

# SPORTS

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## Royals outlast Warriors, 50-41

*The Daily Astorian*

WARRENTON — Warrenton was able to overcome an early 10-0 deficit, but the Warriors could not stay with Portland Christian over the full four quarters Tuesday night, in a Lewis & Clark League boys basketball game.

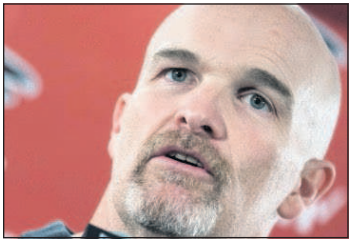
The Royals briefly lost their big lead, but a 12-0 run to end the first half led to eventual 50-41 win for Portland Christian.

Lucas VanderPloeg had a game-high 18 points for the Royals, with sophomore Malakai Munoz adding 15.

Christian Holt led Warrenton with 14 points, 12 in the first half.

Freshman Austin Little had two 3-pointers off the bench in the fourth quarter that had the Warriors within 38-33, but the Royals made four straight free throws in the final minute, before Austin Frisbee scored at the buzzer for Warrenton's final points.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF



Dan Quinn

## Falcons shake up defensive staff after fall

*Associated Press*

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. — After squandering a 25-point lead in the Super Bowl, the Atlanta Falcons are shaking up their defensive staff.

The team said Wednesday that Coach Dan Quinn has dismissed coordinator Richard Smith and defensive line coach Bryan Cox, though there's a chance Smith could stay with the Falcons in an advisory role.

The changes mean the NFC champions will have two new coordinators next season. Kyle Shanahan left to become head coach of the San Francisco 49ers and was replaced as offensive coordinator by Steve Sarkisian.

Also, the Falcons will need a new quarterbacks coach. Matt LaFleur is expected to be named offensive coordinator of the Los Angeles Rams.

Smith will likely be replaced by a coach already on staff. The Falcons are considering defensive backs coach Marquand Manuel, linebackers coach Jeff Ulbrich and defensive passing game coordinator Jerome Henderson.

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SCHEDULE

#### TODAY

**Girls Basketball** — Seaside at Astoria, 6 p.m.; Knappa at Columbia Christian, 6 p.m.; Onalaska at Ilwaco, 5:30 p.m.

**Boys Basketball** — Seaside at Astoria, 7:45 p.m.; Knappa at Columbia Christian, 7:45 p.m.; Winlock at Ilwaco, 7:15 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

**Girls Basketball** — Warrenton at De La Salle, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Livingstone Adventist, 5:30 p.m.

**Boys Basketball** — Warrenton at De La Salle, 7:45 p.m.; Life Christian at Knappa, 7 p.m.; Jewell at Livingstone Adventist, 7 p.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Warriors 74, Royals 57

PC (57): Demi Guild 19, Brownell 18, McKinney 8, Stumetz 6, Hansen 2, Conard 2, Cummins 2.

WAR (74): Landree Mieth 28, Little 15, Alvarez 10, Dyer 9, K.Blodgett 7, Bussert 5, M.Blodgett, Morrill, Schenbeck.

P.Christian 13 11 15 18—57  
 Warrenton 11 27 22 14—74

### BOYS BASKETBALL

Royals 50, Warriors 41

PC (50): Lucas VanderPloeg 18, Munoz 15, DeLucia 8, Pennington 7, Weber 2.

WAR (41): Christian Holt 14, Little 9, Whitaker 8, Kapua 4, Fischer 2, Alcobendas 2, Frisbee 2, Fowler, Jackson.

P.Christian 12 15 9 14—50  
 Warrenton 11 5 11 14—41

JV: Warriors 58, Royals 57

## Miethe scores 28 in Warrior win

By GARY HENLEY  
*The Daily Astorian*

WARRENTON — From fifth place to third place in the league standings, and now all of a sudden the Warrenton Lady Warriors are very much in the running for the No. 1 seed in Lewis & Clark League girls basketball.

The Warriors took over third place in the standings Tuesday night, with an impressive 74-57 win over Portland Christian.

Landree Miethe celebrated Senior Night with a career-high 28 points, and the Warriors gained a little

revenge for a few years of blowout losses to the Royals, including setbacks of 61-23 and 56-26, just last season.

"That's a team we lost to by almost 40 points last year," said Warrenton coach Robert Hoepfl. "Offensively, this was our best game ever, and we did some things differently on defense. We did a good job on Demi Guild, the league Player of the Year for the last couple years."

Guild finished with 19, not nearly enough to match Miethe's 28.

Miethe did not score at all in the first quarter, before scoring 11 in the second quarter, and 13 more in the third.

"She had 24 in the middle two quarters, and she was just playing out of her mind," Hoepfl said. "And they were all hustle points. Not a lot of jumpers, it was just her getting out on the break and finishing."

Two straight scores by Miethe off steals gave Warrenton a 27-17 lead, and another fastbreak basket by the senior had the Warriors well in front with 3:25 left in the first half, 33-19.

She scored six of Warrenton's first seven points of the third period, and the Warriors had it wrapped up with an eventual 60-39 lead by the end of the quarter.

Miethe had support from Tyla Lit-

tle (15 points), and Fernanda Alvarez scored eight of her 10 in the first half. Rachel Dyer made three 3-pointers for nine points off the bench.

