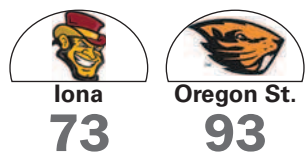


College Basketball

Oregon State takes down Iona

Associated Press



CORVALLIS — Oregon State coach Wayne Tinkle hoped to take things slowly with 6-foot-10 Drew Eubanks, but with an injury to the Beavers' starting center, the freshman was thrust into a major role.

"We've had to throw him into the fire and he's really responded," Tinkle said. "I'm proud of the young guy. He's a humble kid and he'll continue to get better."

And that could be a scary thought for opponents.

Eubanks had 19 points on 8-of-9 shooting and was one of three Oregon State freshmen to score in double digits for the second straight game as Oregon State beat Iona 93-73 on Tuesday night.

Gary Payton II had 12 points, 11 rebounds,

four steals and a monster 360-degree dunk. Langston Morris-Walker added 17 points for the Beavers (2-0).

A.J. English scored 20 points, but shot 4 for 17 from the field, and Deyshonee Much added 15 points for the Gaels (0-2).

Oregon State outrebounded Iona 45-31, and limited the Gaels to just 35.5 percent shooting.

"Their size kind of beat us up a little bit," Iona coach Tim Cluess said.

He added that his team's cold-shooting start this season won't impact its fast-paced style.

"We have to just continue to do what we do and get better."

Both teams struggled to score early, but the Beavers went on an 18-4 run to close the half and led 41-29 at the break.

Oregon State led by as many as 22 in the second half.

Tres Tinkle, the son of the coach, finished with 11 points, and fellow frosh Stephen Thompson Jr., the son of assistant coach Stephen Thompson, added 16 points.

COMMON FOE

The Gaels lost their season opener last Sunday at Valparaiso, a team the Beavers host on Nov. 24.

ROAD WOES

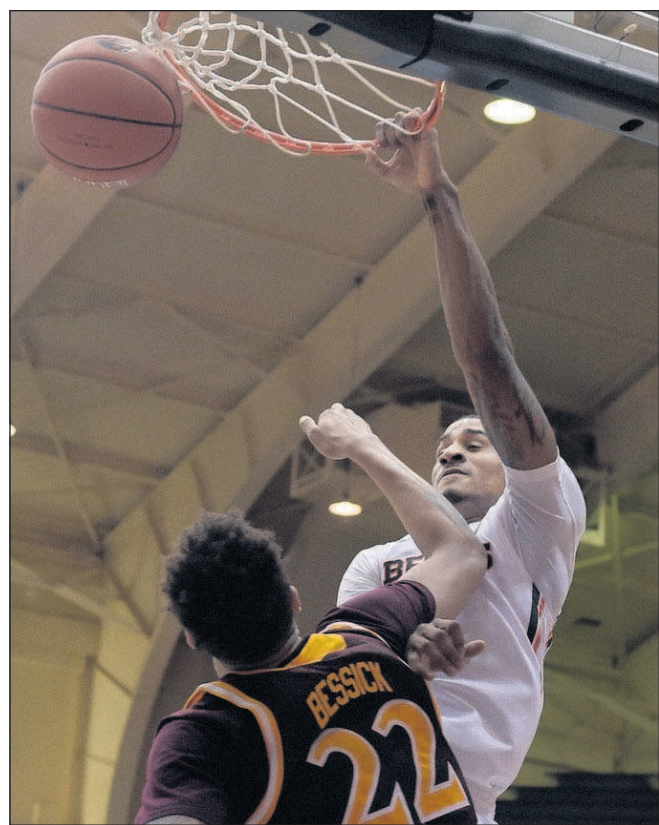
Tuesday's contest was the first of three games in five

days for the Beavers. "We're going to find out a lot about ourselves," Tinkle said. That's especially true since the next two games aren't at Gill Coliseum. Last year, the Beavers were 2-9 in true road games and 0-3 on neutral courts.

