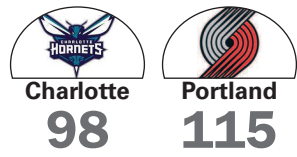


Blazers beat slumping Hornets

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press



PORTLAND — Damian Lillard says the Trail Blazers have reached the point of the season where it's all on the players.

Lillard scored 27 points and Portland handed the Charlotte Hornets their fifth straight loss with a 115-98 victory on Tuesday night.

Allan Crabbe added 21 points off the bench for the Blazers, who are six games below .500 but have won four of their last five games.

"We've gotten to the point where, our coaches, they've spent a lot of time at the practice facility, watching film and giving us different things we need to look for and preparing us. At this point of the season, as players, it's our turn to take it over," Lillard said. "We've got to make the changes within us, within our group and on the court, and we've got to go take what we want for ourselves the rest of the season."

Kemba Walker scored 22 points for the Hornets and moved into third place on the team's career scoring list. Nicolas Batum, who spent his first seven seasons in Portland,

added 18 points and eight rebounds.

Maurice Harkless dunked with 9:37 left in the game to give Portland a 94-72 lead and the Bobcats never challenged down the stretch. Portland led by as many as 24 points and had five players in double digits.

"We got crushed. I mean, we got crushed," Hornets coach Steve Clifford said.

The Blazers have won nine consecutive home games against the Hornets.

Charlotte, playing the first game of a three-game road trip, was coming off a 109-106 loss at home to the Sacramento Kings.

The Blazers were coming off a 113-111 loss to the Golden State Warriors. But Portland had won its previous three games, and the team appears to be solving the defensive woes that have marked the first half of the season.

The Blazers missed their first eight shots, a run that was broken by

Lillard's 3-pointer. He had 14 points in the opening quarter as the Blazers took a 30-23 lead. Crabbe's 3-pointer extended Portland's advantage to 37-24.

Batum's fadeaway jumper pulled the Hornets to 46-40, but Al-Farouq Aminu answered with a 3-pointer for Portland. The Blazers took a 56-50 lead into the break, led by Crabbe with 16 points.

Portland opened the second half with an 11-2 run and pushed the margin to 78-60 after Lillard's 3-pointer.

With his fifth point of the night, Walker passed Larry Johnson (7,405) and now has 7,423 points. Walker became a first-time All-Star this season when he was selected as an Eastern Conference reserve.

It doesn't get easier for the Hornets, who were headed off to play Golden State the next night.

"It's one of the things about the NBA, you don't have much time to dwell on the rough times," said Marvin Williams, who finished with 10 points. "We have a very, very good team tomorrow night, so it might just be what we need to bring out our competitive spirit a little more."

UMATILLA

Vikings split with Knights

East Oregonian

The Umatilla Vikings nearly watched their 12-point lead vanish in the fourth quarter, but were able to hold on for a 49-48 win when Irrigon's last shot rattled out on Tuesday when they two teams met for an Eastern Oregon League boys basketball game.

The Knights (11-7, 4-3 EOL) created turnovers with their defense to jump-start their comeback attempt, and coach Davy Salas said the final shot was the look they wanted, it just didn't fall.

"Sometimes that's how it goes," he said. "(Umatilla) just played a little bit harder than us tonight."

Kaden Webb led a balanced Umatilla (13-6, 5-1) offense with 11 points, and Tyrone Morris and Sean Miller added 10 apiece.

Webb was 4-for-4 at the free throw line in the fourth quarter, and Morris had a double-double by adding 10 rebounds.

"It was a hard-fought game," said Umatilla coach Derek Lete. "Irrigon brought it and I'm glad that we sealed the win because it was a nail-biter."

"I'm proud of the way the boys fought and as the season

goes there's going to be a lot more games like this."

Lete said a lack of urgency on the Vikings' part aided Irrigon's surge, and estimated eight of his team's 11 turnovers were in the final frame.

