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SPORTS

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Jordan Spieth of the U.S. hits his second shot on the 14th hole during the second round of the Australian Open Golf tournament in Sydney, Friday, Nov. 24, 2017.

(AP Photo/Rick Rycroft)

Spieth falls further from the lead at the Australian Open

SYDNEY (AP) — Defending champion Jordan Spieth failed to take advantage of ideal scoring conditions at the Australian Open on Friday, shooting an even-par 71 to fall further behind the leaders.

After an opening 70, he was at 1-under 141 and eight strokes behind clubhouse leader Lucas Herbert, who shot 66 on Friday and was at 9-under 133. Spieth trailed by seven strokes after the opening round.

First-round leader Cameron Davis, who led by two strokes after a 63, had an afternoon start, as did Jason Day, who trailed Davis by three shots.

Spieth, who hasn't played since the Presidents Cup in late September, has won the Australian Open two out of the last three years and finished second the other time.

At least his morning start Saturday means he will avoid the windy conditions that the leading groups will have to con-

tend with at The Australian in the afternoon.

And that left him optimistic of a comeback. In 2014, he shot a then course-record 63 at The Australian Golf Club to win his first Australian title by six shots.

"I feel like you can make up more ground and come from behind here over I think any tournament I've played this entire year," Spieth said. "The golf course will start to bake out and you get really calm conditions in the morning that leave the windier conditions for the afternoon, so I'll have a pretty gettable golf course. If I can post something like 5, 6-under, then I'm very much in this tournament."

Spieth said the seven-week layoff was the longest he's had since his college days and that he felt rusty and nervous at times during his first round which featured five bogeys in windy conditions.

The wind began to pick up

late in Spieth's round Friday, as did his frustration level at times. On the par-4 sixth — his 15th of the day — his drive traveled well over 300 meters, so far that it reached a spectator crossing area that officials obviously felt was far enough from the tee.

Spieth took a drop from it, but his approach to the green failed to spin back, leaving him a putt of at least 20 feet. He missed his birdie attempt.

"It's just been the short game rust that's kind of hurt me a bit the last couple of days that prevents me from being 5 or so under," Spieth said.

At least he birdied the ninth — his last hole Friday. Finishing on even-par would have left him just one stroke away from the projected cut, which could have changed based on afternoon scoring.

"That was only my second one-putt of the day," Spieth said. "The other was for par."

Gatland: All Blacks are not vulnerable

CARDIFF, Wales (AP) — Warren Gatland, the former New Zealand hooker who coaches Wales, doesn't believe the All Blacks are ever vulnerable.

The flatterer also said this week they could put out a fourth, fifth, sixth-best side and still beat most other teams.

Gatland was purring because he didn't want to rile up New Zealand before their rugby test in Cardiff on Saturday.

Wales has lost 29 successive tests to New Zealand, including 10 on Gatland's watch.

But if he had said they were vulnerable, nobody could argue with him.

Since beating South Africa 57-0 in mid-September, when some observers believed the All Blacks were occupying another universe, the team has come back to earth.

- In the return match in Cape Town, New Zealand trailed by two with 10 to go, but prevailed 25-24 with a late clinching Lima Sopoaga penalty.

- Australia in Brisbane ended a two-year losing drought to the All Blacks.

- France rallied from 31-5 down at halftime to 31-18 and lost the momentum after a try was disallowed.

- And lastly, Scotland outplayed the All Blacks for long periods last weekend but failed when it mattered most.

The All Blacks have been vulnerable, and lost two tests this year for the first time since 2011. But even in the face of yellow cards, penalties, and a welter of handling errors, the All Blacks have still proved tough to take out. Newcomers have had an immediate effect, even when teamwork has taken time to gel.

That's been the positive for coach Steve Hansen.

"I thought 2016 would be a tough year (after the post-Rugby World Cup retirements) but we got through it pretty well and unscathed from an adversity point of view, apart from Chicago," Hansen said.

"But this year we've had to work hard and it's been good for us. It's put us in places mentally

where we've got to go inside ourselves and find the strength and the courage to get the job done, and by and large we've done that. It's been a good year for the team because we've had to grow."

Wales forwards Ken Owens, Alun Wyn Jones, and Taulupe Faletau and scrumhalf Rhys Webb joined an exclusive club of Welshmen to have beaten New Zealand when they were part of the British and Irish Lions who won the second test in June in Wellington.

What Owens took away from that tour was not just belief but also keys to victory: The need to put New Zealand under sustained pressure, stay intense, win the collisions, bring line speed in defense, and keep it going for all 80 minutes.

"They never feel they can be beaten," Owens mused.

"Even when they are under a bit of pressure, they do find ways out and ways of winning the game when they are perhaps not at their best. If you look at the Scotland game they were under pressure - Scotland played really well - but they found their moments of magic."

In another tough autumn schedule, Wales has already lost to Australia 29-21, and tackles South Africa next week. Gatland favors playing the best sides to draw the best out of his team, even though his record against the southern hemisphere powers is pitiful: Two wins in 30 matches.

Which makes him scoff at any notion these All Blacks are vulnerable.

"They are undefeated on this tour. They know how to win, they know how to grind out performances, and they know how to come back," Gatland said.

