

College Basketball

Bufs cruise past Beavers

By PAT GRAHAM
Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — Josh Scott and Wesley Gordon combined for 37 points, 26 rebounds and nine blocked shots to help Colorado withstand a career night from Gary Payton II in a 71-54 win over Oregon State on Wednesday.

Scott finished with a season-high 25 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Fellow big man Gordon was just as effective as he contributed 12 points and 14 boards for the Buffaloes (13-4, 2-2 Pac-12), who bounced back from a demoralizing 56-54 loss to Utah last week on a last-second layup.

Payton had a sensational game for Oregon State (11-4, 2-2) as he scored a career-high 26 points and grabbed a season-best 15 rebounds. He kept the Beavers in this game when not much else was working.

The senior guard has now scored in double figures in 14 of 15 games this season.



The Buffaloes built a 35-29 lead with 15:33 remaining, but that's when Payton went to work. He outscored Colorado 9-2 during a 2:33 that gave Oregon State a 38-37 advantage.

Just the kind of evening it was for Payton. He also had three assists and three steals.

Colorado stormed back, though, by becoming assertive and attacking the rim. Gordon energized the crowd when he slammed home a rebound and Josh Fortune was later fouled after making a layup.

A 3-pointer by Thomas Akyazili and a pair of free throws from Dominique Collier made it 56-45 with 5:49 left and the Buffaloes cruised to the finish.

Payton is in the midst of a stellar season, leading Oregon

State in points, rebounds, assists and steals. He's attempting to become just the second player at Oregon State to accomplish the feat. Lester Conner led the Beavers in all four categories in 1981-82, when he averaged 14.9 points, 5.4 rebounds, 5.1 assists and 3.0 steals.

In between making shots and grabbing rebounds, Payton received some good-natured ribbing from the student section, which chanted "Daddy's Shadow" when he stepped to the free throw line. Payton's father, Gary, is regarded as one of the top point guards in NBA history and was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2013.

Scott led the Buffaloes to a 29-25 halftime lead with 11 points. He and Gordon both stepped outside and hit a rare 3-pointer. They now have a combined seven 3-pointers this season.

Payton nearly had a double-double in the first half, with eight points and 10 rebounds.



Oregon State's Tres Tinkle (3) shoots while covered by Colorado's Dominique Collier (15) during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in Boulder, Colo., Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2016.

AP Photo/Brennan Linsley



Portland Trail Blazers forward Al-Farouq Aminu dunks the ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Portland on Wednesday.

BLAZERS: Mason Plumlee victim of flagrant foul

Continued from 1B

The Blazers were coming off a 115-110 victory Monday over Oklahoma City, notable because Lillard scored 17 points — including five 3-pointers — in the last 3:07. He has played in five games since missing seven with plantar fasciitis in his left foot.

The teams kept it close in a rather lackluster first half, with neither one able to extend its advantage into double digits.

There was a scary moment midway through the first quarter when Hayward was slow to get up after it appeared he took an elbow. Hayward signaled to come out, but remained on Utah's bench, and several minutes later returned to the game.

Gobert elbowed Mason Plumlee late in the first half

for a flagrant foul.

Gerald Henderson's 3-pointer gave the Blazers a 37-30 lead, their biggest of the game to that point. Portland led 43-37 at halftime, paced by Henderson's 10 points off the bench.

Lillard's 3-pointer gave Portland a 51-39 lead, which it pushed to 70-54 on a 3 and a long jumper from Meyers Leonard.

TIP-INS

Jazz: Chris Johnson played for 7:31 in the first half but did not return for the second because of viral gastroenteritis, the team said.

Trail Blazers: The team honored the Portland Timbers for winning the MLS Cup. In his pregame session with reporters, coach Terry Stotts wore a Timbers scarf. ... Lillard had four 3-pointers.

Report says Putin may have consulted on doping

By EDDIE PELLIS
Associated Press

DENVER — The leader of track's governing body told a lawyer he'd need to cut a deal with Russian president Vladimir Putin to ensure nine Russian athletes accused of doping wouldn't compete at 2013 world championships in Moscow, according to a new report on the scandal that reached the top of the sport and country.

