

SPORTS

CONTACT US
 Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
 ghenley@dailyastorian.com

FOLLOW US
 facebook.com/
 DailyAstorianSports

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

(For Oct. 17-22)



GIRLS

Kaitlyn Landwehr, Knappa

The senior all-league setter/outside hitter had six digs, five kills, five assists and three blocks in Knappa's season-ending defeat to Delphian in the Northwest League playoffs.

In two matches the day before (a win over Faith Bible and a loss to Gaston), Landwehr was 23-for-24 serving, with 11 kills, 10 assists and four blocks.



BOYS

Fridtjof Fremstad, Astoria

The senior quarterback led the Fishermen on an 84-yard scoring drive with 3:02 remaining at Scappoose Saturday, capping the drive with a 22-yard TD toss to Olaf Englund with 11 seconds left. Fremstad also threw TD passes to Sambo Tuimato and Ryan Palek in Astoria's league title-clinching win over the Indians.

Royals top Warriors in playoff

The Daily Astorian

PORTLAND — The season came to a close for the Warrenton volleyball team Monday night in Portland, where the Portland Christian Royals won a pivotal Game 3, on their way to a four-game win over the Warriors, 25-10, 16-25, 25-22, 25-19, in a Lewis & Clark League playoff.

"We were ahead 22-18 in the third game, and they ended up coming back and winning," said Warrenton coach Jim Hackwith. "And that was the key game right there. If we had won that one, it may have turned out differently."

As it was, Warrenton's season ends at 10-10 overall, 5-6 in league play. The Warriors won a league playoff match at Catlin Gabel last week.

Portland Christian — which was 10-2 in league — advances to the Sweet 16.

The Royals were eliminated from the league playoffs last year in a match at Warrenton, which provided some incentive for Portland Christian, Hackwith said.

"That was a factor — I'm sure they were going for us," he said. "But I'm glad we finished tough. We had a good season, and it was a good way to go out."

In her last match as a Warrior, Landree Miethe had 24 kills, with a 2.46 passer rating.

Sierra Lyons had 18 digs. Claire Bussert and Asia Lambert added 17 apiece.

Michelle Arney and Lambert had two ace serves each for the Warriors, who finished the season with just eight players on the varsity roster, with four seniors (Lambert, Lyons, Miethe and Katelynn Blodgett).

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Girls Soccer — Astoria at Scappoose, 4:15 p.m.; Seaside at Banks, 4:15 p.m.
Boys Soccer — Scappoose at Astoria, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Cross Country — Cowapa League Championships, Camp Rilea, 2 p.m.

Football — Naselle at Taholah, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY

Cross Country — 3A/2A/1A District 1 Championships, Tualatin Hills, 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Football — Warrenton at Rainier, 7 p.m.; Knappa at Central Linn, 7 p.m.; Ilwaco at North Beach, 7 p.m.

WORLD SERIES 2016: CHICAGO VS. CLEVELAND



AP Photo/David J. Phillip

Members of the Chicago Cubs warm up during practice for the World Series against the Cleveland Indians on Monday in Cleveland.

Lovable losers Cubs, Indians meet in Series

By RONALD BLUM
 AP Baseball Writer

CLEVELAND — The last time the Cleveland Indians won the World Series, Dewey led Truman in the polls. The Chicago Cubs' last title was 13 days after the first Ford Model T car was completed.

Lovable losers known for decades of defeat meet in this year's championship, a combined 174 seasons of futility facing off starting Tuesday night at Progressive Field.

Cleveland's last title was in 1948, when 16 teams from the East Coast to St. Louis competed in a just-integrated sport. The Cubs are trying to win for the first time since 1908, a dead ball-era matchup at a time home runs were rarities along with telephones.

No player is alive from the last championship Cubs or even the last to make a Series appearance — Tuesday marks the 25,948th day since the Cubs' Game 7 loss to Detroit in 1945. One player remains from the 1948 Indians, 95-year-old Eddie Robinson.

"It seems like it's just forever," Robinson said Monday from his home in Fort Worth, Texas. "When we got home from Boston, there was a monumental parade. It just looked like everybody in Cleveland came out on Euclid Avenue."

'Win the Inning!'

One team's fans will let loose with the celebration of a lifetime. But while history weighs on the supporters, Cubs manager Joe Maddon focuses his players with a now-centered battle cry of "Win the Inning!"

"Air conditioning is popular right now. So is color TV," he said. "You've just got to change with the times."

Both teams worked out under cloudy skies as the new 59-by-221-foot scoreboard behind the left-field seats — the largest in the major leagues — trumpeted the Sisyphean matchup. While the Cubs play in Wrigley Field, the 102-year-old brick-and-ivy jewel on Chicago's North Side, the Indians are in a 22-year-old throwback-style ballpark originally called Jacobs Field.

Led by Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo, the Cubs led the major leagues with 103 wins during the regular season, then beat San Francisco and Los Angeles in the playoffs. But since the playoffs expanded in 1995, only four teams with the best regular-season record won the title: the 1998 and 2009 New York Yankees, and the 2007 and 2013 Boston Red Sox.

"I promise you, our guys are going to be in the present tense," Maddon said. "I think we all have a tremendous amount of respect for history and what's happened before us or not happened before us. But, you know, you go in that room right now, they're very young. Really not impacted by a lot of the lore."