"We are excited about the opportunity to play the best team in the world. If you can't get up for that, then you shouldn't be on the pitch.

"As a group, we haven't spoken about the summer (Lions tour) and what happened in New Zealand. It is about Wales and us concentrating on ourselves."

Washington State edges Saint Joe's 75-71 on late 3-pointer

Bluiett scores 20 points, leads No. 15 Xavier past GW



The Cougars only returning starter is Flynn, who averaged 9.7 points and dished out 91 assists last season, starting all 31 games as a freshman.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong, File)

FULLERTON, Calif. (AP) — Malachi Flynn is Washington State's only returning starter, so naturally he wanted the ball with the game on the line.

Flynn hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with 5 seconds remaining, lifting WSU to a 75-71 victory over Saint Joseph's after the Cougars rallied from a 20-point first-half deficit in the opening round of the Wooden Legacy on Thursday.

Flynn didn't have a good game, with just nine points, two assists, one turnover and zero rebounds. Coach Ernie Kent sat him down for a long stretch before the sophomore returned and hit a deep 3-pointer that put the Cougars up 56-55.

Then Flynn called a play in the final seconds, and Kent was willing to trust him.

"This team has tremendous moxie," the coach said.

Robert Franks scored 19 points and Viont'e Daniels added a career-high-tying 17 points for the Cougars (4-0), who earned their third comeback win of the season. They outscored the Hawks 51-33 in the second half using a 1-3-1 zone.

"We have confidence in ourselves coming in the second half knowing we can dig ourselves out of the hole," Franks said. "This is going to make us that much better down the road."

Shavar Newkirk led Saint Joe's with 24 points, but he turned the ball over with 2.5 seconds left and he missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

The Cougars made a season-high 16 3-pointers — two over their average — and were led by Daniels who sank 5 of 6. Flynn and Carter Skaggs had three each. Skaggs' streak of 10 straight made 3-pointers ended.

The Hawks made 10 3-pointers, getting four from Newkirk, but coach Phil Martelli wasn't happy.

"When you walk out of here shooting 34 3s, that's not our game," he said. "We started indiscriminately putting the ball in the air."

Saint Joe's took a 36-16 lead in the first half after a 23-0 run. The Cougars missed 10 straight shots over a 6½-minute stretch and eventually trailed 38-24 at halftime.

"It's hard to play teams when you're turning it over and you can't defend the drive," Martelli said. "That was an aggressive basketball team."

Washington State played like a different team in the final 20 minutes, making 10 3-pointers.

After Franks hit a 3-pointer, Newkirk made four straight free throws to pull Saint Joe's into a 69-all tie.

Franks made a free throw and missed the second for a 70-69 lead. Newkirk's two free throws gave the Hawks (2-2) their last lead at 71-70.

Flynn tossed up the go-ahead 3 with the shot clock winding down and Daniels made two free throws to seal the win with 2 seconds left.

3-BALL

Newkirk's 14 3-point attempts tied a tournament record. The Cougars set a tourney record with their 16 3s, bettering the 14 that Saint Louis and Santa Clara had in 2011.

HURTING HAWKS

F Charlie Brown Jr. is missing the tournament with a broken left wrist and he could be out the Hawks' next two games as well.

G Lamarr Kimble is out for the season after reinjuring a bone in his left foot. He originally hurt it in February, had surgery and missed the final seven games of last season.

BIG PICTURE

Playing on Thanksgiving hasn't worked out well for the Hawks. They also lost on the holiday to Western Kentucky in the 2014 NIT Season Tip-Off.

The Cougars came in averaging 48.3 points in the second half compared to just 28.3 in the first.

UP NEXT

Saint Joseph's: Moves on to play Harvard in the consolation round on Friday.

Washington State: Advances to face No. 21 Saint Mary's in the championship bracket on Friday.

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Xavier coach Chris Mack has a handful of offensive specialists who have an explosive first step, with none of them afraid to use it.

But Mack also knows none of that means a thing without defensive stops.

So, when his 15th-ranked Musketeers saw a 14-point lead shrink to six on Thursday in the Las Vegas Invitational, they shifted gears and held George Washington without a field goal for nearly seven minutes en route to an 83-64 win. Trevon Bluiett scored 20 points to lead the Musketeers, who went into the game leading the Big East and ranked fifth nationally in field-goal percentage at 56.8.

"You're eventually going to run into an off-shooting night, or an opponent that has just as much talent as you on the offensive end, and if you can't stop somebody, your season is going to end short," Mack said. "We want to measure ourselves against the elite defensive teams in the country, and we're not there yet, but we need to get there."

Xavier (5-0), which shot a blistering 62.5 from the field in the second half, finished the game hitting 33 of 57 from the floor, including 5 of 13 from 3-point range. At the other end, the Musketeers held George Washington to just 37.9 percent shooting (11 of 29) in the second half, and 23 of 57 (40.4 percent) for the game.

"We competed our tails off," George Washington coach Maurice Joseph said. "I

was proud of our effort. ... But you've got to put together 40 minutes of basketball to beat a time like that."

