

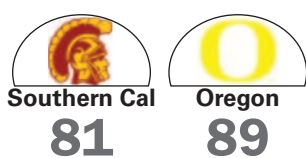


Oregon's Dillon Brooks, left, goes to the basket under defensive pressure from Southern California's Nikola Jovanovic with Darion Clark, right, during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016, in Eugene, Ore.

Men's Basketball

Cook helps Oregon upset No. 21 USC

Associated Press



EUGENE — After getting dominated on the glass in Sunday's loss at Colorado, Oregon coach Dana Altman had a pointed message for Elgin Cook and Dwayne Benjamin.

The time for leadership from the two seniors was now.

Cook responded by matching his career high with 26 points and Benjamin had his best scoring game since early December with 16 off the bench to lead Oregon to an 89-81 victory over No. 21 Southern California on Thursday night.

"I told (Elgin) and Dwayne that they played the way seniors are supposed to play, so I shouldn't be shocked," Altman said. "I was disappointed in them and I expressed that to them after the Colorado game. I think they took it as a challenge."

Chris Boucher added 16 points and nine rebounds for the Ducks (15-4, 4-2), who

moved into a tie for second place in the Pac-12 with their 18th consecutive home win. Oregon held the Trojans (15-4, 4-2), the conference's best 3-point shooting team, to 8 of 28 (28.6 percent) from long range.

Boucher led the Ducks to a 43-38 edge in rebounds. Oregon also came within one of its season low in turnovers with nine.

"We outrebounded them and I thought that was a big stat going into tonight's game," Altman said. "The second half we had only three turnovers. I thought that was big."

Freshman Bennie Boatright had 23 points and 12 rebounds, both season highs, to lead USC (15-4, 4-2) before fouling out late

in the game. Julian Jacobs also had 18 points, six rebounds and five assists for the Trojans.

USC lost contact with the Ducks when they rode a 13-1 run to a 71-56 lead midway through the second half. The Trojans never got closer than seven the rest of the way in losing for the 11th consecutive time to Oregon.

"When another team goes on a run, you have to score with them," USC coach Andy Enfield said. "We missed a wide-open dunk, we missed three wide-open jump shots and we turned the ball over twice."

"If you're going to do that, you're going to give the other team opportunities to score."

Benjamin's two steals in Oregon's press helped key the run and, even though he didn't have a rebound for a second straight game, the sixth man's defensive presence more than made up for it.

"Those two big steals he got in the press really

changed the momentum of the game," Altman said.

Benjamin's 16 points, which included three of Oregon's eight 3-pointers, were the most he's scored in a dozen games.

"I just play the same way," Benjamin said. "My confidence is always there. I knew it would come one game, and tonight was the night."

The lead changed hands five times in the first half before a 10-0 Oregon run, highlighted by Benjamin's two 3-pointers, put the Ducks up by nine on their way to a 46-41 lead at the break.

Oregon had three scorers in double figures by the half, led by Cook's 12 points and 10 each from Boucher and Benjamin.

QUICK TURNAROUND
Altman was concerned that USC was coming off an eight-day break before Thursday night's game. Now comes UCLA, which has had an extra day of rest before Saturday afternoon's visit.

VIKINGS: Riverside cruises in boys' game

Continued from 1B

smothering, forcing 31 Pirate turnovers and grabbing 10 steals as a team. Riverside (3-13, 0-4) didn't score until the 2:59 mark of the second quarter when Abby Hernandez got a layup to go to make the score 20-2.

"We just wanted to play our game and play us and go crazy and pretty much just be at that next level," Coffey said.

After jumping to a 12-0 lead after the first quarter — and forcing 11 turnovers along the way — Umatilla did nothing but extend the lead. The Vikings scored on their first three possessions of the second quarter and led 20-0 when Sidney Webb scored with 6:16 on the clock. Umatilla took a 26-4 lead into the locker room at halftime while holding the Pirates to just 14 percent shooting (2-14) while shooting just 38 percent (12-31) itself. Usually a good 3-point-shooting team, Umatilla made just 1-9 Thursday night.

The Vikings and Pirates are both on the road next week at Vale and Nyssa.



Umatilla's Jesus Ramirez (2) draws a charge on Riverside's Felipe Olivera (24) during Riverside's 49-32 win Thursday night in Umatilla.

Staff photo by Sam Barbee

Boys Basketball

RIVERSIDE 49, UMATILLA 32 — At Umatilla, coming off its best game of the year, the Umatilla Vikings came out flat against the Riverside Pirates, and were blown out 49-32 at home on Thursday.

