

Raptors hold off Cavaliers to tie series at 2-2

By IAN HARRISON
Associated Press

TORONTO — Kyle Lowry scored 35 points, including a driving layup in the final minute, and DeMar DeRozan had 32 as the Toronto Raptors evened the Eastern Conference Finals by beating the Cleveland Cavaliers 105-99 in Game 4 on Monday night.

DeMarre Carroll scored 11 points and Bismack Biyombo had 14 rebounds as Toronto improved to 8-2 at home this postseason.

Game 5 is Wednesday night in Cleveland.

Cleveland lost consecutive playoff games to an Eastern Conference opponent for the first time since dropping the final three games of the conference semis to Boston in 2010.

LeBron James scored 29 points and Kyrie Irving had 26 for the Cavaliers. Channing Frye scored nine of his 12 points in the fourth quarter.

The Raptors led by nine points to begin the fourth but Frye made consecutive 3-pointers as Cleveland opened the final quarter with an 8-0 run, cutting it to 78-77. The Cavaliers made their first 11 shots of the fourth quarter. Frye's errant 3-point attempt at 4:12 was their first miss.

DeRozan made two free throws at the other end and, after another miss by Frye, Carroll made one of two to put Toronto up 99-96 with

3:23 to go.

A long 3 by Irving made it 101-99 with 2:00 left, but DeRozan answered with a driving bank shot at 1:33. Toronto got the ball back after Biyombo blocked J.R. Smith's 3, and Biyombo kept the offensive possession alive by rebounding Lowry's missed shot. After a timeout, Lowry let the shot clock wind down before driving for the decisive layup, making it 105-99 with 22 seconds to go.

Toronto jumped out to a 13-5 lead as Cleveland missed eight of its first 10 shots. Following a timeout, the Cavs made five of their

next six to cut the deficit but the Raptors led 27-24 after one quarter.

Lowry scored 15 points in the second, making three of Toronto's four 3-pointers, as the Raptors opened a 57-41 halftime lead despite not shooting a single free throw in the first two quarters. It marked the first time a team led by 15 or more at halftime in a conference finals game without shooting a free throw since Game 2 of the 2001 East Finals between Milwaukee and Philadelphia.

After shooting 3 for 22 from 3-point range in the first half, the Cavaliers made their first three long range shots in the third quarter. Cleveland connected on six of eight 3s in the third but DeRozan and Lowry combined for 16 points as Toronto took a 78-69 lead into the fourth.

TRACK: Hermiston girls squeeze onto podium

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1:53.64.

The Buckaroos got a taste of the lead in the 4x400 relay, the final race of the day, when Garison Alger took the baton in third place to start the third lap, but by the time he reached the other side of the turn he had pulled into the lead. Alger stretched the gap to three strides on the backstretch before Redmond's Donnie Pate closed in late.

"I knew it was going to hurt, but I was going to give it my all anyway," Alger said. "I know my ability and how much my team needed it, so I put the effort out for my boys."

The two came into the final exchange zone side-by-side.

Redmond's Jacoby McNamara jetted into the lead only to have Bylenga on his heels. The Pendleton senior made a push at the 200-meter mark, but McNamara answered the challenge and pulled away over the home stretch. It took a state record time of 3:20.73 to relegate Pendleton to the runner-up spot.

"We came in totally expecting to be neck-and-neck with Redmond the whole time," Alger said. "When it's close like that you find that extra gear."

Pendleton's time of 3:21.63 was good enough to set a new school record, one that the relay team has been gunning for throughout the season. Soren Wolf and Andrew Porter combined to keep the Buckaroos in contention over the first half of the tag-team race.

Hermiston found a spot on the podium in the relay when Alexis Mercado swung wide off the final turn and overtook Silverton and La Salle Prep down the stretch to win the earlier heat. The Bulldogs time of 3:29.92 held up for eighth place.

The Buckaroos had a



Hailey Kendrick, of Pendleton, springs toward the bar Saturday at the Oregon State OSAA Track & Field Championships at Hayward Field in Eugene.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Hermiston's Scout Reagan hand the baton to teammate Elsa Torres during the 5A Girls 4x100 meter dash Saturday at the OSAA Track & Field Championships.

strong showing in the 4x100 relay race as well, finishing in fifth place as Wolf, Gabe Walker, Bylenga and Trevor Sweet gave it their all for a time of just over 43 seconds.