Jon Lester, 7-1 in his career against Cleveland, starts for the Cubs and Corey Kluber opens for the Indians. Lester is 2-0 with a 0.86

ERA in three postseason starts this year and 3-0 with a 0.43 ERA in a trio of Series outings. He learned to prepare from watching Curt Schilling and Josh Beckett in Boston.

"They prepared the same way for this start as they would for a regular start during the season," he said.

Kluber pitched shutout ball twice in the playoffs before allowing two runs in five innings in Game 4 at Toronto. His father, Jim, was born in Cleveland and rooted for the Indians growing up in suburban Highland Heights.

"I think every parent is excited if their kid has a chance to play in the World Series," said the 30-year-old right-hander, who could win his second AL Cy Young Award in three years.

Across the street

The Series starts just after a ceremony across the street when LeBron James and the Cavaliers receive championship rings before their opener celebrating this year's NBA title, the first for Cleveland's big league teams since the NFL's Browns in 1964.

"It's a pretty neat set of circumstances," said Indians reliever Andrew Miller, the ALCS MVP. "Obviously the fans wish they had won quite a bit previously, but I think the Cubs are even going to overshadow us in that history."

While Chicago has many famous fans, among them Bill Murray and Hillary Clinton, Cleveland is rooted on by Tom Hanks and Drew Carey. The Indians' losing history received nationwide attention in the 1989 film "Major League," featuring Charlie Sheen as Ricky "Wild Thing" Vaughn.

Blazers stay true to process for 2016-17

By ANNE M. PETERSON
 AP Sports Writer

PORTLAND — No longer the NBA's surprising overachievers, Damian Lillard says the Trail Blazers need to stay true to the process.

Portland went 44-38 last season despite losing four starters to free agency the previous summer. The team got the fifth seed in the Western Conference and played past the injury-depleted Los Angeles Clippers into the second round of the playoffs.

With greater expectations, the Blazers embark on this season hoping to build on the last.

"It's something we'll have to continue to push ourselves to do, but I think we just grow on what we started last year," Lillard said. "You continue to stay true to the small things that we committed to last year and get better that way. I don't think you come back and say, 'It's a new year, let's go change this and change that.'"

The Blazers fell to the Warriors in the Western Conference semifinals, and this season Golden State again looks to be the team to beat with the addition of Kevin Durant. The Blazers counter with a deep bench and should vie again for the Northwest Division title.

"We have a lot of players who can have an impact to finish games. The first three years, we were relying on the starters. Last year, the depth was versatile and helped us get through the season, and we improved on that this year," coach Terry Stotts said. "We look at the season as a continuation of last season."

Lillard averaged a career-high 25.1 points in the regular season, becoming the third Portland player



AP Photo/Alex Gallardo

Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard (0) shoots between Los Angeles Lakers forward Brandon Ingram (14) and center Timofey Mozgov (20), of Russia, during the first half of an NBA preseason basketball game in Los Angeles. No longer the NBA's surprising overachievers, Lillard says the Trail Blazers need to stay true to the process.

ever to average more than 25. He also averaged 6.8 assists.

Backcourt teammate CJ McCollum averaged 20.8 points in his first year as a starter, giving the Blazers their first backcourt duo with an average of 20 or more points apiece in a single season. He was named the league's Most Improved Player.

Mason Plumlee returns as the starting center, with Al-Farouq Aminu at power forward. Maurice Harkless and offseason addition Evan Turner have been competing in training camp for the other starting nod.

Other things to consider as the Trail Blazers prepare to open the season:

NEWCOMERS: Portland signed Turner and free agent forward Fes-

tus Ezeli, while trading for guard Shabazz Napier and rookie forward Jake Layman. Ezeli played last season for the Warriors and averaged seven points and 5.6 assists.

Turner, who agreed to a four-year, \$70 million contract, is adjusting to his new team in the preseason. Last year with the Celtics, the 6-foot-7 wing averaged 10.5 points, 4.9 rebounds and 4.4 assists as Boston's sixth man.

Lillard recently offered Turner some advice: "I said to him, 'Don't worry about what this person thinks or what that person is saying. We want you to play. You're a playmaker and you score the ball. ... We need you to play off your instincts. That's what you do well. That's what

you do well in practice. We want you to do it in a game so we can adjust to what you do and learn that way instead of you trying to get used to us all the time.'"

ROAD TRIP: The Trail Blazers once again embarked on a preseason team-bonding excursion to San Diego. The trip south was started by Lillard and McCollum in 2015. The team worked out at San Diego State and shared meals. "I always knew they were cool guys and they had good chemistry," Ezeli said. "But I didn't know the team was this tight."

DEFENSE: Stotts has always emphasized defensive improvement, and this season is no different. The Blazers ranked 20th in the league for points allowed per game, 16th for opponents' field-goal percentage and 17th for opponents' points per shot.

INJURY UPDATE: Center Meyers Leonard has returned to the court ahead of schedule following shoulder surgery. Noah Vonleh has also returned from a procedure on his thigh. But the Blazers continue to wait on Ezeli, who had a left knee procedure in August. There is no timeline for his return, and the Blazers are acting cautiously.

MULTITALENTED: Lillard's first rap album "The Letter O" was released Friday. Lillard, who musically goes by Dame D.O.L.L.A., worked with artists including Jamie Foxx, Raphael Saadiq and Lil Wayne. His first single is the song "Hero," with Saadiq. Lillard has been involved with music since coming to the Blazers: He hosts the popular freestyle challenge (hash)4Bar-Friday on Instagram, and the video for his song "Bigger than Us" premiered on TNT in January.