

# BLAZERS: Portland tied for 8th in conference

Continued from 1B

“He’s a very good player, able to score in many ways, but I thought for the most part we did a good job on him,” Leonard said. “We were really locked in on what we needed to do tonight and it was just a great team effort.”

Though Cousins played 46 minutes before fouling out against Charlotte, Sacramento coach George Karl was hesitant to use fatigue as a reason for Cousins’ sub-par outing.

“As a coach I don’t like that excuse. As a human being, it’s probably a justifiable excuse,” Karl said. “He’s been so good I’m not going to complain. He’s been our horse and we’ve ridden him to a lot of good things.”

Portland’s offensive balance also played a big role in the Blazers’ win. Seven players scored between 11 and 18 points. Portland reserves Gerald Henderson, Allen Crabbe and Ed Davis were among those in double figures.

“Their bench hurt us more and that’s a sign of a good

team. When you overshoot your emphasis on their No. 1 and 2 strengths, it usually opens up other opportunities. They had some guys jump in and take advantage of that,” Karl said.

Rajon Rondo had 15 points and 11 assists for the Kings, who lost in double overtime on Monday night.

Portland (21-26) moved into a virtual tie with Sacramento (20-25) for eighth in the Western Conference. The Blazers have won six of their past eight.

Portland led 58-52 at halftime after leading for most of the first half.

The Trail Blazers maintained a narrow margin for much of the third quarter, but momentum eventually moved in their favor after Cousins missed two free throws, then committed an offensive foul. Portland immediately scored seven consecutive points for its largest lead of the game at 81-67.

Portland led 88-74 after three and continued to pour it on early in the fourth quarter. Crabbe and Henderson hit 3-pointers as

the Blazers increased their lead to 100-79 with eight minutes remaining.

TIP-INS

Kings: Sacramento forward Rudy Gay, who sustained a left eye injury in Monday’s double overtime loss to Charlotte, didn’t play against Portland. Karl says he’s hopeful Gay can return sometime during the Kings’ upcoming two-game road trip beginning Thursday. ... The Kings are 2-10 in the second game of back-to-back situations. ... Rondo had 11 assists, his 13th consecutive game with at least 10 assists.

Blazers: Of Portland’s first 10 baskets, Lillard had seven assists. ... With the announcement of full All-Star game rosters coming Thursday, Karl said Lillard is worthy of a West team berth, with a caveat. “He’s an All-star talent but I don’t think there are enough spots for all the All-Star talents in the West,” Karl said. ... McCollum, who studied journalism while at Lehigh, is launching a program called “CJ’s Press Pass,” where he’ll mentor

journalism students at a Portland high school. ... Lillard recorded his 10th double-double of the season, a career high.

M I D S E A S O N

RECHARGE

Portland has been able to refresh itself following an East coast road trip because of a seven-game home stand with plenty of rest in between games. Since returning from the road trip on Jan. 18, the Blazers play seven games over 17 days, with two-day breaks in between four of the games. “Everybody’s been able to catch their breath. ... unusual in January that we’ve had this many days off,” Stotts said.

UNCOMPARABLE COUSINS

Stotts was asked if he could think of a player who compared to Cousins. He pondered the question, and was at a loss. “Maybe Charles Barkley in his early days, but (Cousins) is bigger and stronger,” Stotts said. Cousins had a combined 104 points and 25 rebounds in the two games prior to Tuesday.

## Rodeo

# Campbell gets big win in Denver

East Oregonian

DENVER — Summer-ville bull rider Cody Campbell moved up to No. 3 in this week’s PRCA world standings after a strong finish at the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo on Sunday.

Campbell entered the finals atop the two-round leaderboard and was able to hold onto the top spot with a 79-point ride that was good enough to place him fourth in the round.

He held off final-round winner Jeff Askey of Athens, Texas by a mere two points in the three-round aggregate and finished with 246.5 points on three head.

Campbell had also placed in the first and second round and won a total of \$10,584 to

go from outside the PRCA’s top 50 to the No. 3 spot with a total \$10,833 this season.

Trevor Kastner of Ardmore, Oklahoma leads the world standings with \$12,851.

Other winners at the \$466,672 rodeo were all-around cowboy Trevor Brazile (\$10,200 in team roping and tie-down roping), bareback rider Jake Brown (252 points on three head), steer wrestler Baylor Roche (13.0 seconds on three head), team ropers Clay Smith and Paul Eaves (16.7 seconds on three head), saddle bronc rider Sam Spreadborough (246 points on three head), tie-down roper Brazile (23.8 seconds on three head), and barrel racer Shelby Herrmann (46.11 seconds on three runs).



