NBA

Leonard leads Spurs to win over Trail Blazers

Portland

80

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The San Antonio Spurs turned to a veteran when they needed a

burst of energy. Manu Ginobili scored 14 of his 17 points in the final quarter to help the San Antonio Spurs overcome a listless start and beat the Portland Trail Blazers 93-80 on Monday night.

"I think we all turned into fans on the bench watching him," San Antonio reserve guard Patty Mills said. "He definitely saved us tonight

offensively. Making shots and really doing what he's done for so long. But to be able to do it this year, it just goes to show his leadership and what he brings to this team. It was fun to watch

Kawhi Leonard added 19 points and nine rebounds for San Antonio, which won its fifth straight overall and improved to 4-0 at home.

Former Portland standout LaMarcus Aldridge was held to six points and six rebounds, his lowest output since signing with the Spurs.

With Aldridge being held

check, the return of Leonard and Ginobili from one-game absences proved

The Trail Blazers were playing the second game of a back-to-back after losing 106-94 in Charlotte, but were able to stifle the Spurs.

San Antonio and Portland both set season lows for points in the first half with the Trail Blazers' 28 points falling just four points of matching a franchise low.



T h e teams shot a combined 27 percent from the field in an quarter.

Ginobili helped ignite the

Ginobili and Danny Green each had a 3-pointer during a 12-2 run that put San Antonio up 75-62 with 9 1/2 minutes left in the game. But the Spurs had trouble closing out the victory, just as they had in their previous game against winless Philadelphia.

Vonleh's Noah

3-pointer of the season pulled Portland within 81-78, but they were unable to get any

"We've just got to learn how to win," Blazer point guard Damian Lillard said. "Against Memphis we gave ourselves a chance, but we don't know how to finish that game. Tonight we don't know how to finish this game. I think it's a matter of us learning how to win games."

The run ended with Ginobili scoring San Antonio's next nine points, capped by a high 3-pointer. The Spurs backed Ginobili's personal 9-2 run with three blocks, including two against Lillard.

"I was very glad, that it happened," Ginobili said. 'They were not falling (early). We were taking good shots, it just sometimes happens. That's the great thing about playing good defense, we kept them at 80 and that's what gave us a (cushion). If we had played like this offensively in Portland, we would have lost by 20."

Green and Boris Diaw each had 12 points and Tony Parker and Tim Duncan both

MUSTANGS: Reserves finish off Braves with running clock in second half

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lead into the locker room at halftime.

Putman led them with 150 yards on 17 carries and scored on totes of 20, 4 and 7 in the first quarter alone. He added another 4-yard touchdown run before halftime, then threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to cap Heppner's scoring in the third quarter.
"Our linemen did a

wonderful job today, all glory goes to them," he said.

"In this game our line, this was the best blocking they've done all year. This was amazing," said Kindle, who finished with 140 yards and a touchdown on 13 carries. "We had so much room to run back there. We came together really well as a team today."

It hasn't always been that way for an offensive line that had a few new pieces at the beginning of the season.

"We're together now. We've been coming together and now we're where we want to be," said senior "We're Collins. Patrick making line calls and we're doing exactly what we need to be doing, capitalizing on everything. It's just really nice how we've held it together."

Collins also was part of a dominant game by the Heppner defensive line, and set up the Mustangs' fourth touchdown of the first quarter when he ripped the ball from Braves' runner Joey Herr at the line of scrimmage for the game's first turnover.

Five plays later and the rout was on as Putman



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Heppner's C.J. Kindle runs with the ball Saturday in the Mustangs' 52-14 win against Reedsport in Heppner.

defenders for his third touchdown. Kindle ran in the two-point conversion to make it 32-0. Logan Grieb also added a 43-yard untouched touchdown scamper in the first quarter, and the Mustangs said they were playing as if every one of them was necessary.

"It was a good start but we couldn't let up at all. When you get good teams in there, even two touchdown leads, you can't let up," Kindle said. "Because you heard about the Stanfield game (Friday) night, you just can't let up. This part of the season everyone is good so you've just got to keep pounding it, working hard."

"We always come out firing and we try and get them down," Collins said. "Our main goal is to just let them know, 'We're not here to mess around, we're here to win."

