

SPORTS

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

UO assistant football coach got \$63,750 after resigning

Associated Press

EUGENE — University of Oregon football co-offensive coordinator David Reaves spent little more than a day on the job but was paid more than \$60,000.

The Register-Guard reported Tuesday that Reaves received \$3,750 for 26 hours of work when he resigned Feb. 3 after being arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence. According to UO documents obtained by the Register-Guard through a public records request, he also received a payment of \$60,000.

UO announced it hired Reaves on Jan. 17. Reaves had a two-year contract with an annual salary of \$300,000. On Jan. 22, Reaves was arrested by Eugene police and charged with DUI, reckless driving and reckless endangerment. A plea hearing is scheduled for March 13.

UO put Reaves on leave and was terminating his contract when he resigned.

Nowitzki tops 30,000 points

Associated Press

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki ducked his head into a mob of teammates, with Dallas owner Mark Cuban clutching the side of his jersey before the Mavericks superstar found coach Rick Carlisle for a hug.

The celebration of 30,000 points came a lot faster than most would have imagined — except maybe the man who has watched from the bench for nine of Nowitzki's 19 seasons.

"Watching Dirk the last couple of days, there was no doubt this was going to happen tonight," Carlisle said.

Nowitzki scored the 20 points he needed for 30,000 in barely more than a quarter despite coming in with just five 20-point games this season, and the Mavericks celebrated with their second straight easy home win over the Los Angeles Lakers, a 122-111 victory Tuesday night.

The 7-foot German became the sixth NBA player and the first international one to reach the milestone, joining four Hall of Famers and a future one in Kobe Bryant. Nowitzki is one of three to score all 30,000-plus with one team. The others are Karl Malone (Utah) and Bryant (Lakers).

Nowitzki finished the night at 30,005 points and has said he plans to play a 20th season. If so, he could have a shot at fifth-place Wilt Chamberlain (31,419).

SCOREBOARD

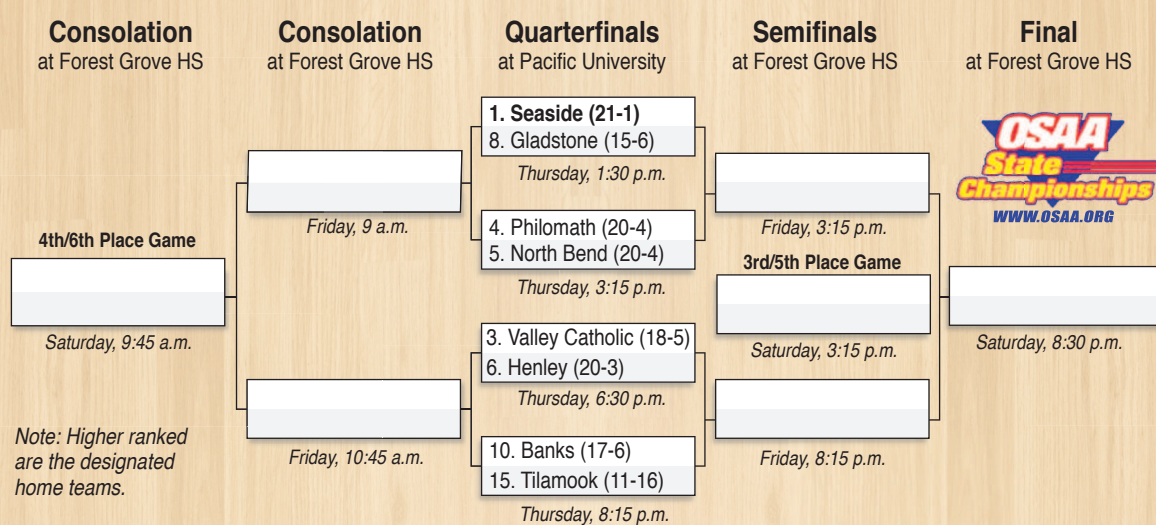
LOCAL PREP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

