

College Basketball

Oregon State continues to roll

Associated Press

CORVALLIS — With No. 9 Oregon State trailing by double digits early in the second half, the message during a timeout was simple.

“We all looked at each other and were like, ‘We’re not losing this game.’ Everyone rallied around that and came together,” Beavers guard Jamie Weisner said.

Ruth Hamblin scored a career-high 31 points, tied a career best with 16 rebounds and added seven blocks and Oregon State overcame a 16-point deficit to beat Washington State 73-70 on Friday night.

Weisner added 25 points and seven rebounds for the Beavers (15-1, 5-0 Pac-12).

“We really had to rally and I think we did a good job remaining calm,” Hamlin said.

“We had to lock them up defensively, and our offense came from there,” Weisner said.

Oregon State Coach Scott Rueck said Hamblin, who shot 12-16 from the field, did a great job getting deep position in the post.

“They chose to defend her one-on-one. Ruth made them pay for that,” Rueck said.

Lia Galdeira scored 21 points and Tia Presley added 17 for the Cougars (10-6, 1-4).

“We battled really hard. We left it all out there on the floor and that’s all I can ask for,” Washington State coach June Daugherty said. “Missed shot here, free throw there, it could have been a different outcome.”

Oregon State took 10-2 lead, but the Cougars bounced back with gritty defense, feasting on turnovers.

Galdeira’s 3-pointer gave Washington State its first lead at 16-15 with 12:56 left in the half.

Washington State led by as many as 12,



AP Photo/Greg Wahl-Stephens

Washington State’s Awa Dawnyelle defends against Oregon State’s Sydney Wiese (24) during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in Corvallis Friday.

and went to the break ahead 39-30. Oregon State had 15 turnovers in the half, three more than it was averaging per contest entering the game.

“We really did some things defensively to disrupt their tempo,” Daugherty said.

Galdeira’s steal and fast-break layup put the Cougars up by 16 at 50-34 with 16:53 left. The Beavers responded with a 14-2 run. The Cougars committed their seventh team foul with 12:22 left. During the last 8 minutes, the game turned into a back-and-forth battle with neither team leading by more than three points.

Blue Mountain splits with Big Bend

East Oregonian

MOSES LAKE, Wash. — Four players reached double digits in scoring for the Timberwolves as Blue Mountain held on for a 81-76 win over Big Bend on Friday in NWAC East region play.

Cydney Bolton scored 22 points to lead Blue Mountain (8-5, 1-1) to its first league win. She added a team-high four assist.

Riley Gerlinger finished with 18 points, nine rebounds and four steals. Mar’Shay Moore added 17 points, five steals and three assists, and Savannah Heugly finished with 14 points and nine rebounds.

BMCC totaled 18 steals as a team and had just 10 turnovers in the game.

Brooke Bowers scored 21 points to lead

Big Bend (7-9 0-2).

The T-Wolves continue league play at Spokane on Saturday.

MEN: BIG BEND 68, BLUE MOUNTAIN 66 — At Moses Lake, Blue Mountain’s comeback bid fell painfully short on Friday as the Timberwolves lost in NWAC-East play.

BMCC (4-10, 0-2) trailed 43-32 at half-time but turned 15 Big Bend turnovers into 25 points the other way to battle back.

Jared Schultz led BMCC with 17 points and Donavin Wright matched that total to lead Big Bend (14-4, 2-0), which is in first place in the East. Max Mueller added 14 points and seven rebounds for BMCC.

Blue Mountain stays on the road Saturday at Spokane.

NW Christian takes two from Eastern

East Oregonian

EUGENE — Bryan McGriff big night wasn’t enough for the Eastern Oregon men’s basketball team as it was defeated by Northwest Christian University 77-68 on Friday evening.

McGriff finished with 23 points on 9-of-17 shooting, but the Beacons (12-5, 5-3 CCC) had four players reach double digits in scoring led by Austin Kuemper with a game-high 26 points on 10-of-17 shooting.

De’Sean Mattox scored 18 points for the Mountaineers (10-8, 2-6 CCC), and Deonta Edwards added 13 points and collected nine rebounds.

NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN 70, EASTERN OREGON 57 — At Eugene, Mountaineers (14-5, 6-2 CCC) saw their four-game winning streak end on Friday evening in Cascade Collegiate Conference action.

