

SPORTS

Pilots Earn Spot At NCAA 'Dance'

Portland Faces Villanova On Friday

The brackets are set and the preparation is under way for the NCAA men's Basketball Tournament. March Madness officially begins Thursday.

The Selection Committee on Sunday night announced the 64-team field for the tournament and named Massachusetts, Kentucky, Connecticut and Purdue as the top seeds.

A total of 30 automatic berths were earned by conference champions and 34 at-large bids were extended by the Selection Committee to complete the 64-team field.

Massachusetts (31-1), the Atlantic 10 champion, is the top seed in the East regional. Massachusetts will play Central Florida (11-18), one of two sub-.500 teams in the NCAA Tournament, Thursday in the first round at Providence, R.I.

Kentucky (28-2), the regular-season Southeastern Conference cham-

Portland faces Villanova Friday in the first round of the NCAA tournament's Midwest Regional in Milwaukee, Wis. Teams capsules of both teams are as follows:

University Of Portland
Coach: Rob Chavez (2nd year)
Nickname: Pilots
Record and conference finish: 19-10, 5th, West Coast Seed, Region and Bid: 14, Midwest, Automatic
Total NCAA appearances: 2
NCAA Tournament Record: 0-1
Last NCAA appearance: 1959, lost to DePaul, 57-56, first round, Midwest Regional
Best NCAA Tournament finish: 1959, first round
Starters:
F - Lemont Daniels (6-4, Sr., 12.1 ppg, 5.9 rpg)

F - Rick Brainard (6-6, Sr., 10.9 ppg, 3.5 rpg)

C - Greg Klosterman (6-11, Jr., 9.6 ppg, 5.5 rpg)

G - Chivo Anderson (6-5, So., 9.1 ppg, 1.4 apg)

G - Dionn Holton (5-10, So., 6.8 ppg, 3.6 apg)

Outlook: Finished fifth in the West Coast Conference during the regular season at 7-7. However, in the conference tournament, top-seed Santa Clara was upset in the first round and Portland cruised through and beat Gonzaga in the final to qualify for the

"Big Dance." The team has balanced scoring and some size in Klosterman, who could neutralize Villanova's Jason Lawson. However,

Villanova

Coach: Steve Lappas (5th year)
Nickname: Wildcats
Record and conference finish: 25-6, 3rd, Big East Seed, Region and Bid: 3, Midwest, At-Large

Total NCAA appearances: 23
NCAA Tournament Record: 35-22
Last NCAA appearance: 1995, lost to Old Dominion, 89-81 in three overtimes, first round, East Regional
Best NCAA Tournament finish: 1985, National Champions

Starters:

F - Chuck Kornegay (6-9, Jr., 6.2 ppg, 4.6 rpg)

F - Eric Eberz (6-7, Sr., 13.6 ppg, 3.9 rpg)

C - Jason Lawson (6-11, Jr., 12.0 ppg, 6.6 rpg)

G - Alvin Williams (6-4, Jr.,

11.3 ppg, 5.4 apg)

G - Kerry Kittles (6-5, Sr., 20.5 ppg, 3.6 apg)

Outlook: With an opening round game against Portland, which has not made the NCAA Tournament since 1959, Villanova may use the opportunity to get back in sync with Kerry Kittles in the lineup. The Wildcats lost two of three without their star player and after beating Providence in the opener of the Big East Tournament, were run ragged by Georgetown in the semifinals.

The Wildcats must try and forget their first-round disaster in last year's tournament in which they were shocked by Old Dominion. Should they win the Wildcats face the possibility of a second-round meeting with Louisville and a Sweet-16 game against Wake Forest.

pion with a perfect 16-0 record, is the top seed in the Midwest regional.

Big East champion Connecticut (30-2) is the top seed in the Southeast regional. The Huskies will play Patriot League champion Colgate (15-14) Thursday in the first round at Indianapolis.

Big Ten champion Purdue is the top seed in the West regional. Purdue plays Southern Conference champion Western Carolina (17-12) Thursday in the first round at Albuquerque, N.M.

A nine-man selection committee began meeting Thursday night in Kansas City to determine the 34 at-large teams and set the regional brackets and matchups for the NCAA Tournament.

Villanova meets West Coast Conference champion Portland (19-10) in the first round Friday at Milwaukee.

Wilson Comes Up Short At State

By ERIC NOON

The Portland Interscholastic League only gets one team as automatic seed in the boys 4A basketball tournament, and the number one team in the PIL Wilson Trojans took this year's honors. Cleveland, Jefferson, and second ranked Benson failed to qualify for the sixteen team boys 4A basketball State Championship at the Memorial Coliseum and the Rose Garden.

The Trojans (22-2), who beat out Benson (20-4) in their gym for the league title drew a tough match-up with Thurston (20-5) in the first round. The Colts came right at the Trojans and led by eight at half, but Wilson outscored the feisty Colts 16-

2 in the crucial third quarter. The game went down to the wire and David Jackson found a seam and drove for the winning lay-up as the Colt defense had a breakdown with 4.6 seconds left. Basil Duncantell then tied up the Colts and closed the barn door by forcing a jump ball and giving the Trojans the ball and the win on a fine defensive play.

The Trojans then advanced to face eventual State Champion South Salem (21-8) in the quarterfinals on Thursday. South Salem coming off and impressive rout of La Grande 77-49 looked to be peaking at just the right time going in. The Saxons record was a bit deceiving as their point guard Mike McShane, who will play

for Oregon next year, was out the first ten games.