Xavier got 14 points off George Washington's 13 turnovers, while outscoring the Colonials 54-16 in the paint.

Quentin Goodin added 16 points for the Musketeers, and Sean O'Mara had 10.

"We've built the chemistry not only on the court, but off the court," Bluiett said. "We're a pretty close, tight-knit group and I think that helps when we're on the court together. Everybody, one through 13, has the confidence in their abilities."

Trailing 62-48 in the second half, George Washington (2-3) made a run at the Musketeers to make things interesting, using an 8-0 spurt to cut the lead to 62-56 with 8:46 left. After a scoring drought of nearly six minutes, Bluiett scored seven of the Musketeers' next nine points to push Xavier's lead back to double digits with 3:49 left in the game. "Tre has that capability, he's got the green light, he's got all the confidence in the world and we run some stuff for him, to free him," Mack said. "He makes game-winning plays, and you got to expect that when you're a senior all-American candidate."

Meanwhile, as Bluiett was taking over, the Colonials' only points during a six-minute, 42-second scoring drought came from a pair of free throws by Justin Williams. "Trevon Bluiett is an experienced guy, hell of a shot maker," Joseph said.



George Washington's Patrick Steeves, right, strips the ball from Xavier's Kaiser Gates during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, in Las Vegas.

(AP Photo/John Locher)

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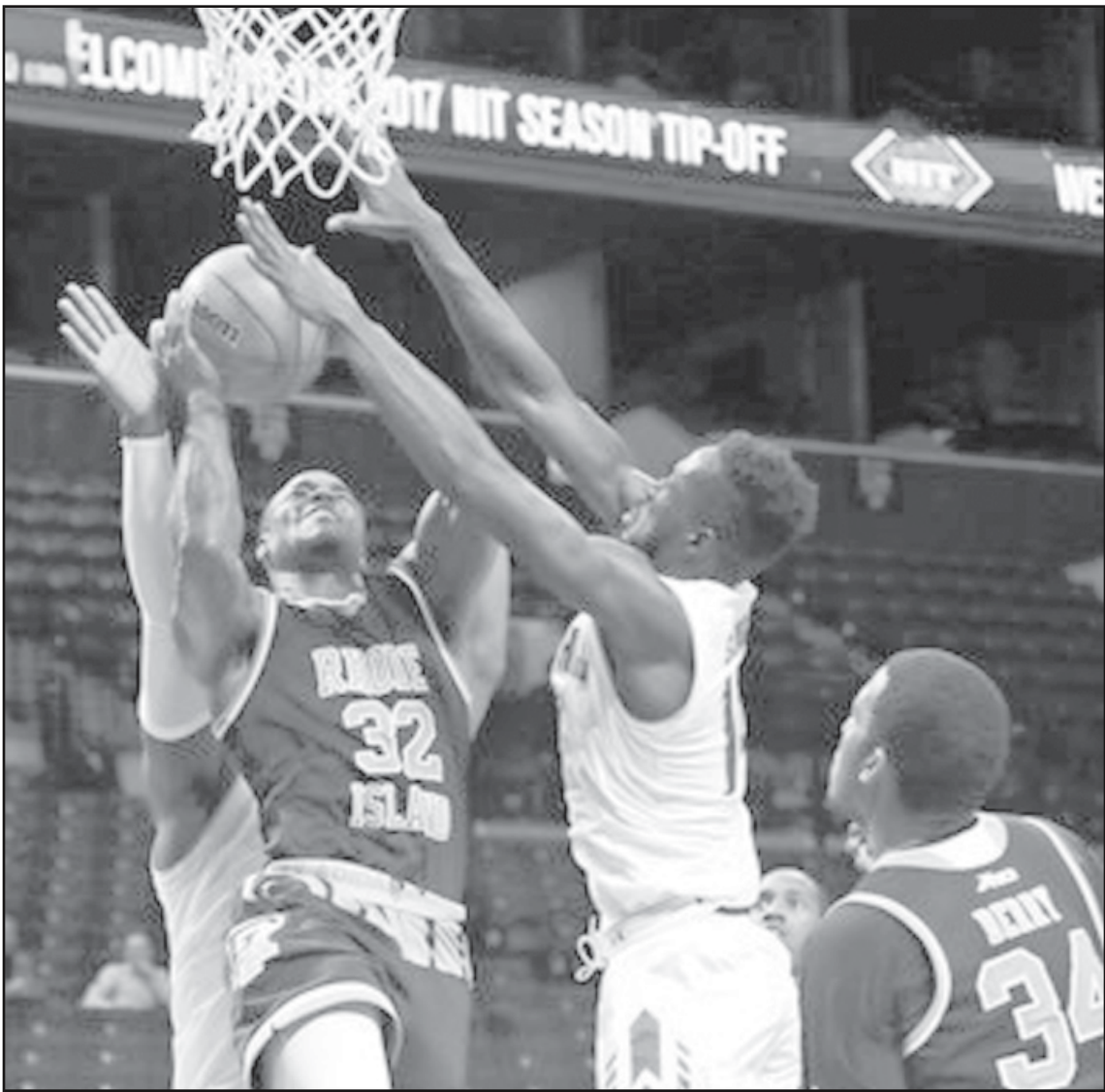
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Cold Drinks





Rhode Island's Jared Terrell (32) shoots over Seton Hall's Ismael Sanogo (14) during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game in the NIT Season Tip-Off tournament Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, in New York. Rhode Island won 75-74.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

Terrell lifts Rhode Island past No. 20 Seton Hall, 75-74

NEW YORK (AP) — There was no masking the importance of what had transpired, of what the moment meant, of the opportunity grasped.