Details of the 89-page investigation, to be released by the World Anti-Doping Agency on Thursday, were provided to The Associated Press early by a person who had reviewed it. The person did not want to be identified because the report had not been publicly released.

The report, written by WADA's first president, Dick Pound, says the IAAF must restructure to ensure corruption cannot go unchecked. The corruption "cannot be blamed on a small number of miscreants," Pound wrote.

"The corruption was embedded in the organization," the report says. "It cannot be ignored or dismissed as attributable to the odd renegade acting on his own."

The report comes a day after the AP released details from six years of IAAF internal emails, reports and notes showing a high level of communication between the athletics federation and Russian officials about suspicious test results from the nation's athletes, including plans to cover up some

doping evidence.

In addition to the deal-making friendship forged between Putin and then-IAAF president Lamine Diack, the report details a sudden increase from \$6 million to \$25 million for Russian rights to televise the 2013 worlds provided by a Russian bank, and also tells of a lawyer who was hand-picked by Diack to handle Russian cases even though he had little experience with anti-doping measures.

It concludes there was no way members of the IAAF Council, which included current president Sebastian Coe, could have been unaware of the extent of doping and non-enforcement of the rules in track.

Pound details meetings

between Diack and IAAF lawyer Huw Roberts, who delivered details of the nine Russian doping cases directly to Diack and asked how he planned to resolve them.

With no resolution coming, Diack explained to Roberts "he was in a difficult position that could only be resolved by President Putin of Russia with whom he had struck up a friendship," the report said.

Eventually, the report says, none of the nine athletes competed in Moscow, but their cases were not further pursued by the IAAF. Those delays led to Roberts' resignation in January 2014.

By then, according to the report's details, Roberts had virtually no control over cases involving Russians.

NEAL: Family atmosphere helps sway decision to Eagles

Continued from 1B

Neal said. "I was playing to play. I enjoyed it, and I still do. It was a fun trip."

Neal joins an Eastern program that at 6-5 (5-3 Big Sky) had a down year when compared to recent seasons. The previous home of Oregon quarterback Vernon Adams, Jr., the Eagles are coming off their worst season since 2011-12. In their previous three seasons, the Eagles averaged just more than 11 wins and made the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playoffs all three seasons. In 2011-12, Eastern went 13-2 and won the FCS championship.

"He's definitely worked hard to get where he's at," Stefani said. "Now you just need to get that work ethic going in your bookwork too."

Neal said he's been talking to the Eastern coaching staff since the end of last school year and drove through the campus one time on their way to visit family in Spokane and liked it. In late October, Neal took an unoffi-



Contributed photo courtesy of Tre Neal
Hermiston senior Tre Neal poses in an Eastern Washington University football jersey after committing to the school to play football during a campus visit on Saturday, Jan. 9.

cial visit to watch the Eagles host Weber State, a game the home team won 14-13.

Finally, this past weekend, Neal took his official visit to Cheney and committed there. "I just felt like it was the

best fit, honestly," he said. "I love the program, the coaching staff, the theory behind it and they have a really good academic plan."

"(And) just how tight-knit and close ... it's a really

family atmosphere with the coaching staff and players."

In his two seasons at Hermiston, Neal was a defensive force. He led the Bulldogs in tackles for loss (33.5), sacks (19.5), total tackles (161) and quarterback hurries (35). He also forced five fumbles, recovered three of them and returned one for a touchdown and knocked down three passes at the line of scrimmage.

Neal said he's "all for" remaining at Eastern for four or maybe five years and that he will likely play defensive end, though he could be moved inside to tackle.

Neal is currently injured on the boys basketball team with an injury sustained in Hermiston's 81-71 loss Tuesday night at Sunnyside (WA). Neal slammed his hand against the backboard and broke his index finger near the first knuckle. He had a follow-up Wednesday to determine if surgery would be needed. It is likely he could miss the rest of the basketball season but should be healthy enough to start practices with Eastern in August.