"We were just kind of playing conservative in the fourth quarter," he said. "We were playing to not lose instead of playing to win ... which isn't the way that I like to play. If you're going to play like that against a team like Irrigon you better take care of the ball, and we didn't do a good job of that in the fourth quarter."

Hayden White scored a game-high 16 points to pace Irrigon and Johnny Philips added 14.

Irrigon fell a game behind Umatilla for the No. 1 seed at districts with three games left in the regular season. The Knights will look to bounce back on Friday when they host Riverside at 7:30 p.m.

Umatilla has four games left in its league slate, and heads on the road for its next two Friday and Saturday with games at Nyssa and Vale.

Table with 5 columns: Team, HHS, UHS, IRRIGON, UMATILLA. Rows show scores for various games and players.

Cranston 2, T. Durfee 2, G. Armenta, M. Garcilazo, J. Garcia, U. Garcia. 3-pointers — IHS 3; UHS 2. Free throws — IHS 11-14; UHS 5-6. Fouls — IHS 14; UHS 19. Technical fouls — Book (IHS).

IRRIGON 64, UMATILLA 40 — At Umatilla, the Knights took over after halftime and dominated the fourth quarter 19-3 to put away the Vikings in Eastern Oregon League play on Tuesday.

Alyia Munoz scored 14 of her team-high 20 points in the fourth quarter, and Jada Burns scored 12 of her 18 in the third quarter. Natalie Romero added 12 points for Irrigon (11-8, 4-3 EOL).

Aleesha Watson paced Umatilla (6-13, 1-5) with 17 points, and Charlene Alvarez added 10.

The Vikings hurt themselves at the free-throw line going just 10-for-25 in the game.

Next up for Irrigon is a 6 p.m. home game against Riverside on Friday. Umatilla plays at Nyssa on Friday and at Vale on Saturday.

Table with 5 columns: Team, HHS, UHS, IRRIGON, UMATILLA. Rows show scores for various games and players.

BOYS HOOPS: Rambo scores 26 for Hermiston

Continued from 1B

team's effort on defense in that quarter, he was surprised to see only one point added on the scoreboard for the Bulldogs.

"I don't know if I've ever seen that before in a game like this," he said. "To hold a team to one point in any quarter is huge and it puts yourself in a position to be in contention to win a lot of games. But I still think we have some work to do."

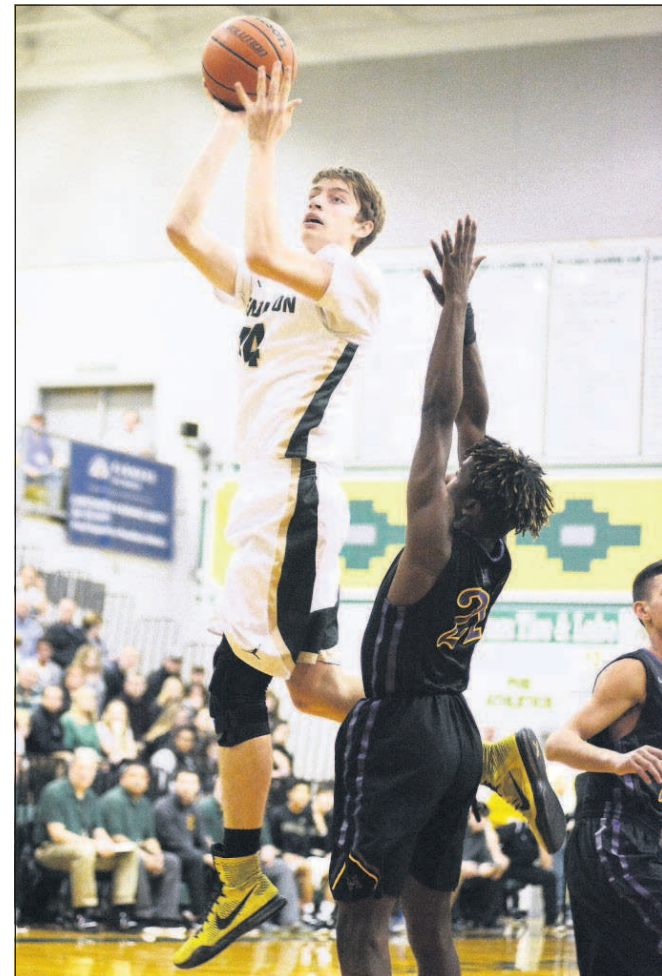
As balanced as Pendleton's offense was, Hermiston's was the opposite. Senior guard Xavier Rambo dived through and around Pendleton's defense to score 20 points in the second half — finishing with a game-high 26 points, or 60 percent of Hermiston's total points. Hermiston shot just 34 percent for the game, and went zero for its first 13 from 3-point range before Ryne Andreason nailed on with 1:15 left to play.