Dan Hurley and his Rhode Island Rams entered Brooklyn's Barclays Center for the Pre-season NIT with a guaranteed date against No. 20 Seton Hall. Atlantic 10 versus Big East. Mid-major against major conference. National television. Thanksgiving Day.

"It's big for us," Hurley said after Rhode Island's 75-74 upset of No. 20 Seton Hall on Thursday night in the second game of the Pre-season NIT. "We only get 'X' amount of these chances. In our non-conference it's hard to get people to play us, home-and-home series. So any time we can get high level teams on a neutral court like Cincinnati last year or Seton Hall this year we've got to take advantage of it."

Jared Terrell's running layup with 5.2 seconds left was the game-winning basket. He finished with 32 points to help the Rams improve to 3-1. Stanford Robinson added 15 points.

"My teammates were definitely able to find me when I was open. I was able to knock down shots but I was also being aggressive," Terrell said. "These guys know that I just want to win and they're right behind me. So I'm just confident going into every game (because) I know I have a lot of support."

Myles Powell led the Pirates (4-1) with 21 points. Angel Delgado had 18 points and 14 rebounds, and Khadeen Carrington and Desi Rodriguez had 12 points each.

Following Terrell's layup, Seton Hall inbounded the ball to Carrington, who raced up court but lost his dribble and the Pirates were unable to recover the loose ball before the buzzer sounded.

"You have a player you trust in Khadeen, you let him go make a play," Kevin Willard said. "Sometimes you have to let your senior guard try to go make a play towards the end of the game."

Trailing by nine at halftime, Seton Hall outscored Rhode Island 27-17 in a 14:06 span to take the lead at 72-71. Carrington made two free throws with 5:54 left to give the Pirates their first lead since his jumper 5:09 into the game.

Defense was both the cause and effect for Seton Hall's turnaround. Specifically, the Pirates

played defense in the second half after surrendering 60.7 percent (17 of 28) shooting from the field - including 77.8 percent (7 of 9) from 3-point range - in the first 20 minutes.

"For us it's a little bit more of a defensive mentality," Willard said. "We were really flat defensively in the first half. I can't figure it out. We've never given up 60 percent (shooting from the field). ...For us I didn't like our defensive intensity whatsoever."

The Rams regained the the lead, 73-72, on Andre Berry's layup with 4:05 left. The lead lasted for 2:02 until Ismael Sanogo's layup gave Seton Hall a one-point advantage.

"We wanted to get a quick throw-in a little bit closer to the key for Jared," Hurley said of the game-deciding basket. "Usually at the end of the game if you kind of watch these game situations, it's usually a guy getting downhill making a shot, making a play. We just wanted to make sure we had the ball in Jared's hands. It was as good a performance I think as you have probably seen this year."

BIG PICTURE

Seton Hall: The Pirates entered the game having yielded just 254 points_or an average of 63.5 points per game_in winning their first four games. Against Rhode Island, Seton Hall allowed 54 points in the first half and the Rams broke the 64-point barrier with 11:03 left in the second half on Jared Terrell's 3 in front of the Rhode Island bench. Rhode Island: The Rams authored an otherworldly offensive performance - in the first half. Rhode Island scored 54 points on 60.7 percent shooting. But college basketball is a two-half game and, in the second, Rhode Island only made 8 of 31 shots from the field.

NOTABLE

Seton Hall Fell to 7-2 against Rhode Island Rhode Island: The second of two games at Brooklyn's Barclays Center also marked the second time Rhode Island coach Dan Hurley coached against his alma mater. Hurley scored 1,070 points in five years at Seton Hall.

UP NEXT

Seton Hall: Plays Vanderbilt in the consolation game Friday.

Rhode Island: Plays Virginia in the championship Friday.



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Texas' Jericho Sims (20) guards Butler's Nate Fowler (51) in the first half of an NCAA college basketball game during the Phil Knight Invitational tournament in Portland, Ore., Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017.

(AP Photo/Timothy J. Gonzalez)



American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) RFQ-017-2018

Issuance Date: November 13, 2017

Date & Time Due: December 13, 2017

No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Qualification (RFQ) from qualified firms to provide:

"Ofu Airport Runway 8/26 Rehabilitation - Design Services"

Submission

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFQ: Ofu Airport Runway 8/26 Rehabilitation - Design Services." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), December 13, 2017:

Office of Procurement
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO

Any qualifications received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

Document

The RFQ Scope of Work outlining the qualification requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

Review

Request for Qualification data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement, Office of Procurement, ASG.

Right of Rejection

The American Samoa Government reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Government or the public, as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government or the Public.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

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Texas holds off Butler 61-48 in the PK80

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Andrew Jones had 16 points and Texas held off Butler down the stretch for a 61-48 victory on Thursday at the Phil Knight Invitational tournament.

