

# Batum rallies Trail Blazers past Clippers 98-93 in overtime win

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Portland Trail Blazers were able to overcome one of Damian Lillard's worst shooting games with a huge performance from Nicolas Batum down the stretch.

Batum hit a 3-pointer that forced overtime, then set up three alley-oop baskets and added a clinching 3 in the final minute to rally the Trail Blazers past the Los Angeles Clippers 98-93 on Wednesday night.

"Nobody's been harder on Nic than Nic," coach Terry Stotts said. "He just wants to play well and he's put a lot of pressure on himself to have a game like he just had against a quality team and to make big plays. He was able to be a facilitator, which is something that just makes us a deeper team."

LaMarcus Aldridge had 29 points and Batum added 20 for the Northwest Division



Los Angeles Clippers' Hedo Turkoglu, center, of Turkey, and Portland Trail Blazers' Nicolas Batum, of France, fight for a loose ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, in Los Angeles.

leaders, who have won four straight after a 6-11 stretch that began with a 100-94 loss to the Clippers on Jan. 14 in Portland.

Batum tied it at 87 on a 3 with 25.1 seconds left in the fourth quarter after Portland

trailed by 10 with 2:40 remaining.

"We all know that Lillard's a great scorer, and tonight just wasn't his night. But we found a way to make big plays, especially at the end of the fourth and overtime," Batum said.

"My job with this team the last three years has been to do a little bit of everything on the court. I can assist, rebound and score. We knew we had a good matchup on the pick-and-roll with LaMarcus and me, so we tried to take advantage of it."

Lillard was 1 for 13 from the field, finishing with five points, five turnovers and a career-high 18 rebounds in 43 minutes. The third-year guard missed his first 12 shots before making a layup off a lob pass from Batum to give the Blazers a 91-89 edge with 3:04 left in overtime.

"I didn't shoot the ball well, and I didn't shoot it much," Lillard said. "They trapped me pretty hard, so to get a look would have been a tough look. So the better play was for me to draw two people and kick the ball out. I wasn't scoring the ball, so somebody else had to — and Nico finished it out."



Daily Astorian File photos  
Seaside sophomores Jackson Januik and Maddi Utti were both honored last week as Cowapa League Players of the Year.

## Seaside sweeps top league honors

By GARY HENLEY  
The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County added two more athletes and two coaches to its list of Player/Coach of the Year honors for the 2014-15 basketball season.

Two weeks ago, Knappa's Chris Spencer was named Coach of the Year and Loggers senior Tyson Burnard earned the Northwest League boys basketball Player of the Year award.

Last week, Seaside sophomores Jackson Januik and Maddi Utti were both named Cowapa League Players of the Year for boys and girls basketball, respectively.

Wally Hamer and Bill Westerholm were selected as the girls' and boys' Cowapa Coaches of the Year. Westerholm shared the award with Rahim Tufts of co-league champion Scappoose.

Januik shared the Player of the Year award with Tillamook senior Zane Wright.

In Cowapa League girls basketball, Utti was named Player of the

Year and Defender of the Year, while Hamer was named Coach of the Year for the second straight season.

Utti shared league Player of the Year honors last year with former teammate Kaitlin Lewis.

Joining Utti on the all-league team are senior teammates Haylee Dundas and Allison Bussert (honorable mention); and junior Whitney Westerholm and sophomore Sydney Villegas, as all five Seaside starters made all-league.

Astoria junior Chloe Hunt was named to the first team, while freshman Kaylee Mitchell made honorable mention.

On the boys' side, Januik was joined on the first team by junior teammate Jaxson Smith, and Astoria junior Morgan Fruith.

Honorable mention selections included Astoria junior Derek Jarrett and sophomore Kyle Strange; and Seaside junior Austin Eagon and sophomore Hunter Thompson.

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SCHEDULE

#### TODAY

Boys Basketball — 2A State Tournament: Heppner vs. Knappa, 6:30 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

Boys Basketball — 4A State Playoff: Seaside at North Valley, 7 p.m.; 2A State Tournament: Knappa vs. TBA.

#### SATURDAY

Girls Basketball — 4A State Playoff: Klamath Union at Seaside, 6 p.m.