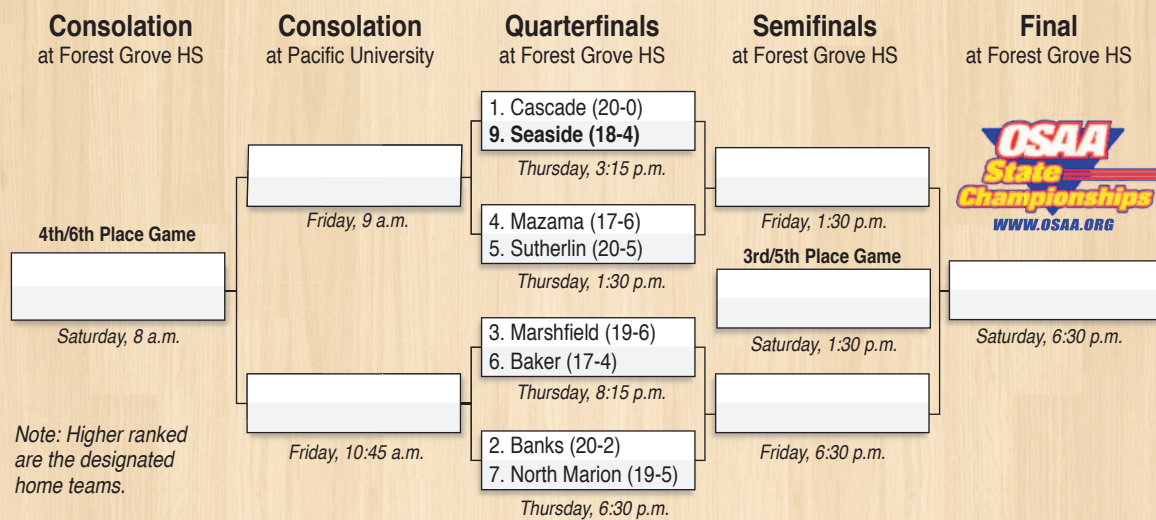
Boys Basketball — OSAA 4A State Tournament: Gladstone vs. Seaside, 1:30 p.m., at Pacific University.

Girls Basketball — OSAA 4A State Tournament: Seaside vs. Cascade, 3:15 p.m., at Forest Grove HS.

4A BOYS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



4A GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



PAC-12 TOURNAMENT

Pac-12's top three teams top tournament marquee

By JOHN MARSHALL

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — The Pac-12 Tournament starts today with four first-round games. The four games on Thursday kick off the conference's bid for a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

No. 3 UCLA, No. 5 Oregon and No. 7 Arizona each get a bye into the quarterfinals along The Strip, kicking off a stretch of three games in three days for an eventual champion that will have a strong case for the top seed in the West Regional.

"I think whoever wins the tournament will be a 1 or a 2 in the West depending on how Gonzaga does," Oregon coach Dana Altman said. "It's a big advantage to stay in your region. Your fans are able to get to the site easier and you don't want to have to travel far."

The Wildcats (27-4) shared the Pac-12 regular-season title with Oregon (27-4) at 16-2, with the Bruins (28-3) a game behind at 15-3.

The Pac-12's power trio dominated the league, finishing well ahead of fourth-place Utah.

All three have rosters built for deep NCAA Tournament runs and are expected to light up T-Mobile Arena with high-level basketball.

"We have the best conference in America right now — UCLA, Oregon are Final Four contenders and us — so winning the Pac-12 Conference Tournament is a huge deal with the competition we have," Arizona freshman guard Rawle Alkins said.



AP Photo/Timothy J. Gonzalez
Oregon's Dillon Brooks (24) dunks during the first half of the team's against Oregon State on Saturday in Corvallis.

UCLA, Arizona and Oregon have all beaten each other. The Ducks and Wildcats each split games with UCLA and Oregon clobbered Arizona 85-58 in Eugene in their lone meeting.

Top-seeded Oregon will play the winner of today's game between Stanford and Arizona State, while Arizona opens against the Colorado-Washington State winner. UCLA, which is on the same side of the bracket as the Wildcats, gets the winner between Washington and Southern California.

A few more things to look for

from the Pac-12 Tournament:

Bubble teams: California, Utah and USC all could use good runs in the Pac-12 Tournament to bolster NCAA Tournament hopes. The Utes (20-10) appeared to be on the outside looking in just a few weeks ago, but closed the regular season with three straight wins. The Bears (19-11) had an opposite ending to the regular season, losing their final two, including one to Utah. USC (23-8) has the best record among the trio, but had a late-season four-game losing streak that included a loss to Arizona State.

Blazers overcome Westbrook's 58 to top Thunder



AP Photo/Sue Ogrocki

Thunder guard Russell Westbrook goes up for a shot between Trail Blazers guard C.J. McCollum, left, and forward Al-Farouq Aminu in the fourth quarter, Tuesday. Portland won 126-121.

By CLIFF BRUNT

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Portland countered NBA scoring leader Russell Westbrook's onslaught with strength in numbers.

