

Sports

OREGON, OREGON STATE MEN’S BASKETBALL SEASON OPENERS

Pritchard, Ducks run past Vikings

EUGENE (AP) — Oregon’s first game drew mixed reviews from coach Dana Altman.

The performances by returning starters Payton Pritchard and Paul White were right on cue, but the rest of the Ducks showed some rough spots that need work, especially under the boards.

Pritchard scored 22 points while White added 15 and No. 14 Oregon opened its season by routing Portland State 84-57 victory Tuesday night.

“We took a step in the right direction,” Altman said. “It just wasn’t smooth the way we like.

“We’re going to have to get a lot more physical in everything we do. Our bigs weren’t creating space, and we’re going to face a lot more physical teams than this one was.”

Pritchard, the only player remaining from the Ducks’ 2017 Final Four team, had 18 points by halftime as Oregon

led 45-29. He missed only one of his seven shots from the field and was 9-for-9 from the free throw line.

The Ducks (1-0) broke open a back-and-forth contest with a 12-0 run late in the opening half and didn’t allow the Vikings (0-1) to get closer than 11 points after that.

Oregon’s five-star freshman center, 7-foot-2 Bol Bol, struggled with foul trouble early in his debut but finished with 12 points and 12 rebounds in 23 minutes.

“He’s going to have to get used to guys coming after him,” Altman said. “Guys are getting into his legs and moving him out of there, and he’s going to have to learn to be more physical.”

Freshman Francis Okoro had 10 points off the bench for the Ducks.

Holland Woods led the Vikings with 13 points and Jaime Orme added 11.

The Ducks shot 61.5

percent in the first half (16 of 26) and 54.0 percent overall (27 of 50), including 4 of 7 from 3-point range. Oregon averaged more than 25 attempts from beyond the arc last season.

Portland State was just 5 of 35 on 3-pointers and shot 28.8 percent overall (21 of 73). The Vikings won the rebounding battle 41-38, and they forced the Ducks into 14 turnovers, including five by Pritchard, whose relentless penetration helped to create 42 points in the paint.

“We’ve got a lot to do in a lot of areas,” Altman said.

BIG PICTURE

Oregon will continue to blend its five primary returners with six newcomers, including the five freshmen who comprise the nation’s No. 3 recruiting class. Another five-star signee, 6-9 Louis King, isn’t expected to be available until December

as he recovers from a knee injury.

Portland State will go as far as Woods, the 2018 Big Sky freshman of the year, can take the Vikings under second-year coach Barret Peery.

HIGHLIGHT REEL

Bol soared for what looked to be a monster two-handed dunk that instead was turned back by Portland State’s 6-8 Sal Nuhu at the rim midway through the first half, though Bol finished the possession with a dunk from the other side. Bol returned the favor by blocking Nuhu’s dunk attempt two minutes later.

UP NEXT

Oregon hosts another Big Sky team, Eastern Washington, on Friday night before heading to New York City to face Iowa and either UConn or Syracuse next weekend at the 2K Empire Classic.

Beavers rally to roll over UC-Riverside

By Anne M. Peterson
AP Sports Writer

CORVALLIS — Oregon State fell behind UC Riverside in the second half of their season opener, but a full-court press and a couple of turnovers put the Beavers quickly back in control.

“We know what we’re capable of doing when we’re fired up,” Tres Tinkle said. “In our closed scrimmage, our exhibition game and even in practice, we know when we kind of turn up a notch everybody gets even more focused, energy comes up. We just needed a spark, so that was the main reason for that. When you press and trap, you’re flying around, so it’s a quick way to get us going, get our motors going, get everyone locked in.”

Tinkle had 19 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, and the Oregon State Beavers won their season opener 72-59 over UC Riverside on Tuesday night.

Ethan Thompson added 19 points and

older brother Stephen Thompson Jr. had 18 more for the Beavers, who came out sluggish in the second half but rallied to lead by as many as 17. Oregon State improved to 5-0 in season openers under coach Wayne Tinkle.

The Beavers’ victory spoiled David Patrick’s debut as head coach for UC Riverside. Patrick was an assistant at TCU the past two seasons.

Dikymbe Martin led the Highlanders with 20 points. Martin, one of six returning Riverside players, averaged 13.5 points, 3.6 rebounds and 2.8 assists last season. The Highlanders went 9-22 overall last season and 4-12 in the Big West.

“The main thing I stressed was playing hard and not giving up, and I think they did that tonight,” Patrick said.

Oregon State returned all of its key players except Drew Eubanks, who is currently on a two-way contract with

the San Antonio Spurs. Senior Gligorije Rakocovic started in his spot against the Highlanders.

The Beavers finished 16-16 last season, 7-11 in conference play. Tres Tinkle, the coach’s son, is the conference’s top returning scorer with an average of 17.6 points per game. He also averaged 7.2 rebounds.

