

# Sports

## Lillard scores 40 as Blazers win

By Rich Dubroff  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Portland coach Terry Stotts was so pleased by a seven-pass possession capped by a 25-foot jumper by Jake Layman in the first quarter that he replayed the sequence at halftime.

"There's not a basketball person out there that wouldn't appreciate — and then you've got to make the shot with the shot clock run down," Stotts said. "But that's, that was pretty."

Damian Lillard scored 40 points, C.J. McCullom added 25 and Portland led the entire way, beating the Washington Wizards 119-109 on Sunday.

"That's perfect Blazer basketball. We need more possessions like that," Lillard said of the Layman shot that gave Portland a 17-point lead.

Jusuf Nurkic had 13 points, 14 rebounds and matched his career high with eight assists for Portland.

The Trail Blazers, coming off a 112-96 loss at Minnesota on Friday, snapped a two-game losing streak.

## Timberwolves' defense stifles Trail Blazers

MINNEAPOLIS — Kevin Garnett showed up courtside, and that wasn't the only surprise in Minnesota on Friday night.

In their first week without erstwhile defensive stalwart Jimmy Butler, the new-look Timberwolves locked down one of the Western Conference's top teams.

Andrew Wiggins scored 23 points, Derrick Rose had 17 and the Wolves won their third straight game since trading Butler by beating the Portland Trail Blazers 112-96 on Friday night.

Wearing a new purple-and-black alternate jersey on a Prince-themed night, Garnett got the crowd going when the video board showed him sitting below the basket. Then the home team kept them cheering with a defensive effort that would've made the Wolves icon — a ferocious defender in his prime — proud.

"It was great to see him," Karl-Anthony Towns said. "It was a long conversation with me and him to get him to come. So I'm happy he came and we played really well as a team."

"All he wants to do is see Minnesota succeed, so I'm just happy we gave him something to cheer about."

The Wolves entered the game allowing opposing teams to score an average of 116.2 points per game. They held the Blazers — who were averaging 115.9 per game — to their season low.

Towns and Robert Covington each had 14 points for the Wolves, who are 7-1 at home and 3-0 since trading the disgruntled Butler to Philadelphia on Monday.

Rose cautioned against reading too much into the success.

"We're still trying to figure things out," he said. "It's always great to go 3-0, and we're just trying to keep it going, taking it one game at a time."

The Timberwolves' lineup had a balanced night, with all five starters scoring in double figures.

It was a stark difference from the last time the teams met nearly two weeks ago, when the Blazers held Minnesota to 81 points — the lowest point total in the NBA this season. The Wolves were without Butler, Jeff Teague and Rose for that game.

"I just think they have a new feel, a new lease on life in a sense," Evan Turner said. "Anytime you get a trade and things like that, they feel good. They played well."

— Andres Ybarra, Associated Press

### PAC-12 FOOTBALL

## Kelly, Bruins run past USC

By Joe Reedy  
AP Sports Writer

PASADENA, Calif. — Joshua Kelley has been watching the UCLA-USC rivalry since he was 8 years old. On Saturday, he cemented his legacy in the Crosstown Showdown's history.

The junior running back rushed for 289 yards on 40 carries and scored two touchdowns to lead the Bruins to a 34-27 victory over the Trojans at the Rose Bowl.

It is the third-most rushing yards in a game in UCLA history and the most by a Bruins back against the Trojans. Gaston Green had the previous mark with 224 yards on 39 carries in 1986.

"It was crazy and finally I was out there and wanted to embrace every single moment of it," said Kelley, who transferred from UC Davis. "It was a crazy experience. I sure enjoyed it and our team did too."

Kelley's 55-yard touchdown up the left sideline on an outside zone play with 10:39 remaining gave the Bruins a 28-27 lead. JJ Molson then added a pair of field goals to extend the margin for UCLA (3-8, 3-5 Pac-12).

Kelley was surprised by the number of carries he had but UCLA coach Chip Kelly did not mind giving his back a heavy workload.

"I wish he had carried it 100 (times) to be honest with you," Kelly said.

USC (5-6, 4-5) mounted one final drive and got to the UCLA 29 but JT Daniels' fourth-down pass was incomplete with 32 seconds remaining.

"Coming into the game, we had a lot of respect for Joshua. He's a very physical back and a very good runner," Trojans coach Clay Helton said. "I thought they did a nice job tonight of being able to get the ball outside on the perimeter and bouncing the ball outside."