Mohamed Bamba had six points and 12 rebounds along with four blocked shots, as the Longhorns opened the season 4-0 in coach Shaka Smart's third year.

Texas goes on to play top-ranked Duke on Friday. The Blue Devils defeated Portland State 99-81 in the earlier game on Thursday.

Kamar Baldwin had 15 points to lead Butler (3-2), which trailed by as many as 10 points in the second half but rallied to come within three points late. Kelan Martin added 12.

Baldwin's layup got the Bulldogs within 47-44 with 4:12 to go, but he missed the free throw and Dylan Osetkowski scored on the other end for Texas. Osetkowski added a dunk, the second in a string of three straight baskets that put the Longhorns up 53-46, and Butler couldn't catch up.

Osetkowski finished with 12 points.

The tournament involves 16 teams playing in two brackets on Thanksgiving, Friday and Sunday, with a break on Saturday. The field also includes No. 4 Michigan State, No. 7

Florida and defending NCAA Tournament champion North Carolina.

Dubbed the PK80, the tournament celebrates Nike co-founder Phil Knight's 80th birthday.

Texas and Butler are in the Motion Bracket, playing Thursday at the Memorial Coliseum. Teams in the Victory Bracket played Thanksgiving Day at the adjacent Moda Center.

Former Butler coach Chris Holtmann now coaches at Ohio State, which is also playing in the PK80. There is a possibility that Butler and Ohio State could meet on Sunday. The Buckeyes play in the late game Thursday against No. 17 Gonzaga.

LaVall Jordan, an alum, is in his first season as Butler's coach. Mohamed Bamba, a 6-foot-11 Texas freshman with a 7-foot-9 wingspan, had five blocks in the Longhorns' 80-57 victory over Lipscomb on Saturday, but he played in just 19 minutes because of foul trouble.

Butler was coming off an 82-65 victory over Furman on Saturday.

It was a low-scoring affair from the start, with Texas holding a slight edge at 10-9 with 9 minutes left in the first half. Texas stretched the lead to 16-11 on Baldwin's jumper with 4:37 left.



Oklahoma guard Christian James, left, is fouled by Arkansas guard Jaylen Barford, right, on a fast break during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game at the Phil Knight Invitational tournament, in Portland, Ore., Thursday Nov. 23, 2017.

(AP Photo/Troy Wayrynen)

Razorbacks use late surge to hold off Sooners 92-83

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — When the brackets were released for the PK80 Invitational, Arkansas knew there was a pretty good chance of getting another shot at North Carolina if it could get through the opener against Oklahoma.

It was a freshman not even on the Razorbacks roster when they lost to the Tar Heels last March that made sure Arkansas got the matchup it wanted.

Daryl Macon scored a season-high 27 points, freshman Daniel Gafford hit a key jumper in the closing moments, and Arkansas remained unbeaten with a 92-83 win over the Sooners on Thursday.

Jaylen Barford added 19 points for the Razorbacks (4-0) and Gafford had 13 points. None was bigger for the 6-foot-11 freshman than his 17-footer with 1:01 remaining that gave Arkansas a four-point lead. Oklahoma missed twice on its next possession and Gafford added two more free throws to clinch Arkansas' second 4-0 start in the past 11 seasons.

"We figured it was going to be a high-scoring affair and it came down to making a couple more plays than they did, getting to the free-throw line and making plays," Arkansas coach Mike Anderson said.

North Carolina ended the Razorbacks postseason run in March by overcoming a five-point deficit in the final minutes to knock off Arkansas 72-65 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

"We're just going to take it as another game. Yeah, we did play them last year and we lost to them but we also have to give them their respect," Macon said. "They're national champions.

We're just going to go out there and play with the same intensity we did tonight."

Freshman Trae Young led the Sooners (2-1) with 28 points, but Oklahoma had just one field goal in a five-minute span late in the game. Oklahoma also went cold from behind the 3-point line hitting just 2 of 12 attempts in the second half. Christian James added 13 points and Khadeem Lattin had 10 for the Sooners.

Arkansas was able to slow down Oklahoma's scoring onslaught to open the season. After scoring 108 points in each of their first two games, the Sooners shot 47 percent overall and just 42 percent in the second half. The Sooners were shooting 56 percent through their first two games.

"Arkansas made it a little more frantic than we wanted it to be in terms of our offense," Oklahoma coach Lon Kruger said. "That's what they do well, they force the action, force the tempo, which we don't mind tempo but I thought we didn't handle things as well as we needed to there in finishing some opportunities."

Macon tied his career-high with six 3-pointers. It was his sixth 3 with 7:25 left that gave Arkansas a 72-67 lead. For a brief period, Young tried to rally the Sooners by himself. He scored seven straight points, capped by a 35-foot 3-pointer to pull the Sooners within 76-74. The teams proceeded to exchange free throws for the next three minutes. Dustin Thomas split a pair to give Arkansas an 83-79 lead. The Razorbacks were unable to take advantage of a careless Oklahoma turnover and Young's

free throws with 1:29 left cut the deficit to two. But Gafford was open on the baseline and with the shot clock dwindling hit a 17-footer to push the lead back to 85-81.

