

MarShon Brooks scores 21 as Grizzlies beat Blazers 108-103

By CLAY BAILEY
Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — With a 10-day contract to make an impression, MarShon Brooks got off to a very nice start.

Brooks scored 14 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter in his first game with Memphis, helping the last-place Grizzlies beat the Portland Trail Blazers 108-103 on Wednesday night.

Brooks made each of his four 3-point attempts in the final period in his first NBA appearance since April 16, 2014, with the Lakers. He signed a 10-day contract with Memphis on Tuesday.

"You don't really have time to get comfortable on a 10-day. You just don't," Brooks said. "Thank God I made shots. That helps."

Brooks, who averaged 36.6 points for the Jiangsu Dragons of the Chinese Basketball Association this year, was 7 for 12 from the field.

Dillon Brooks had 18 points for the Grizzlies (21-54), who trailed 93-86 with 7 minutes left. Chandler Parsons finished with 15 in Memphis' second straight win.

CJ McCollum led Portland (46-29) with 42 points, and Wade Baldwin IV added 15 points on 5-for-6 shooting.

The Trail Blazers went 3 for 8 at the line in the final 7 minutes. A handful of turnovers in the fourth only made matters worse.

"In the fourth quarter, you



AP Photo/Brandon Dill
Memphis Grizzlies guard MarShon Brooks (8) shoots between Portland Trail Blazers center Zach Collins, left, and forward Al-Farouq Aminu (8) in Wednesday's game in Memphis, Tenn.

have to make free throws," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "You can't miss free throws, and you have to guard better. You can't give up 32 points in the fourth quarter and have turnovers and missed free throws. Not going to win many games like that."

Trail Blazers star Damian Lillard, who had 41 points in Tuesday's win over New Orleans, was not with the team after the birth of his son.

TIP-INS

Trail Blazers: Played their third game in four days. ... Shabazz Napier started his eighth game of the season in place of Lillard. ... Portland had won seven in a row on the road.

Ichiro Suzuki to be in lineup as Mariners open vs Indians

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE — The lingering question of whether Ichiro Suzuki would be ready for opening day was solved on Wednesday.

Yes, he'll be on the Seattle Mariners 25-man roster, despite a lingering calf injury. And, yes, he'll be in left field on Thursday night when the Mariners open the season hosting the Cleveland Indians.

"It was a crazy spring for him getting in late and having a little setback with the calf injury but I think he showed us enough here the last couple of days that he can get out there, run around and help us out a little bit," Seattle manager Scott Servais said. "As I said when we brought him in he'll hit at the bottom of the lineup, he'll help in a number of different ways. But obviously he'll be in the lineup tomorrow night."

This isn't turn back the clock night, although the nostalgia will be thick — let alone the challenge of facing Cleveland ace Corey Kluber and one of the powerhouse clubs in the American League. It'll be Suzuki's first regular season game in a Seattle uniform since July 22, 2012. He made his mark as a right fielder with Seattle, though that spot now will be manned by Mitch Haniger.

And there's a very real chance this is a temporary assignment. Suzuki must perform better than he did in his limited spring training



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson
Seattle Mariners pitcher Felix Hernandez walks onto the field for a practice on the team's home field Wednesday in Seattle. The team opens play today against the Cleveland Indians, with Hernandez the starting Mariners pitcher.

opportunities to justify receiving playing time ahead of Guillermo Heredia or Ben Gamel when Gamel returns from his oblique injury.

At least for the opener, it'll be Suzuki's stage in left field.

"Obviously being out there on the field is one thing, but just driving from my house to the stadium, just the views that I remember," Suzuki said through an interpreter. "Just an awesome thing that I'm here. I'm just so happy."

It's hard to know what to expect from the 44-year-old, who was hitless in the five spring training games he played in, not counting side field games against minor leaguers. A year ago, Suzuki

hit .255 in limited at-bats for Miami.