TIP-INS

Oregon State: The Beavers were picked to finish sixth in the Pac-12 media poll. Last season, the Beavers finished 17-14 overall and 8-10 in the Pac-12, the team's best league mark since 1992-93. Center Daniel Gomis (hand) and forward Jamal Reid (foot), both seniors, will most at least two more weeks with injuries.

Iona: The Gaels, from New Rochelle, New York, were picked to finish first in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference coaches' poll.



Oregon State guard Gary Payton II, right, dunks against Iona during an NCAA college basketball game Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2015, in Corvallis. Oregon State won 93-73.

D-I: Personal touch helps Morrison during recruitment

Continued from 1B

the footsteps of former Buckaroos Kristen Crawford and Shae Lindsey, who are respectively going into their senior and junior seasons at PSU.

"My aunt went to college there and she actually played softball there, but that wasn't the first reasons for me to pursue it," she said. "Portland is so close to home and my family visits there a lot so it was pretty familiar to me."

Morrison, who batted .453 with nine home runs for Pendleton last season, said she plans to study for a career in the medical field and is currently doing job shadowing at St. Anthony Hospital to explore her options. She said Portland State's close relationship with Oregon Health & Science University was another major factor in her decision.

Like Richards, Morrison got on the Vikings' radar at a camp.

"Since then I've kept them updated on my tournament schedule and letting them know where I was going to be playing," she said, adding that she even put in a few phone calls to head coach Barb Sherwood. "Being

persistent and trying to form a personal relationship with them really helps. So it's not just, 'Oh here's this girl that sent out the same email to 20 coaches just hoping someone would come to her game.'

"Coaches are looking at hundreds of players so it's nice when they can tell they have some one that they can tell wants to have that personal relationship."

She said keeping visible year round is another important way to get noticed.

"I think ASA and travel ball is extremely important," she said. "Sometimes you'll be playing in a tournament that coaches came to watch other girls on the other teams, and they'll see you."

"A lot of the opportunity for those girls to be seen happens in the summertime when they're playing with their summer team," Cary said. "I think it's a great thing for our program. What it really does for the younger girls is it gives them hope that they can get some of their college education paid for by playing a game that they love."

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From Monday

Defense keys win for newly ranked Oregon

Associated Press

EUGENE — Oregon coach Dana Altman didn't know what was in store for his freshly ranked team when the quality of competition cranked up with No. 20 Baylor in town Monday night.

What he learned was that until the offense clicks, defense will have to be the Ducks' calling card.

Chris Boucher and Elgin Cook both scored 15 points to lead No. 25 Oregon over the Bears 74-67 in a matchup of NCAA Tournament teams from last season.

Oregon (2-0), which entered the Top 25 earlier in the day, held off several Baylor (1-1) rallies with balanced scoring and battled to a 35-all rebounding draw.

"The difference in the game was our creating 18 turnovers for 28 points," Altman said. "Our press hurt them a little bit and we got some hands on some balls. So that was the difference, and we were able to stay even on the boards."

Dwayne Benjamin had 13 points off the bench for



Oregon's Elgin Cook, center, drives to the basket between Baylor's Jake Lindsey, left, and Rico Gathers during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game Monday, Nov. 16, 2015, in Eugene, Ore.

Oregon. Tyler Dorsey added 12 and Dillon Brooks scored 10.

Al Freeman led Baylor with 22 points, and reserve Johnathan Motley had 17.

"I'm disappointed that we didn't play better on the offensive end," coach Scott Drew said. "Credit Oregon's defense. We didn't execute very well and they deserve a lot of credit for that."

After trailing by 16 early in the second half, Baylor twice got as close as three — the last time on Taurean Prince's 3-pointer with 13 seconds left. But the Ducks sealed the victory with four free throws, though they did

miss four of 10 from the line in the final minute.

Baylor was down by 13 with under 6 minutes to play when a 10-0 run, fueled by Freeman's two 3-pointers, brought the Bears within three. King McClure missed a 3 from the corner that could have tied it before Oregon finally found an answer in Cook, who banked in a short jumper to stop the bleeding.