"We definitely could've used some more scoring and spread it out a bit," Arstein said. "I don't think we hit a 3-pointer till the fourth quarter and we're a small team so we need to knock down shots. Hopefully the guys bounce back for Friday."

UP NEXT: Pendleton goes for its sixth straight win at Hood River on Friday, while Hermiston hosts The Dalles. Both games tip-off at 7 p.m.

Table with 5 columns: Team, HHS, PHS, HERMISTON, PENDLETON. Rows show scores for various games and players.

Contact Eric at esinger@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0839. Follow him on Twitter @ByEricSinger.



Pendleton's Johnny Stuvland shoots the ball over Hermiston's Xavier Rambo in the Bucks' 64-43 win against the Bulldogs on Tuesday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris



Hermiston's Kynzee Padilla puts up shot guarded by Pendleton Maureen Davies in the Bucks' 53-48 win against the Bulldogs on Tuesday in Pendleton.

GIRLS HOOPS: Romero, Padilla pace Dawgs

Continued from 1B

Hermiston running five-out not looking to shoot it so we had to do something different and you see the results, it worked."

The Buckaroos were able to chip away on the offensive side thanks to a renewed effort to run their offense through their talented posts. Kalan McGlothlan and Maureen Davies each pitched in double-doubles on the night, with Davies scoring eight of her 14 points in the fourth quarter.

"We have good posts with Maureen, Kalan and Katie, and they're a coaches dream honestly," Porter said. "We just kept feeding it to our posts because we knew we had an advantage in there and I think it showed."

Pendleton was able to outscore Hermiston 18-3 over the final three minutes of the ball game, and Bulldogs coach Juan Rodriguez said that he was disappointed in the way his team performed down the stretch.

"I think our girls started playing in not-to-lose mode even though we were able to attack the whole game," Rodriguez said. "We were getting good shots and they just went into panic mode in the end and that's a mentality they can't have. We should've extended that lead to 20-25 points and it just started cascading on them and they couldn't pull it out after that."

Hermiston did have a pair of solid offensive performances from freshman guard Jazlyn Romero and senior guard Kynzee Padilla as both tallied a team-high 13 points apiece. Romero scored eight of her 13 in the third quarter, while Padilla added a team-best 10 rebounds as well.

UP NEXT: Hermiston next plays at The Dalles on Friday at 7 p.m., while Pendleton hosts Hood River on Friday as well.

Table with 5 columns: Team, HHS, PHS, HERMISTON, PENDLETON. Rows show scores for various games and players.

