

Pro Basketball



Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, right, shoots past Portland Trail Blazers center Zach Collins, left, and forward Ed Davis, center, during Friday's game in Portland.

Jokic leads Nuggets to first win in Portland since 2013

By NICK DASCHIEL Associated Press

PORTLAND — Nikola Jokic scored 27 points and the Denver Nuggets won for the first time in Portland since 2013, beating the Trail Blazers 102-85 on Friday night.

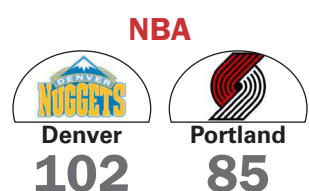
Jokic hit 12 of 21 shots and grabbed eight rebounds as the Nuggets ended a nine-game losing streak to the Blazers in Portland. Wilson Chandler scored a season-high 21 points and grabbed 11 rebounds.

Gary Harris scored 17 points for Denver.

C.J. McCollum led Portland with 15 points, while Shabazz Napier had 14. Rookie Zach Collins scored a career-high 10 points, but fouled out after playing 18 minutes.

Portland played without Damian Lillard, who strained a hamstring strain in Wednesday's game against San Antonio. Lillard is the Blazers' leading scorer at 25.2 points a game.

The Blazers, who lost



their sixth consecutive home game, heard scattered boos from the crowd during the fourth quarter.

Denver, establishing its offense in the paint, shot nearly 50 percent (42 of 85) from the floor. Portland couldn't get untracked offensively, particularly from 3-point range, where it was just 5 of 21.

The Nuggets led 52-41 at halftime as Jokic scored 18 first-half points. They separated themselves from Portland late in the second quarter with a 10-0 run.

Denver continued to punish Portland inside during the third quarter, as Chandler scored eight points and Jokic seven in taking an 80-66 lead. The Nuggets led by as many as 19 points during the third quarter.

Portland was unable to get closer than 10 in the fourth.

TIP-INS
Nuggets: Denver scored its first 16 baskets in the paint. ... Harris returned to the starting lineup after missing one game (elbow contusion). ... Denver avoided its first three-game losing streak of the season. It was also just the Nuggets' third win over Portland in the past five seasons.

Trail Blazers: Lillard is unlikely to play in Saturday's game at the Los Angeles Lakers, though Portland coach Terry Stotts said he would make the trip.

... Jake Layman, who has played the fewest games (13) and minutes (83) on the roster, made his first start of the season, and second of his two-year career. ... Maurice Harkless played for the first time in five games, scoring four points in 19 minutes.

UP NEXT
Nuggets: Saturday at Golden State.

Trail Blazers: Saturday at Los Angeles Lakers.

VIKINGS: Cranston led with 17 points

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pull our heads out of our butts after that first half."

Cranston was a clutch performer for the Vikings in the game, leading the team with 17 points on 8-of-13 shooting with five rebounds, three assists and three steals. He utilized his quickness on several occasions to dribble around defenders and drive towards the basket for easy close-range shots, which made up the bulk of his attempts. Cranston played a lot of minutes on last year's team, but was known more for his defense than a scoring ability, something that Umatilla coach Scott Bow has had to pry out of his senior wing this season.

"He's a motor, man," Umatilla coach Scott Bow said of Cranston. "His ability to keep going is special. He didn't want to be a scorer (tonight), he wanted to play good defense and I told him I'm not going to play him in the second half if he's not going to step up and shoot the shots your supposed to shoot ... He came in the second half and decided to take the shots and he did it really well."

The Vikings got the best start of the two teams and held an early 9-3 lead before Nixyaawii settled in and tied the game up at 14-14 at the end of the first quarter. The Golden Eagles stayed hot shooting the ball in the second half to take a 34-28 lead at the break after missing on four of their 13 shot attempts. It was a frustrating game at that point for Bow and his Vikings, as they played solid defense, but just couldn't shut them down.

"Any time we would start to chip away, they would seem to hit a shot or two and kept it going, so we have to give it up to them," Bow said.

And after the Vikings still couldn't chip away



Umatilla's Sebastian Garcia drives past Nixyaawii's Tyasin Burns in the Vikings' 61-57 win against the Golden Eagles on Friday in Mission.

in the third quarter, Bow challenged his group to give every last ounce they had if they wanted to add another 'W' to the schedule. And they did, as the defense did enough to keep Nixyaawii scoreless in the fourth quarter until Tyasin Burns nailed a 3-pointer at the final buzzer with the game out of reach.

"I told the kids we have to score more than 54 to win so it's got to come down on defense," Bow said. "So it was nice that with three seconds left on the clock and they were still at 54 ... To give up only those three points at the buzzer an that's it in the fourth quarter talks about the defense we've played all year right there, being able to step up and do what they need to do to win."

Umatilla finished with four players in double figures including Cranston, followed by Trent Durfey with 15 points, Kaden

Webb with 12 points, and Uriel Garcia with 11 points. Durfey led the team with eight rebounds and Garcia had six, while Webb led with five assists.

While the loss stings for the Golden Eagles, Rivera said that he is proud of the way his team played.