When he was signed by Seattle this month, he seemed set for a roster spot. But the calf injury made the disabled list a potential destination right up until the final day of spring training. Seattle optioned Taylor Motter to Triple-A Tacoma to clear the roster spot for Suzuki.

"When I got hurt, the whole plan was just to be ready for opening day. I feel that I barely snuck in here," Suzuki said through an interpreter. "It was a close one but I'm glad I was able to get to this point and be ready."

The nostalgia isn't limited to Suzuki. Felix

Hernandez will be starting his 10th straight Opening Day for Seattle. Hernandez and Kluber will always be tied together by the 2014 Cy Young voting where the Cleveland righty edged Hernandez in the balloting. While Kluber added his second Cy Young Award last year and is a top contender for the honor again in 2018, Hernandez is trying to evolve into a pitcher that can still be at the top of his game even as he ages and can't blow away hitters the way he did earlier in his career.

But even Hernandez's spring was altered by injury after taking a liner off his arm. Hernandez is not expected to go much beyond 80 pitches in the opener.

PENDLETON: Buckaroos defense also had a strong showing

Continued from 1B

thing as a hitter, and so far I would imagine most of the hitters have fairly decent confidence right now, as they should."

Pendleton pushed across five runs in the first inning following an RBI doubles by Lauren Richards and Aspen Garton as well as a two-RBI single by Alexi Brehaut, who finished 3-for-4 overall. The Bucks then took all the wind out of the Braves' sails in the third when 12 batters came to the plate and nine runs scored, highlighted by Kalan McGlothlin's two-RBI double that she hooked inside the third base line, and Kila Solomon's two-run home run to straightaway center.

Then in the fourth, McGlothlin stepped to the plate with one out and clobbered a first-pitch fastball on the inner half of the plate way past the 200-foot sign in left field. McGlothlin said she wasn't looking for that pitch in particular, instead using a simple approach that worked out well.

"For me, I just look to barrel up any ball," McGlothlin said, and it just went (out)."

Lauren Richards had a good game in the pitching circle, tossing all five shutout innings while striking out six and allowing just two hits. Her most impressive inning came in the fourth where she allowed a leadoff double and then had a runner on third with only one out, but she



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Pendleton softball players greet teammate Kila Solomon at homeplate after her home run during Tuesday's game against Kamiakin at Steve Cary Field.

escaped the jam by inducing the inning. And the Buckaroos a 6-4-3 double play to end the inning. And the Buckaroos

defense also had a strong showing. The unit had to battle constant wind gusts of roughly 20 mph for the entire game, but played a clean game with zero errors, which pleased Cary and the coaches very much.

"We always say that no matter the score ... you always do everything right and I think we held true on that," Cary said. "The defense was solid, the pitching was solid, with hitting, every batter went up there with the idea of hitting the ball hard. I was happy with that, that we didn't let up in any way, shape or form."

Now after a grueling start to the week, Pendleton gets to enjoy the rest of its spring break with some time off.

The Buckaroos won't get back to live game action for seven days when they travel to La Grande on April 5, and by then Cary hopes the offense can pick up where it has left off.

"I'm happy with each and every one of their approaches right now at the plate," Cary said. "If they stick with what they're doing well, things should turn out well."

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KHS	000	00	— 0 2 3
PHS	509	4X	— 18 16 0

(K) E. Wood, H. Jablonski and A. Wood. (P) L. Richards and K. Solomon. W — Richards, L — Wood.
2B — M. Christianson (KHS); Ki. McGlothlin, L. Richards, A. Garton, Ka. McGlothlin, A. Brehaut (PHS). HR — Ka. McGlothlin, K. Solomon (PHS).

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SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP BASEBALL
Thursday
McNary vs. Hermiston (Volcano Stadium Tourney), 6 p.m.

Friday
Vernonia at Heppner (DH), 1 p.m.
Aloha vs. Hermiston (Volcano Stadium Tourney), 4:30 p.m.