Another three-and-out by Reedsport's offense to start the second quarter brought up a punt that Kindle returned 44 yards to the Braves' 31, with 15 more yards tacked on for a helmet-to-helmet hit. That put the ball on Reedsport's 16, and Kindle ran the ball into the end zone on first down. Kaden Clark passed to Ryan Smith for the conversion and a 40-0 lead with 10:13 still left in the second quarter.

Reedsport finally picked up a first down on its next drive on a six-yard pass from Tyler Tresch to Joe Hixenbaugh on 3rd-and-three,

of midfield when Tommy Bredfield and Wyatt Steagall combined on a sack on 3rd-and-13.

Heppner allowed just 21 yards of offense in the first half, and held Reedsport to 3-of-9 on third down in the

"They've got a physical defensive line and linebackers and we had to run side to side most of the time in our offense, but we couldn't seal the edge so it didn't work," Tresch said.
"I was trying to look for an open receiver as fast as I could so I didn't get crushed every play.'

Reedsport finished with just 31 yards on Heppner's starting defense and crossed midfield just once, and just barely, to the Reedsport down early and keep them but the drive stalled short Heppner 48. Putman said they on — we have pretty good

prove something on that side of the ball. "Like everybody was

came into the game looking to

saying and like they put in the paper, battle of the defenses, I think we won it today," he said. "Our defense, I think is really good. I don't want to speak about ourselves though, I'll let others do that."

It was Putman that sent the starting unit to the sidelines for good when he scooped up a fumble that teammate Kevin Murray had dislodged from Reedsport receiver Korde Parmenter and returned it 24 yards to the Braves 33.

With Kolby Currin taking over lead-back duties to start the second half, Putman stepped behind center and completed two passes to Caden Hedman. The second was an 11-yard touchdown that gave the Mustangs their final points.

Reedsport finally some offense going against Heppner's second string defense and finished with 155 yards and touchdowns by Herr and Gage Billings.

Despite the knowledge that he wouldn't have another home football game in his high school career, Kindle said it was nice seeing the reserves finish out the game.

"It was quite relieving actually. I was pretty glad having them come in," he said. "It's my last game here ever, but I had a good time.

"It still hasn't kicked in that's it the last game here, but it will soon. This is an amazing field and when we ran in front of the crowd and they were cheering us fan support here in Heppner, it's awesome."

The Mustangs move on to the state semifinals and a neutral site to face No. 3 Regis at Liberty High School on Saturday at noon. The Rams beat Imbler 44-14 in their quarterfinal on Saturday.

It's the third year in a row Heppner has reached the round and a rematch from the 2013 semifinals which Regis won 21-14.

"We've been here before, we're no strangers to it, but we've still got to come to fight," Kindle said. "It's going to be a good game next week I think. Regis is a very good team.'

HEPPNER 52, REEDSPORT 14 RHS (9-2) 0 0 7 7 — 14 HHS (11-0) 32 14 6 0 — 52

Scoring First Quarter H — Weston Putman 20 run (Kaden Clark to Logan Grieb), 8-0, 9:13 H — Putman 4 run (Clark to Jake Lindsav) 16-0, 4:57 H — Grieb 43 run (Clark run), 24-0, 1:50 H — Putman 7 run (C.J. Kindle run), 32-0, :00

Second Quarter H — Kindle 19 run (Clark to Ryan Smith), 40-0, 10:13 H — Putman 4 run (Pass inclomplete),

Third Quarter

H — Caden Hedman 11 pass from Putman (PAT missed), 52-0, 2:45
R — Joey Herr 23 run (Kyle Barnes PAT), 52-7, :00

Fourth Quarter
R — Gage Billings 19 pass from Marc
Chaney (Barnes PAT), 52-14, 4:41 Statistics PASSING — Reedsport (6-10-0, 87):

Tyler Tresch 5-9-0, 68; Marc Chaney 1-1-0, 19. **Heppner (4-9-1, 57):** Kaden Clark 2-5-0, 34; Weston Putman 2-3-0, 23; Coby

Daugherty 0-1-1, 0.