"We were right there," Rivera said. "Umatilla's a good team, they play physical, they're strong and it was a good test for us. It was one of those games where you hate to lose, but you're glad to get to play them because it's a good test for the team and it'll help us in the long run."

Mick Schimmel led the Golden Eagles with 20 points and Quana Picard had 14.

UHS	14	14	18	15	-	61									
NCS	14	20	20	3	-	57									
UMATILLA	-	S. Cranston	17	T. Durfey	15	K. Webb	12	U. Garcia	11	S. Garcia	4	C. DeLoera	2		
NIXYAAWII	-	M. Schimmel	20	Q. Picard	14	T. Burns	8	M. Moses	6	D. Barkley	5	D. Sigo	2	N. Enright	2
3-pointers	-	UHS	6	NCS	6	Free throws	-	UHS	10-13	Fouls	-	UHS	7	NCS	13

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP WRESTLING
Saturday
Hermiston at Best of the West (Pasco, WA)

Basketball

NBA				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	26	9	.743	—
Toronto	22	8	.733	1½
New York	17	15	.531	7½
Philadelphia	14	17	.452	10
Brooklyn	12	19	.387	12

NBA				
Southeast Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Miami	17	15	.531	—
Washington	17	15	.531	—
Charlotte	11	21	.344	6
Orlando	11	22	.333	6½
Atlanta	7	25	.219	10

NBA				
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	24	9	.727	—
Milwaukee	17	13	.567	5½
Indiana	18	14	.563	5½
Detroit	18	14	.563	5½
Chicago	10	21	.323	13

NBA				
West				
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	25	6	.806	—
San Antonio	22	11	.667	4
New Orleans	16	16	.500	9½
Memphis	9	23	.281	16½
Dallas	9	24	.273	17

NBA				
Northwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	19	13	.594	—
Oklahoma City	17	15	.531	—
Denver	17	15	.531	2
Portland	16	16	.500	3
Utah	15	18	.455	4½

NBA				
Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Golden State	26	6	.813	—
L.A. Clippers	13	18	.419	12½
L.A. Lakers	11	19	.367	14
Sacramento	11	20	.355	14½
Phoenix	12	22	.353	15

Friday's Games
Detroit 104, New York 101
Portland at L.A. Lakers, 6:30 p.m.
Brooklyn 119, Washington 84
L.A. Clippers 128, Houston 118
Miami 113, Dallas 101
Milwaukee 109, Charlotte 104
Oklahoma City 120, Atlanta 117
Denver 102, Portland 85
Golden State 113, L.A. Lakers 106

Saturday's Games
Philadelphia at Toronto, 2 p.m.
Brooklyn at Indiana, 4 p.m.
Milwaukee at Charlotte, 4 p.m.
Orlando at Washington, 4 p.m.
Chicago at Boston, 4:30 p.m.
Dallas at Atlanta, 4:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Memphis, 5 p.m.
New Orleans at Miami, 5 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Utah, 5 p.m.
Denver at Golden State, 5:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 6 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Lakers, 6:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Sacramento, 7 p.m.

Sunday's Games
No games scheduled.

Monday's Games
Philadelphia at New York, 9 a.m.
Cleveland at Golden State, Noon
Washington at Boston, 2:30 p.m.
Houston at Oklahoma City, 5 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 7:30 p.m.

Pac-12

Friday's Games
Arizona State 104, Pacific 65
USC 84, Akron 53
Iowa 80, Colorado 73
Washington State 86, Bethune-Cookman 58
Washington 66, Montana 63
Saturday's Game
No. 7 Kentucky at UCLA, 1 p.m. (CBS)
Middle Tennessee at USC, 1:30 p.m. (ESPN2)

Sunday's Games
No games scheduled.

Monday's Games
No games scheduled.

Women's College Basketball
Top 25
Friday's Games
No. 1 UCONN 104, Duquesne 52
No. 10 Oregon 85, Hawaii 44
No. 16 Missouri 72, Illinois 55
Saturday's Games
No games scheduled.
Sunday's Games
No games scheduled.
Monday's Games
No games scheduled.

Pac-12
Friday's Games
Washington St. at Nebraska, 11 a.m.
No. 10 Oregon at Hawaii, 12 p.m.
Saturday's Games
No games scheduled.
Sunday's Games
No games scheduled.
Monday's Games
No games scheduled.