"From about the 6-minute mark to the 3-minute mark, we had some God-awful possessions," Altman said. "We wanted to get some ball movement and we couldn't get guys in the right spot." Oregon finished the game

shooting 43.6 percent (24 of 55) from the floor, and Baylor was 24 of 61 for 39.3 percent. The Ducks did most of their damage by hitting 18 of 30 attempts from inside the 3-point line.

They were just 6 of 25 (24 percent) beyond the arc.

"We did all right when we got the ball inside their zone and made plays for each other, but we were a little quick with some of the 3s," Altman said.

Both teams struggled to find any offensive rhythm early. Baylor needed nearly 4 minutes to score and led only briefly at 6-3.

After making just three of 12 3-pointers to start the game, Oregon finally found its comfort zone from inside the arc on back-to-back jumpers by Brooks and two more from Cook for a 20-13 lead.

The Ducks pushed the margin to 11 points twice with balanced scoring, led by Dorsey's eight points, for a 35-24 halftime lead.

Meanwhile, the Bears, who had 31 assists and only eight turnovers in their season-opening win over Stephen F. Austin, shot just 29 percent and had almost as many turnovers (eight) as field goals (nine) at the break.

Baylor finished the half missing 11 of its last 13 attempts from the field.

SD4: Five two-way first teamers

Continued from 1B

Ione junior Cord Flynn was Ione's other first-team pick, making it as a running back during a season in which he saw time at tight end and quarterback as well.

Arlington/Condon junior linebacker Thomas Evans was his team's only first-team selection.

League champion Perrydale had the most first-team selections with eight.

Perrydale senior Keenan Bailey, Dufur junior Bailey Keever, Sherman juniors Maverick Winslow and Max Martin and sophomore Jacob Justesen were first team on offense and defense.

2015 Special District 4 All-League Teams

First Team

- Offense**
- QB — Bailey Keever, jr., Dufur
- QB — Jacob Justesen, soph., Sherman
- RB — Maverick Winslow, jr., Sherman
- RB — Keenan Bailey, jr., Perrydale
- RB — Cord Flynn, jr., Ione
- TE — Max Martin, jr., Sherman
- TE — Brant Barnes, sr., Perrydale
- G — Hunter Sagmoen, sr., Perrydale
- G — Ian Cleveland, soph., Dufur
- C — Kirk Fairchild, sr., Perrydale
- K/P — Alessandro Panozzo, sr., Ione
- Defense**
- DE — Spencer Bibler, sr., Perrydale
- DE — Max Martin, jr., Sherman
- DT — Alex Hawes, jr., Perrydale
- DT — C.J. Marsters, jr., Perrydale
- LB — Keenan Bailey, jr., Perrydale
- LB — Maverick Winslow, jr., Sherman
- LB — Thomas Evans, soph., Arlington/Condon
- DB — Bailey Keever, jr., Dufur
- DB — Jacob Justesen, soph., Sherman

Second Team

- Offense**
- QB — Daniel Domes, jr., Perrydale
- RB — Hagen Pence, soph., Dufur
- RB — Syllas Aamodt, jr., Arlington/Condon
- RB — Joe Jaeger, jr., Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler
- TE — Kolbe Bales, jr., Dufur
- TE — Alvaro Villen-Caravillas, sr., Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler
- G — Ryan Asher, jr., Sherman
- G — Jacob Pope, jr., Perrydale
- C — Nic Lesh, soph., Sherman
- K/P — Shawn Hauner, soph., Arlington/Condon
- Defense**
- DE — Tyler Moyer, jr., Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler
- DE — Benjamin Evans, jr., Arlington/Condon
- DT — John Keyser, sr., Dufur
- DT — Ian Cleveland, sr., Dufur
- LB — Brant Barnes, sr., Perrydale
- LB — Hagen Pence, soph., Dufur
- LB — Cord Flynn, jr., Ione
- DB — Kirk Fairchild, sr., Perrydale
- DB — Jason Juarez, sr., Ione

