed.

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**NEXT UP**  
**Second round:** Indiana (26-7) vs. Kentucky (26-8), 4:15 p.m. Saturday, CBS

**INSIDE**  
Middle Tennessee State ousts Michigan State in stunner. **Roundup**, Page 3