

OREGON STATE, OREGON IN NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Beavers upset Oklahoma State

By Cliff Brunt
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Oregon State embraced the role of the Hickory Huskers — results and all.

Hours before their second-round NCAA Tournament game against Oklahoma State, the Beavers' basketball Twitter account posted a video of center Roman Silva carrying guard Gianni Hunt to the basket on his shoulders to measure the rim's height.

It recreated a scene from the 1986 movie "Hoosiers," in which small-town Hickory's coach tried to help his team relax about playing at massive Butler Fieldhouse. Hickory went on to win that fictional state title. On Sunday, March 21, the building now known as Hinkle Fieldhouse was the site of a real-life underdog story.

Ethan Thompson scored 26 points and No. 12 seed Oregon State neutralized Oklahoma State and star freshman Cade Cunningham, rolling to an 80-70 upset.

Oregon State (19-12) was picked to finish last in the



Paul Sancya/Associated Press

Oregon State forward Warith Alatishe (10) shoots on Oklahoma State forward Matthew-Alexander Moncrieffe (12) during the second half Sunday, March 21.

Pac-12 and had to win the conference tournament just to make the NCAA field. The Beavers pulled that off, then cruised past No. 5 seed Tennessee in the first round. They became the third double-digit seed to reach this year's Sweet 16, joining 15 seed Oral Roberts and Syracuse, an 11.

"We've always had that confidence," Thompson said. "But it kind of took us — we had to go to take a further step and kind of believe in

ourselves and trust in each other. And as you can see, these wins that we've been having have been great team efforts."

Maurice Calloo, who transferred from Oklahoma State, scored 15 points and Jarod Lucas also had 15 for the Beavers, who advanced to play eighth-seeded Loyola Chicago in a Midwest Region Sweet 16 matchup that few could have predicted. Loyola overmatched No. 1 seed Illinois earlier Sunday.

Cunningham, a first-team All-American and possible top NBA draft pick, scored 24 points for Oklahoma State (21-9), but the fourth-seeded Cowboys rushed shots down the stretch and at times failed to get him the ball.

Cunningham is prepared to move on to the NBA.

"It's been special," Cunningham said. "I think that's the best way to describe it. I think the biggest thing is I surrounded myself around great people, more than anything that's the thing I'm most proud of. That's the thing, I feel like I've grown up the most by being around good people who pushed me to be somebody good on the court and off the court. I'm going to miss it, for sure."

Avery Anderson scored 16 points and Keylan Boone added 13 for Oklahoma State in a game that was delayed for 20 minutes at the start by a power outage.

Oregon State went ahead 26-15 after an early 22-6 run.

A 3-pointer by Lucas rolled out, then in to give the Beavers a 32-19 edge.

Ducks soar past 2nd-seed Iowa

By John Marshall
AP Basketball Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Chris Duarte scored 23 points and Oregon showed no signs of rust after a long layoff, beating No. 2 seed Iowa 95-80 on Monday, March 22 to reach the Sweet 16 for the fourth time in the past five NCAA Tournaments.

The seventh-seed Ducks (21-6) were put in an unprecedented spot, advancing to the West Region's second round without playing a game. Virginia Commonwealth's multiple positive COVID-19 tests took care of that, leaving Oregon with a nine-day break since losing in the Pac-12 tournament.

Oregon's offense hummed like it was fresh off the line once the ball went up, kicking off the NCAA Tournament's first Monday of second-round games with a masterpiece.

The Ducks flowed on the floor and glowed on the scoresheet, shooting 56% and hitting 11 3-pointers. LJ Figueroa hit five 3s while scoring 21 points and Will Richardson added 19 points in an offensive domination.

Their sweet offensive movements left the Hawkeyes (22-9) flailing, one game short of the Sweet 16 for the fourth time under Fran McCaffrey.

Luka Garza played like a two-time All-American, bullying in for three-point plays, hitting mid-range jumpers and dropping in the occasional 3. He capped his stellar college career with 36 points.

Oregon earned a No. 7 seed in Indianapolis and faced what was expected to be a difficult opener against VCU and its Havoc defense. But the Ducks learned during their pregame meal that they would advance without playing a game, leaving them with a huge break before facing the No. 2 team in the region.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

OSU rolls past Florida St.

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Aleah Goodman scored 24 points with five rebounds, five assists and zero turnovers, Taylor Jones added 18 points and eight boards, and No. 8-seed Oregon State beat ninth-seeded Florida State 83-59 on Sunday in the opening round of the women's NCAA Tournament.

Oregon State (12-7) advances to play the top seed in the Hemisfair Region, South Carolina, while Florida State (10-9) is exiting after the first round for the first time in its last 17 appearances.

Oregon State scored 20 of the first 26 points of the second quarter, including an 11-0 run, to take the first double-digit lead of the game after a 16-all first. Goodman scored seven of her 14 first-half points during the

spurt. Goodman also had four rebounds and three assists and Jones added 11 points with seven rebounds as Oregon State built a 41-27 lead.

"I'm just so proud of this team, especially after the first quarter, I feel like we kind of had a little bit of a feel-out quarter, and then we just came out in the second quarter we really locked down," Goodman said. "The defense, especially I think through quarters, two, three and four were just special. That's really something we've been harping on."

Oregon State opened a 20-point lead midway through the third quarter as Florida State made only one of its first six shots following halftime. Goodman only played four minutes in the fourth and Jones three.

Mavericks rout Blazers

By Erik Garcia Gundersen
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Luka Doncic scored 37 points in three quarters, leading the Dallas Mavericks to a 132-92 rout of the Portland Trail Blazers on Sunday night, March 21.

Doncic made his first eight 3-point shots and finished with 8-for-9 shooting from long distance. Overall, he shot 13 of 19 from the field and added seven rebounds and four assists.

Josh Richardson scored 21 points, DorianFinney-Smith added 13 and Kristaps Porzingis 12 for the Mavericks.

"We shifted our concentration onto our defensive game plan, our offensive gameplay and unconditionally helping each other out there and turning the

attention away from the officials," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. "This is part of the growth process for a young team. Some things that this team simply has to go through. This was a source of growth tonight and we just want to keep working to improve every single day."

Damian Lillard led Portland with 19 points, and Gary Trent Jr. added 16. CJ McCollum finished with 13.

"Anytime me, CJ (McCollum) and (Carmelo Anthony) go 0 for 16 from 3, we're not going to have much of a chance," Lillard said.

The Mavericks made 19 3-pointers. Portland was unable to keep pace as the Trail Blazers shot 20% from the 3-point arc and made only nine shots from long distance.

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