Boys Basketball — 2A State Tournament: Knappa vs. TBA

### BASKETBALL

#### HIGH SCHOOLS Cowapa All-League Girls

Player of the Year: Maddi Utti, Seaside  
Defender of the Year: Maddi Utti, Seaside  
Coach of the Year: Wally Hamer, Seaside

#### First Team

Maddi Utti, So., Seaside  
Megan Bunn, Jr., Banks  
Kaylynn Bush, Sr., Valley Catholic  
Molly Danielson, Jr., Valley Cath.  
Haylee Dundas, Sr., Seaside  
Chloe Hunt, Jr., Astoria  
Noelle Mannen, Fr., Valley Cath.  
Ariel Silfka, Jr., Banks

#### Allyssa Spang, So., Scappoose

Sydney Villegas, So., Seaside  
Whitney Westerholm, Jr., Seaside

#### Jordan Zweifel, So., Tillamook

Honorable Mention (local)  
Allison Bussert, Sr., Seaside  
Kaylee Mitchell, Fr., Astoria

#### Boys

Players of the Year: Jackson Januik, Seaside; Zane Wright, Tillamook

Defender of the Year: Jake Ford, Sr., Scappoose

Coaches of the Year: Rahim Tufts, Scappoose; Bill Westerholm, Seaside

#### First Team

Jackson Januik, So., Seaside  
Zane Wright, Sr., Tillamook  
Jake Ford, Sr., Scappoose  
Morgan Fruith, Jr., Astoria  
Chase Johnson, Sr., Scappoose  
Kazuma Lane, Sr., Valley Catholic  
Brennen McNabb, Jr., Scappoose  
J.D. Menkens, Sr., Valley Catholic  
Trent Meyer, Sr., Tillamook  
Jesus Narvaez, Sr., Banks  
Jaxson Smith, Jr., Seaside  
Jacob Wendelschafer, Sr., Scappoose

#### Honorable Mention (local)

Derek Jarrett, Jr., Astoria  
Kyle Strange, So., Astoria  
Austin Eagon, Jr., Seaside  
Hunter Thompson, So., Seaside

## A-Rod singles in first at-bat following drug suspension

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Alex Rodriguez returned to the New York Yankees after an absence of more than 17 months, lining a single into short left field in his first at-bat and going 1 for 2 with a walk in a 3-1 spring-training loss to the Philadelphia Phillies on Wednesday.

Greeted by a 10-second mix of boos and cheers from the crowd of 9,673 as he stepped into the batter's box for his first game following a one-year drug suspension, Rodriguez was wearing the Yankees' white uniform with pinstripes for the team's exhibition season home opener rather than the usual dark blue jersey used in exhibition games.

"Once you hit rock bottom, any time you hear a

few cheers these days is a pleasant surprise," he said.

Rodriguez swung at the first four of 10 pitches he saw in three plate appearances. Batting second as New York's designated hitter, he swung past a pair of 91-mph pitches from Philadelphia's Kevin Slowey in the first inning.

"I felt like I was swinging under water," he said. "I was like, man, it's been a long time."

He lined a soft single to left on an 89 mph 0-2 offering that was over the plate. That drew cheers from fans at Steinbrenner Field on a sunny afternoon with a temperature in the low 80s.

"It's probably the first spring training game in a long time that he's been a little anxious," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said.

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### 46 ANNOUNCEMENTS

City of Warrenton is again seeking applicants for a volunteer park host who lives on site at Carruthers Park, 1560 NW Warrenton Dr. for a period of six months, March 15 - September 15, 2015. Water, sewer, garbage, electric provided. Applicants must provide telephone service and an RV or trailer.  
Volunteer Park Host  
Applications available at [ci.warrenton.or.us/parksandtrails](http://ci.warrenton.or.us/parksandtrails), 45 SW 2nd Street or. 225 S Main Ave, Warrenton. Background check and drug screen required, all pets must have proof of immunizations and all vehicles must be legally licensed and insured.  
Contact Nancy Claterbos at 503-861-0912 or [nclaterbos@ci.warrenton.or.us](mailto:nclaterbos@ci.warrenton.or.us) with the words "Park Host" on the subject line or written on the outside of the envelope containing the completed application delivered to the City of Warrenton, 225 S Main Ave or PO Box 250, Warrenton, OR 97146 on or before March 31, 2015.

Request for Proposal 2015-2016 Contract for Jewell School District Pre-School/Daycare  
The Jewell School District welcomes existing businesses, individuals or other organizations to compete for the contractual opportunities to provide the Pre-School-Daycare Program for the 2015-2016 school year. We are looking to begin with a one year contract with the opportunity to extend the contract upon agreement spring 2016. Deadline for bid submissions is 3:00 pm April 1, 2015. Please visit our website home page ([jewell.k12.or.us](http://jewell.k12.or.us)) for more information or call 503 755-2451 ext. 2410.

### 70 HELP WANTED

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Please apply in person (1609 S. Main, Warrenton).

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