Also on the track, Pendleton's Andrew Porter was fifth in the 400, while Alger was sixth in the high hurdles

and 300 hurdles. Hailey Kendrick squeezed into the final podium spot in pole vault by clearing a height of 9 feet and one-quarter inch — a personal best — to finish eighth for the Buckaroos.

Hermiston's Tyler Rohrman was third in the high hurdles and Hayden

SOFTBALL: TigerScots rolling as first postseason run in Class 3A begins

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with another very strong team as they lost just one key player from last year's state championship team to graduation. That continuity amongst the team showed this year, as Pilot Rock sprinted its way to a 23-3 overall record and a No. 1 seed in the state tournament.

Tehya Ostrom and Rebekka Holman combined for one of the best pitcher duos in the state, and the Rockets offense headlined by Special District 6 Player of the Year Bekah Roe and Madison Dave scored the third most runs in all of Class 2A/1A. But the Rockets know that the target is on their back this postseason.

"We talk about the repeat and that's the ultimate goal, but we know we still have to stay grounded," said Rockets coach Darin Fitzpatrick. "We have a big target on our backs."

5A: CRATER AT PENDLETON

Just like the San Francisco Giants, the Pendleton Buckaroos softball team is hoping for some more even-year magic in 2016.

The Buckaroos won state titles in 2012 and 2014 before narrowly losing out on another last season in a close loss to Putnam, a loss which motivated the Buckaroos to try and get back to that point again this year.

"They're definitely hungry to get back to

Corvallis," said Pendleton coach Tim Cary, "but we also have a great group of young kids that are working hard and excited for their chance to go there for the first time as well.

The first road block for the No. 2 seed Buckaroos (22-4) is the No. 15 seed Crater (14-14) as the Comets come to Steve Cary Field on Wednesday for a 4:30 p.m. first-pitch. Crater finished the season fourth in the Midwestern League and average 8.2 runs per game and allow an average of 4.3 runs per game.

The Buckaroos appear to have hit their groove at the right time, ending the season on a nine-game win streak where they won by an average of more than eight runs.

4A: HIDDEN VALLEY AT MAC-HI

The Mac-Hi Pioneers will start their title defense on Wednesday afternoon when they host the No. 16 seed Hidden Valley Mustangs on Wednesday at Yantis Park for a 4:30 p.m. first-pitch.

Hidden Valley finished the year 12-13 overall and 8-7 in the Skyline Conference to finish fourth in the league and a No. 23 ranking in the OSAA. The Mustangs have a solid offense, scoring more than nine runs per game, but struggle to keep opponents' offenses quiet as they give up close to 10 runs per game.

The Mustangs match-up

favorably for the Pioneers, a team that averages 8.6 runs per game but gives up only 3.5 per game behind a strong defense and pitching combination. The Pioneers are well-tested heading into the postseason as well, as they picked up a win against the No. 3 seed Banks on Apr. 2, while three of their losses came to playoff teams as well, including 5A studs Pendleton and The Dalles and 4A No. 2 seed Scappoose.

3A: CLATSKANIE AT WESTON-MCEWEN

After crushing the Vale Vikings on their way to both regular season and district championship games over the past week, the No. 4 seed Weston-McEwen TigerScots will kick off their first go-around in the 3A state tournament on Wednesday when they host the No. 13 seed Clatskanie Tigers on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at Athena Memorial Ball Park.

The Tigers (21-6) come to Athena winners of eight of their last nine games and finished second in the Lewis & Clark League. They bring a high-powered offense that scores an average of 10 runs per game, but don't have many quality wins on their schedule as they defeated just one playoff team this season.

Weston-McEwen (18-4) heads into the postseason playing their best softball of the season, winning 11-straight games and scoring

double-digit runs in 10 of those games. On the season they averaged 13.2 runs per game behind an offense led a well-balanced offense and gave up an average of 2.5 runs per game behind the duo of Jessica Lambert and Bailey Hillmick.