The Beavers used a 9-0 run to take an early 13-3 lead. Stephen Thompson’s jumper in the paint put Oregon State ahead 23-13. But the Highlanders went on a 14-5 run to narrow the Beavers’ lead to 28-27 at the half. Martin led all scorers with 13 points.

Martin’s jumper early in the second half gave Riverside a 32-31 lead. But the Highlanders couldn’t separate themselves much and the Beavers responded with a 14-0 run to go up 47-35 on Stephen Thompson’s consecutive 3-pointers.

Huskies overcome sluggish start to win opener

SEATTLE (AP) — Washington coach Mike Hopkins described it as being in the “sandpit.” The Huskies were at home, ranked to start the season for the first time in seven years, facing expectations and the anticipation of what they actually looked like. And they immediately proceeded to play an ugly, inconsistent first half and face

a nine-point deficit.

“Down nine at home, pressure is on, everyone wants to see the team,” Hopkins said. “And these guys showed a lot of poise, a lot of resiliency. They stayed together.”

Noah Dickerson scored 16 of his 18 points in the second half, Jaylen Nowell added 17, and No. 25 Washington rallied from a nine-point halftime

deficit to beat Western Kentucky 73-55 on Tuesday night.

Ranked in the preseason for the first time since 2011, the Huskies (1-0) slogged through an ugly first half of foul trouble and poor shooting, and leaned heavily on Dickerson to put away the Hilltoppers in the second half. Limited to just six minutes in the first half after picking

up three fouls, Dickerson put together his own eight-point scoring spurt midway through the second half as the Huskies finally started to pull away.

McCollum scores 40 to lead Blazers past Milwaukee

By Erik Garcia Gundersen
Associated Press

PORTLAND — In search of his jump shot, CJ McCollum watched every single 3-pointer he took last season looking for what he lost.

Fortunately for the Portland Trail Blazers, he found it.

McCollum scored 40 points and Portland beat Milwaukee 118-103 on Tuesday night to hand the Bucks their second loss in 10 games this season.

“Whether I play well or not, I know how much time I spend preparing,” McCollum said. “The only thing I saw was I had a lot of in-and-outs and I was shooting with a dead wrist. That was the only thing I noticed. I wasn’t locking my wrist out, so I just tried to lock my wrist out.”

The result was a dazzling performance against one of the NBA’s best teams early this season.

“A lot of credit to CJ. He had a heck of a night,” Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. “Any time we made a bit of a run or felt like the momentum might be changing, McCollum hit a big shot.”

McCollum, who entered shooting well below his career averages, went 17 for 26 from the field and added six assists.

“It was tough,” Milwaukee big man Brook Lopez said. “He made some huge plays and some tough shots that definitely were contested.”

Evan Turner had 16 points and 11 rebounds off the bench for the Blazers (8-3).

Giannis Antetokounmpo led the Bucks with 23 points and nine rebounds. Lopez shot 6 for 10 from 3-point range and finished with 22 points.

In the third quarter, McCollum put on a show. He scored 19 points and made Bucks rookie guard Donte DiVincenzo fall down on a crossover move before hitting a basket, sending the crowd into a frenzy.

“Welcome to the league,” Blazers center Jusuf Nurkic said. “It can be hard some nights. Put some ice and you’ll be fine.”

Portland led by 14 after three.

Play began at a fast pace that carried on throughout in a meeting between two of the top five offenses in the NBA. With only 16 foul shots combined, the game took less than two hours.

Portland outscored the Bucks 33-31 in the first quarter as both teams shot better than 50 percent from the floor and the 3-point line.

OREGON WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Ducks hot in Alaska

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) — Sabrina Ionescu did what she does and Satou Sabally had a big game for No. 3 Oregon but junior Ruthy Hebard stole the show.

Ionescu picked up her 11th triple-double, Sabally scored 23 points and Oregon opened the season with a 115-36 win over Alaska on Tuesday night.

Hebard, playing before her hometown fans, had 15 points despite being under the weather and was mobbed after the game.

“I wish she could have been healthy, but I’m proud of her,” Oregon coach Kelly Graves said.

More than 1,600 fans lined up in 5-degree weather to get into the game.

“It was crazy to pull up and see everybody waiting outside already,” Hebard said. “I was glad to see old teachers, old coaches, everybody. It was nice.”

Despite feeling bad, she wasn’t going to miss the game. “I woke up, I didn’t feel good, but I was like, ‘OK, everyone’s coming,’” she said. “I’m getting texts all day. So I’m gonna try and battle through it.”

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6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15 per person

Hors d’oeuvres, No–host Bar,
Silent Auction

Gala

Friday, November 30, 2018
5:30 p.m.—11:00 p.m.

Cocktails 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$60 per person

Buffet Sit Down Dinner, No–host Bar,
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Dance to live music of the “High Street Band” following the auction!

Tickets Available at Betty’s Books, The Sycamore Tree and
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Family Day

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10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Admission: Canned food or unwrapped toy

Events are held at the
Baker County Event
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