Riverside's three-quarter court press gave the Vikings problems all night, forcing Umatilla into 18 turnovers. Kaden Webb of Umatilla led all scorers with 14 points, with nine coming in the second half and seven of those coming at the free throw stripe. Noe Madrigal,

Eon Castillo and Felipe Olivera each had 11 points to pace the Pirates.

"We take every league win as a big deal because we haven't had too many in the last couple years with being so young and inexperienced," Riverside coach Clair Costello said. "So any time you jump on somebody at home and play fairly well — that was the most excited I've seen them in the locker room in a long, long time."

The first quarter slogged by with only 11 points and Riverside leading 6-5. Both teams combined to shoot

just 24.5 percent from the floor that quarter. Castillo's two-pointer with 21 seconds left in the period gave Riverside a 6-5 lead, a lead it would relent just once more.

It happened on the first possession of the second quarter, when Jesus Ramirez scored to put the Vikings up 7-6. But it was the last time the home team would lead.

Riverside embarked on an 8-1 run to take a 14-8 lead, and Umatilla whittled it back to two at 14-12 on a Webb floater. But Riverside scored five of the next seven points to take a four-point 19-15 lead into the half.

From there, it was all Pirates. Up 24-20 in the third quarter, Riverside used a 9-3 run to take a 12-point lead into the fourth quarter, and it kept on growing. It quickly ballooned to 17 when Madrigal hit a 3-pointer with about five minutes left to push the count to 44-27, and the Pirates led by 20 after Castillo hit a couple free throws.

Umatilla tried to crawl back into it with 3-pointers, but they all went begging. Umatilla shot just 1-16 from deep.

RHS (7-10, 3-1) 6 13 14 14 — 49
UHS (9-9, 1-3) 5 10 8 9 — 32
RIVERSIDE — N. Madrigal 11, E. Castillo 11, F. Olivera 11, F. Aparicio 6, S. Navarro 3, J. Carmona 3, D. Rodriguez 2, R. Rosales 2, J. Garcia, H. Lopez, H. Hegar.
UMATILLA — K. Webb 14, A. Simmons 4, J. Coia 3, T. Sanguino 3, J. Ramirez 3, T. Durfey 2, S. Cranston 2, S. Munoz 1, G. Armenta, J. Tejada, D. Silverio, S. Garcia.
3-pointers — RHS 4, UHS 1. Free throws — RHS 11-23, UHS 13-24. Fouls — RHS 18, UHS 21. Fouled out — N. Madrigal (RHS), J. Coia (UHS). Technical fouls — Riverside bench.

STEWART: Teammates influenced by positive attitude

Continued from 1B

seem shy, standoffish, even disinterested.

That's why she's suiting up for Nixyaawii this season instead of Weston-McEwen, where she originally enrolled to start her freshman year.

"I didn't really fit in up there," she said. "I didn't talk to anyone. I wasn't used to those people."

It didn't take long for Stewart to transfer back to the familiar surroundings of Nixyaawii, but it was too late for her to be declared eligible for the basketball season and she had to spend what should have been her freshman season sitting in the bleachers.

"It sucked I guess," she said of the feeling.

The Golden Eagles certainly could have used her on the court as they struggled against the better teams in the Old Oregon League and saw their season end with back-to-back losses at the district tournament.

There were no hurdles this season, though, and Weston-McEwen's loss has been Nixyaawii's gain in every sense.

When asked to name Stewart's best attribute as a player, Nixyaawii senior Desiree Maddern didn't talk about the no-look passes, her shooting range or her tenacity on the glass. Instead she went for a quality few, if any, at Weston-McEwen got to see.

"I think it's her positive attitude," she said. "I think it's really rubbed off on



In this Dec. 8, 2015 file photo, Nixyaawii's Mary Stewart and Pilot Rock's Teyha Ostrom go for a loose ball in the Golden Eagles' 60-42 win against the Rockets in Mission.

the rest of us, and she's the joker, so it really brings us laughter and it spreads to the team and we really just get a really good vibe from each other.

"She's the type of person not to brag, but when it comes down to it she's just an all-around great person. Just not in basketball. Even

off the court she's a good person to get along with. She's a good friend, good person to go to. Just a good person in general."

Nixyaawii junior Sunshine Fuentes shares the closest bond with Stewart and said the selfless nature that leads her to buy lunches for classmates can also be

a detriment on the court at times.