Honorable Mention

- Offense**
- QB — Jordan Cheo-Mbonifer, jr., Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler
- QB — Ellis Rager, sr., South Wasco
- RB — Devan Dammann, sr., South Wasco
- RB — Calvin Davis, jr., Arlington/Condon
- RB — Wyatt Stutzman, sr., Sherman
- TE — Curtis Crawford, soph., Dufur
- TE — Brody Myers, sr., South Wasco
- TE — Spencer Bibler, sr., Perrydale
- TE — Ty Herlocker, jr., South Wasco
- TE — Alessandro Panozzo, sr., Ione
- G — Myles McCormick, soph., Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler
- G — Jorge Aguilar, sr., Ione
- G — Rene McCain, jr., Arlington/Condon
- G — Jerod Wright, sr., Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler
- C — Luke Blim, jr., Arlington/Condon
- C — Dawson Herlocker, jr., South Wasco
- Defense**
- DE — Alessandro Panozzo, sr., Ione
- DE — Ty Herlocker, jr., South Wasco
- DT — Ryan Asher, jr., Sherman
- DT — Rene McCain, jr., Arlington/Condon
- LB — Joe Jaeger, jr., Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler
- LB — Anthony Valdez, jr., Arlington/Condon
- LB — Ellis Rager, sr., South Wasco
- LB — Keith Kegal, jr., South Wasco
- LB — Wyatt Stutzman, sr., Sherman
- DB — Brody Myers, sr., South Wasco
- DB — Devan Dammann, sr., South Wasco
- DB — Curtis Crawford, soph., Dufur
- DB — Kurt Nuevo, sr., Dufur

CBC: Kempken makes first team

Continued from 1B

represent their squad on the first team while Heppner's Jessica Kempken was her team's only selection.

All three schools had players named to the second team and honorable mention as well, as did Stanfield, Pilot Rock and Irrigon.

2015 Columbia Basin Conference All-League Volleyball

Player of the Year: Lynze Schonneker, Culver

Coach of the Year: Randi Viggiano, Culver

Libero of the Year: Emma Hoke, Culver

First Team

- Jenny Vega, Culver
- Margie Beeler, Culver

- Ali Schroeder, Weston-McEwen
- Jessica Kempken, Heppner
- Irma Retano, Culver
- Sara von Borstel, Weston-McEwen
- Second Team**
- KayLee Aldrich, Culver
- Abby Rigby, Pilot Rock
- Larissa Castenellos, Stanfield
- Thya Ostrom, Pilot Rock
- Sarah Finifrock, Weston-McEwen
- Sophie Grant, Heppner
- Matti Aby, Weston-McEwen
- Honorable Mention**
- Jaycee Fessler, Culver
- Catlynn Duff, Culver
- Alyssa Finifrock, Weston-McEwen
- Maddie Griffin, Stanfield
- Shyanne Connell, Stanfield
- Kenzie Blankenship, Stanfield
- Morgan Correa, Heppner
- Sydney Maben, Heppner
- Mya Chapman, Irrigon
- Leticia Ramirez, Irrigon
- Kayla Deist, Pilot Rock
- Jacey Wilson, Pilot Rock
- Onna DeLoach, Heppner
- Rhyanne Oates, Pilot Rock

T-WOLVES: Eight freshmen to make NWAC Tournament debut

Continued from 1B

doctor's orders. Her absence for the Nov. 11 match at Big Bend was to be expected.

But then things went a little haywire when Baty had to miss the match to support his wife during her hip surgery.

Former assistant Scott Carswell stepped in to serve as coach in the match — "If not, I don't know what happens," Baty said — and the T-Wolves won 3-0. In doing they so finished off a 14-0 league record, something last season's team left unchecked on the list of season goals.

"I think it brought out a lot of leadership in everybody. A lot of girls stepped up that night," said sophomore Klaree Hobart. "It was a little weird but we worked through it pretty well."