THE TAKEAWAY

Arkansas: The Razorbacks were 9 of 18 on 3-pointers but started the game 7 of 8 from behind the arc. Arkansas was shooting 37 percent on 3s.

Oklahoma: The Sooners missed their first six 3-point attempts to start the second half after making 6 of 17 3s in the first half. Young and Jordan Shepherd were the only ones to make 3s in the second half.

RETURNING BOOST

Arkansas got a boost from the return of forward Thomas after missing the first three games of the season due to suspension. He was reinstated by Anderson this week. Thomas had just five points but grabbed nine rebounds and played 23 minutes.

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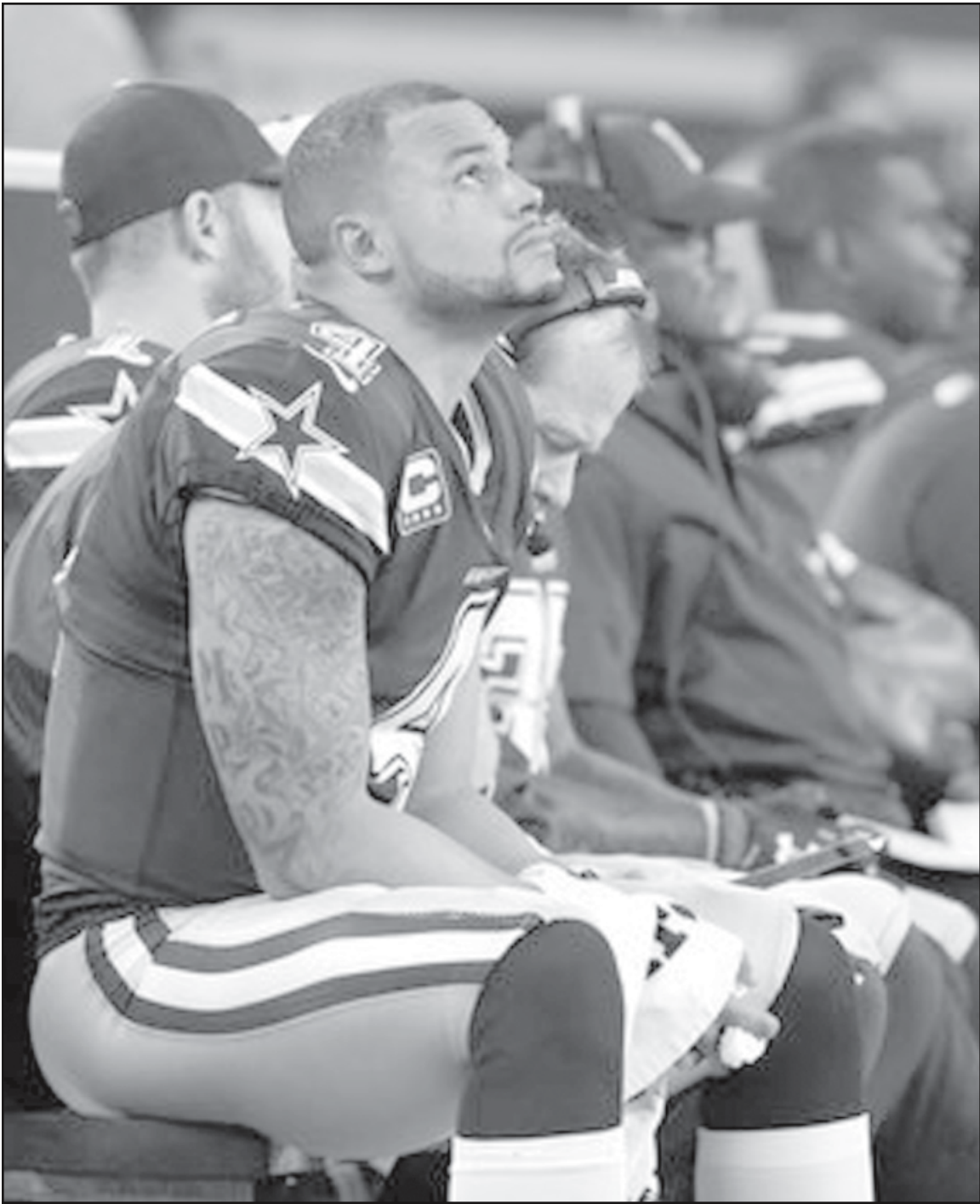
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Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (4) sits on the bench late in the second half of an NFL football game against the Los Angeles Chargers on Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, in Arlington, Texas.

(AP Photo/Ron Jenkins)

Sputtering Cowboys: Prescott playoff hopes fade without Zeke

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Dak Prescott faked a handoff, swept around to the left side with a wide open path to the end zone.

For the Dallas Cowboys without Ezekiel Elliott, it's never that easy these days to score a touchdown.

Prescott's apparent 34-yard TD run was wiped out by a holding call, and the Cowboys punted after his incomplete pass on the following play in the third quarter of their 50th Thanksgiving Day game, a 28-6 loss to the Los Angeles Chargers.

