

SPORTS

Points Piled High in All-Star Classic

West powers 152-149 victory

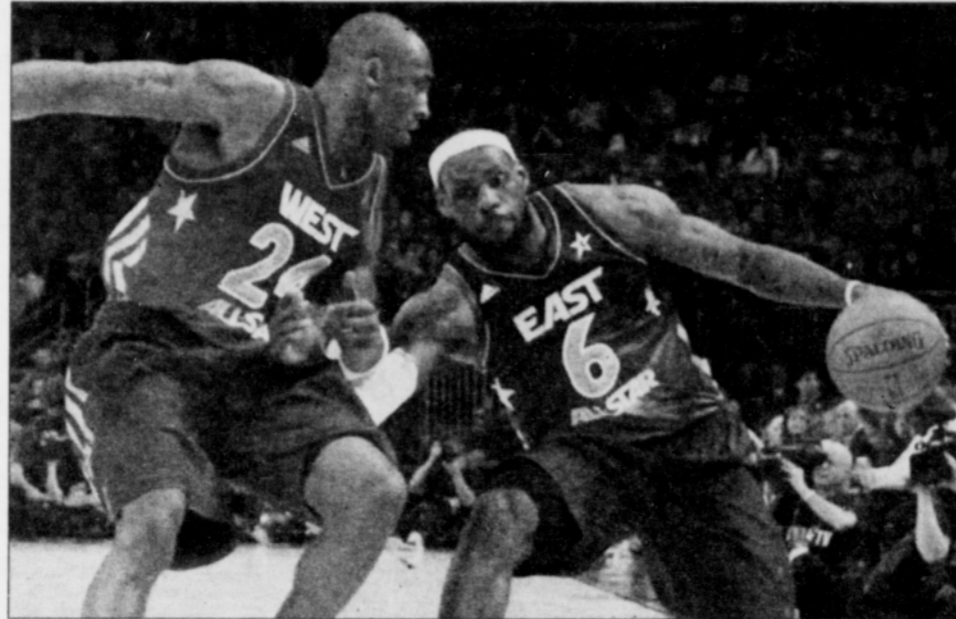
(AP)—Kobe Bryant got the scoring record, Kevin Durant the MVP, and the West got the win—barely.

Even after that duo piled up the points, the NBA All-Star game came down to a defensive play.

A bloodied Bryant scored 27 points, moving past Michael Jordan as the career scoring leader in the game, Durant had 36 in an MVP performance, and Blake Griffin's interception of LeBron James' pass secured the Western Conference's 152-149 win over the East on Sunday night.

Bryant shook off Dwyane Wade's hard smack to his nose and was still on the floor to say something to James after he threw away a pass in the closing records.

"You know, you have some of the best competitors out on the floor at the same time," James said. "Not only me and Kobe, but D-



West All-Star Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers (left) plays tough defense on East All-Star LeBron James of the Miami Heat during the NBA All-Star game on Sunday in Orlando, Fla.

Wade and Durant and (Carmelo Anthony) and (Chris Paul), and all the rest of the guys. We all wanted to win, and it came down to the last minute or last seconds."

James and the East cut a 21-point deficit to one in the closing seconds, but weren't able to move in front. James had 36 points and fellow Heat star Wade finished with a triple-double.

"It was fun," Durant said. "That's the type

of All-Star game you want to see."

Durant's win left Bryant tied for the All-Star record with his four MVP awards. But he got a bigger mark in his 13th All-Star game.

He broke Jordan's record of 262 points on a dunk with 4:57 left in the third quarter and now has 271 for his career. He passed Oscar Robertson (246 points) and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (251) earlier in the game.

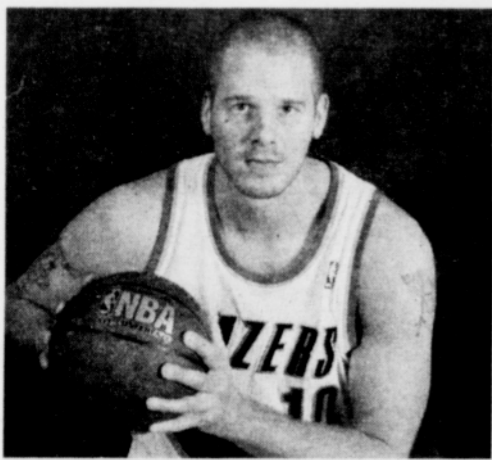
Young Athletes Seek Support

The Alberta Park Panthers, a local youth football team, is asking the community for support to help attain new equipment and prepare for their upcoming season.

The Alberta Park 3rd-8th grade Youth Football Program was founded in 2000 by volunteer coaches and parents. The program engages more than 100 youth each year for the league's three teams.

Donations to help support these young athletes to continue playing into their future are welcome. Checks can be made payable to the Police Activities League, attention Alberta Park Panthers, and mailed to 449 N.E. Emerson St. Portland, OR 97211. Checks can also be given to any staff member.

For more information, contact Alberta Park Head Coach and Program Director Steve Littleton at 503-890-5195.



Joel Przybilla

Returning to Rip City

The Portland Trail Blazers have signed free agent center Joel Przybilla.

"We've been actively trying to get Joel to return to Portland for some time now and we're thrilled with his decision to come back to the Trail Blazers family," said Acting General Manager Chad Buchanan. "Joel is a hard worker, a great teammate and a player that does the little things to help you win, all qualities that will help us down the stretch run."

In seven seasons with the Trail Blazers, Przybilla averaged 4.8 points, 7.3 rebounds, 1.54 blocks and 22.4 minutes in 395 games (273 starts). He ranks fifth on Portland's all-time list with 607 career blocked shots and ranks 13th on the team's all-time rebounding ledger with 2,872 boards.

Originally signed by Portland as a free agent in 2004, Przybilla was traded to Charlotte on Feb. 24, 2011, along with Dante Cunningham, Sean Marks and two conditional first round picks in exchange for Gerald Wallace.

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