Wilton Speight completed 13 of 22 passes for 166 yards and a touchdown for UCLA.

### NASCAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE

## Underdog Logano outduels 'Big Three' to claim NASCAR title

By Jenna Fryer  
AP Auto Racing Writer

HOMESTEAD, Fla. — Joey Logano was the underdog in NASCAR's title race, the driver few thought capable of keeping pace with the Big Three and stealing the title from one of the favorites.

Logano proved everyone wrong with an upset victory in a season in which he only became a true contender once his Team Penske group started the postseason. He blazed his way through the playoffs and closed out his improbable run Sunday with a win at Homestead-Miami Speedway that seized his first NASCAR title.

"It's been so hard and such a long road to get here and been so close

and had that feeling of defeat, and man, it stings," Logano said. "But I felt so confident going into this week that we were the car to beat. My race team, I wasn't worried about them at all, and I knew I just had to do my job and everyone was going to do their job and everything was going to be fine."

Logano soundly defeated Kyle Busch, Kevin Harvick and reigning series champion Martin Truex Jr., in a finale Logano had dubbed "the Big Three and me."

He won the title with two victories and eight top-10 finishes in the postseason. At Homestead, where it was winner-take-all, Logano led a race-high 80 laps but needed a late caution for one final shot to win the

race. It came when teammate Brad Keselowski spun Busch teammate Daniel Suarez for a race-changing caution.

Logano was fourth on the restart with 15 laps remaining but powered his way alongside leader Truex, used a strong move in the outside lane three laps later to take over the top spot. Logano pulled away from there and won for Penske.

"We were the favorite. We executed down the stretch like nobody's business," Logano said. "I knew we had a short-run car. I said it before the race started that if it was anything longer than 25 laps we were going to be in trouble. That showed all day. But it came down to

of drivers to have 20-plus top-fives in a season since Cale Yarborough, Richard Petty and Benny Parsons in 1997.

Truex said goodbye to his championship hopes and farewell to Furniture Row Racing.

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## SCOREBOARD

AMERICAN CONFERENCE				
East Division				
W	L	T	Pct	
New England	7	3	0	.700
Miami	5	5	0	.500
Buffalo	3	7	0	.300
N.Y. Jets	3	7	0	.300

NATIONAL CONFERENCE				
East				
W	L	T	Pct	
Washington	6	4	0	.600
Dallas	5	5	0	.500
Philadelphia	4	6	0	.400
N.Y. Giants	3	7	0	.300

Sunday's Games			
W	L	T	Pct
Dallas	22	Atlanta	19
Indianapolis	38	Tennessee	10
Detroit	20	Carolina	19
N.Y. Giants	38	Tampa Bay	35
Baltimore	24	Cincinnati	21
Houston	23	Washington	21
Pittsburgh	20	Jacksonville	16
Oakland	23	Arizona	21
Denver	23	L.A. Chargers	22
New Orleans	48	Philadelphia	7
Chicago	25	Minnesota	20

Today's Game AllTimes PST				
W	L	T	Pct	
Chicago	7	3	0	.700
Minnesota	5	4	1	.550
Green Bay	4	5	1	.450
Detroit	4	6	0	.400

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	13	4	.765	—
Philadelphia	11	7	.611	2½
Boston	9	7	.563	3½
Brooklyn	7	10	.412	6
New York	4	13	.235	9

Sunday's Games			
W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	100	Minnesota	87
L.A. Lakers	113	Miami	97
Orlando	131	New York	117
Portland	119	Washington	109
San Antonio	104	Golden State	92

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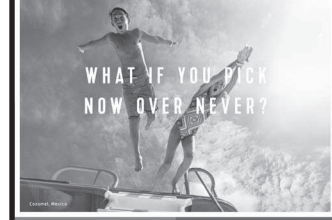
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WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Memphis	10	5	.667	—
New Orleans	9	7	.563	1½
San Antonio	8	7	.533	2
Houston	8	7	.533	2
Dallas	7	8	.467	3

Northwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Portland	11	5	.688	—
Oklahoma City	10	5	.667	½
Denver	10	6	.625	1
Utah	8	8	.500	3
Minnesota	7	10	.412	4½

Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Golden State	12	6	.667	—
L.A. Clippers	10	5	.667	½
L.A. Lakers	9	7	.563	2
Sacramento	8	8	.500	3
Phoenix	3	12	.200	7½

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