

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015

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Sports shorts

No. 1 Kentucky survives Vanderbilt

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Kentucky twin guards Aaron and Andrew Harrison combined for 11 points down the stretch that were key in helping the top-ranked Wildcats hold off pesky Vanderbilt 65-57 on Tuesday.



Five combined 3-pointers by Riley LaChance (16 points) and Matthew Fisher-Davis (13) helped Vanderbilt pull within 58-54 with 2:36 left. Aaron Harrison responded with a big shot from long range 27 seconds later, and Andrew Harrison followed with a jumper with 1:07 left to provide some space.

Aaron Harrison added two more free throws to finish with 14 points while Andrew Harrison had five points for Kentucky, which shot 44 percent.

Sharapova barely advances at Australian Open

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Maria Sharapova saved two match points in a narrow escape against No. 150-ranked Alexandra Panova at the Australian Open on Wednesday, advancing to the third round with a 6-1, 4-6, 7-5 win.

FACES



Second-seeded Sharapova made 51 unforced errors as she went for the lines, saving some of her high-risk winners for when she needed them most.

She faced two match points in the 10th game of the third set, ripping big forehand winners on both points against Panova, a qualifier who entered the Australian Open without a single match win at five previous majors.

Sharapova, who won the 2008 Australian Open and has five Grand Slam titles, struggled with her serve in the second and third sets as the match extended to 2 hours, 32 minutes in a temperatures topping 91 degrees.

"I don't know anything about that. I don't touch footballs. I tackle people."

— **Vince Wilfork**
New England Patriots DT when asked about the NFL's inquiry into the balls provided by the team for its AFC Championship win over Indianapolis. Anonymous sources told ESPN on Tuesday that 11 of the 12 balls were found to be significantly underinflated. NFL vice president of football operations Troy Vincent told the AP the investigation is still ongoing.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1958 — Bob Pettit of St. Louis becomes the first member of the losing team to win the NBA All-Star MVP award, scoring 28 points and grabbing 26 rebounds, even though the East beats the West 130-118.

2007 — Lovie Smith becomes the first black head coach to make it to the Super Bowl when his Chicago Bears win the NFC championship. Tony Dungy joins him when his Indianapolis Colts take the AFC title.

Contact us at 541-966-0838 or sports@eastoregonian.com

IRRIGON

Knights shock Bucks at buzzer

Romero lifts Irrigon over Pendleton

By ERIK SKOPIL
East Oregonian

When Irrigon's Adrian Romero rolled open to the basket in the final second of Tuesday's tied contest with Pendleton, his quest was singular: put it through.

With a motion inhibited by a defender's hand, Romero did just that, sending the six-footer off the glass, the home crowd into a frenzy and raising the Class 2A No. 2 Knights over Class 5A No. 5 Pendleton 61-59 at Irrigon High School.

"It was a relief," said Romero, who scored a game-high 24 points in the win. "I saw the ball go up and I was just praying it was going in. Once it went in it was just a relief."

Romero scored seven of the game's final nine points, but none were bigger than the last basket.

With the game knotted at 59 each, Knight (13-1) guard Anthony Landeros drove to the basket only to have his attempt sent to the baseline floor by Buckaroo (9-5) center Wes Persinger with 1.3 seconds. That's when Irrigon coach Mitch Thompson called timeout and drew up a play for the reigning Class 2A Player of the Year.

"We just wanted to loop Adrian around," Thompson said. "We knew they were going to chase him everywhere. We didn't think they were going to switch and it worked."

Romero's scoring spree came off the heels of a Caden Smith three-pointer that gave Pendleton a 57-54 lead with 4:18 remaining.

But, the Bucks would turn it over twice on their next three possessions. First on a Smith five-second violation call and then when Bradt missed a cutting Quinn Cockburn on the game's penultimate possession.

"We fumbled around. We had guys falling down from the tip. They banked in a three early. It was just one of those nights I guess," Pendleton coach Brian Broaddus said. "But, credit to them, that's a great team. They haven't lost here in three and a half years."

Irrigon's last home loss came on Feb. 11, 2012, when Weston-McEwen did the deed.

That fact was not lost on Pendleton coach Brian Broaddus.

See KNIGHTS/2B



Irrigon
61



Pendleton
59



Irrigon's Adrian Romero takes the ball to the basket guarded by Pendleton's Wes Persinger in the Knights 61-59 win against the Bucks on Tuesday in Irrigon. Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Preps

Stanfield slips past Umatilla

EO Media Group

UMATILLA — Following a massive 2A Columbia Basin Conference win over Heppner Saturday, the Stanfield boys basketball team had to follow it up with a non-league, interdivisional matchup in Umatilla.

Up 15 in the third quarter, Stanfield weathered a fourth-quarter barrage from the Vikings and guard Dylan Grogan came up with a key steal and layup with 1:21 left to help the Tigers slip by a short-handed Umatilla club 59-55.

"Umatilla really battled hard," Stanfield head coach Daniel Sharp said. "They gave us all we can handle."

Grogan led all scorers with 24 points, and Umatilla's Eric Garcia scored 21 in the losing effort.

Sharp said the Vikings gave the Tigers some problems with their aggressive, pressuring defense, but they didn't move the ball very well and their assist totals were lower than usual.

Stanfield (12-2, 3-0 CBC) has won six straight after dropping a pair right before Christmas, and Umatilla (8-9, 2-0 Eastern Oregon League) had its brief two-game winning streak snapped.

After Umatilla's Eric Garcia hit a three-pointer and Dany Ayala hit one of two from the line, Umatilla led 55-54 with less than a minute and a half left in regulation.

Grogan jumped in front of a lazy swing pass and took it the other way for two. Stanfield led 56-55 and wouldn't trail from there.

"You could kind of feel the momentum shift a little," Sharp said.



Stanfield's Dylan Grogan (22) tries to finger roll one home as Umatilla's Edgar Morales (left) and David Garcia defend during the first half of a non-league basketball game Tuesday night in Umatilla. Sam Barbee photo

STANFIELD 59, UMATILLA 55
SHS 8 20 16 15 — 59
UHS 7 14 16 18 — 55
STANFIELD — L. Moreno 4, R. Bailey 4, E. Galarza 9, A. Nunez 0, E. Lockwood 1, T. Flores 7, H. Braithwaite 3, D. Grogan 24, T. Monkus 0, A. Montes 0, Davchevski 7.

UMATILLA — D. Ayala 2, J. Ramirez 0, E. Garcia 21, G. Armenta 0, J. Coria, K. Webb 3, D. Garcia 7, A. Jaime 10, J. Tejada 0, T. Sanguino 2, A. Simmons 0, E. Morales 1.

3-point field goals — Stanfield 4, Umatilla

See PREPS/2B

HELIX

Grizzlies honor Griswold greats

East Oregonian

The Helix Grizzlies will open the pages of their history books for a walk down memory lane on Saturday evening when the Griswold High School Hall of Fame honors its 2015 class.

Following the girls basketball game against the Echo Cougars, which tips off at 4 p.m., the Grizzlies will revisit one of the most successful spans in its girls' program history with the induction of the 1982 and 1983 Class B state

See GRIZZLIES/2B



•Griswold HS Hall of Fame ceremonies
•Sat., 5:30 p.m.



EO file photo
Helix's Terra Blevins hugs teammate Wendy Wagner after the Grizzlies defeated Days Creek for the 1983 girls basketball state championship.