

Raptors overcome Curry's 47 points, retake finals lead

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, California — For every amazing shot in a career night by Stephen Curry on his home court, Kawhi Leonard, Kyle Lowry and Danny Green kept finding dazzling answers of their own.

The Toronto Raptors have the momentum again in these back-and-forth NBA Finals.

Leonard scored 30 points on a night Curry went off for a playoff-best 47, and the Raptors grabbed a pivotal finals road win by beating banged-up Golden State 123-109 on Wednesday night for a 2-1 series lead.

Curry also had eight rebounds and seven assists but couldn't do it all for the two-time defending champions, down starters Kevin Durant and Klay Thompson and key backup big man Kevon Looney because of injuries.

"They outplayed us. They deserved it," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "I'm very proud of our effort, and now we just got to bounce back and hopefully get back here in here Friday night and hopefully get a little healthier and get some guys back."

Splash Brother Thompson missed his first career playoff game after straining his left hamstring late in Game 2, while Looney

is out the rest of the series after a cartilage fracture on his right side near the collarbone that also happened Sunday. Durant, a two-time reigning NBA Finals MVP, is still out because of a strained right calf.

Golden State hopes to get healthier by Game 4 on Friday night back at Oracle Arena.

Lowry contributed 23 with five 3-pointers and Green had 18 points with six 3s after Pascal Siakam got the Raptors rolling early as Toronto shot 52.4% and made 17 from deep.

"I give our guys a lot of credit. I thought we answered a lot of runs," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said. "Each time they chipped, we kind of answered back. And that's kind of what you got to do if you're going to keep your lead."

The Warriors trailed 96-83 going into the final quarter then Curry's three free throws at 10:37 made it a seven-point game before back-to-back baskets by Serge Ibaka.

Siakam scored 18 points and established the momentum for Toronto from the tip, hitting his first three shots and setting a tone for a defensive effort that stayed solid without the foul problems that plagued the Raptors in Game 2.

Blues edge Bruins in Game 5

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Jordan Binnington stopped 38 shots, and Ryan O'Reilly and David Perron scored for St. Louis on Thursday night to give the Blues a 2-1 victory over the Boston Bruins and a 3-2 lead in the Stanley Cup Final.

The Blues have won two straight since a 7-2 loss at home and return to St. Louis with a chance to clinch the first NHL championship in franchise history. Game 6 is Sunday night and the Blues are riding a red-hot goalie of late.

"Unbelievable. He won one for us," defenseman Colton Parayko said of Binnington.

Tuukka Rask stopped 19 shots and Jake DeBrusk scored for Boston. The Bruins were lifted by the return of captain Zdeno Chara, who left Game 4 dripping blood after taking a deflected puck off his face. He wore a full-face shield on his helmet, but was unable to provide more than an emotional boost.

Chara followed Rask onto the ice for the pregame skate, and he got a lengthy cheer for his introduction. The Bruins played a video of his highlights during an early whistle, and he went out of the way to deliver the game's first hit, just 15 seconds in, on Brayden Schenn. When things went bad

later, the crowd tried to spur the team on with chants of "Chara!"

But the 42-year-old defenseman's toughness could only carry so far.

O'Reilly scored in the opening minute of the second period, backhanding in a rebound for his third goal in his last five periods. It was still 1-0 midway through

the third when the referees disregarded a leg sweep by Tyler Bozak that knocked Noel Acciari out of the game.

Perron followed with a shot that banked off Rask's pad and into the net. The fans responded with a vulgar chant and a shower of rally towels; the public address announcer eventually asked them to stop.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Youth volleyball camp begins Monday

A youth volleyball camp for first through eighth graders will be held June 10-12 at La Grande

Middle School. The cost is \$45. First through fourth graders take the floor from 9 a.m. to noon, and fifth through eighth grade from 1:30 p.m. to

4:30 p.m. Registration can be completed the first day of camp. Visit the La Grande High School Facebook page for more information.

XTREME

Continued from Page 7A the win again. I've been here a couple times since then and didn't have much luck," he said.

The Edgar, Montana, native said he was considering getting a doctor's release from the competition as he was dealing with a broken left hand, but when he saw he would be riding Crazy Hair, he decided to stay in.

"(I saw I had a good bull tonight and that changed my mind. I thought I could tape (my hand), try and see how it goes. I guess it was meant to be," he said, noting he had heard a lot of positives about the animal. "Some of the more well-known bulls they have a stat system online (for). You can look them up and see where they bucked."

"Everybody kept telling me how good he was, and I trusted them. It turned out to be true."

Breeding said he needed a good effort from the bull, especially given the way the top score had steadily increased throughout the evening. Chase Dougherty had taken a lead with 83 points just five rides into the night, but the number was surpassed several times — 83.5 by Dalton McMurtrie, then 84.5 by Dakota Beck, and later an 87.5 by Garrett Smith. The last score by Smith was only three rides before Breeding.

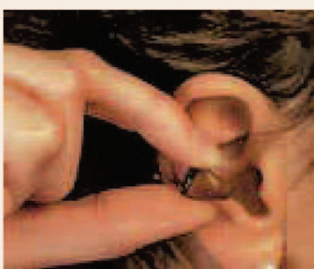
"Being at the end like that, and this was one of the longer events, it was getting kind of cold out. I was struggling with that, mainly, trying to keep my hand warm and move around, and trying to joke around with people to keep my mind off it," he said. "Seeing all the higher scores, and then an 87.5 a couple ahead of me, I was thinking, 'Man, this bull is going to have to really have a good day,' and he dang sure did. It worked out perfect."

In all, seven riders broke the 80-point plateau on the night: Breeding (89), second-place Smith (87.5), third-place Beck (84.5), fourth-place McMurtrie (83.5), Dougherty and Caleb McMillan (83) in a tie for fifth, and seventh-place Ethan Weiser (80.5).

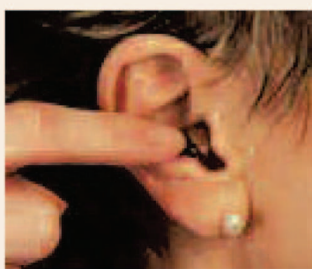
Derek Kolbaba, a Joseph native and PBR standout, was 10th with 77 points.

The EOLS continues into the weekend with the PRCA rodeo beginning today and running through Sunday.

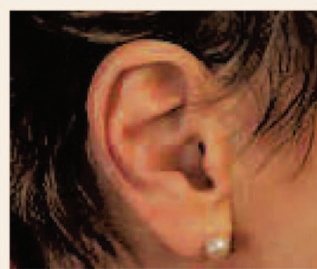
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