

SPORTS

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SPORTS
IN BRIEFTillie leads No. 7
Gonzaga over
San Francisco

LAS VEGAS — Killian Tillie scored 26 points on 10-of-11 shooting, including connecting on all five 3-pointers, to lead No. 7 Gonzaga past San Francisco 88-60 on Monday night in the West Coast Conference Tournament semifinal game.

Tillie has made all 10 3-point attempts at the tournament and is 19-of-23 from the field.

Top-seeded Gonzaga will be going for their sixth consecutive WCC Tournament title on Tuesday night. They await the winner of the Saint Mary's-BYU game.

Also for the top-seeded Bulldogs (29-4), Rui Hachimura had 17 points and Zach Norvell Jr. added 14. Johnathan Williams had 10 points and 10 rebounds for Gonzaga, which won its 13th straight, and 16th at the WCC Tournament.

Nate Renfro led the fourth-seeded Dons (18-15) with 15 points. Frankie Ferrari and Souley Boum each added nine points for San Francisco, which lost its 14 straight to Gonzaga.

Gamel out,
Mariners thin in
outfield, Ichiro
could return

The Seattle Mariners are running out of healthy outfielders. To the rescue — Ichiro?

Ben Gamel will miss opening day, the Mariners said Monday, because of a strained oblique muscle that's expected to sideline him four to six weeks.

That could open a spot for Ichiro Suzuki, and a deal with the Mariners might be close.

Suzuki was the AL MVP and Rookie of the Year for Seattle in 2001 and remained a fan favorite until he was traded away in 2012. The 44-year-old Suzuki spent the past three seasons in Miami, batting .255 last year and starting 23 times in the outfield.

Gamel hit .275 with 11 home runs and 59 RBIs in 134 games last year during his first full season in the majors.

The Mariners were hopeful Gamel would miss only a few days, but an MRI showed a more extensive problem. He first felt the injury after batting practice late last week.

Gamel joined a growing list of banged-up Mariners. Seattle has already seen first baseman Ryon Healy (hand), outfielder Mitch Haniger (hand) and pitcher Felix Hernandez (bruised forearm) slowed by injuries during spring training.

Outfielder Guillermo Heredia is still recovering from offseason shoulder surgery, leaving Seattle thin at the position.

Raiders release
Smith following
brush with law

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders released pass rusher Aldon Smith on Monday after his latest run-in with the law.

The Raiders retained Smith's contractual rights even as he spent the past two seasons on the NFL's suspended list. But the team decided finally to cut ties one day after San Francisco police said authorities were searching for Smith in connection with a domestic violence allegation.

San Francisco police said Monday an arrest warrant has been obtained for Smith stemming from allegations that Smith assaulted a woman on Saturday night. Smith left before police arrived to respond to the 911 call and authorities are working with Smith's attorney to arrange a time for him to surrender.

Smith is facing misdemeanor charges of willful infliction of corporal injury, assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, false imprisonment and vandalism, according to Sgt. Michael Andraychak.

— Associated Press



Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian
 Astoria senior Karsten Johnson was one of two Fishermen who earned all-league honors.



Jeff Ter Har/For The Daily Astorian
 Junior Chase Januik was one of three Seaside players named first team all-league.

COWAPA ALL-LEAGUE

Player of the Year: Dalton Renne, Banks
Def. Player of the Year: Blake Gobel, Banks
Coach of the Year: Marc Roche, Banks

First Team

Dalton Renne, Sr., Banks
 Chris Bendle, Sr., Scappoose
 Ian Collett, Sr., Tillamook
 Blake Gobel, Jr., Banks
 Ryan Hague, So., Seaside
 Chase Januik, Jr., Seaside
 Karsten Johnson, Sr., Astoria
 Andrew Plambeck, Sr., Valley C.
 Jacob Slika, So., Banks
 Anthony Taylor, Sr., Tillamook
 Jack Tetzloff, Jr., Valley Catholic
 Joey Wagenknecht, Sr., Scappoose
 Payton Westerholm, Jr., Seaside

Honorable Mention

Nathan Abbott, Sr., Tillamook
 Dakota Bunn, Jr., Banks
 Bret Cameron, Sr., Banks
 Ramon Flores, Sr., Tillamook
 Jack Grasberger, Sr., Valley C.
 Ian Hunt, Jr., Astoria
 Ben Robbins, Sr., Banks
 Duncan Thompson, Jr., Seaside
 Jerad Toman, Sr., Scappoose

Seaside and Astoria
boys hoopsters earn
all-league honors

The Daily Astorian

The top two teams in the state this season at the 4A level will probably be the top two teams next year as well, as the Banks Braves and Seaside Gulls are both loaded with all-league players who will return next season.

The No. 1-ranked Braves placed six players on the Cowapa All-League boys basketball team, released last week. The Gulls were right behind, with four selections.

League champion Banks swept the top awards. Senior Dalton Renne was named Player of the Year, junior Blake Gobel was selected as

Defensive Player of the Year, and the Braves' Marc Roche was named Coach of the Year.

Banks also had four other all-league selections — seniors Bret Cameron and Ben Robbins, junior Dakota Bunn and sophomore Jacob Slika.