"I take more responsibility in a loss like this, when the offense is in a funk. I'm the leader of the unit," Prescott said. "I've got to figure out what I've got to do to get that whole unit rolling better and consistent."

When 235-pound running back Rod Smith powered in for a 2-yard TD run with 12:48 left in the game, the Cowboys (5-6) finally ended a streak of 10 consecutive quarters without a touchdown that is believed to be the longest such drought in team history.

Dallas went more than 158 minutes of game action without a touchdown after Prescott's TD run in the first quarter at Atlanta on Nov. 12 — a stretch that encompasses their three-game losing streak, half of Elliott's six-game suspension for alleged domestic violence.

The Cowboys have been held under 300 total yards in all three of those games while scoring only two offensive touchdowns without Elliott, the NFL rushing leader as a rookie last season.

Opposing defenses have scored two touchdowns against them in that same stretch, including Desmond King returned an interception 90 yards for a TD midway through the fourth quarter for the Chargers. "Everybody's got a piece of it. Starts up front. But the quarterback, the runners, the guys outside, certainly as a coaching staff we're always looking at ourselves and what our role is in it," coach Jason Garrett said. "Offensively, the performance wasn't up to par. It certainly wasn't enough to

match what they were doing on their side of the ball."

Prescott had two more interceptions, giving him five in two games after throwing just four a year ago. Last year's NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year has nine picks for the season.

The Cowboys trailed only 3-0 at halftime, then the Chargers opened the second half with a 10-play, 77-yard drive. Then after the Prescott run to the end zone was wiped out, Los Angeles went 92 yards on eight plays and led 16-0 after Philip Rivers' 27-yard pass to Tyrell Williams.

The Cowboys have been out-scored 72-6 in the second half of the three losses, including to the NFC East-leading Philadelphia Eagles (9-1) only four days before Thanksgiving.

"In each of the games we were in position at halftime, in a really good position to challenge," Garrett said. "In each of the games, we just didn't do what we needed to do in the second half. They were able to sustain drives and cash in on drives and we weren't able to match those. Happened in different ways in each of the games."

Not a good recurring theme for the Cowboys, who instead of trying to win their second straight NFC East title will instead have a struggle to make the playoffs.

Dallas is home again next Thursday against the Washington Redskins before playing three of its last four games on the road.

While surprised at the offensive struggles without Elliott, who won't be back until Christmas Eve with only two games left, Jones insists that he believes the Cowboys can turn this season around.

"Yes, I do, because I think we've got players that have played at a high level, won games," Jones said. "I know that as long as you've got a breath to get into those play-offs — we had the Giants come up the backside on us out here and beat the top seed here five, six, seven years ago and won the whole thing. That's what's great about this game."



American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) RFQ-009-2018

Issuance Date: November 13, 2017 Date & Time Due: December 13, 2017
No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Qualification (RFQ) from qualified firms to provide:

"Professional Services to Provide Specifications for ARFF Vehicles for Fitiuta & Ofu Airport"

Submission

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFQ: Professional Services to Provide Specifications for ARFF Vehicles for Fitiuta & Ofu Airport." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), December 13, 2017:

**Office of Procurement
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO**

Any qualifications received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

Document

The RFQ Scope of Work outlining the qualification requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

Review

Request for Qualification data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement, Office of Procurement, ASG.

Right of Rejection

The American Samoa Government reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Government or the public, as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government or the Public.

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Vikings now have margin for error with 3-game division lead

DETROIT (AP) — Case Keenum and the Minnesota Vikings are breezing through this difficult stretch on their schedule.

Now they can lose a game or two and still win the NFC North.

Keenum threw for 282 yards and two touchdowns, and the Vikings never trailed in a 30-23 victory over Detroit on Thursday.

Minnesota extended its lead atop the division to three games over the Lions, and the Vikings have won seven straight since a 14-7 loss to Detroit on Oct. 1.

“We knew how important it was to win this game, especially after they beat us at home,” tight end Kyle Rudolph said. “This means that every goal we had at the start of the season is still on the table.”

Minnesota won at Washington and beat the Los Angeles Rams before coming to Detroit and winning. The Vikings (9-2) now have road games against Atlanta and Carolina.

But they’re sitting pretty compared to the Lions (6-5), who are now probably going to need a wild card to make the playoffs. Another slow start cost Detroit, and quarterback Matthew Stafford appeared to hurt his ankle in the fourth quarter.

Stafford came back into the game, but the Lions couldn’t complete another comeback after rallying from double-digit deficits against Chicago and Cleveland the previous two weeks.

“Dug a little bit too much of a hole, and we just didn’t perform well there at the onset, and any time you do that against a good team, it’s going to be tough,” Detroit coach Jim Caldwell said. “Some of those holes are a little bit too big to dig out of.”

Marvin Jones had a terrific game for the Lions, catching six passes for 109 yards and two touchdowns, but as usual, Detroit struggled to show any balance on offense, and Stafford wasn’t especially sharp even before his injury.

Here are a few things we learned from Minnesota’s victory over the Lions:

CASE CLOSED?

TeFriday, November 24,

2017 Bridgewater is back from a knee injury, but the Vikings don’t seem to need him the way Keenum is playing. Keenum went 21 of 30, did not throw an interception and also ran for a TD.