Warrenton (10-5 in league) has one regular season game remaining (at De La Salle, 6-9), but the Warriors now have the upper hand on the Royals (9-5), who still have a game remaining vs. first-place Portland Adventist (14-0).

The Warriors will likely finish third, which would allow Warrenton a shot at the league's top seed (Warrenton would play at second-place Rainier, with the winner facing Portland Adventist).



AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez

Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki, left, and Yogi Ferrell, right, defend against Portland Trail Blazers' C.J. McCollum during the first half in Dallas, Tuesday. McCollum lead the Blazers with 32 points, including the game winner. Nowitzki had 25 points for the Mavericks.

## McCollum's winner spoils Nowitzki's vintage display

Portland beats Dallas after six lead changes in the final minute

By DAVE JACKSON  
*Associated Press*

DALLAS — On a night when Dirk Nowitzki turned back the clock for the Dallas Mavericks, C.J. McCollum had the final answer.

McCollum scored 32 points, the last two on a runner from the top of the lane with 0.9 seconds left to give the Portland Trail Blazers a 114-113 win over the Dallas Mavericks on Tuesday night.

Nowitzki finished with 25 points that included two clutch 3-pointers, the second a potential game-winner with 3.9 seconds left.

Portland and Dallas - fighting for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference - battled through a tense fourth quarter that saw the teams trade 13-0 runs at one point, then exchange leads six times in the final minute.

McCollum scored Portland's last seven points. On the final sequence, he took Mason

### UP NEXT: BLAZERS

• Boston Celtics (33-18)  
 at Portland Trail Blazers (23-30)  
 • Thursday, 7:30 p.m. TV: TNT

Plumlee's inbounds pass and split a double-team of Harrison Barnes and Wesley Matthews to break into the clear.

"Once I caught it, I knew I was going to attack right away," McCollum said. "I tried to split (the double team), and get to the free-throw line and get to my sweet spot."

McCollum released his runner at the free-throw line and it swished through. Dallas, which was without a time-out, managed only Devin Harris' long heave from three-quarter court that wasn't close.

Damian Lillard added 29 points for the Blazers, who tied their season series with the Mavericks at 2-2 — each team winning twice on the others' home floor.

Barnes led the Mavericks with 26 points and Matthews added 23.

Portland led 101-89 with 7:19 to go before the Mavericks answered the Blazers' 13-0 run with one of their own. Neither team led by more than two points in the final five minutes.

Nowitzki's 3 with 38.9 seconds left gave Dallas a 108-107 lead and prompted a fist pump from the veteran, who was coming off four games of below double figures for only the second time since his rookie season.

"The shot-making at the end was just vintage," coach Rick Carlisle said. "It was breathtaking."

But McCollum was just getting started. He hit a short jumper, then answered a Devin Harris counter with a three-point play to make it 112-110 with 12.3 seconds to play before Nowitzki hit another long ball.

"You're just hoping that's 'Game'." said Nowitzki of his last 3. "But three seconds in this league is a long time. I've obviously seen a lot of stuff happen. McCollum made a heck of a play."

### A bad break

Forward Evan Turner suffering a broken right hand in the third quarter after scoring 11 points. He left with 5:08 to play and did not return.

Turner was diagnosed with a broken third metacarpal bone. Neither he nor coach Terry Stotts could gauge how long he would be out, but Turner was told after the game he likely would not need surgery.

## Pac-12 women's title will likely run through Corvallis

By STEVE GRESS  
*Gazette-Times*

CORVALLIS — With No. 15 UCLA's 85-76 win at No. 8 Stanford on Monday night, the road to the Pac-12 women's basketball title will likely once again run through Corvallis.

Stanford's loss dropped the Cardinal a game back of No. 9 Oregon State with six games to play.

The Beavers head into this weekend at 11-1 in the conference and 22-2 overall while Stanford (20-4) and Washington (22-3) are both 10-2. UCLA (18-5), coming off a disap-

pointing loss at California last Friday, clawed back in the race at 9-3.

Oregon State will play four of its final six at home, including games with UCLA (Sunday, 1 p.m.) and Stanford (Feb. 24, 8 p.m.).

First up is an 8 p.m. tilt with USC on Friday before a rematch with the Bruins, who rallied in the fourth quarter for a 66-56 win, the Beavers' lone conference loss.

Then comes a road trip to Colorado and Utah before closing out the regular season at home against Stanford and California.

Washington, which lost at Oregon State in their only meeting, plays four

of six at home with the Arizona and mountain schools and a road trip to the Los Angeles schools.

Stanford hosts the mountain schools this weekend, then plays two games with California and closes the season at Oregon State and Oregon.

UCLA has the toughest schedule with four of its last six on the road. The Bruins head to Oregon this week, then hosts the Washington schools before wrapping up at the Arizona schools.

"Wow, this conference is really, really good," Bruins coach Cori Close said after Monday's win, UCLA's first at Maples since Jan. 16, 1999.

### Wiese moving up

Oregon State senior point guard Sydney Wiese moved into 23rd place on the NCAA career 3-pointers made list with her 339th on Sunday in a win at Arizona. Wiese has hit 69 3s this season and can move into 22nd with two more. With 12 more she will move all the way up to 18th. Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis, from Connecticut, holds the record with 398. Wiese was named as one of 19 players to the midseason list for the best guard on Tuesday.

**Bracketology:** ESPN projects Oregon State is the No. 2 seed in the Oklahoma City Regional, and Oregon the No. 8 seed in Oklahoma City.