Campbell

# BUCKAROOS: Davies’ status uncertain after late injury

Continued from 1B

As Pendleton held tight to a 48-47 lead with less than 30 seconds remaining in the game, the Bucks inbounded the ball against La Grande’s full-court pressure to Kalan McGlothan in the left corner. As McGlothan got trapped by two defenders, she tried to pass the ball to Haley Greb but the ball was deflected directly to La Grande’s Breann Givens, who had an easy lay-up to give the Tigers a 49-48 lead.

Then as Pendleton inbounded again, this time to Greb, the Tigers pressure forced her into a double-dribble call and turnover to give the ball right back. Greb was forced to foul the Tigers’ Collman who nailed two free throws to seal the win.

But as disappointed as the team was with the loss, Gomez said her squad accomplished a lot in the game.

“We went to (La Grande) and lost by 18 earlier this season, so this was a huge adjustment for us only losing by three,” she said. “It’s a non-league game where we just wanted to improve and I think our goals

were met in that aspect.”

The Greb sisters of Haley and Shelby once again carried the scoring load in the game, as Shelby was Pendleton’s high scorer with 14 points and nailed four 3-pointers while Haley finished with 13.

Pendleton finished shooting 17 for 47 (36 percent) from the floor, and 8 for 18 (44 percent) from 3-point range. But one area that came back to haunt the Bucks was its shooting from the free throw line, where Pendleton went just 6-17 from the line total and just 2-6 in the second half.

La Grande finished the game shooting 17 of 54 (31 percent) from the floor with the bulk of those attempts — 29 to be exact — coming from behind the 3-point line. The Tigers made just seven of those attempts from long range, but it kept the Bucks’ defense on its toes all game long.

“We knew they had a great 3-point game and we wanted to guard it well,” Gomez said, “but we knew we’d be vulnerable by guarding it in a zone. But for as many threes as they put up and made, we didn’t get out of it

focus-wise.”

One player the Bucks might have missed down the stretch was 5-foot-11 post player Maureen Davies, as the Tigers won a lot of rebound battles during those final few minutes in her absence.

Davies left the game with less than six minutes left in the fourth quarter after taking an incidental elbow to the head while defending a Tigers’ shot attempt. She remained on the floor for a few minutes before being helped off the floor and led directly into the locker room. Gomez had no estimate on how long Davies might be out, but said it could be a hit for her team moving forward.

“She was playing very well,” Gomez said. “She’s a huge asset to our team, too, so we’ll see.”

Pendleton takes the floor again on Friday at The Dalles for a 7 p.m. tip-off.

LHS (13-4) 12 13 7 19 — 51  
PHS (6-10) 15 18 4 11 — 48  
LA GRANDE — K. Collman 27, L. Miles 12, M. Wilcox 6, K. Avila 23, B. Givens 2, M. Tussey, K. Schein.  
PENDLETON — S. Greb 14, H. Greb 13, L. Richards 9, M. Davies 6, K. McGlothan 3, R. Gentner 3, E. Nirschl, C. Hoffman, H. Porter.  
3-pointers — LHS 7 PHS 8. Free throws — LHS 10-12, PHS 6-17. Fouls — LHS 15, PHS 16.



Pendleton and La Grande players battle for a rebound Tuesday at Warberg Court.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

# BULLDOGS: Coleman, Wyse took big steps with Reser’s wins

Continued from 1B

We got the kids at the tournaments who can win the tournaments, we just need to toughen up.”

It hasn’t been a bad season. In fact, it’s been a pretty good one. Hermiston walked away champions of the Oregon Wrestling Classic two weeks ago, won the Gut Check Challenge a week prior, finished second in at Tri-State last month, finished second at the Reser’s Tournament of Champions last weekend, and finished fifth at The Clash, a nationally recognized dual tournament in Minnesota.

Of the five tournaments, three have been individual-centric and Hermiston has seen six Bulldogs win brackets and had 18 grapplers place. Hermiston had seven placers at both the Tournament of Champions and Tri-State.

It’s clear that Hermiston has as much talent in its wrestling room as any state champion program in the last eight years. The results have

been there, for the most part. But Larson isn’t satisfied with simply being good. He wants to be great, the best.

“I don’t know, maybe I’m just never satisfied,” he said. “I just always want more. Again, we’re working on positions we’ve been getting beat at in individual matches or as a whole. I don’t think we’re behind schedule by any means. Going into the district tournament, we’re gonna put 28 guys on the mat who want to be there, who are gonna fight.”