Seaside juniors Chase Januik and Payton Westerholm were both selected to the first team, along with sophomore Ryan Hague. Junior Duncan Thompson was named honorable mention for the No. 2-ranked Gulls.

Astoria senior Karsten Johnson made the first team, and Fishermen junior Ian Hunt was honorable mention.

Lillard rallies Trail Blazers
for 108-103 win over Lakers

By DAN GREENSPAN
 Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — When Damian Lillard starts knocking down shots, no deficit is insurmountable for the Portland Trail Blazers.

Down 11 to the Los Angeles Lakers with 5:26 remaining? No problem.

Lillard scored 19 of his 39 points in the fourth quarter and the Trail Blazers won their 15th consecutive game over the Lakers, 108-103 on Monday night.

"Damian Lillard is special," Portland head coach Terry Stotts said. "If it's not obvious, I'll say it."

Lillard scored 15 in a row for the Trail Blazers down the stretch, giving them a 104-103 lead with 1:08 remaining by hitting 1 of 2 free throws.

"I've seen a lot of great basketball in my life, but today I was like wow. He made it look so easy, effortless," Shabazz Napier said. "I just saw it in his eyes. He wanted the ball every single time, he wanted to take the shot. He definitely willed us today."

CJ McCollum had 22 points, and Jusuf Nurkic added 16 points and 16 rebounds. The Trail Blazers have won seven straight and nine of their last 10, climbing to third place in the Western Conference.

Julius Randle had 21 points and nine rebounds for the Lakers, who had their five-game winning streak ended. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had 16 points, and Lonzo Ball had 10 points, two rebounds and two assists.

Isaiah Thomas had a chance to tie it in the closing seconds but was stripped by Napier, who then made two free throws. Thomas finished with 19 points.

The Lakers led 97-86 when Lillard took over. He knocked down four straight 3-pointers, including a step-back to tie the game at 97 with 3:37 remaining. He was 5 of 7 from the floor and 4 of 5 from 3-point range in the fourth quarter, and added a critical offensive rebound with 32.8 sec-



AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill
 Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard, center, shoots as Los Angeles Lakers forward Kyle Kuzma defends during the first half of Monday's game in Los Angeles.

UP NEXT: BLAZERS

• New York Knicks (24-40)
 at Portland Trail Blazers (38-26)
 • Tonight, 7 p.m. TV: NSNW

onds remaining to extend a possession while up 106-103.

"I figured we had to just get really aggressive, start attacking and try to make a run for it," Lillard said.

It was a dramatic reversal from the third quarter when Lillard had three points and was 1 of 6 from the field. Portland shot 21.7 percent in the third, making 5 of 23 shots, and Los Angeles led by as many as 12.

"We tried to get a blitz on him, but a lot of times he was just attacking before the screen even got there," Lakers coach Luke Walton said. "But our execution down the stretch on offense and defense, that was the frustrating part."

It was the second time in three games Lillard scored 19 in the fourth quarter, after engineering a 15-point comeback in a 106-104 win at Phoe-

nix on Feb. 24.

Tip-ins

Trail Blazers: Lillard was 12 of 25 for the game, including 6 of 11 from 3. He also had five rebounds and six assists. ... Portland has won eight straight road games against the Lakers.

Lakers: Los Angeles lost at home for the first time since Jan. 5, ending a nine-game winning streak at Staples Center. ... Six Lakers finished in double figures, including 14 points for Brook Lopez and 11 for Kyle Kuzma. ... F Brandon Ingram (groin strain) is out for one week.

Under wraps

Randle gashed the Trail Blazers with nine points in the third quarter but was contained by Al-Farouq Aminu in the fourth. Randle made his only shot and had one rebound, and Stotts said limiting his impact was critical to the rally.

"Randle gave us a bunch of trouble," Stotts said. "He had his way with us."

MEN'S COLLEGE
BASKETBALLVirginia is
unanimous No.
1 in AP Top 25

By AARON BEARD
 Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Virginia is now the unquestioned No. 1 in the AP Top 25.

The Cavaliers earned all 65 first-place votes in Monday's poll after finishing four games ahead of the field in the Atlantic Coast Conference regular-season race. This was Virginia's fourth straight week at No. 1, with the Cavaliers acquiring more first-place votes each time until claiming them all this week.

Virginia joined fellow ACC team Duke as teams to be unanimous No. 1 in the AP Top 25 this season. Pretty good for a team that was picked to finish sixth in the ACC during the preseason.

The Cavaliers (28-2, 17-1 ACC) open ACC Tournament play in Thursday's quarterfinals in Brooklyn with a chance to sweep the league regular-season and tournament titles for the second time in five seasons.

"Now you are in one-and-done tournament play — the ACC Tournament and the NCAA Tournament," coach Tony Bennett said after Saturday's win against Notre Dame.

"You continue on, but you understand that it is quality play," he said. "You do not change who you are, but you know that if you drop one, you are out."

With Michigan State's stumble in the Big Ten Tournament, it looked like Xavier was set to move up a spot to No. 2 behind Virginia after winning the Big East regular-season race outright.

Instead, Villanova — which beat the Musketeers this season by 24 and 16 points but finished a game back in the Big East standings — hopped over Xavier from No. 4 while Xavier remained third.