

NBA

Golden State on the way to Washington D.C., just not the White House this time

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Golden State Warriors are heading to Washington, just not to the White House.

The traditional champions’ invitation was never granted from President Donald Trump — and it appeared the Warriors might have declined it, anyway. So they plan to spend their day in the city with local children Tuesday.

“We’re doing a great thing anyways,” All-Star Klay Thompson said Monday, after the Warriors beat the New York Knicks in the opener of a road trip.

“The White House is a great honor but there’s extenuating circumstances that we felt that we’re not comfortable doing. We’re not going to politicize anything, we’re just going to hang out with some kids, take them to an African-American museum and hopefully teach them things we learned along the way and life lessons, and we’ll still be getting some great memories.”

Warriors All-Star Stephen Curry had said he did not want to go to the White House last September and Trump then made it clear he



Golden State Warriors forward David West (3) and guard Klay Thompson (11) react toward their bench during a game against the New York Knicks on Monday.

wasn’t welcome, sending a tweet that read : “Going to the White House is considered a great honor for a championship team. Stephen Curry is hesitating, therefore invitation is withdrawn!”

The White House visit is traditionally scheduled during the NBA champions’ trip to face the Washington Wizards the following season. The Warriors play the Wizards on Wednesday.

They met with President Barack Obama after their first championship but don’t seem disappointed about not going back this time.

“It’s kind of beating a dead horse at this point,” Curry said. “We’re excited to have an opportunity that we’re going to tomorrow as a team, but other than that it’s a business trip and we’re excited to keep the road trip going.”

NBA Finals MVP Kevin Durant is from the Washington area, and he said he just wants the children Tuesday to enjoy their chance to meet players such as Curry and Thompson.

“Kids from my area don’t really get that opportunity to be in front of champions like that,” Durant said. “So hopefully it inspires them to just be whatever they want to be in life.”



AP Photo/Craig Mitchell

Sacramento Kings guard De'Aaron Fox, center, shoots over Portland Trail Blazers' Damian Lillard, CJ McCollum and Al-Farouq Aminu during the first half of Tuesday's game in Portland.

BLAZERS: Had season-high 20 fast break points

Continued from 1B

land to 105-88 with 6:40 left. The Blazers led by as many as 19 points down the stretch.

Shabazz Napier had 20 points off the bench for Portland.

“I thought we had good energy, our ball movement was good, defensively we were physical, we got our hands on some balls. But I think most important we were just connected,” Lillard said. “For the start of the game we were all on the same page once again — just knew what we needed to get done. And we got it done.”

When he reached 17 points, Lillard clinched the highest-scoring average for any month in Portland history. He passed Geoff Petrie who averaged 30.4 points in March, 1971.

Lillard averaged 31.4 points for the month.

Lillard had 40 points in the Portland’s 106-104 victory over the Suns on Saturday.

TIP INS:

Trail Blazers: Lillard has made a 3-pointer in 43 straight games. ... Blazers coach Terry Stotts is the reigning Western Conference Coach of the Month. ... Portland had a season-high 20 fast-break points.

PRAISE: “Coach Stotts is a mastermind with how he runs his offense. He gets his guys to buy into their role. Once they get rolling they’re a tough team to stop so you kinda have to pick your poison for why you’re going to stop because they’re going to score,” Carter said.

UP NEXT:

The Trail Blazers host the Timberwolves on Thursday.

BULLDOGS: Will play at No. 5 Silverton on Friday

Continued from 1B

close after the first eight minutes of play. Reardon ended the night with 13 total points.

“We were going to let guards shoot,” Rodriguez said. “We were going to let them shoot and No. 3 (Reardon) came in and hit shots.”

Hermiston, however, was worried about a different Lion: St. Helen’s 5-10 junior post, Maddie Holm.

With the defensive efforts of freshman Paige Palzinski and junior Madi Wilson, Holm didn’t have free rein in the paint — especially in the second half.

Before the break, Holm had her best quarter of the night and scored six of St. Helens’ nine second-quarter points. The shooting spurt put the Lions within eight points of the lead, 30-22, but after the break a strong defensive performance was paired with some St. Helens shooting woes that allowed



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Hermiston's Jazlyn Romero takes aim during Tuesday's state play-in game against St. Helens at the Dawg House. Romero finished with four points.

Hermiston to extend its lead. Overall, the Lions shot 43 percent from the field, while the Bulldogs made a

whopping 73 percent of their shots.

Behind Thomas was freshman Jayden Ray

with eight points and Juul and fellow senior Hannah Thompson both put up seven.

Relying on players off the bench, like Palzinski and Ray, and developing that depth was something Hermiston struggled with at the beginning of the season. But now as the Bulldogs gear up for the playoffs, they are starting to see the fruits of their labor.

“That’s what we have been building all year,” Rodriguez said of the team’s depth. “It’s just awesome to see their hard work pay off because they’re the girls that don’t get a lot of minutes but come every day to practice and work just as hard as everybody else.”

In Round 1 of the playoffs, No. 12 Hermiston will face No. 5 Silverton (19-5) on the road Friday.

SHHS	13	9	9	9	—	40
HHS	15	15	16	21	—	67
ST. HELENS — M. Holm 15, M. Reardon 13, M. Northrop 9, M. Flores 3.						
HERMISTON — J. Thomas 30, J. Ray 8, M. Juul 7, H. Thompson 7, J. Romero 4, A. Green 3, M. Wilson 3, S. Stefani 3, P. Palzinski 2.						
3-pointers — STH 4, HHS 3. Free throws — STH 4-7, HHS 8-12. Fouls — STH 13, HHS 13.						

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