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Local Slate

BOYS BASKETBALL

Today: Pendleton at La Grande, 6 p.m. The Dalles at Mac-Hi, 5:45 p.m. Lone at Mitchell/Spray (Spray), 7:30 p.m. Thursday: Nixyaawii at Echo, 7:30 p.m. Friday: Culver at Stanfield, 6 p.m. Umatilla at Nyssa, 6:30 p.m. The Dalles at Hermiston, 7 p.m. Pendleton at Hood River, 7 p.m. Riverside at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m. Weston-McEwen at Heppner, 7:30 p.m. Horizon Christian at Arlington, 7:30 p.m. Lone at Dufur, 7:30 p.m. Condon/Wheeler at Mitchell/Spray (Spray), 7:30 p.m. Powder Valley at Helix, 7:30 p.m. Mac-Hi at Baker, 8:15 p.m. Saturday: Pilot Rock at Weston-McEwen, 1 p.m. Heppner at Culver, 2:30 p.m. Sunnyside (WA) at Hermiston, 3 p.m. Umatilla at Vale, 3:30 p.m. Moses Lake (WA) at Stanfield, 5:30 p.m. South Wasco at Condon/Wheeler, 5:30 p.m. Arlington at Lone, 5:30 p.m. Burns at Riverside, 6:30 p.m. Helix at Nixyaawii, 7:30 p.m. Echo at Powder Valley, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Today: La Grande at Pendleton, 6 p.m. Lone at Mitchell/Spray (Spray), 6 p.m. Thursday: Nixyaawii at Echo, 6 p.m. Friday: Culver at Stanfield, 4:30 p.m. Umatilla at Nyssa, 5 p.m. Riverside at Irrigon, 6 p.m. Weston-McEwen at Heppner, 6 p.m. Horizon Christian at Arlington, 6 p.m. Lone at Dufur, 6 p.m. Condon/Wheeler at Mitchell/Spray (Spray), 6 p.m. Powder Valley at Helix, 6 p.m. Mac-Hi at Baker, 6:30 p.m. Hood River at Pendleton, 7 p.m. Hermiston at The Dalles, 7 p.m. Saturday: Heppner at Culver, 1 p.m. Umatilla at Vale, 2 p.m. Pilot Rock at Weston-McEwen, 2:30 p.m. Moses Lake (WA) at Stanfield, 4 p.m. South Wasco at Condon/Wheeler, 4 p.m. Arlington at Lone, 4 p.m. Burns at Riverside, 5 p.m. Helix at Nixyaawii, 6 p.m. Echo at Powder Valley, 6 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING

Wednesday: The Dalles at Hermiston, 5 p.m. Pendleton at Hermiston, 7 p.m. Friday: Irrigon, Riverside at Echo/Stamfield, 5 p.m. Mac-Hi at La Grande, 6 p.m. Saturday: Hermiston, Pendleton at Oregon City Tournament, 10 a.m. Mac-Hi, Irrigon, Riverside, Echo/Stamfield, Heppner at BEO Invite (Heppner), 10 a.m.

PREP SWIMMING

Saturday: Pendleton, Hermiston at Baker, Noon

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Wednesday: Blue Mountain at Treasure Valley, 8 p.m. Friday: Eastern Oregon at Multnomah, 7:30 p.m. Saturday: [Empty]

SCOREBOARD

Big Bend at Blue Mountain, 4 p.m. Eastern Oregon at Warner Pacific, 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Wednesday: Blue Mountain at Treasure Valley, 6 p.m. Friday: Eastern Oregon at Multnomah, 5:30 p.m. Saturday: Big Bend at Blue Mountain, 2 p.m. Eastern Oregon at Warner Pacific, 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Eastern Oregon at Southern Oregon, TBA

