

NBA

Trail Blazers fall short against Clippers

By STEVE DILBECK
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Blake Griffin had 26 points and 12 rebounds, Chris Paul had 21 points and 14 assists, and the Los Angeles Clippers held off the Portland Trail Blazers 121-120 Monday night to sweep the three-game season series.

J.J. Redick finished with 19 points, hitting all eight of his free throws — including three in the closing seconds to push Los Angeles' lead to four points.

Portland's Damian Lillard hit a 3-pointer with 1.7 seconds left for the final margin.

C.J. McCollum had 25 points and Lillard finished with 24 points and eight assists for the Trail Blazers, who lost their fourth straight.

The game got testy in the final minutes. Portland center Mason Plumlee was given a flagrant foul for elbowing Griffin in the face on layup. With 11 seconds left, Portland forward Evan Turner and Los Angeles center DeAndre Jordan were ejected after a brief skirmish under the Clippers' basket.

Portland trailed 89-86 to start the fourth quarter and took the lead 1 1/2 minutes in on a free throw by



LA Clippers guard J.J. Redick, center, drives to the basket between Portland Trail Blazers guard C.J. McCollum, left, and forward Al-Farouq Aminu during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Los Angeles, Monday, Dec. 12, 2016.



period. The Clippers acted like they were going to dominate early, jumping out to a 38-27 lead at the end of the first quarter. They connected on 14 of 22 field goals (63.6 percent), came up with four blocked shots and outscored Portland 14-4 to close the quarter.

But Portland charged back in the second, opening with a 13-2 run and then just kept rolling. The Blazers outscored the Clippers 33-18 in the second quarter to take a 60-56 lead at the half.

The Blazers outrebounded the Clippers 12-6 in the second quarter and found their range from outside, connecting on 14 of 20 shots (70 percent). Griffin scored all but seven of the Clippers' 18 points in the period.

UP NEXT

Trail Blazers: Host Oklahoma City on Tuesday night.

Clippers: At Orlando on Wednesday night.

Ed Davis and two jumpers by Evan Turner.

However, the Clippers scored the next seven points on two free throws by Crawford and a layup and 3-pointer by Marreese Speights to take a 96-91 lead with about 9 1/2 minutes to go.

The Blazers answered with a

10-0 run, including four points each by Allen Crabbe and Mason Plumlee and the game was close the rest of the way.

The third quarter was another back-and-forth affair, both teams taking turns blowing with modest leads until the Clippers finally took a three-point lead into the final

PREPS: Stanfield boys win Columbia River Clash tournament

Continued from 1B

Girls Basketball

NIXYAAWII 51, STANFIELD 26 — At Mission, the Nixyaawii Golden Eagles used a balanced scoring effort to put away the Stanfield Tigers in a non-league game on Monday night by a score of 51-26.

Nixyaawii (3-0) had five scorers with at least eight points in the game, and freshman Tristalynn Melton led all scorers with 11 points off the bench. Coach Jeremy Maddern said that the balance came from an increased focus in ball movement.

"We've talked about sharing the ball more and trying for more assists," he said. "It was a priority

tonight and we were able to do it well. We also were able to rotate deep into the bench and my younger girls played really well."

Kendra Hart had nine points to lead Stanfield (0-6).

Next up for Nixyaawii is a road game on Friday in Wallowa to start Old Oregon League play at 6 p.m. and for Stanfield, the Tigers will host Nyssa at 5 p.m. for the start of the Stanfield Tournament.

From Saturday

STANFIELD 70, UMATILLA 59 — At Umatilla, the Stanfield Tigers overcame a slow first quarter and a valiant effort by the Umatilla Vikings to win the Columbia River

Clash boys tournament championship 70-59 on Saturday night.

Ryan Bailey led Stanfield (3-1) with 21 points and Jose Garcia added 11 points. Grogan scored 13 points for Stanfield, all of which came in the second half. For Umatilla (3-2), Sebastian Garcia and Seth Cranston both scored 12 points each to lead the team, while Tyrone Morris scored nine and Kaden Webb had seven.

Stanfield next heads to Nixyaawii on Monday night for a 7:30 p.m. tip-off and Umatilla will head to Union on Thursday to take part in the Union Holiday Tournament. The Vikings will first face off against Jordan Valley Thursday afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

PILOT ROCK 51, UNION 36 — At Umatilla, the Pilot Rock Rockets took home the third place prize from the Columbia River Clash tournament with a 51-36 win over Union on Saturday evening.

Bryson Pierce led all scorers with 18 points for Pilot Rock (5-1) and Chris Weinke scored 15 points. Pilot Rock forced 29 Union turnovers in the game, which coach Mike Weinke said was a big factor throughout the game as Union could never make a run at the Rockets.

Pilot Rock returns to the court on Friday night for its tournament, where they will face off first against Mac-Hi at 7:30 p.m.



Maddy Juul (20), of Hermiston, goes up for a shot under pressure as Kamiakin's Oumou Toure (24) tries to block during Saturday's non-conference game in Hermiston.

GIRLS: Head to Hillsboro on Saturday

Continued from 1B

tage after one full. But that's when Kamiakin started showing that it was the better team.

The Braves (4-0) took the lead at 13-11 with just over six minutes left in the second quarter on a 3-point play by Oumou Toure and then stayed in front for the remainder of the game. Hermiston tallied just seven points in the second quarter, and also played out a six minute drought between made field goals.