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL	
Today	La Grande at Pendleton, 7 p.m.
Friday	Culver at Stanfield, 4:30 p.m. Weston-McEwen at Heppner, 6 p.m. Irrigon at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m. La Salle Prep at Hermiston, 7 p.m. Vale at Riverside, 7 p.m. Nyssa at Umatilla, 7:30 p.m. Helix at Nixyaawii, 7:30 p.m. Echo at Powder Valley, 7:30 p.m. Arlington at Lone, 7:30 p.m. South Wasco vs. Condon/Wheeler (at Fossil), 7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Pilot Rock at Weston-McEwen, 3 p.m. Heppner at Culver, 4 p.m. Vale at Umatilla, 4:30 p.m. Nyssa at Riverside, 4:30 p.m. Stanfield at Irrigon, 5:30 p.m. Pine Eagle at Nixyaawii, 5:30 p.m. Helix vs. Joseph, 5:30 p.m. Wallowa at Echo, 5:30 p.m. Horizon Christian at Arlington, 5:30 p.m. Condon/Wheeler at Mitchell/Spray (at Mitchell), 5:30 p.m.
PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL	
Friday	Irrigon at Pilot Rock, 3 p.m. Nyssa at Umatilla, 6 p.m. Culver at Stanfield, 6 p.m. Helix at Nixyaawii, 6 p.m. Echo at Powder Valley, 6 p.m. Arlington at Lone, 6 p.m. South Wasco vs. Condon/Wheeler (at Fossil), 6 p.m.
Saturday	Pilot Rock at Weston-McEwen, 1 p.m. Heppner at Culver, 2:30 p.m. Vale at Umatilla, 3 p.m. Nyssa at Riverside, 4 p.m. Pine Eagle at Nixyaawii, 4 p.m. Helix at Joseph, 4 p.m. Wallowa at Echo, 4 p.m.

Horizon Christian at Arlington, 4 p.m. Condon/Wheeler vs. Mitchell/Spray (at Mitchell), 4 p.m. Lone at Dufur, 4 p.m. Mac-Hi at Ontario, 5 p.m. Stanfield at Irrigon, 5:30 p.m.					
PREP WRESTLING					
Today	Pendleton at Ridgeview, TBD				
Friday	Pendleton, Hermiston, Mac-Hi, Riverside, Heppner at Oregon Classic (Redmond), 10 a.m.				
Saturday	Pendleton, Hermiston, Mac-Hi, Riverside, Heppner at Oregon Classic (Redmond), 10 a.m.				
PREP SWIMMING					
Saturday	Pendleton at Madras, 10 a.m. Hermiston at La Grande, Noon				
COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL					
Friday	Oregon Tech at Eastern Oregon, 7:30 p.m. Big Bend at Blue Mountain, 8 p.m.				
Saturday	Spokane at Blue Mountain, 4 p.m. Southern Oregon at Eastern Oregon, 7:30 p.m.				
COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL					
Friday	Oregon Tech at Eastern Oregon, 5:30 p.m. Big Bend at Blue Mountain, 6 p.m.				
Saturday	Spokane at Blue Mountain, 2 p.m. Southern Oregon at Eastern Oregon, 5:30 p.m.				
Prep Standings					
BOYS BASKETBALL					
Columbia River Conference (5A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Hermiston	0-0	7-7	853	882	15
Pendleton	0-0	5-6	609	622	13
The Dalles	0-0	2-9	597	869	26
Hood River	0-0	1-10	624	733	33
Greater Oregon League (4A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Mac-Hi	0-0	9-5	556	565	15
La Grande	0-0	8-4	702	554	10
Baker	0-0	7-7	616	658	18

