

MSU WINS 5TH BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIP UNDER TOM IZZO

MICHIGAN STATE
1990
BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

MICHIGAN STATE
1999
BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

MICHIGAN STATE
2000
BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

MICHIGAN STATE
2001
BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

MICHIGAN STATE
2009
BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

The State News

For online coverage of the game and of the Izzone welcoming the team home, visit stateneews.com.

BACK ATOP THE BIG TEN



GABRIELLE MOORE/THE STATE NEWS

Freshman forward Delvon Roe holds up one finger to represent the Spartans are Big Ten Champions after MSU's 64-59 win over Indiana on Tuesday night at Assembly Hall in Bloomington, Ind.

By Kyle Feldscher
THE STATE NEWS

Bloomington, Ind. — A long four years ended fittingly for the seniors on the MSU men's basketball team, as their hard work on the court culminated in a regular season Big Ten Championship on Tuesday night. The Spartans clinched their first outright Big Ten title since 1999 with a 64-59 victory over Indiana at Assembly Hall. Senior guard Travis Walton said the game validated the hard work he and his fellow seniors put in together.

"We're the first team in school history with eight road victories," Walton said. "To come out on the road in that environment and win, it's a dream."

Walton said the team's main goal this season is still a Final Four trip to Ford Field in Detroit, and a regular season conference championship was a benchmark along the way.

"We get a championship ring and it's totally ours," he said. "It just shows

that we can get out there and win the game, no matter how tough it is."

No quit in the Hoosiers

Despite Indiana nearing the end of one of the worst seasons in the storied program's history, the Hoosiers (6-23, 1-16) refused to give in. Much like in their first meeting on Feb. 7 at Breslin Center, Indiana made the game interesting, this time until the very end.

Head coach Tom Izzo said his team

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Big Ten champs

ALEX ALTMAN

Morgan put-back dunk seals win, title



Bloomington, Ind.

— At times,

he has barely

been able

to breathe.

Other

times, he has

felt so light-headed his head has spun like a rotating tire.

For six weeks, junior for-

ward Raymar Morgan has dealt with a litany of symptoms induced by walking pneumonia and mononucleosis. Not once did he complain.

Not when MSU men's basketball head coach Tom Izzo would leave him in the game for so long he'd pant like a dog begging for a biscuit. Not when he was asked to play two minutes for an entire game, and as a result watch the statistics he worked to build go tumbling in a free fall.

Not even when he knew he was risking further health issues.

Not a gripe. Not a grumble. Not a word.

So after his team's 64-59 Big Ten Championship-clinching win over Indiana on Tuesday, Morgan's teammates

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FUNDING

Simon tells Mich. legislators: 'We need the state to be our partner'

By Justin Harris
THE STATE NEWS

Lansing — MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon and Michigan's two other top research university presidents testified before state lawmakers Tuesday, stressing the importance of state support for public institutions.

Simon, along with University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman and Wayne State University President Jay Noren, told the Michigan House Appro-

priations Subcommittee on Higher Education that state financial support is critical to



Simon

improving the state's economy and keeping college affordable for Michigan residents.

Together, MSU, Wayne State and U-M make up the University Research Corridor, or URC. The three institutions account for 94

percent of the federal academic research funding distributed to Michigan. Although the URC brings in about \$1.4 billion a year to the state, Simon said continued growth could only be accomplished with help from the Legislature.

"In order to compete for the additional federal funds available to fund research that will help transport Michigan's economy, we need the state to be our partner," Simon said.

Under Gov. Jennifer Granholm's budget recommenda-

tions that were proposed last month, higher education would take a 3 percent cut statewide. MSU would lose about \$9 million in state funding should the cuts go into effect.

The state Legislature must approve the budget by Oct. 1. Bill Ballenger, editor and publisher of Inside Michigan Politics, said Tuesday's testimony was an opportunity for the universities to show the Legislature how important they are to Michigan's economy.

"These people from the URC,

they want to make sure that the members on the (Michigan House Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education) from both houses really buy into their argument that they need special protection," Ballenger said.

For the majority of their presentation, the presidents discussed the URC's economic development activities both individually and collectively.

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NO BOOZE ON BREAK
The Alternative Spring Break program is alcohol free beginning this year, page 3A

Weather
Mostly sunny
High 40° | Low 26°
Three-day forecast, Page 2