Kassy Larson led EOU with 14 points, the only Mountaineer in double-figures. She also collected nine rebounds during the game. Jordan Klebaum and Maloree Moss followed with nine points, apiece, for EOU.

Breanna Schmidt came off the bench to lead the Beacons (7-9, 3-5) with 13 points. Demarea Caples followed with 11.

Both EOU teams play at Corban on Saturday.

NBA



AP Photo/Bahram Mark Sobhani

San Antonio Spurs forwards Kawhi Leonard, left, and Tim Duncan, right, defend against Portland Trail Blazers center Chris Kaman in the second half of an NBA basketball game Friday.

Spurs run past Blazers

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ
Associated Press



SAN ANTONIO — Kawhi Leonard’s return from a 15-game absence has the San Antonio Spurs feeling whole, and they showed it by taking apart the Portland Trail Blazers.

Leonard scored 20 points in his return from a 15-game absence in the Spurs’ 110-96 victory over Portland on Friday night.

“It took me a while to get my legs under me, get some of the excitement out,” Leonard said. “I felt good tonight.”

After missing 17 games total due to a torn ligament in his right hand, Leonard’s presence gave the Spurs had the extra step and pep they needed to run the fluid ball movement that became a staple of their march to last season’s NBA title.

“I think that has a lot to do with a group,” San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. “A team feeds off of each other and he has been an obvious important part of how we do things. Everything fits better together.”

The Spurs had 37 assists

while shooting 42 for 94 from the field and 11 for 29 on 3-pointers. They out-rebounded the Trail Blazers 49-32 and took 20 more shots in steamrolling a team that shot over 50 percent for much of the game.

“They’re the champs,” Portland forward LaMarcus Aldridge said. “They played better. They have guys that play with confidence and guys that make plays. Their guys did that tonight.”

Tony Parker scored 19 points and Patty Mills added 18 for San Antonio, which had six players score in double figures and had 34 assists. Tim Duncan had 11 points and 12 rebounds.

Aldridge had 24 points and Damian Lillard added 23 for the Trail Blazers.

It was the Blazers’ first game in San Antonio since beating the Spurs 129-119 in triple overtime on Dec. 19. Leonard missed that game,

but he made up for lost time quickly.

“San Antonio looked like the team that won the championship,” Portland coach Terry Stotts said. “Obviously getting Leonard back and Patty Mills and Parker, none of those guys played last time we played them and all three of them made an impact on the game. Like I said, San Antonio looked like a pretty good team tonight.”

Leonard pleaded for the ball on the game’s opening possession, hitting the front rim on a 3-point attempt.

It was one of the few times the NBA Finals MVP didn’t fire up the crowd and his teammates with his energy.

“It was big, having another guy that can give us so many things, a steal here and there a rebound, easy buckets,” said Spurs guard Manu Ginobili, who had 13 points and seven assists. “It was huge for us. He did way better than we expected after being out. He made everybody else feel more confident.”

Leonard shot 8 for 18 from the field and was 3 for 4 on free throws.

PGA

Three tied for lead at Sony Open

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Webb Simpson was so determined to switch to a conventional putting style that he broke his belly putter over his knee so he could never use it again. He might be the most surprised of anyone to be tied for the lead Friday in the Sony Open.

With expectations next to nil from using a regular putter for the first time in 10 years, Simpson ran off three birdies over the last five holes for a 4-under 66 to share the lead with Matt Kuchar and PGA Tour rookie Justin Thomas.

“The broken belly putter is in my trophy case at home. It’s on top,” Simpson said. “I can’t use it. I could use it — it

would be a short putter.”

Kuchar, playing alongside Simpson, had a 63.

The big surprise was Thomas, the 21-year-old son of a club pro in Kentucky — not because of his age, or because it’s his first time to Waialae, but the way he finished. Thomas figured he couldn’t catch Kuchar and Simpson, so he tried to at least get a little closer to them. He hit 8-iron to 12 feet for birdie, hit a wedge to 6 feet for birdie on the next hole, and then pounded a tee shot on the par-5 ninth and had only a 9-iron to the green. He hit that to 18 feet and made the putt for eagle.

That gave him a 61 — one off the course record Davis Love III set in 1994,

about 10 months after Thomas was born.