Baker	0-0	8-9	804	876	28
Ontario	0-0	4-8	669	754	26
Mac-Hi	0-0	4-11	591	689	32
La Grande	0-0	2-4	306	310	31
Eastern Oregon League (3A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Nyssa	1-0	6-9	745	762	17
Riverside	1-0	5-8	553	547	26
Umatilla	0-1	7-8	762	795	20
Vale	0-1	2-10	507	677	33
Columbia Basin Conference (2A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Heppner	2-0	12-1	739	591	2
Irrigon	1-1	10-4	770	592	9
Stanfield	1-1	9-2	695	529	12
Pilot Rock	1-1	7-9	690	744	28
W-M	1-1	4-6	495	539	29
Culver	0-2	5-9	600	723	43
Big Sky League (1A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Sherman	3-0	8-4	769	642	7
So. Wasco	2-0	10-1	629	355	4
Arlington	1-1	7-6	591	532	39
C/W	1-1	5-6	485	510	36
Dufur	1-2	4-7	538	467	28
Horizon Chr. 1-1	3-6	394	597	14	
Dufur	1-2	4-7	538	467	28
Mitchell	0-2	5-6	407	496	41
lone	0-2	1-9	287	605	53
Old Oregon League (1A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Nixyaawii	3-0	13-1	1021	717	2
Powder Val.	3-1	9-3	684	488	6
Joseph	2-1	6-6	501	555	21
Echo	2-2	4-11	659	727	44
Wallowa	2-2	3-9	379	574	37
Helix	0-3	2-11	387	625	62
Pine Eagle	0-3	1-10	384	599	56
GIRLS BASKETBALL					
Columbia River Conference (5A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Hermiston	0-0	12-3	842	677	7
The Dalles	0-0	6-6	533	481	20
Pendleton	0-0	4-9	544	678	25
Hood River	0-0	3-8	376	513	31
Greater Oregon League (4A)					
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk	
Mac-Hi	0-0	9-5	556	565	15
La Grande	0-0	8-4	702	554	10
Baker	0-0	7-7	616	658	18

Ontario	0-0	2-9	314	507	27		
Eastern Oregon League (3A)							
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk			
Umatilla	1-0	11-4	714	503	12		
Vale	1-0	9-5	587	554	13		
Nyssa	0-1	9-5	587	495	16		
Riverside	0-1	3-9	384	499	33		
Columbia Basin Conference (2A)							
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk			
Pilot Rock	2-0	11-5	739	599	6		
W-M	2-0	5-6	476	449	19		
Stanfield	1-1	5-6	426	404	27		
Irrigon	1-1	5-8	481	493	25		
Culver	0-2	8-6	546	456	32		
Heppner	0-2	2-11	352	529	37		
Big Sky League (1A)							
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk			
Arlington	2-0	9-4	562	386	31		
lone	2-0	5-5	418	462	19		
Sherman	2-1	2-8	295	523	42		
C/W	1-1	10-2	521	386	11		
So. Wasco	1-1	5-5	317	281	21		
Dufur	1-2	2-9	365	512	46		
Horizon Chr. 0-2	3-6	266	402	43			
Mitchell	0-2	3-8	336	398	60		
Old Oregon League (1A)							
Conf.	Ovr.	PS	PA	Rnk			
Nixyaawii	3-0	13-1	739	445	6		
lone	3-0	10-3	558	454	4		
Joseph	2-1	6-6	568	472	33		
Powder Val.	2-2	6-7	595	473	26		
Pine Eagle	1-2	1-10	211	552	49		
Echo	1-3	7-8	568	534	24		
Wallowa	0-4	1-12	203	639	55		
College Standings							
MEN'S BASKETBALL							
NWAC EAST							
Conf.	Ovr.	Pct.	Streak				
Spokane	1-0	15-2	.882	W1			
Big Bend	1-0	11-6	.647	W2			
Columbia Basin	1-0	7-7	.500	W1			
Walla Walla	1-0	7-9	.438	W1			
Blue Mountain	0-1	9-7	.563	L1			
Yakima Valley	0-1	6-9	.404	L5			
Wenatchee Valley	0-1	3-11	.214	L2			
Treasure Valley	0-1	2-10	.167	L2			
CASCADE COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE							
Conf.	Ovr.	Pct.	Streak				
NW Christian	7-1	14-4	.778	W7			
Southern Oregon	7-1	14-4	.778	W1			
Houston	107	Minnesota	104	Oklahoma City	108	Dallas	89
Boston	103	Indiana	94	Denver	112	Golden State	110
New Orleans	109	Sacramento	97	Portland	99	Utah	85
L.A. Clippers	104	Miami	90	Thursday's Games			
Toronto	vs. Orlando	at London, England,	12 p.m.	Chicago	at Philadelphia	4 p.m.	
Cleveland	at San Antonio,	5 p.m.	Detroit	at Memphis,	5 p.m.		
Sacramento	at Utah,	6 p.m.	L.A. Lakers	at Golden State,	7:30 p.m.		
NCAA MEN'S BASKET							