Saturday
Aloha vs. Hermiston (Volcano Stadium Tourney), 11:30 a.m.
Joseph at Mac-Hi (DH), 12 p.m.
McNary vs. Hermiston (Volcano Stadium Tourney), 2 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL
Friday
Echo vs. Kennedy (at Union), 9 a.m.
Vernonia at Heppner (DH), 1 p.m.
Echo vs. Colton (at Union), 3 p.m.
Stayton at Mac-Hi, 4 p.m.
Rainier at Mac-Hi, 6 p.m.

Saturday
Pilot Rock vs. Bonanza (at Union), 9 a.m.
Weston-McEwen vs. Colton (at Union), 11 a.m.
Junction City at Mac-Hi, 2 p.m.
Pilot Rock vs. Colton (at Union), 3 p.m.
Yamhill-Carlton at Mac-Hi, 4 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Mac-Hi, 6 p.m.

PREP TRACK AND FIELD
Saturday
Mac-Hi at Holder Relays (Yakima), 10 a.m.
Pendleton at Hanford (WA), 10:30 a.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL
Saturday
BMCC at Wenatchee Valley (DH), 1 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL
Thursday
Carroll at EOU (DH), 11 a.m.
Friday
Carroll at EOU (DH), 11 a.m.
BMCC at Spokane (DH), 2 p.m.

NBA
Eastern Conference
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Toronto	55	20	.733	—
x-Boston	52	23	.693	3
x-Philadelphia	44	30	.595	10 1/2
New York	27	49	.355	28 1/2
Brooklyn	24	51	.320	31

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	41	33	.554	—
Miami	40	35	.533	1/8
Charlotte	34	42	.447	8
Orlando	22	52	.297	19 1/2
Atlanta	21	54	.280	20 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Cleveland	45	30	.600	—
x-Indiana	44	31	.587	1
Milwaukee	39	35	.527	5 1/2
Detroit	34	40	.459	10 1/2
Chicago	24	50	.324	20 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Denver	47	29	.618	—
x-Minnesota	42	34	.553	5 1/2
Utah	42	33	.560	4
Denver	40	35	.533	6

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Golden State	54	20	.730	—
L.A. Clippers	41	34	.547	13 1/2
L.A. Lakers	33	41	.446	21
Sacramento	24	51	.320	30 1/2
Phoenix	19	57	.250	36

Wednesday's Games
Brooklyn 111, Orlando 104
Cleveland 118, Charlotte 105
Philadelphia 118, New York 101
Memphis 108, Portland 103
Minnesota 126, Atlanta 114
Boston 97, Utah 94
L.A. Clippers 111, Phoenix 99
L.A. Lakers 103, Dallas 93

Thursday's Games
Washington at Detroit, 4 p.m.
Chicago at Miami, 4:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 5 p.m.
Indiana at Sacramento, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Golden State, 7:30 p.m.

NCAA Men's Tournament
FINAL FOUR
At Columbus, Ohio
San Antonio
National Semifinals
Saturday, March 31
No. 11 Loyola of Chicago (32-5) vs. No. 3 Michigan (32-7); 3:09 p.m. (TBS)
No. 1 Villanova (34-4) vs. No. 1 Kansas (31-7); 5:49 p.m. (TBS)

NCAA Women's Tournament
FINAL FOUR
At Columbus, Ohio
National Semifinals
Friday, March 30
Mississippi State (36-1) vs. Louisville (36-2); 4 p.m. (ESPN2)
UConn (36-0) vs. Notre Dame (33-3); 6 p.m. (ESPN2)

Hockey

NHL
Eastern Conference
Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Tampa Bay	76	51	21	4	106	273	217
x-Boston	75	47	17	11	105	249	194
Toronto	77	46	24	7	99	261	219
Florida	75	39	29	7	85	229	228
Montreal	77	28	37	12	68	196	245
Detroit	72	28	38	11	67	199	239
Ottawa	76	26	39	11	63	207	270
Buffalo	76	24	40	12	60	177	250

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	77	46	24	7	99	243	225
Pittsburgh	77	43	28	6	92	253	238
Philadelphia	78	39	25	14	92	234	232
Columbus	77	43	29	5	91	222	211

