

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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PENDLETON

## Bucks finish strong in league opener

Pendleton gets first Columbia River Conference win at Warberg Court

By ALEXIS MANSANAREZ  
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Pendleton Buckaroos started with a blank slate on Thursday when they hosted the Hood River Valley Eagles to open Columbia River Conference play.

Head coach Kevin Porter noted after Tuesday's non-league loss to Baker that these next nine games were the only ones that mattered. And that message was reiterated leading up to the league opener.

"We told the girls all week, 'We're 0-0 now and we want to be 1-0 come Thursday night.'"

And after Thursday night, the defending CRC champions were 1-0 after defeating Hood River 51-36 behind a sound defense and a deep bench.

Porter called on the great Coach K — head coach of Duke's men's basketball team — when asked about the team's defensive efforts, also highlighting each girls involvement in the victory.

"You read all the expert coaches like Mike Krzyzewski, they'll tell you it doesn't take talent to play defense, it takes effort and desire," Porter said. "And our girls showed they were willing to put out the effort and desire tonight and it was all 12 of them."

The Buckaroos (9-6 overall, 1-0 CRC) started the game with heavy defensive pressure, going on an 11-4 run behind a full court press that disrupted the Eagles, causing turnovers and rushed passes that favored Pendleton.

Hood River's shots were finally falling late in the first quarter as they slowly chipped away at its deficit. The Eagles knotted the score at 16-16 thanks to their leading scorer, sophomore guard Ashlynn Dawson.

Dawson was responsible for all of the points in their 7-5 run, and finished with a team-best 12 points.

At the halftime break, the Bucks had staked out a 26-20 lead.

See BUCKS/3B

Girls Basketball



Hood River  
36



Pendleton  
51



Pendleton's Kalan McGlothlin fights for a rebound against Hood River's Hannah McNerney (20) and Lauren Orr in the Bucks' 51-36 win against the Eagles on Thursday in Pendleton.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Prep Roundup

## Pendleton wins in Hood River

Heppner sweeps Culver in away doubleheader

East Oregonian

HOOD RIVER — Behind a 23-point performance from junior Tyler Newsome, Pendleton opened up Columbia River Conference play with a 63-49 victory over Hood River Valley.

The visiting Buckaroos (9-6 overall, 1-0 CRC) turned a six-point deficit at the half into a 21 points in the third quarter to take back the lead they would never again relinquish.

"We responded with a great second half," head coach Kyle Tedder said.

In the first two quarters the teams traded leads. Pendleton was up 15-11 after one, while Hood River came back to enter halftime with a 33-27 advantage. Good defensive pressure from the Eagles (5-11, 0-1) forced the Bucks into turning over the ball. But after some adjustments they ran away with a 14-point victory.

Behind Newsome, senior Shaw Jerome netted 11 points. Fellow senior Ryan Russell led the team in rebounds, notching eight to go along with his three points. Newsome finished with another team-best in assists (4) and senior Richard Scott grabbed four steals.

For Hood River, junior Carson Flores scored a team-high 19 points, followed by senior Jonah Tactay with 12.

Pendleton will stay on the road for one final non-league game when it travels to La Grande to face the Tigers at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

PHS	15	12	21	15	—	63
HRV	11	22	4	12	—	49

PENDLETON — T. Newsome 23, S. Jerome 11, K. Sams 9, W. Camp 6, R.

See ROUNDUP/3B

Pro Basketball

## Lillard nets 26 points, leads Trail Blazers past Pacers

By NICK DASCHIEL  
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Damian Lillard scored 26 points and eight assists, Jusuf Nurkic had 19 points and a season-high 17 rebounds, and the Portland Trail Blazers won their fifth consecutive home game, beating the Indiana Pacers 100-86 on Thursday night.

C.J. McCollum added 16 points and Shabazz Napier 13 for Portland, which seems



to have its homecourt mojo back, winning five straight after dropping six consecutive home games in early December. The Blazers also beat Indiana for the ninth consecutive time on their home floor.