But just as Rodriguez said, the Bulldogs never hung their heads throughout the rest of the game. The team worked into plenty of good looks at the basket, registering 55 shot attempts but again struggled with the execution as they sank just 16 of those. But what pleased Rodriguez was the 17 offensive rebounds that his team grabbed in the game.

"That's the hustle plays that are hard to teach," he said. "We're missing little lay-ins that'll start going in at some point, but the

girls are working towards those offensive boards and that's what I'm happy about. They did a good job of competing and eventually that'll pay off."

Maddy Juul and Rileigh Andreason each scored nine points to lead Hermiston's offense, and Jordan Thomas pitched in eight points for Hermiston. Andreason scored Hermiston's first 3-pointer of the game with 6:30 left in the game, and the Bulldogs were just 2-14 from there overall. Oumou Toure led Kamiakin with a game-high 23 points and Kylie Larson added 10 for the Braves.

Hermiston now gets a full week of practice in before its next game, when it will travel to Hillsboro for a 5 p.m. start on Saturday.

Box score for KHS vs HHS game, showing points, rebounds, and assists for both teams.

DAWGS:

Continued from 1B

Saturday, as the defense forced seven Brave turnovers and Hermiston shot 6-10 from the floor to take a 20-10 lead on Kamiakin. But over the next two quarters, Hermiston's offense went cold and the Braves began to figure out the defense as Kamiakin outscored Hermiston 24-19 over the next two quarters.

"The kids played hard the whole game, but I think we got a little sluggish in our motion offense and not picking our spots," Arstein said. "We got a little impatient, playing not to lose instead of continuing to play to win. The little mistakes add up to bigger mistakes, and now we just have to fix those."

The Bulldogs defense also got a bit too aggressive in the second half, totaling 16 team fouls which resulted in a whopping 26 free throw attempts in the second half alone for Kamiakin, who was successful on 17 of those attempts.

"I felt like most the second half we were just watchin them shoot free throws," Arstein said. "We were sending them to the line too much, being too aggressive with our hands. We bailed them out a lot in the second half and we have to get better at picking our spots and playing smarter defense with our feet instead of our hands."

Kamiakin (1-0) took

it's first lead of the game at 42-39 with 4:45 left in the game, but it didn't last long. On Hermiston's next possession, Cesar Ortiz drilled a 3-pointer from the left wing to tie the game back at 42-all with four minutes to play.

However, Kamiakin took the lead back just a short time later and this time didn't relinquish it. Garrett Paxton was a big part of Kamiakin's second-half surge, scoring 16 of his game-high 18 points in the latter half of the game.

For Hermiston, Andrew James led the team in scoring with 13 points, while Chance Flores and Jordan Ramirez each scored 11 points. Eight of Flores' points came within the first three minutes of the game when he scored eight of the team's first 10 points. Altogether, Hermiston shot 35 percent (17-49) from the floor in the game and just 5-21 (24 percent) from 3-point range.

Hermiston next hits the road for a game at St. Helens on Tuesday with a 7:15 p.m. tip-off.

Box score for KHS vs HHS game, showing points, rebounds, and assists for both teams.

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SCOREBOARD

Local slate

Table listing local sports events including Prep Boys Basketball, Prep Girls Basketball, Prep Wrestling, Prep Swimming, College Men's Basketball, College Women's Basketball, College Men's Wrestling, and College Women's Wrestling.

Football

Table listing football games for the American Conference and NFL.

Table listing various sports events including Camellia Bowl, Cure Bowl, New Orleans Bowl, FCS Playoffs, NAIA Championship, and Bowl Game Lineup.

Table listing basketball games for Eastern Conference, Southeast Division, Central Division, and Western Conference.

Women's College Basketball

Ducks breeze by Tigers

Oregon women in Top 25 for first time since 2003

Associated Press

CLEMSON, S.C. — Freshman Sabrina Ionescu had her second-career triple-double, Oti Gildon tied a career best with 16 points, on 7-of-11 shooting, and No. 25 Oregon beat Clemson 87-59 on Monday night.

Ionescu hit 5 of 7 from 3-point range and finished with 23 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists. Ruthy Hebard made 7 of 9 shots, scored 15 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Maité Cazorla added 14 points and Lexi Band o scored 10 for the Ducks. Ionescu had Oregon's first triple-double since 1988 in an 86-49 win over Hawaii on Nov. 26.

Ionescu hit two 3s and Cazorla scored five points during an 11-3 run that made it 52-38 with 4:53 left in the third quarter and Oregon (8-1) led by double figures the rest of the way.

Gildon had layups on three-consecutive possessions to make it 73-48 and a layup by Justine Hall gave the Ducks their biggest lead of the game, 79-49, with 3:23 to go.

Jaia Alexander and Nelly Perry scored 13 points apiece for Clemson (8-1).

Oregon made 33 of 63 from the field, including 9 of 16 (56 percent) from 3-point range, and 12-of-14 free throws.

Clemson shot 38 percent overall and 27 percent (4 of 15) from 3-point range.

The Ducks are ranked in the Associated Press Top 25 for the first time since 2003.

UP NEXT

The Ducks continue their east coast road trip with a game at Mississippi on Wednesday afternoon. The game is set to tip-off at 4 p.m.

Table listing women's college basketball games for Pacific Division, Monday's Games, Sunday's Games, FCS Playoffs, Semifinals, NAIA, and Hockey.