Prep Scores

BOYS BASKETBALL

Tuesday: Astoria 52, Scappoose 46 Barlow 66, David Douglas 63 Beaverton 67, Glencoe 53 Bend 68, Summit 67 Centennial 67, Oregon City 62 Central 55, Silverton 31 Central Catholic 70, Reynolds 61 Century 69, Liberty 51 Church Hill 58, Marist 30 Clackamas 76, Gresham 55 Corvallis 43, Crescent Valley 38 Crater 66, Ashland 59 Forest Grove 70, McNary 67 Gladstone 51, Estacada 43 Grants Pass 44, Roseburg 35 Hillsboro 60, St. Helens 48 Hood River 66, The Dalles 63 Jesuit 85, Aloha 44 La Salle 70, Sandy 50 Lake Oswego 71, Newberg 46 Lebanon 58, Dallas 56, OT Madras 69, Crook County 36 McMinnville 86, McKay 77 Molalla 46, Corbett 37 Mountain View 49, Ridgeview 31 North Marion 75, Cascade 45 North Medford 56, South Medford 40 North Valley 52, Douglas 43 Pendleton 64, Hermiston 43 Philomath 67, Yamhill-Carlton 42 Putnam 61, Parkrose 58 Seaside 73, Banks 63 Sheldon 87, Sprague 74 Sherwood 50, Canby 38 South Albany 74, Woodburn 69 Southridge 69, Sunset 58 Springfield 71, Eagle Point 53 Stayton 55, Newport 41 Thurston 86, North Eugene 53 Tualatin 57, Lakerville 52 Valley Catholic 56, Tillamook 51 West Albany 50, North Salem 29 West Linn 98, Tigard 48 West Salem 59, South Salem 56, OT Wilsonville 89, Milwaukie 47

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Tuesday: Astoria 43, Scappoose 22 Barlow 56, David Douglas 47 Bend 67, Summit 54 Cascade 44, North Marion 41 Century 53, Liberty 32 Clackamas 85, Gresham 41 Crater 62, Ashland 22 Forest Grove 57, McNary 43 Glencoe 46, Beaverton 37 Grants Pass 43, Roseburg 27 Hillsboro 45, St. Helens 16 Jesuit 61, Aloha 33 La Salle 65, Sandy 28 Madras 59, Crook County 30 Marist 55, Churchill 48 McMinnville 55, McKay 24 Molalla 43, Corbett 37 Newberg 76, Lake Oswego 59 North Eugene 57, Thurston 42

Football

Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 5 At Houston Atlanta vs. New England, 3:30 p.m. (FOX)

NFL

Tuesday's Games: Toronto 108, New Orleans 106, OT Washington 117, New York 101 Houston 105, Sacramento 83 San Antonio 108, Oklahoma City 94 Portland 115, Charlotte 98 L.A. Lakers 120, Denver 116

NBA

Tuesday's Games: Toronto 108, New Orleans 106, OT Washington 117, New York 101 Houston 105, Sacramento 83 San Antonio 108, Oklahoma City 94 Portland 115, Charlotte 98 L.A. Lakers 120, Denver 116 Today's Games: Indiana at Orlando, 4 p.m. Minnesota at Cleveland, 4 p.m. Atlanta at Miami, 4:30 p.m. New Orleans at Detroit, 4:30 p.m. New York at Brooklyn, 4:30 p.m. Toronto at Boston, 4:30 p.m. Philadelphia at Dallas, 5:30 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 6 p.m. Memphis at Denver, 6 p.m. Milwaukee at Utah, 6 p.m. Chicago at Oklahoma City, 6:30 p.m. Charlotte at Golden State, 7:30 p.m. Thursday's Games: L.A. Lakers at Washington, 4 p.m. Atlanta at Houston, 5 p.m. Philadelphia at San Antonio, 5:30 p.m. Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 7:30 p.m.