Obviously led by senior standout and future Iowa State Cyclone Sam Colbray, who has amassed a sparkling record of 27-1, Hermiston isn’t hurting for more talent.

Senior 182-pounder Bob Coleman, who is 27-2 with a win over previously undefeated Tyler Self to win Reser’s, has been chasing Colbray all year. Coleman took third at Tri-State and first at Gut Check.

Bursting onto the scene this season has been 152-pounder Valen

Wyse, who holds a mark of 25-4 and won his first bracket at Reser’s. He finished third at Gut Check and didn’t place at Tri-State.

Larson, though, made a special point about 145-pound junior CJ Hendon. Hendon didn’t qualify for last year’s state tournament, but he’s shown this season he can be one of the better wrestlers in the bracket at 145 pounds.

His best finish in a tournament this season is fourth at Tri-State, but Larson feels as if Hendon is tantalizingly close to fulfilling the potential the first-year coach sees in the junior.

“Any given weekend CJ’s the toughest guy in the tournament,” Larson said. “Now, if CJ thinks that, that’s a different story. He’s not getting beat because guys are better than him.”

Larson also praised the efforts of sophomore heavy weight Beau Blake, who is routinely beating juniors and seniors. He placed for the first time this season at Reser’s.

The pieces are there, it’s just

a matter of getting them oriented and fitted correctly. With guys like Colbray, Coleman, Wyse, Blake, Hendon, Andy Wagner, Liam Tarvin and more, and with a dual win over last year’s team runners-up Hillsboro, Hermiston appears to be carefully picking its way down the championship path knowing teams are coming for them.

“When we enter a tournament, we’re putting our best guys out there,” Larson said. “In my opinion, we have the best team in the 5A (division) to do that. Now does that mean we’re gonna step out there that day and do our job and do what we’re supposed to do?”

“And, there’s a lot of time between now and then. Guys get hurt. Tons of things, grades, academics. The only way we’re not gonna win the state title is if we do not load the bus. As long as our guys get there, we’re doing the right things, we train hard, we meet expectations in the practice room, yeah, I think we’re the best 5A team in the state.”

# PREPS: TigerScots girls take advantage of turnovers to beat Mac-Hi

Continued from 1B

The TigerScots (7-9) trailed the Pioneers 25-16 at halftime before the team made some defensive adjustments that sparked the comeback.

“We started trapping, which led to easy steals and easy baskets that got the intensity going,” said Weston-McEwen coach Brian Pickard. “Then in the fourth quarter the kids were just flying all over the floor defensively, getting a hand on almost every pass (Mac-Hi) threw.”

The TigerScots were led offensively by Shaw Broncheau with 13 points, four assists, and four steals, while Ethen Reger had nine points.

Mac-Hi (6-13) was led in scoring by Adrian Zaragoza with 12 points on four 3-pointers and Hunter Yensen finished with 10 points.

Weston-McEwen next hosts Culver on Friday at 6 p.m., while Mac-Hi hosts Ontario on Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

5, L. Garcia 4, B. DeBore 3, A. Garcia 2, R. Walton 2.  
WESTON-MCEWEN — S. Broncheau 13, E. Reger 9, X. Bailey 7, S. Mikese 7, J. Patrick 4, K. Rodriguez 3, B. Speed 2, A. Finifrock, K. Scott.  
3-pointers — MHS 7, W.M. 3. Free throws — MHS 5-8, W.M. 6-10. Fouls — MHS 12, W.M. 9.

SHERMAN 92, STANFIELD 74 — At Moro, the Huskies poured in a season-high to shoot down the Tigers on Tuesday in non-league action.

Sherman (13-4) improved to 7-0 at home this season.

It was also a season-high in points allowed by Stanfield (12-4), which has lost two of its last three. Details of the game were not reported.

Stanfield returned to league action at Pilot Rock on Friday at 6 p.m.

Girls Basketball  
WESTON-MCEWEN 52, MAC-HI 45 — At Athena, the TigerScots used a rash of turnovers by the Pioneers to build a 30-19 halftime lead and then held on for the non-league win on Tuesday.

“We had a lot of turnovers in the first half and those were really killer

for us down the line,” said Mac-Hi coach Brooke Garton.

Chelsea Quaepts led Weston-McEwen (9-8) with eight steals and 12 points. She also added four assists.

Bailey Hillmick added 10 points for the TigerScots and Ammarae Broncheau finished with six steals, six points and three assists.