RUSHING — Reedsport (21-68): Joey Herr 7-45; Griffin Kaufmann 6-16; Joseph Hixenbaugh 3-5; Gage Billings 2-5; Tresch 3-(-3). Heppner (43-373): Putman 17-150; C.J. Kindle 13-140; Logan Grieb 2-55; Kolby Currin 4-14; Kaden Corbin 3-9; Kaden Clark -5; Coby Daugherty 2-0; Jake Lindsay RECEIVING — Reedsport: Korde

Parmenter 2-45; Hixenbaugh 3-14; Tyreece Gardner 2-9; Billings 1-19. **Heppner**: Hed-man 2-23; Putman 1-21; Lindsay 1-13. **Penalties** — Reedsport 5-40; Heppner First Downs — Reedsport 6; Heppner 22

COLLEGE: Eastern Oregon volleyball, women's soccer finish second in CCC

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ball and the Ducks held on for the win.

"I might have touched it a little bit," Walker said. "Just a little finger."

Royce Freeman ran for 105 yards and a score and Charles Nelson scored on a 75-yard run on one of the Ducks' three touchdowns of more than 45 yards.

Oregon needs to win the final two games and hope Stanford loses next week at home to California to win the Pac-12 North title.

SOUTHERN OREGON 48, EASTERN OREGON 37 — At La Grande, the Mountaineers

overcome a three-touchdown halftime deficit on Senior Day at Community Stadium on Saturday.

Junior quarterback Zach Bartlow tied a career-high and his own school record with five touchdowns (four passing, one rushing), registering 226 passing yards and 111 more on the ground. Junior running back Alfred Gross added 82 yards on 14 carries, while sophomore wide receiver Calvin Connors recorded a career-high 140 yards on five kickoff returns.

Playing his final game in a Mountaineer uniform, senior running back Jace Billingsley caught five passes for 87 yards, and he also had a 65-yard kickoff return in the third quarter. The Winnemucca, Nev., native finished his career with a school-record 2,596 receiving yards.

Senior linebacker Gary Posten paced the Mountaineers' defensive effort with 14 tackles, while senior defensive back Adam Bese logged 12 tackles.

Tanner Trosin amassed 215 passing yards for the Raiders, going 23-for-31 on the afternoon, while Melvin Mason registered three rushing touchdowns.

The Raiders nearly doubled the Navy and Gold's offensive production in the opening half, recording 260 yards of total offense compared to EOU's 134.

No. 8 SOU (8-2) opened the game with a 5-play, 61-yard drive to take an early

lead and never trailed. Eastern (4-7) trailed by as many as 22 before receiving touchdowns by Billingsley and Connors in the game's final six minutes.

CALIFORNIA OREGON STATE 24 — At Berkeley, Calif, one week after a disastrous performance in a lopsided loss to No. 18 UCLA, Oregon State quarterback Nick Mitchell looked a lot more poised and relaxed in the pocket.

He just wasn't able to finish his night against California.

Mitchell passed for two touchdowns and ran in a third but the Beavers couldn't keep pace with Jared Goff and the Golden Bears in a 54-24 loss at Memorial Stadium on Saturday night. Making his fourth start in

place of injured Seth Collins, Mitchell completed 14 of 28 pass attempts for 161 yards and two touchdowns and added 49 yards rushing in one of his strongest outings of the season.

But the Beavers redshirt freshman had his night cut short following a helmet-tohelmet hit by Cal linebacker Jalen Jefferson. Mitchell had just thrown a 3-yard touchdown pass to Noah Togiai when he was hit.

"Nick was in the zone," Oregon State coach Gary Andersen said. "There were some plays that definitely helped him. He made some good decisions, tucked the ball and ran with his feet."

Goff overcame a sluggish start to pass for six touchdowns and 453 yards to help end the Bears' four-game losing streak.

The Bears' career leader in nearly every passing category, Goff completed 26 of 37 passes while helping Cal (6-4, 3-4 Pac-12) pile up a school-record 760 yards in offense.

WASHINGTON STATE 31, UCLA 27 — At Pasdena, Calif., a few UCLA players warmed up on Washington State's side of the Rose Bowl field before the game, and the Cougars felt disrespected. That's not a new emotion for players at a long-struggling, constantly overlooked Pac-12 school.

Several hours and several jaw-dropping moments later, Gabe Marks dived to make a catch that exacted revenge and made a statement: The Cougars are back in the game.

"People were not going to give us respect until they absolutely have to," Marks said. "Now they have to."

Marks caught a 21-yard touchdown pass from Luke Falk with 3 seconds to play, sending Washington State to a 31-27 victory over No. 18 UCLA on Saturday night.

"I was a little kid who dreamed about having a game-winning drive at the Rose Bowl," said Falk, who lived in the Los Angeles area while growing up. "Any time you come down here and win at the Rose Bowl in the fashion that we did, it's going to give us some momentum

as a program."