“It was probably the best zone and best focus I’ve ever been in,” Thomas said. “I knew I was playing well, but I really didn’t know how many under I was for the day, and I just kind of kept playing. It doesn’t happen very often in golf, and it’s really fun to happen. It’s probably maybe only the second time it’s ever happened to me.”

The other time was at a junior event. He was 8.

It sets up for a dynamic weekend at Waialae.

At the top at 12-under 128 were Simpson and Kuchar and Thomas. They were two shots clear of Tim Clark (65) and Troy Merritt (64).

SCOREBOARD

Local Slate

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

Saturday

Pilot Rock at Culver, 4 p.m.

South Wasco County at Lone, 5:30 p.m.

Echo at Wallowa, 5:30 p.m.

Heppner at Stanfield, 5:30 p.m.

Helix at Joseph, 5:30 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Pine Eagle, 5:30 p.m.

Arlington at Sherman, 5:30 p.m.

Vale at Umatilla, 5:30 p.m.

Dufur at Condon/Wheeler, 5:30 p.m.

Weston-McEwen at Irrigon, 5:30 p.m.

Nyssa at Riverside, 6 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Saturday

Pilot Rock at Culver, 2:30 p.m.

Arlington at Sherman, 4 p.m.

Vale at Umatilla, 4 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Pine Eagle, 4 p.m.

Helix at Joseph, 4 p.m.

Echo at Wallowa, 4 p.m.

South Wasco County at Lone, 4 p.m.

Dufur at Condon/Wheeler, 4 p.m.

Heppner at Stanfield, 4 p.m.

Nyssa at Riverside, 4 p.m.

Weston-McEwen at Irrigon, 4 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING

Saturday

Hermiston, Pendleton, Mac-Hi, Riverside, Heppner at Oregon Wrestling Classic (Redmond), 8 a.m.

PREP SWIMMING

Saturday

Pendleton, Hermiston at La Grande, Noon

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday

Blue Mountain at Spokane, 4 p.m.

Eastern Oregon at Corban, 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday

Blue Mountain at Spokane, 2 p.m.

Eastern Oregon at Corban, 5:30 p.m.

Basketball

NBA

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	26	13	.667	—
Brooklyn	17	23	.425	9½
Boston	13	25	.342	12½
Philadelphia	8	31	.205	18
New York	5	36	.122	22

NCAA Men

Top 25

Saturday's Games

No. 1 Kentucky at Alabama, 1 p.m.

No. 2 Virginia at Boston College, 11 a.m.

No. 3 Gonzaga at Loyola Marymount, 1 p.m.

No. 4 Duke at No. 6 Louisville, 9 a.m.

No. 5 Villanova at Pennsylvania, 4 p.m.

No. 8 Utah at No. 10 Arizona, 4 p.m.

No. 9 Kansas at No. 11 Iowa State, 6 p.m.

No. 12 Notre Dame vs. Miami, 11 a.m.

No. 13 Wichita State at Evansville, 11 a.m.

No. 14 Maryland vs. Michigan State, 1

Western Conference

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	30	10	.750	—
Oklahoma City	19	20	.487	10½
Denver	18	21	.462	11½
Utah	14	26	.350	16
Minnesota	6	32	.158	23

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	31	6	.838	—
L.A. Clippers	26	14	.650	6½
Phoenix	24	18	.571	9½
Sacramento	16	23	.410	16
L.A. Lakers	12	29	.293	21

Friday's Games

Philadelphia 96, New Orleans 81

Brooklyn 102, Washington 80

Memphis 106, Orlando 96

Detroit 98, Indiana 96

Atlanta 110, Toronto 89

Chicago 119, Boston 103

Oklahoma City 127, Golden State 115

Dallas 97, Denver 89

San Antonio 110, Portland 96

Phoenix 110, Minnesota 99

Utah 94, L.A. Lakers 85

Miami 95, Sacramento 82

Cleveland 126, L.A. Clippers 121

Saturday's Games

Indiana at Charlotte, 4 p.m.

Philadelphia at Detroit, 4:30 p.m.

Atlanta at Chicago, 5 p.m.

Golden State at Houston, 5 p.m.

Washington at Brooklyn, 5 p.m.

Minnesota at Denver, 6 p.m.

Portland at Memphis, 6 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 7 p.m.

Sunday's Games

New Orleans at Toronto, 12:30 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Orlando, 3 p.m.

Utah at San Antonio, 4 p.m.

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