Hockey

NHL							
Eastern Conference							
Atlantic Division							
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Tampa Bay	34	25	7	2	52	130	87
Toronto	36	21	14	1	43	119	102
Boston	33	18	10	5	41	98	88
Montreal	35	16	15	4	36	97	110
Detroit	34	13	14	7	33	95	110
Florida	35	14	16	5	33	102	119
Ottawa	33	11	14	8	30	92	113
Buffalo	35	9	19	7	25	76	116

Metropolitan Division
GP **W** **L** **OT** **Pts** **GF** **GA**
Washington 36 22 12 2 46 114 104
New Jersey 34 20 9 5 45 109 102
Columbus 36 21 13 2 44 103 98
N.Y. Rangers 35 19 12 4 42 115 101
N.Y. Islanders 35 18 13 4 40 125 125
Pittsburgh 36 18 15 3 39 104 114
Carolina 34 15 12 7 37 95 107
Philadelphia 35 15 13 7 37 98 101

Western Conference
Central Division
GP **W** **L** **OT** **Pts** **GF** **GA**
Nashville 34 21 9 4 46 113 95
Winnipeg 36 20 10 6 46 119 100
St. Louis 37 22 13 2 46 110 93
Dallas 36 19 14 3 41 106 103
Chicago 34 17 12 5 39 102 90
Minnesota 35 18 14 3 39 102 103
Colorado 34 16 15 3 35 106 111

Pacific Division
GP **W** **L** **OT** **Pts** **GF** **GA**
Los Angeles 36 22 10 4 48 109 83
Vegas 33 22 9 2 46 116 100
San Jose 33 18 11 4 40 93 84
Calgary 36 18 15 3 39 101 106
Anaheim 36 15 13 8 38 97 108
Vancouver 36 15 16 5 35 97 118
Edmonton 35 16 17 2 34 104 112
Arizona 37 8 24 5 21 83 127

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Football

NFL						
American Conference						
East						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
y-New England	11	3	0.786	395	274	
Buffalo	8	6	0.571	264	306	
Miami	6	8	0.429	252	342	
N.Y. Jets	5	9	0.357	285	342	

NFL						
National Conference						
East						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
y-Philadelphia	12	2	0.857	438	279	
Dallas	8	6	0.571	336	311	
Washington	6	8	0.429	305	359	
N.Y. Giants	2	12	0.143	228	355	

NFL						
West						
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	
New Orleans	10	4	0.714	438	282	
Carolina	10	4	0.714	331	286	
Atlanta	9	5	0.643	318	282	
Tampa Bay	4	10	0.286	253	336	

Week 16
Saturday's games
Indianapolis at Baltimore, 1:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Cleveland at Chicago, 10 a.m.
Atlanta at New Orleans, 10 a.m.
Denver at Washington, 10 a.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 10 a.m.
Miami at Kansas City, 10 a.m.
L.A. Rams at Tennessee, 10 a.m.
L.A. Chargers at N.Y. Jets, 10 a.m.
Detroit at Cincinnati, 10 a.m.
Buffalo at New England, 10 a.m.
Jacksonville at San Francisco, 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Arizona, 1:25 p.m.
Seattle at Dallas, 1:25 p.m.
Monday's Games
Pittsburgh at Houston, 1:30 p.m.
Oakland at Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.

Continued from 1B

But aside from the three leaders, Nixyaawii (9-0) continues to see big steps taken each game by its secondary players including junior forward Ermia Butler, senior guard Ella Mae Looney and the rest of the Golden Eagles' young bench. Looney knocked down two 3-pointers and finished with eight points and Butler played strong defense inside and turned in four points.

"They've been huge," Maddern said. "Ermia's really taken a huge step and Ella Mae's always given us defensive tenacity and just invaluable. And this year she's shooting the ball and shooting it well, better than most girls actually at a high percentage. She's kept getting better every year and I'm happy to see her take that big step."

The game was all Golden Eagles (9-0) as they led 24-5 after the first eight minutes were played. Nixyaawii used a 2-2-1 full-court press for most of the first quarter, helping force 10 Umatilla (3-7) turnovers before falling off into a match-up 2-3 zone for the remainder of the game. Overall, Nixyaawii forced 30 Umatilla turnovers and



Umatilla's Charlene Alvarez wrestles for the ball with Nixyaawii's Kaitlynn Melton in the Golden Eagles' 78-29 win against the Vikings on Friday in Mission.

turned a numerous amount of those into points.

"Defensively we came in and did a lot of good things tonight," Maddern said. "Our defense can lead to a lot of easy lay-ins and that match-up zone we run, we preach about trying to make teams skip-pass a lot so we can jump the lanes. And the girls are really instinctive where they almost anticipate that next pass."

Umatilla's best quarter came in the second when they scored 14 points on 6-of-15 shooting to make it a 45-19 game at the break. But in the second half, the Golden Eagles' defense kept the Vikings from getting many good looks at

the basket and by the time they did, the rhythm was gone and shots couldn't seem to fall. Umatilla shot just 4-of-22 from the floor in the second half.

Lauryn Journot led the Vikings with nine points, Charlene Alvarez had eight points and Katelyn Lorence added five points.

UHS	5	14	2	8	-	29												
NCS	24	21	21	12	-	78												
UMATILLA	-	L. Journot	9	C. Alvarez	8	K. Lorence	5	A. Reyes	3	A. Ford	2	L. Leon-Leon	2					
NIXYAAWII	-	M. Schimmel	24	M. Steward	20	K. Melton	13	E. Looney	8	E. Butler	4	L. Moses	3	K. Mountain Chief	2	T. Melton	2	Team 2
3-pointers	-	UHS	3	NCS	4	Free throws	-	UHS	2-8	NCS	4-10	Fouls	-	UHS	11	NCS	12	

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