The TigerScots also bring a wealth of experience against playoff teams, as eight of their wins came against playoff teams and all four losses (Mac-Hi, Scio, Echo x2)

3A: ECHO AT HARRISBURG

Just a few weeks ago, the Echo Cougars sat atop the Eastern Oregon League standings and looked poised to claim the regular season title. But after a letdown on the road at Enterprise and a loss to Vale in the district semifinals, the Cougars are left to dry and rebuild some momentum as they head into the state playoffs.

The No. 11 seed Cougars' first chance is on Wednesday when they travel to Harrisburg to take on the No. 7 seed Eagles for a 4:30 p.m. first-pitch. The Eagles come into the game off a second place finish in the Mountain Valley Conference, where they went 19-5 overall and 12-3 in league play. Their offense averages just over eight runs per game to go with a stout pitching staff that gives up less than three runs pr game.

The Cougars (19-8, 13-3 EOL) head into the match-up

averaging 10 runs per game on offense and just 3.5 runs per game behind the strong right arm of pitcher MacKenzie Gonzales who turned in a 2.24 ERA this season.

2A/1A: GASTON at PILOT ROCK

The Rockets will start their title defense on Wednesday when they host the No. 16 seed Gaston at 4:30 p.m. at the Pilot Rock Elementary School. Head coach Darin Fitzpatrick has been in contact with several coaches to scout the Greyhounds, who finished second in Special District 1 with a 14-11 overall record and a 10-5 finish in league play.

Gaston has a solid offensive attack, scoring an average of eight runs per game, however the team has been inconsistent on the pitching end as they give up an average of 6.2 runs per game. It's a match-up that plays well into the Rockets favor, as the No. 1 seed has the third-highest scoring offense in all of 2A/1A and given up just 53 runs all season (2.0 per game) — 30 runs fewer than the next closest team.

Pilot Rock feels they are battle tested heading into the postseason, with wins over playoff teams such as Central Linn, Bonanza, Burns and Union, as well as wins against 3A schools such as Scio, North Douglas, and Enterprise.

Earl finished fifth in the 800, while Ayleen Sandoval led the Hermiston girls by placing fourth in the shot put.

The Bulldogs finished out the day placing both girls relay teams on the podium as the 4x100 team of Scout Reagan, Elsa Torres, Sara Ortiz and Audrey Lincoln finished seventh with a time of 50.33 and the 4x400 team of Ortiz, Reagan, Madison Wilson and Macey Foley finished eighth with a time of 4:09.29.

OSAA Track & Field Championships	
Saturday's Results	
4A	5A
Girls Shot Put	
9) Amber Wells, Mac-Hi (35-06)	
Girls Discus	
13) Amber Wells, Mac-Hi (94-02)	
Boys Javelin	
14) Cole Skramstad, Mac-Hi (145-00)	
Team Standings	
24) Mac-Hi (Girls)	
27) Mac-Hi (Boys)	
GIRLS	
800 Meter Run	
9) Macey Foley, Hermiston (2:21.93)	
12) Taryn Sokoloski, Pendleton (2:22.40)	
1500 Meter Run	
10) Delaney Clem, Pendleton (4:59.19)	
12) Melany Solorio, Hermiston (5:12.86)	
4x100 Meter Relay	
7) Hermiston (Reagan, Torres, Ortiz, Lincoln), 50.33	
4x400 Meter Relay	
8) Hermiston (Ortiz, Reagan, Wilson, Foley), 4:09.29	
Triple Jump	
11) Ebony Wilson, Hermiston (32-01.75)	
Shot Put	
4) Ayleen Sandoval, Hermiston (35-09.50)	
7) Maddy Juul, Hermiston (35-03.75)	
Discus	
10) Ayleen Sandoval, Hermiston (101-05)	
12) Keagan Utter, Pendleton (95-02)	
Pole Vault	
8) Hailey Kendrick, Pendleton (9-00.25)	
Team Standings	
19) Hermiston (10 points)	
23) Pendleton (7 points)	
BOYS	
400M Dash	
5) Andrew Porter, Pendleton (50.23)	
800M Run	
2) Nolan Bylenga, Pendleton (1:56.78)	
5) Hayden Earl, Hermiston (1:58.40)	
1500M Run	
11) Isaac Sanchez, Hermiston (4:18.49)	
110M Hurdles	
3) Tyler Rohrman, Hermiston (14.99)	
300M Hurdles	
6) Garison Alger, Pendleton (40.13)	
4x100 Relay	
5) Pendleton (Wolf, Walker, Bylenga, Sweet), 43.48	
4x400 Relay	
2) Pendleton (Wolf, Porter, Alger, Bylenga), 3:21.63	
8) Hermiston (Gutierrez, Earl, Sanchez, Mercad0), 3:29.92	
Triple Jump	
12) Vaeume Ena, Hermiston (40-05.50)	
13) Dylan Clemmons, Pendleton (40-01.50)	
Javelin Throw	
11) Nathan Hunsaker, Hermiston (167-02)	
12) Tre Neal, Hermiston (161-02)	
High Jump	
NH) Johnny Stuvland, Pendleton	
Pole Vault	
9) Will Sharkey, Hermiston (12-06)	
Team Standings	
10) Pendleton (30 points)	
13) Hermiston (22 points)	