College Men

NCAA AP Top 25 Monday's Game: No. 21 Duke 84, No. 20 Notre Dame 74 Tuesday's Games: No. 7 West Virginia 85, Iowa State 72 No. 8 Kentucky 90, Georgia 81, OT No. 10 Wisconsin 57, Illinois 43 No. 12 North Carolina 80, Pittsburgh 78 No. 22 Creighton 76, No. 16 Butler 67 No. 17 Maryland 77, Ohio State 71 Today's Games: No. 2 Baylor at No. 3 Kansas, 6 p.m. No. 4 Villanova at Providence, 4 p.m. No. 9 Virginia vs. Virginia Tech, 5 p.m. No. 11 UCLA at Washington State, 6 p.m. No. 14 Cincinnati at Tulsa, 6 p.m. No. 15 Florida State at Miami, 5 p.m. No. 19 South Carolina at LSU, 6 p.m. No. 23 Purdue vs. Northwestern, 5:30 p.m. Thursday's Games: No. 1 Gonzaga at BYU, 8 p.m. No. 5 Arizona at Oregon State, 6 p.m. No. 13 Oregon vs. Arizona State, 8 p.m. No. 18 Saint Mary's at Pacific, 8 p.m. No. 24 Florida vs. Missouri, 4 p.m.

College Women

NCAA AP Top 25 Monday's Games: Tennessee 76, No. 4 South Carolina 74 Missouri 73, No. 25 Kentucky 67

Tuesday's Games

No games scheduled Today's Games: No. 1 UConn at Temple, 4 p.m. No. 2 Baylor at Iowa State, 5 p.m. No. 12 Texas at Oklahoma State, 5 p.m. No. 14 Ohio State vs. Penn State, 4 p.m. No. 18 Oklahoma vs. Kansas, 8:30 a.m. No. 20 South Florida vs. Cincinnati, 4 p.m. Thursday's Games: No. 3 Maryland at Purdue, 5 p.m. No. 4 South Carolina at No. 25 Kentucky, 4 p.m. No. 5 Mississippi State at Auburn, 6 p.m. No. 6 Florida State at Boston College, 4 p.m. No. 7 Notre Dame at Virginia Tech, 4 p.m. No. 9 Louisville vs. No. 19 N.C. State, 4 p.m. No. 15 Duke vs. Clemson, 4 p.m. No. 16 Miami at Wake Forest, 4 p.m. No. 21 Green Bay at Oakland, 4 p.m. No. 24 Syracuse vs. Pittsburgh, 4 p.m.

Hockey

NHL Tuesday's Games: Columbus 6, N.Y. Rangers 4 Carolina 5, Philadelphia 1 Pittsburgh 4, Nashville 2 N.Y. Islanders 3, Washington 2 New Jersey 4, Detroit 3 Boston 4, Tampa Bay 3 Montreal 5, Buffalo 2 Florida 6, Ottawa 5 Winnipeg 5, St. Louis 3 Dallas 6, Toronto 3 Minnesota 5, Edmonton 2 Los Angeles 3, Arizona 2 Anaheim 5, Colorado 1 San Jose 3, Chicago 1

Transactions

Tuesday BASEBALL American League CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with C Adam Moore on a minor league contract. MINNESOTA TWINS — Named Tyler Burks strength and conditioning coach of Rochester (IL), Jake Mauer manager and Javier Valentin hitting coach of Chattanooga (SL). Doug Mientkiewicz manager and Steve Singleton hitting coach of Fort Myers (FSL), Tommy Watkins manager of Cedar Rapids (MVL), Davey La Croix trainer of Elizabeth (Appalachian), Toby Gardiner hitting coach of the GCL Twins, Wladimir Morales trainer of the DSL Twins and Victor Gonzalez Florida operations assistant. NEW YORK YANKEES — Agreed to terms with Cs Wilkin Castillo, Kellin Deglan and Francisco Diaz; LHPs Jason Gura, Joe Mantiply and Evan Rutovsky; RHP Nick Rumbelow; and INFs Ji-Man Choi, Peter Kozma, Donovan Solano and Ruben Tejada on minor league contracts. SEATTLE MARINERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Nick Hagadone on a minor league contract. TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Agreed to terms with RHP Lucas Harrell on a minor league contract. NATIONAL LEAGUE ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Kris Medlen on a minor league contract. WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with RHPs Joe Nathan and Matt Albers on minor league contract.