

Young Warriors lead Golden State past Blazers

By JANIE MCCAULEY
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Rookie forward Eric Paschall hit a key 3-pointer with 4:05 remaining and finished with 36 points and 13 rebounds for his best game yet, leading the injury-plagued Golden State Warriors to a 127-118 victory against Damian Lillard and the Portland Trail Blazers on Monday night for their first home win at last.

Without all their injured stars, the young Warriors more than hung tough — they shined — against a Western Conference contender to

give Golden State its first victory at new Chase Center as Klay Thompson cheered from the sideline. The Warriors hadn't begun 0-5 at home since losing their initial six home games in 1997-98.

Lillard, no longer playing in his hometown of Oakland when he visits the Bay Area, notched his fourth 30-point performance in the first seven games with 39 points on 15-for-26 shooting, including five 3-pointers. Blazers center Hassan Whiteside added 22 points and 11 rebounds after missing one game with a bone bruise in his left knee.

Golden State, which swept Portland in the Western Conference

finals on the way to a fifth straight NBA Finals, led 90-83 early in the fourth quarter before the Blazers fought back.

Paschall's late 3 put the Warriors ahead 107-99. Chants of "M-V-P!" greeted him when he shot free throws with 2:22 left. He also hit a pair of 3-pointers to start the game and made his initial 3 from deep playing on his 23rd birthday. He scored 17 points in the opening period, and Paschall has scored 20 or more in all three games he has started. He had 25 in Golden State's loss to Charlotte on Saturday, becoming the first Warriors rookie with back-to-back games of

25 points since Stephen Curry had five in a row in April 2010, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Fellow rookie Ky Bowman had 19 points and eight assists for the Warriors, who faced their worst start since beginning the 2000-01 season 1-7. But Golden State made five of its first eight shots to take an early 14-9 lead and kept bringing the energy and enthusiasm on both ends. Paschall and Bowman combined to shoot 20 for 33 — 11 of 19 by Paschall. He also made all 10 of his free throws.

With 6:13 to go, Bowman drove to the basket and scored, then tangled with Whiteside, who pushed

off with an elbow. Officials went to replay and issued Whiteside a technical.

CJ McCollum had 14 points and six assists for the Blazers, whose previous four games were decided by a total of nine points, including a 129-109 home loss to the 76ers on Saturday.

Warriors coach Steve Kerr knew the terrific backcourt tandem of Lillard and McCollum provided a tough matchup.

"They're really tough to guard even for a veteran team. For a young group, we're probably going to learn some lessons tonight," Kerr said.

Eagles halt Echo's state run



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Echo's Elliot Glenn (21) dives for a low-flying ball during the first set against the Damascus Christian Eagles. The Eagles defeated the Echo Cougars in three sets Saturday night in Echo.

Damascus Christian takes down Echo in three in second round of 1A state volleyball

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

ECHO — Although the Echo Cougars took a trip to the first round of state last year, the pressure the second time around was even greater.

The Cougars, who swept two back-to-back home matches to claim the Big Sky League championship, had a bye for the first round before hosting Saturday's second round of the 1A state volleyball playoffs, where they were set to face the Valley 10 League's second-ranked Damascus Christian Eagles, who had

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Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Echo's Morgan Hendrix (10) hits the ball during the first set against the Damascus Christian Eagles. The Eagles defeated the Echo Cougars in three sets Saturday night in Echo.

Dawgs second at state softball tourney

Hermiston drops title game to Mt. Spokane 6-4

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

YAKIMA, Wash. — Hermiston cruised through the first two rounds at the 3A/2A state slow pitch softball tournament, but in Saturday's championship game,

the Bulldogs ran into a team bent on revenge.

Mt. Spokane, which lost to Hermiston in the MCC/GSL/GNL district title game the week before, handed the Bulldogs a 6-4 loss to claim the title at Gateway Sports Complex.

Andrea Scott, Katie McKinnis and Emma Jay had two hits and an RBI apiece as the Wildcats (21-2) ended the Bulldogs' 18-game win streak.

The Wildcats took a 2-0 lead in

the bottom of the first inning, and the Bulldogs got one run back in the top of the fourth.

Mt. Spokane put three runs on the board in the fifth, and Hermiston matched it in the top of the sixth, but still trailed 5-4.

Mt. Spokane scored an insurance run in the bottom of the sixth, then held Hermiston scoreless in the seventh to escape with the win.

Janelle Almaguer and Bailee Noland each had two hits for Hermiston, while Grace Studer

and Hailey South hit doubles and Eliza Rodriguez a triple. Noland also scored twice and drove in a run.

The Bulldogs outit the Wildcats 10-9, but also committed three errors.

Abby Findley took the loss in the circle.

Hermiston (18-3) started the 3A/2A state tournament Friday with a 26-2 victory over Prairie, then topped Washougal 10-0 to reach the championship game.

PREP ROUNDUP

TigerScots sweep first round at state tournament

East Oregonian

COQUILLE — The Weston-McEwen TigerScots breezed through the first round of the 2A state volleyball tournament, taking down the Coquille Red Devils in three sets Saturday afternoon.

The Blue Mountain Conference's fourth-ranked TigerScots swept the Sunset Conference's league champions 25-9, 25-21, 25-18 to punch their ticket to the second round, which will be held Friday and Saturday at Redmond High School.

The TigerScots (18-11) will open play at 6 p.m. against Central Linn (20-3).

"They played excellent team-wide," Weston-McEwen coach Shawn White said. "Coquille had the home court. There was a big crowd. It was loud. But our girls came in and played outstanding. They really took it to 'em."

Ellie Scheibner posted 19 assists, 13 digs, six blocks, and went 13-for-13 at the service line for the TigerScots. Charli King had 11 assists, nine digs, and served 16-for-16. Trinity Hearn drove the offense with 11 kills, and Cloe Davis had 10. Kedra Zink recorded a team-high 17 digs and added seven kills, while Emma Olson went 13-for-13 at the line with a pair of aces.

Volleyball

VERNONIA 3, STANFIELD 0

— Stanfield's state run came to an early end as the Tigers fell to the Northwest League's Vernonia Loggers (21-7) in the first round of the 2A state volleyball tournament Saturday.

The Blue Mountain Conference's No. 2 Tigers (19-9) hung close to open the match with a 25-20 first-set loss, but dropped the final two sets 25-10 and 25-16.

"We actually started off pretty well and took the lead in the first set," Stanfield coach Blaine Ganvoa said. "The turning points was midway though the set and we had a serve receive breakdown. There was no time to recover. Unfortunately, we carried that over to the second set."

Brooke Howland and Zuri Reeser each had eight kills for the Tigers, and combined for 27 digs. Savannah Sharp added 12 digs and 12 assists, while Brielle Howland had 10 assists, Alexis Shelby eight blocks and Kendra Hart three kills.

"They were disappointed, but I think they realize a lot of good teams stayed home," Ganvoa said.

The Tigers lose just four seniors, and return a wealth of talent for next season.

"That is what the girls see," Ganvoa said. "We had some good senior leadership, but we have some younger players coming up in the system."

In four trips to state (including 1978, 1988, 1990), the Tigers have never won a match.

NORTH EUGENE 3, PENDLETON 0

— The Buckaroos' volleyball season came to a three-set finish Saturday afternoon after the Midwestern League's second-ranked North Eugene Highlanders took them down in the first round of the 5A state playoffs.

Pendleton (10-9) fell in sets of 25-20, 25-10, 25-16 to the host Highlanders (16-5).