PREPS: Rockets make statement with district championship shutout of Union

Continued from 1B

Special District 7 playoffs on Saturday morning.

The game was a classic pitchers duel as Weston-McEwen's Jimmy Patrick and Pilot Rock's Levi Thieme did not allow either team's offense to work into a groove. Patrick threw a complete-game shutout to earn the win for the Tiger-Scots, striking out seven while allowing only one walk and four hits.

Thieme struck out nine batters and also allowed one walk and three hits. Both runs Thieme allowed were unearned.

Weston-McEwen scored

the only runs of the game in the sixth inning. Brenden Dearing and Brett Speed hit back-to-back singles to the left side of the field to put a pair of runners on with only one out. Then after a sacrifice bunt attempt from Vince Roff, a pair of errors by Pilot Rock allowed both Dearing and Speed to score.

Pilot Rock had a pair of scoring opportunities in the third and fifth innings, but could not cash in. Chris Weinke and Edmund McCall both reached with two outs on a single and a walk respectively with two outs in the third inning, but Thieme ended the threat with

a groundout fielder's choice to shortstop.

Then in the fifth inning, Tracker Denny led off with a single to right and then two batters later Devon Barkley smacked a single to left to put a pair of runners on with only one out. But once again, the Rockets couldn't cash in as Patrick induced a groundout by Weinke and a strikeout of McCall to end the inning.

With the loss, Pilot Rock's season comes to an end finishing third in Special District 7.

PLT	000000	0	—	0	4	3
W-M	000002	X	—	2	3	1
L. Thieme, J. Patrick and G. Shell, W — Patrick, L — Thieme.						

SOFTBALL PILOT ROCK 18, UNION 0

At Pilot Rock, the Rockets dominated the OSAA's No.2 ranked Union Bobcats to claim the Special District 6 championship on Saturday afternoon in five innings.

"I was just hoping for a quick five inning game, and the girls delivered," said Rockets coach Darin Fitzpatrick. "A game like this kind of sends a message to the rest of the state."

Tehya Ostrom started for Pilot Rock on the mound and allowed just one hit on the afternoon with five strikeouts to earn her 12th win of the

season. She was backed up by an explosive offense as every starter in the lineup recorded at least one hit in the game.

Bekah Roe and Madison Dave each picked up two hits on the day, with Roe scoring three runs and Dave blasting her sixth home run of the season.

Pilot Rock moves on to the 2A/1A state tournament where they earned the No. 1 seed in the bracket and will play on Wednesday evening against Gaston at 4:30 p.m.

UHS	000 00	—	0	H	1	9
PLT	188 1X	—	18	14	0	0
J. Monson and J. Wright, T. Ostrom and R. Oates, W — Ostrom, L — Monson. HR — M. Dave (PLT).						

UNION 9, IRRIGON 3

At Pilot Rock, the Irrigon Knights dropped their district semifinal game with the Union Bobcats on Saturday morning.

Irrigon coach Jeff Bote-fuhr said that the Knights had the bases loaded three times in the game, but couldn't cash in each time.

"WE hit the ball well, we just couldn't put our hits together when it counted," he said. "We just didn't play our best game and when you play a good team like Union, they'll make you pay."

Even with the loss, Irrigon still made the postseason with an at-large berth.