

Timberwolves sweep Knights to end season

Blue Mountain knocks down three-set win over visiting Wenatchee Valley on sophomore night

By BRETT KANE
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Timberwolves could not have asked for a better way to end what they would otherwise describe as a “rough” volleyball season.

Blue Mountain (9-22, 4-12 NWAC) ended Northwest Athletic Conference play on Wednesday night with a three-set sweep of the visiting Wenatchee Valley Knights, 25-20, 25-10, and 25-13. The season-ending victory capped off sophomore night, which honored Keeley Morrison, Mariah Moulton, Emily Beebe, and Abigail Ives in their last appearance on the court as Timberwolves.

“With how rough our season went, we all came together and ended it well,” said Morrison, a middle blocker from Medical Lake, Washington. “All of our hearts and heads were together in it. We all knew we needed to come in and get the win for us sophomores, and to leave a lasting legacy on the freshmen to carry on into next year.”

The first set saw the score tie four times before the Timberwolves broke away with a four-point rally and a 10-6 lead. The Knights could only come within three points of tying again before freshman middle blocker Kiara Brandvold spiked a kill that brought them within two.

But the Timberwolves remained out front, and freshman right side hitter Amanda Kvamme posted a kill that broadened their advantage to five points at 24-19, and another to take the set.

“The last time we played (Wenatchee Valley), we struggled with our serve receives,” Blue Mountain head coach Ceanna Larson said. “Tonight, we focused on that, and keeping the ball in play. Overall, the girls did really well.”

Morrison forced an error on the Knights to open the second set and sparked a nine-point streak before Wenatchee Valley got on the board. The Timberwolves would go on to take four 10-point leads, and Kvamme notched another kill that helped them to



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
BMCC's Keeley Morrison (5) smashes the ball past Kourtney Collins, of Wenatchee Valley College, during Wednesday's Northwest Athletic Conference game in Pendleton.

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Siakam, VanVleet lead Raptors past Trail Blazers 114-106

By ERIK GARCÍA
GUNDERSEN
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Pascal Siakam scored 36 points, Fred VanVleet had 30 and Toronto Raptors beat the Portland Trail Blazers 114-106 on Wednesday night.

Siakam scored 13 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter to help close out the Trail Blazers and help Toronto bounce back from Monday night's loss to the L.A. Clippers.

Rodney Hood led the Blazers with 25 points.

Damian Lillard, who entered Wednesday trailing only James Harden in points per game, had his worst outing of the season, being held to just nine points. Lillard had 2-of-12 shooting from the field and was 2 of 7 from 3-point range. He did dish 10 assists.

Hood stood up to the Raptors' challenge, returning from a two-game absence with back spasms.

But the Raptors attacked in waves, with Siakam scoring seven straight points to close the quarter and give

the Raptors an 87-78 lead heading into the fourth.

The Raptors also got solid bench contributions from Rondae Hollis-Jefferson (16 points, 11 rebounds) and Terence Davis (15 points).

The Blazers went on an 11-2 run to start the fourth quarter, tying the game at 89 with 9:06 left as Lillard watched from the bench.

Nassir Little made his first NBA start against the defending champs. Little drew the job of guarding Siakam.

After Raptors head

coach Nick Nurse drew a technical foul for complaining to the officials after Portland's first run, his team responded with improved play.

Meanwhile on Portland's side, Hassan Whiteside led the team with 10 first-half points and a number of teammates contributed baskets.

A dunk by Hollis-Jefferson with 5:29 left gave the Raptors a 101-94 lead. Hollis-Jefferson's hustle gave the Raptors another bucket

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AP Photo/Craig Mitchell/Dyer
Portland Trail Blazers forward Skal Labissiere, center, dribbles around Toronto Raptors forward Chris Boucher, right, during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Portland on Wednesday.

SPORTS SHORTS

Woman says Denver arena guard told her to remove hijab

DENVER (AP) — A Muslim civil rights group is protesting after a Colorado arena security guard told a woman to remove her hijab before she could enter to see her 8-year-old daughter sing the national anthem with her school choir at a Denver Nuggets basketball game.

Gazella Bensreiti (ben-SRAY-

tee) said Wednesday that the guard told her to “take that thing off of my head” at the Pepsi Center box office on Nov. 5.

Bensreiti said she explained the scarf was for religious purposes. She said the guard replied that she didn't care.

After speaking with a supervi-

sor, the guard ushered her inside.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations protested the incident.

Arena owner Kroenke Sports & Entertainment called the encounter a misunderstanding and said the guard didn't recognize that Bensreiti was wearing a hijab.



Gazella Bensreiti speaks during a news conference in Denver on Wednesday.

AP Photo/Thomas Peipert