

Conley’s career-high sends Grizzlies past Portland 120-111

By CLAY BAILEY
Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Mike Conley scored 19 of his career-high 40 points in the fourth quarter as Memphis used a late rally to beat the Portland Trail Blazers 120-111 on Tuesday night.

Conley made six of his seven shots in the fourth as Memphis erased a nine-point Portland lead in the final quarter with a 38-25 scoring advantage in the period.

Delon Wright matched his career high with 25 points and Jonas Valanciunas finished with 17.

CJ McCollum led Portland with 27 points, while Damian Lillard added 24. Maurice Harkless finished

with 20 points.

The Trail Blazers closed out a seven-game trip, their longest of the season.

Portland held the lead through three quarters and led 86-82 entering the fourth.

The momentum shifted in Memphis’ favor in the middle of the fourth. Conley hit a floater to cap 11-2 run that erased the Portland lead. After a few lead changes, Memphis pulled away, with the key basket coming on a 4-point play by Conley with 1:38 left for a 113-107 lead.

Portland opened the game pounding the ball inside and took an early double-digit lead.

Memphis made a dent in the Portland advantage,

but the Trail Blazers carried a 63-61 lead into half-time. Conley had 16 points to lead Memphis, while McCollum led Portland with 14 points.

Al-Farouq Aminu connected on a 3-pointer in the first quarter, giving him 403 in his Portland career. That tied him with Martell Webster for 10th place on the franchise list for 3-pointers made.

Portland ended the road trip with a 5-2 record, matching the best seven-game road trip in franchise history.

Up next

Trail Blazers: Host Oklahoma City on Thursday.

Grizzlies: Host the Utah Jazz on Friday.



Portland Trail Blazers center Jusuf Nurkic (27) fouls Memphis Grizzlies center Jonas Valanciunas (17) in the first half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday in Memphis, Tenn.

5A STATE PLAYOFFS

“THE NEXT GAME, WHETHER WE WIN OR LOSE, WILL BE A GOOD ONE. WE HAVE OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US.”

Pendleton coach Zach Dong

COLLEGE UPDATE

Former Bucks at the top of their game

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

For the second time this season, Claremont-Mudd-Scripts freshman Lauren Richards (Pendleton) was named the SCIAC Pitcher of the Week.

Richards also earned the honor two weeks ago.



Richards

This time, Richards won both games of a doubleheader with No. 11 Pomona-Pitzer on Friday as the Athenas improved to 6-0 in league play and 7-2 overall.

She came on in relief in the top of the 10th inning of the opener with the game going into the tiebreaker rule with a runner in place on second.

Richards did not allow the runner to score. She recorded the win after the Athenas came through with the game-winning run in the bottom of the inning for a 3-2 win.

In the nightcap, she threw a complete game shutout, scattering four hits in a 2-0 victory.

Richards improved to 4-0 with a 0.00 ERA in SCIAC games this season, including two complete-game shutouts.

Andrew “Doc” Porter (Pendleton) was one of 17 Central Washington University indoor track and field student-athletes to earn United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Region honors for their performance during the season.

Porter, a junior, is part of the men’s 4x400 relay team.

The relay team finished first in a time of 3 minutes, 19.57 seconds at the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Championships on Feb. 16. Porter also was eighth in the 400 meters in a time of 50.45.

Bucks get tough draw in quarterfinals

Pendleton takes on second-ranked Wilsonville on Wednesday

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

Tyler Newsom poured in 41 points on Friday in a win over Parkrose.

Pendleton needed every last one of those points in a 74-73 overtime victory that advanced them to the 5A state quarterfinals at Oregon State University on Wednesday night.

The Bucks had their last practice Monday and headed to Corvallis on Tuesday.

“This group is more than ready,” Pendleton coach Zach Dong said. “We’ve practiced pretty much the entire month of February. We’ve played like three games in the past three or four weeks.”

Newsom again will be called upon this week when Pendleton (17-5) takes on second-ranked Wilsonville (24-2) at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday.

“I don’t think he feels any extra pressure,” Dong said. “There are teams that don’t score 41 points a game. We are pretty blessed to have him on our team.”

The 6-foot-4 Newsom has been the backbone of the Bucks all season, averaging 25 points per game. He said he does what the game brings to him.

“It makes it easy when my teammates get me the ball,” Newsom said. “They are always moving the ball around.”



Pendleton’s Tyler Newsom shoots the ball over Baker’s Gabe Gambleton in the Bucks’ 63-35 win against the Bulldogs on Nov. 28, 2018, at Warburg Court.

The senior guard/post to the tournament after year. Pendleton finished said he is looking forward the Bucks missed out last fourth when Newsom was

a sophomore.

“My sophomore year, I played quite a bit,” Newsom said. “I was the sixth guy off the bench. I’ve told the guys there will be a lot of people there, and that we need to play hard like we did against Parkrose. Everyone was so energized. We do that, we can beat Wilsonville.”

The Wildcats got a big game from senior guard Jack Roche in a first-round win over Crescent Valley, scoring 19 points with 11 assists and five steals. They also got 12 points and eight rebound from 6-6 junior center Dakota Reber.

“There is a lot to be concerned about,” Dong said of Wilsonville.

“They are well-coached, they play hard, they take care of the ball and they don’t make a lot of mistakes. They are a well-rounded team.”

Newsom, for one, is excited about the matchup against Reber.

“He is pretty athletic and plays above the rim,” Newsom said. “He is more of a big man inside.”

Newsom does a fair amount of damage outside the paint, he also likes to mix it up inside.

“Whatever they take away, I will counter,” Newsom said. “I like going inside and getting a lot of rebounds.”

Crater (17-8) and Silverton (23-2) are in the other game on the lower half of the bracket, so the road to the title is not an easy one.

“The next game, whether we win or lose, will be a good one,” Dong said. “We have our work cut out for us.”

SPORTS SHORTS

Mendoza hired as Mets adviser, keeps ESPN job

NEW YORK (AP) — Jessica Mendoza was hired as a baseball operations adviser for the New York Mets on Tuesday while remaining a broadcaster for ESPN’s “Sunday Night Baseball,” part of an increasing number of television commentators who also work for teams.

She will be involved in player evaluation, roster construction, technological advancement and health and

performance, the Mets said.

Mendoza, a member of the U.S. Olympic softball team in 2004 and 2008, did not address any potential conflict of interest — working for a team while simultaneously commenting on all clubs.

In the team statement, Mendoza thanked ESPN and Disney for their “understanding and confidence as I balance both tasks moving forward.”

ESPN spokesman Josh Krulewitz wrote in an email to The Associated Press there are “numerous examples across networks of these type of arrangements where commentators work closely with teams, and we will be fully transparent about Jessica’s relationship with the Mets.”

He added: “We have complete faith in her ability as a leading MLB voice for ESPN.”



AP Photo/File