Seven Trail Blazers scored in double figures, and Portland overcame Westbrook's career-high 58 points to beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 126-121 on Tuesday night.

"When you see the stats, Russ got like 60 or whatever," said Portland center Jusuf Nurkic, who scored 17 points. "I give him 80, we still have to win. I respect what he does, but I'm happy for our team."

Allen Crabbe scored 23 points, Damian Lillard had 22 and C.J. McCollum 21 for the Trail Blazers, who won their third straight. Portland shot 55 percent and forced Westbrook to keep producing.

"We're not good enough to take nights

UP NEXT: TRAIL BLAZERS

• Philadelphia 76ers (23-40)
 at Portland Trail Blazers (27-35)
 • Thursday, 7 p.m.
 TV: TCNP, CSNW

off defensively," Westbrook said.

Westbrook shot 21 of 39, but just 6 of 15 in the fourth quarter. He entered the game as the league leader in points and plus/minus score in the last five minutes of regulation and overtime. He missed four shots in the final 83 seconds that could have tied the game or given the Thunder the lead.

"Yeah, just missed them," Westbrook said. "Made them all game."

Westbrook also finished with nine assists and made 13 of 16 free throws.

"He's incredible," Portland center Mey-

ers Leonard said. "With that being said, sometimes, it becomes a one-man show. Now, he's capable of that, but I think it's to our credit, from top to bottom, that we had a lot of guys contribute."

Victor Oladipo scored 16 points and Enes Kanter added 11 for Oklahoma City, which dropped its fourth straight. Oklahoma City lost despite shooting 52 percent. Westbrook scored 28 points in the first half to give the Thunder a 67-61 lead. The Thunder shot 68 percent before the break.

The Trail Blazers outscored the Thunder 38-25 in the third quarter to take a 99-92 lead into the fourth.

"We were sharing the ball," Leonard said. "We believed in what we were doing. We believed in each other, and that was key, especially when it comes down to the end of the game, trusting the next guy. This was a very big win for us."

UCLA's Ball voted Pac-12 Player of the Year

Associated Press

UCLA freshman Lonzo Ball has been named player and newcomer of the year, while Arizona coach Sean Miller has been named coach of the year on the All-Pac-12 Conference men's basketball team announced Tuesday by The Associated Press.

Ball arrived at UCLA with plenty of hype and lived up to this season, leading the nation in assists with 7.8 per game. The 6-foot-6 guard also averaged 14.9 points and 6.2 rebounds for the third-ranked Bruins.

Led by Ball, UCLA is the nation's top-scoring team at 91.3 points per game and is in position for a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

Miller had arguably the best season of his eight-year coaching career in Tucson, leading the Wildcats to a share of the Pac-12 title despite a suspension to his team's best returning player and a slew of injuries.

Arizona played the first 19 games of the season without sophomore guard Allonzo Trier due to a suspension for performance-enhancing drugs and lost point guard Parker Jackson-Cartwright for six games with a sprained ankle.

The Wildcats also had center Dusan Ristic and guard Kadeem Allen go out with injuries, but still finished 27-4 overall and 16-2 in conference to share the Pac-12 title with No. 5 Oregon.

Ball was joined on the first team by teammate and fellow freshman TJ Leaf, along with Oregon's Dillon Brooks, Arizona's Lauri Markkanen and Markelle Fultz of Washington.

2017 AP ALL-PAC-12 TEAM

Name, school, position, height, weight, class and hometown (u-denotes unanimous selections):

FIRST TEAM

u-Lonzo Ball, UCLA, G, 6-6, 190, Fr, Chino Hills, Calif.

u-Markelle Fultz, Washington, G, 6-4, 195, Fr, Upper Marlboro, Md.

u-Dillon Brooks, Oregon, G, 6-7, 225, Jr, Mississauga, Ontario

Lauri Markkanen, Arizona, F, 7-0, 230, Fr, Jyvaszkyla, Finland

TJ Leaf, UCLA, F, 6-10, 225, Fr, El Cajon, Calif.

SECOND TEAM

Bryce Alford, UCLA, G, 6-13, 185, Sr, Albuquerque

Derrick White, Colorado, G, 6-5, 200, Sr, Parker, Colo.

Kyle Kuzma, Utah, F, 6-9, 221, Jr, Flint, Mich.

Ivan Rabb, California, F, 6-11, 200, So, Oakland

Jordan Bell, F, 6-9, 225, Jr, Long Beach, Calif.

Player of the Year — Lonzo Ball, UCLA

Coach of the Year — Sean Miller, Arizona

Newcomer of Year — Lonzo Ball