"It felt like we can handle more than we thought," said freshman Kristin Williams. "It was definitely weird not having Dave there or Jess there, but we handled it and we overcame it. I thought that would help us going into the tournament."

Carswell will continue to assist Baty throughout the NWAC Tournament, which begins with T-Wolves facing SW Oregon (16-20) at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center at 9 a.m. All games will be broadcast via live stream on the YouTube channel NWAC Sports Channel 1.

Here are some other things to consider as the T-Wolves prepare to take on the Lakers:

T O U R N A M E N T DEBUTS: Eight T-Wolves freshmen will be getting their first taste of the NWAC

Championship experience.

"I think a lot of the freshmen are in for a big surprise on Thursday, but they'll get it figured out really quick," said Hobart, who along with Beierle are the only two returning starters from last season's championship team. "I walked in there and I was like, 'Whoa, this is a weird atmosphere.' I think that first game they're going to have a little jitters, a couple butterflies, but they'll work it out the first couple points."

"I'm definitely excited, but nervous too," said Williams, a Pendleton native. "I think it'll be really cool trying to go down there and fulfill a legacy."

Freshman Miah Perez said she wasn't sure how to feel.

"I really don't know what to expect. I'm just planning on playing good volleyball the next few days, try to touch up what we can in practice and then just go play."

B R A C K E T O L O G Y: The T-Wolves like their first round match-up in a SW Oregon team whose best asset is its No. 5 NWAC ranking in digs per game (16.69), but feel like they've definitely got the tougher bracket with Bellevue and Chemeketa looking like possible future round match-ups.

"There's a lot of anticipation and expectations as to the end, but I think the first two or three rounds are going to be better than the end, especially considering our bracket," Hobart said. "I don't think there's any team that we cannot beat. I don't think there's any team that necessarily cannot beat us. I

think it's going to be a good tournament and we're going to have to play our asses off." Chemeketa has beaten the T-Wolves in all three of their meetings this season with the Storm holding a 9-1 edge in sets won.

"I'm not going to take anything from them, they're studs," Beierle said, before adding, "We can hang with them. It's hard to beat a good team three times in a row and I think this would be our fourth time playing them."

"It's basically the team that plays the best for the next four days and any team could win it."

T-WOLVES NOT TOP DOG: When the T-Wolves hoisted the NWAC trophy last season it was with the idea that a majority of the team's extremely talented freshman class would return for another season.

That ended up not being the case, and despite getting middle blocker Keri Schwarz and setter Kylie Collins back from injuries this season the T-Wolves have struggled to replace the production of key net players like Amorelle Applin, Madi Harris, Kylee Giles and Alyssa Carnes.

"We're certainly not the team to beat this year, and everybody kind of knows that," Baty said. "But at the same time it's been fun."

"I think it'd be one thing if we had some beautiful sterling record to protect, but my lord, we've lost nine games this year. There's nothing to protect."

Baty said he's not sure what to expect out this season's NWAC Tournament.

"If they play like they've been practicing the last three

or four days, we're going to be OK. If they don't, then we're going to be another one of those teams hoping somebody will give us points when we need to be in the mindset of earning the points.

"This is one of those situations that you hope when the time comes and they need to do their best they can find a way."

For the last two years for sure it was our tournament to lose, now it's let's go see what can happen. It's a little bit different mindset."

CONFIDENCE IS KEY: One thing the T-Wolves will not be able to do is get down on themselves at any point in the tournament.

The T-Wolves had a habit of displaying their best and worst in the same match at points this season, and that's all about their mental approach.

"I think if they stay aggressive, despite whatever happened the last point, that will be the key to making it to the championship match," said Humphreys.

The good news is recent results and a strong week of practice seem to have the team in the right state of mind.

"We feel like we are still improving, instead of coasting right now, which is something teams don't normally do toward the end of the season so I'm pretty excited about that," Williams said. "I think we just need to be confident in ourselves, and not worry about anybody else and just play hard."

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