Volleyball **COLLEGE OF IDAHO** 3, EASTERN OREGON 0 — At La Grande, for the second-straight season, No. 25 College of Idaho spoiled the No. 9 Eastern Oregon University volleyball team's chances of winning a Cascade Collegiate Conference (CCC) Tournament Championship at Quinn Coliseum, as the Yotes utilized 22 EOU attack errors and hit .303 to defeat the Navy and Gold in straight

sets, 27-25, 25-21, 25-16. It was EOU's first loss at home in a year, with that loss coming to C of I on Nov. 14, 2014, in the semifinals of the CCC Tournament.

Men's Basketball

VANGUARD EASTERN OREGON 72, OT – At Las Vegas, Nev., the Mountaineers continued to show promise on the hardwood, but again fell just short in overtime to NAIA Division I opponent Vanguard (Calif.) on Saturday evening.

Junior guard Kentrell Washington netted his seventh-straight double-double with 25 points and 14 rebounds, while senior guard Case Rada registered 18 points, including a 3-for-7 effort from beyond the arc. In addition, sophomore guard Miles Loupe added a careerhigh 10 points and four assists off the bench.

EOU led at halftime, 34-30, but was outscored 8-4 in the extra period.

OREGON STATE 74, NW CHRISTIAN 52 — At Corvallis, Gary Payton II can fill up a stat sheet, but Oregon State Coach Wayne Tinkle said his star is showing

leadership by mentoring the

freshman class. "When I get on (them) a little bit, he's always putting an arm around them and telling them it's going to be okay, and then through some of our x and o stuff, he's always talking to those guys," Tinkle said.

Payton had 16 points, six assists and six rebounds as Oregon State defeated Northwest Christian 74-52 Saturday.

Three of the Beavers freshmen scored in double digits in their college debuts for Oregon State (1-0). Drew Eubanks had 13 points and eight rebounds, Stephen Thompson Jr. scored 12, all on 3-pointers, and Tres Tinkle added 14 points.

Women's Basketball EASTERN OREGON

71, WHITWORTH 61, OT — At Spokane, Wash., hungry for their first win of the 2015 campaign the No. 14 Mountaineers outscored NCAA Division III opponent Whitworth 16-6 in the extra period to pull off a thrilling victory on Sunday afternoon.

Sophomore guard Payton Parrish netted a career-high 21 points off the bench, including a 6-for-7 effort from beyond the arc. Senior forward Nikki Osborne notched a double-double with 15 points and 10 boards, while senior guard Jordan Klebaum added 12 points. Maloree Moss added four points and three assists.

OREGON 79, NORTH CARLINA 77 — At Chapel Hill, N.C., Lexi Bando scored 18 points, Jillian Alleyne had 12 points and 13 rebounds and Oregon upset No. 22 North Carolina 79-77 on Sunday, marking the

Beavers' nationally-lauded first time the Tar Heels ever opened the season with two

straight losses. After Oregon's Alleyne, who scored her 70th doubledouble, made the second of two free throws with 25 seconds left, the Tar Heels had two chances to win. Jamie Cherry's 3-pointer went off the front of the rim but deflected out of bounds of Alleyne. Cherry then had a 3 bounce off the backboard and rim as time expired.

Women's Soccer CARROLL 0 (3),

EASTERN OREGON 0 (2), PK — At Springfield, despite out-shooting Carroll College 11-7, the Mountaineers lost a heartbreaker to the Saints 3-2 in a penalty kick shootout in the Cascade Collegiate Conference (CCC) Championship on Saturday evening.

Following a conversion, Zoe Anderson and freshman forward Alexandria Cuaresma netted goals to keep EOU in the shootout. TEssa Pitzer made two saves until yielding a goal by Carroll's Tayla Vaira to make it a 3-2 affair, and then sophomore midfielder Makensie Forsyth came up empty to seal the victory for the Saints.

Despite the defeat, EOU still carded its first-ever spot in the NAIA National Tournament, and on Monday morning learned that it will host its first-ever opening round contest. The Mountaineers will square off against Biola (Calif.) on Saturday in La Grande at 1 p.m.

Associated Press writers Josh Dubow, Wagaman and Kyle Odegard, and EOU Sports Information Director Seth Dahle contributed to this report.