Sydney Richwine paced Mac-Hi (11-7) with 13 points and eight steals, and Brittney Erb added 11 rebounds, seven points and five assists.

Both teams return to league action next as Weston-McEwen hosts Culver on Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Mac-Hi hosts Ontario on Saturday at 3 p.m.

M-H (11-7) 6 13 17 9 — 45  
W-M (9-8) 13 17 11 11 — 52  
MAC-HI — S. Richwine 13, S. Carter 10, B. Erb 7, A. Biggs 7, S. Tveidt 5, B. Smiley 3, K. Crisman, B. Jones, B. Hernandez.  
WESTON-MCEWEN — C. Quaepts 12, B. Hillmick 10, S. Finifrock 8, A. Finifrock 7, A. Hill 7, A. Broncheau 6, A. Schroeder 2, S. von Borstel, J. Lambert.  
3-pointers — M-H 0, W.M. 2. Free throws — M-H 13-26, W.M. 10-14. Fouls — M-H 14, W.M. 20.

42 — At Moro, sometimes the best offense is a good defense and the Tigers used that philosophy to take down the Huskies in non-league play on Tuesday.

Using aggressive defense Stanfield (7-9) was able to get plenty of fast breaks to jump start their offense and led by 25 in the second half before getting some younger players out on the court.

Yazzmin Chavez led the Tigers with 13 points and Natalie Esquivel added 12 while Bailey Watson paced their defense with seven steals and Brittin Braithwaite added six more.

Desiree Winslow scored a game-high 16 points for Sherman (3-12). Stanfield plays at Pilot Rock on Friday at 3 p.m.

SHS (7-9) 15 18 15 10 — 58  
SHER (3-12) 7 11 14 10 — 42  
STANFIELD — Y. Chavez 13, N. Esquivel 12, C. Curriel 10, B. Braithwaite 6, B. Watson 6, M. Griffin 5, G. Chavez 3, M. Banderas 2, C. Hopper 1, A. Lemmon, S. Connell, A. Carrillo.  
SHERMAN — D. Winslow 16, E. Hill 11, E. Poirier 6, K. Casper 2, B. Orendorf 2, T. Henderson 2, B. McKinney 1, E. Davis 1, J. Hill 1.  
3-pointers — SHS 2, SHER 5. Free throws — SHS 8-12, SHER 5-11. Fouls — SHS 14, SHER 14.

MHS (6-13) 12 13 8 5 — 38  
W-M (7-9) 5 11 12 17 — 45  
MAC-HI — A. Zaragoza 12, H. Yensen 10, A. Delgado

STANFIELD 58, SHERMAN

## BRIEFLY

### War on 84 game times changed

HERMISTON — The game times for the varsity basketball games between Hermiston and Pendleton have been moved back a half hour, Hermiston Athletic Director Blaine Ganvoa announced Tuesday.

Originally, the six War on 84 basketball games were scheduled to tip at 5:15 and 7 p.m. on Feb. 2, 12 and 23. Those times have been moved to 5:45 and 7:30 p.m. with the boys teams playing first on Feb. 2 then taking the later slots in the two other meetings. The teams will play in Hermiston on Feb. 2 and 23.

The junior varsity and freshman schedules are unchanged.

### PLL announces sign-up dates

PENDLETON — Pendleton Little League will be holding registration for the 2016 season on four dates in February and March in the Community Room located behind the library on Emigrant Ave.

Sign-ups will be held from 5-9 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10 and Friday Feb. 12, from 6:30-9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18, and from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, March 5.

Cost is \$60 per players. Players may also register online at PendletonLittleLeague.com. All questions should be sent via email to PendletonLittleLeague@gmail.com.

### Valentine’s tournament at Big River Golf Course

UMATILLA — Big River Golf Course will hold the Valentine’s Massacre tournament on Saturday, Feb. 13 starting at 9:30 a.m.

Format is 18-hole stroke play with gross and net skin games and an on-course scavenger hunt.

Cost is \$25 for club members and \$35 for non-members. Payouts will be determined by participation.

Register by phone at (541) 922-3006 or by email at megan@bigriver.com.

### AAU tourney to be held late February in Tri-Cities

RICHLAND, Wash. — The Tri-Cities Fastbreak Frenzy AAU basketball tournament will be held February 26-28 in Richland, Washington.

The AAU sanctioned tournament is for third-eighth grade boys and girls. Cost is \$295.00 per team with a guarantee of four games. The cost includes admission for all three days.

For more information or registration call Marsha Brothers-Milliken at (509) 942-8053.