Victor Oladipo and

Darren Collison scored 23 points each for Indiana.

Portland took control late in the third quarter, when the Blazers held Indiana scoreless for more than five minutes. It was part of Portland's 21-2 run, during which Napier scored eight points to help erase a six-point deficit and give the Blazers an 89-76 lead midway through the fourth quarter.

Indiana was without forward Myles Turner, the team's second-leading

scorer this season. Turner has missed five consecutive games with a right elbow injury.

McCollum sprinted from the floor to the locker room early in the fourth quarter with a brief bout of nausea, but returned a few minutes later.

Portland led 52-47 at halftime, and the difference was a pair of buzzer-beaters: McCollum's 3-pointer at the end of the first quarter, and Lillard's desperation

layup off a drive to finish the second quarter.

The Blazers continued their last-second mastery in the third quarter, as Napier made a backcourt steal then buried a 3-pointer as time expired to tie it at 74. It wiped out a terrific quarter by Collison, who hit three 3-pointers and scored 11 points to help Indiana lead by as many as six.

TIP-INS

Trail Blazers: Led by 12 boards from Nurkic, Portland

outrebounded Indiana 29-18 in the first half. ... Nurkic had a double-double in the first half with 12 points and 12 rebounds. ... Portland swept the season series from Indiana for the third time in four seasons. The Blazers won 114-96 over the Pacers on Oct. 20. ... Al-Farouq Aminu is averaging 13 points and 10 rebounds in his last four games against Indiana.

UP NEXT

Trail Blazers: home against Dallas on Saturday.

Sports shorts

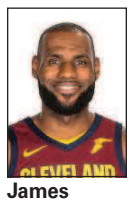
### LeBron, Curry are captains, to draft NBA All-Star Game teams

NEW YORK (AP) — LeBron James and Stephen Curry will be the captains who pick teams for the revamped NBA All-Star Game.

James and Curry received the most votes from fans in their conferences Thursday night and will draft from a pool of the rest of the NBA's best for next month's game in Los Angeles.

The format was changed from the traditional East vs. West matchup for the first time after lackluster games the last two seasons, when players made little attempt to defend and the West nearly scored 200 in both of its victories.

The reserves, voted upon by the head coaches in each conference, will be announced Tuesday, and the rosters selected by James and Curry will be unveiled next Thursday.



James

"It's quite simple, honestly. Beyond perfect drive, perfect second shot, perfect putt."

— Jon Rahm

The Spaniard shot 62 on Thursday to take the lead at Career-BUILDER Challenge lead. His remarks are in regards to a soaring 5-iron that settled 5 feet away to set up an eagle on the par-5 fifth hole at La Quinta Country Club. The PGA Tour tournament will continue through the weekend.

### USA Gymnastics ends training at Karolyi Ranch

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — USA Gymnastics is ending its long relationship with the Karolyi Ranch.

The organization announced Thursday it has terminated its agreement to have the ranch outside of Huntsville, Texas, serve as the National Training Center. The decision came three days after Olympic champion Simone Biles expressed dismay at having to attend camps there, where Biles says she was sexually abused by a former national team doctor.

The ranch is the home of former national team coordinator Martha Karolyi and her husband, Bella. USA Gymnastics initially agreed to buy the training facility in August 2016 then backed out of the agreement following an investigation into sexual abuse by former national team doctor Larry Nassar.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1952 — The Professional Golfers Association approves the participation of black golfers in tournaments.

2005 — LeBron James becomes the youngest player (20 years, 20 days) in NBA history to record a triple-double, with 27 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists in Cleveland's 107-101 win over Portland.

2014 — Russell Wilson throws a 35-yard touchdown pass on fourth down and Seattle's top-ranked defense forces two late turnovers, lifting the Seahawks into their second Super Bowl with a 23-17 victory over the San Francisco 49ers.

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