The Saxons got off to another hot start and led by nine after one quarter, but Wilson bounced back in the second period with a 13-6 run to narrow the margin to two at the break. Wilson kept up the hot shooting in the third out-scoring the Saxons 15-8 and taking a five point edge going into the final quarter. The State Champs really took it to the favored Trojans in the fourth quarter as the Thalo Green and Mike McShane show overwhelmed the talented squad 49-47. The Trojans didn't have any answers for the 6'7" center headed for the University of Washington. Green poured in a game high

22 points, nabbed six rebounds and added three blocks in a spectacular performance. McShane finished with 10 points and six assists, but drew the questionable offensive charge against Tyrone Manlove and made a key steal on an inbound play to seal the victory. McShane appeared to slide in late under the basket as Manlove drove in for the lay-up after he released the ball, but the call went against Manlove with 1:15 left in the game.

"I thought it was a bad call," said the senior wing Manlove.

David Jackson who finished with 15 points and five assists put the game in better perspective as Manlove was understandably up-

set, to offer much insight. The Wilson offense just went flat in the fourth quarter and the Trojans were out-rebounded 11-3 on the offensive side of the ball for the game.

"We weren't willing to work our offense through to get the best shot, we were just trying to get any shot," said the Observer Player of the Year Jackson. "We battled hard it just wasn't enough tonight."

The Trojans had a great deal of expectations on them to win the title this year as nine of their 12 players are Seniors, including two of the states best in Manlove and Jackson. The Trojans shot 59% from the field against South Salem as Manlove had 20 points and Jackson added 15 but

the Trojans couldn't get a bucket when it counted.

"Anybody can come out there and score," said Jackson after their first round squeaker over Thurston. "The worst teams can get lucky and score."

Jackson was right when he said his team needed to focus on defense, but the Trojans trouble came from their indecisiveness on offense. The Trojans also lost the sixth place game in an ugly performance that saw technicals for unsportsmanlike conduct to players walking off the court before the game was over. Understandably it must have been hard for Wilson to come back and play for sixth place, but these kids represent a school and a city and their showing in that final game was out of line.

Bruno Gets Motivated For Tyson

As if defending the World Boxing Council heavyweight championship and "flying the flag for England" weren't enough, Frank Bruno has found something else to fire him up for his fight Saturday against Mike Tyson.

It is something Tyson said: that he felt Bruno "in his heart" did not believe he could knock Tyson out.

"He's on a different planet," Bruno said angrily at a news conference Monday after a public workout in preparation for his scheduled 12-round WBC title defense. "Who does Tyson think he is?" Bruno got in a few shots of his own.

"Deep, deep down, I don't think Tyson's ready and he has nowhere to

run," said Bruno. "Tyson's been in prison for three years and has only had 10 minutes in the ring. It can't be beneficial for him. It can be beneficial for me."

"I don't know about his preparation for this fight, but in prison you have time to be positive. He seems to have got worse and that's good for me."

As for his own preparedness, Bruno said: "I feel nice. I'm ready to rumble. Though I may have embarrassed myself in the past, this time I'm flying the flag for England."

The 34-year-old from Brentwood, Essex, has a record of 40-4 with 38 knockouts.

However, all four losses were inside the distance and three came in world title bouts, including one on Feb. 25, 1989, in Las Vegas when he was stopped in the fifth round by Tyson, then the undisputed world heavyweight champion.

In the past two and a half years Bruno has won all four of his fights including his last one on Sept. 2

AAA Advice: Begin Vacation Planning Now

AAA Oregon recommends travelers plan their vacations well in advance to get the best buys, discounts and locations. "Now is the best time to plan a vacation for summer and fall," said AAA President Roger Graybeal. "Travelers who make reservations early are also often offered a wider selection of choices for room location and size, as well as airline, bus and train departure times and seating arrangements."

Travel Planning Information
AAA Oregon offers tips on trip planning, budgeting and safe traveling through free brochures and seminars. Club services include a full-service travel agency and auto travel counselors.

AAA Triptiks include trip planning expenses and reservation guides. AAA's USA maps provide useful

information on planning a wardrobe, packing, preparing your home, plus traveling with children and pets. Information on restaurants, lodgings, recreation and attractions are available in AAA TourBooks. Safety tips for travelers are provided in the free brochure AAA Guide to Trouble-free Travel.

Tips for Travel with Children

Traveling with children can be trying for both parents and youngsters. AAA offers these suggestions to make the trip less stressful and help the time pass quickly:

- Outfit children in comfortable clothes.
- Pack special snacks and favorite toys.
- Bring books, compact game and puzzles that can be used quietly.
- Bring a portable radio, tape player

or CD with headsets for the child.

• Bring a comfortable pillow so the child can sleep comfortably.

Travel Safety Tips

AAA's Guide to Trouble-free Travel includes safety tips for auto travel, hotel stays, and sightseeing. Tips include how to avoid standing out in a crowd.

- Leave expensive jewelry at home.
- Carry only a small amount of cash; use travelers checks.

• Avoid carrying a purse.

• Use an automatic teller only during the day. Do not go alone.

• Group Tours Provide Increased Safety

AAA Group Tours offer discounted prices, AAA escorts, the companionship of other AAA members and safety of group travel. AAA Oregon is offering free information meetings

on a variety of Amtrak Tours and Brennan Motorcoach Tours in March and April.

Amtrak rail historian Dan Kuhn will present a slide show on AMTRAK adventures at AAA offices: Portland, March 18; Clackamas, March 19; Beaverton, March 20; Salem, March 21; Medford, March 26; Grants Pass, March 27; Eugene, March 28.

Brennan Tours and AAA will present a free information evening on motorcoach tours of the Canadian Rockies, the Grand Canyon and autumn in New England. The presentation will be in Salem on March 19; Corvallis on March 21; Eugene on April 2; Grants Pass on April 4; Beaverton on April 9; Clackamas on April 10; Medford on April 3; and Portland on April 11.

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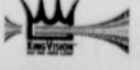
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