New Jersey 76 40 28 8 88 229 228
Carolina 77 34 32 11 79 215 244
N.Y. Rangers 77 33 35 9 75 223 248
N.Y. Islanders 77 32 35 10 74 246 279

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Nashville	76	49	16	11	109	245	193
x-Winnipeg	76	47	19	10	104	255	200
Minnesota	76	42	24	10	94	233	215
St. Louis	76	43	28	5	91	212	198
Colorado	77	41	28	8	90	241	224
Dallas	77	39	30	8	86	218	210
Chicago	77	31	36	10	72	217	238

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Vegas	77	48	22	7	103	256	208
San Jose	77	44	23	10	98	238	209
Los Angeles	77	42	28	7	91	224	190
Anaheim	77	39	25	13	91	218	208
Calgary	77	35	32	10	80	205	234
Edmonton	77	34	37	6	74	224	250
Arizona	77	27	40	9	65	201	248
Arizona	77	27	40	9	65	193	244

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

Wednesday's Games
Toronto 4, Florida 3
Washington 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT
Philadelphia 2, Colorado 1
Arizona 3, Vegas 2

Thursday's Games
Detroit at Buffalo, 4 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Boston, 4 p.m.
Pittsburgh at New Jersey, 4 p.m.
Florida at Ottawa, 4:30 p.m.
San Jose at Nashville, 5 p.m.
Dallas at Minnesota, 5 p.m.
Winnipeg at Chicago, 5:30 p.m.
Columbus at Calgary, 6 p.m.
Edmonton at Vancouver, 7 p.m.
Arizona at Los Angeles, 7:30 p.m.

Soccer
Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GFGA
Columbus	3	0	1	10	8
NYC FC	3	0	1	10	8
New York	2	1	0	6	7
Atlanta United FC	2	1	0	6	7
Philadelphia	1	0	1	4	2
New England	1	1	1	4	5
Montreal	1	2	0	3	4
D.C. United	0	2	2	2	5
Orlando City	0	2	1	2	5
Chicago	0	2	0	0	4
Toronto FC	0	2	0	0	3

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GFGA
Sporting K.C.	2	1	1	7	9
Vancouver	2	1	1	7	6
Nashville	2	0	0	6	6
Minnesota United	2	0	0	6	2
FC Dallas	1	0	2	5	8
Houston	1	1	1	4	7
LA Galaxy	1	1	1	4	3
Real Salt Lake	1	1	1	4	3
San Jose	1	1	0	3	5
Colorado	0	1	1	1	3
Portland	0	2	1	1	7
Seattle	0	2	0	0	4

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday, March 30
Real Salt Lake at Toronto FC, 5 p.m.

Saturday, March 31
New York at Orlando City, 10 a.m.
Los Angeles FC at LA Galaxy, 12 p.m.
Vancouver at Columbus, 12 p.m.
Portland at Chicago, 3 p.m.
Atlanta United FC at Minnesota United, 5 p.m.
New York City FC at San Jose, 5 p.m.
D.C. United at Sporting Kansas City, 5:30 p.m.
New England at Houston, 5:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Colorado, 6 p.m.
Montreal at Seattle, 7 p.m.

Golf
PGA TOUR
HOUSTON OPEN
Site: Humble, Texas.
Course: GC of Houston (Tournament Course). Yardage: 7,457. Par: 72.
Purse: \$7 million. Winner's share: \$1,260,000.
Television: Thursday-Friday, 1-4 p.m. (Golf Channel); Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-Noon (Golf Channel). 12-3 p.m. (NBC).
Defending champion: Russell Henley.
Last week: Bubba Watson won the Dell Technologies Match Play and Brice Garnett won the Corales Puntacana Resort and Club Championship.
FedEx Cup leader: Justin Thomas.

LPGA TOUR
ANA INSPIRATION
Site: Rancho Mirage, Calif.
Course: Mission Hills CC (Dinah Shore Tournament Course). Yardage: 6,763. Par: 72.
Purse: \$2.8