"We were just always taught, like say if somebody on the team doesn't have a point, we want everyone to have a point so it's fair for everybody," said Fuentes. "Even if we're doing a screen and roll and she wanted to pass to me, I just tell her to drive it to the hoop because I know she would have a higher percentage to make it. Sometimes she'll get mad at me like, 'You need to take it.'"

But when games are close, like they were in Nixyaawii's 38-37 win over Irrigon during a holiday tournament, Stewart's competitive drive takes over.

"During tight games you can definitely see it," Maddern said. "That's when she'll want to take the ball, that's when she'll want to one-on-one, so that's when I know to get a screen for her or something just to get her going again."

As the team goes for win No. 16 there seems to be no stopping Stewart, and by extension, the Golden Eagles.

Nixyaawii will play at Joseph today at 5 p.m., then at Wallowa on Saturday at 4 p.m. to begin the second half of the league schedule. Their next home game is Friday, Feb. 5 when they host Echo at 6 p.m.

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Men's Basketball

Arizona beats Stanford for 12th straight time

JANIE MCCAULEY
Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. — Gabe York made a long 3-pointer with 8:24 left on the way to 19 points, and No. 12 Arizona survived a Stanford rally midway through the second half for a 71-57 victory Thursday night.

Ryan Anderson added 18 points on 7-for-7 shooting and eight rebounds for the Wildcats (16-3, 4-2 Pac-12) in their 12th straight win against the Cardinal dating to a loss on Jan. 4, 2009.

Arizona's Kadeem Allen went down in the corner by his team's bench with 10:55 left then briefly left for the locker room before

returning. Grant Verhoeven

provided a big lift in the second half for Stanford (10-7, 3-3), but the Cardinal went cold when it counted as Arizona pulled away for good.

Verhoeven's three-point play with 15:35 remaining pulled Stanford within 39-37, then he converted another three-point play at 14:19 before a pair of missed free throws by Kaleb Tarczewski. Verhoeven took a charge at 13:20.

Stanford then made just two of its next 14 field-goal tries and went nearly 9 minutes between baskets.

Wildcats coach Sean Miller won his 299th game.

BUCKAROOS: Next dual against Mtn View

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Taylor improved his season record to 19-9 on the season with a win at 195 pounds over Hood River's Mark Reyes. Taylor pinned Reyes at the 1:48 mark of the match to earn the victory.

J.D. Peters also earned a victory for Pendleton at 152 pounds by pinning Junior Manzano at the 5:10 mark in the third round. The win improves Peters' impressive record to 17-6 on the season.

Phillips said the Buckaroos could have easily had two more wins in the match, with Scott Chambers at 138 pounds and Jeff Priester at 220 pounds. Chambers came back from an early deficit to fall in a 10-9

decision, while Priester held a 9-6 lead with 30 seconds remaining before getting reversed by Hood River's Yorick Infante to earn a 10-9 decision win for the Eagles.

Pendleton will next host Mountain View for a dual on Jan. 29.

PENDLETON 51, HOOD RIVER 20
106 — Chris Chambers (P) pins Justin Lane, 5:31 (6-0)
113 — Ryan Zeller (H) def. Lane Evens by 6-2 dec. (6-3)
120 — Noah Wachsmuth (H) pins Blake Davis, 0:33 (6-9)
126 — Jason Shaner (H) def. Alex Rendon by Tech Fall, 4:21 (6-14)
132 — Pendleton wins by forfeit (12-14)
138 — Dylan Peterson (H) def. Scott Chambers by 10-9 dec. (12-17)
145 — Pendleton wins by forfeit (18-17)
152 — J.D. Peters (P) pins Junior Manzano, 5:10 (24-17)
160 — Pendleton wins by forfeit (30-17)
170 — Pendleton wins by forfeit (36-17)
182 — Pendleton wins by forfeit (42-17)
195 — Macus Taylor (P) pins Mark Reyes, 1:48 (48-17)
220 — Yorick Infante (H) def. Jeff Priester by 10-9 dec. (48-20)
285 — Jacob Banks (P) def. Max Lane by 7-1 dec. (51-20)

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

MARY STEWART
Sophomore,
Nixyaawii Basketball

Stewart totaled 49 points and 26 rebounds for Nixyaawii in a pair of league wins over Helix and Pine Eagle last week. She added seven assists against Pine Eagle, which was the 15th win in a row for Nixyaawii.

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