“Case is playing outstanding. He’s a great competitor, studies his rear end off, works extremely hard I think. And today, he seemed like he was more settled,” Minnesota coach Mike Zimmer said.

“There’s times when he gets a little bit excitable and kind of goes off the reservation a little bit. But today, even throughout the course of the game, he seemed like he was in a pretty good mindset.”

DISORGANIZED

The Lions looked out of sorts from the very start in what was a huge game for their post-season chances. Detroit had only 10 players on defense for the game’s first touchdown, a 1-yard pass from Keenum to Rudolph.

“Communication problem,” Caldwell said. “I’ve got to get it fixed.”

HEAVY PRESSURE

Minnesota’s Everson Griffen celebrated the birth of his son with two sacks and got the better of Detroit tackle Taylor Decker throughout the game. The Vikings had six sacks against the Lions last month. Stafford was sacked three times Thursday in the Thanksgiving rematch.

KICKING WOES

One concern for Minnesota was special teams. Kai Forbath had an extra point and a field goal blocked. Another kick toward the very end of the game was blocked and returned for what could have been a game-tying touchdown, but Detroit was clearly offside on the play. The penalty allowed the Vikings to kneel out the clock.

BALANCE

The Lions rushed for only 53 yards. Minnesota had more than that just on the opening drive of the second half. The Vikings marched 75 yards on four plays — runs of 46 yards by Latavius Murray, 16 by Jerick McKinnon, 11 by McKinnon and 2 by Murray. The short run by Murray was for a touchdown,



Minnesota Vikings running back Latavius Murray (25) breaks downfield during the second half of an NFL football game against the Detroit Lions, Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, in Detroit. (AP Photo/Rick Osentoski)

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TELL ME A STORY: THE STONEMASON

(A CHINESE TALE)
*adapted by Amy Friedman and
illustrated by Meredith Johnson*

One upon a time in China, a stonemason lived in a tiny hut where he carved beautiful stones and ornaments with his hammer and chisel every day. Everyone admired his work.

One day, the wealthiest man in the city hired him to carve a statue in honor of the man's father. The stonemason worked at the rich man's house, and while he was working, he noticed how beautiful the mansion was -- how rich the tapestries, how tasty the food and how beautiful the furniture. He began to wish he could be just like this wealthy man.

The spirits that protected him heard his wish. So they transformed him into a rich man with a mansion, many servants, beautiful clothes and exquisite food. Now the stonemason had everything his heart desired.

Many months passed until one day the stonemason was walking along the streets when he heard a procession behind him. He turned and saw the chief being carried on a high chair by his servants. Drummers were announcing his arrival, and soldiers were guarding him. As the procession passed by, people bowed to the chief.

But the stonemason thought: I am important, too. I don't need to bow to this man. And he did not.

The chief was furious. "You have disrespected me!" he said, and he instructed his soldiers to beat the stonemason.

The soldiers did as they were told, and they left him on the street bleeding and wounded. The stonemason's servants rescued him and carried him home. Later that night, as he was lying in bed, he decided he must become a chief. Obviously, the chief had more power than he did, and the stonemason wished to be powerful. When his spirits heard his wish, they changed him into a high chief.

Now the stonemason traveled the country carried in a chair, with servants, drummers and soldiers surrounding him. Everyone bowed to him when he passed, but he was terribly strict, so no one liked him. One day, as he was traveling through a village, he saw some beautiful women walking along the roadside. "Hello!" he cried to them. He was lonely, and he called to the women to join him.

"We don't like you," the women said. This angered the stonemason. "Chase them!" he ordered his servants. But when the servants began to chase the women, the local farmers working in the fields nearby came to their rescue. They ran toward the stonemason's servants with their rakes and shovels, scaring them off.

The women thanked the farmers for what they had done.

When the chief saw this, he began to think it would be wonderful to be one of those farmers -- doing such good, healthy work that was so beloved. And before he knew what was happening, his spirits heard his wish and turned him into a farmer.

For many months, he loved his work -- it was hard but gratifying, and he made many friends. He loved to sow and plow and weed, but there was just one problem: It was terribly hot. The sun wore him down, and he couldn't escape it. He started to wonder what it must be like to be the sun, so powerful and strong, and he began to wish he had that kind of power.

So, naturally, his spirits turned him into the sun. At first, he reveled in the power he had to scorch the Earth with his powerful force. And then one day a raincloud drifted by and came between the sun and Earth; the stonemason realized he could do nothing to reach the Earth with his powerful rays so long as that raincloud hovered in his way. He had never known the power of clouds, and he began to wish he were a cloud.

Sure enough, his spirits turned him into a big, dark, forceful raincloud that lingered above the Earth, and all the people looked up at him with admiration.

But the next day, the wind began to blow, and it pushed him this way and that and tore little bits of him apart. The stonemason realized that he had no power compared to the wind.

"I wish I were the wind," he said. And sure enough, he became the wind, whipping across fields and hills, pulling up trees, blowing down huts and tearing roofs apart.

He raced toward the mountain, determined to move it aside, but the mountain stood still and strong, and the stonemason was mightily impressed.

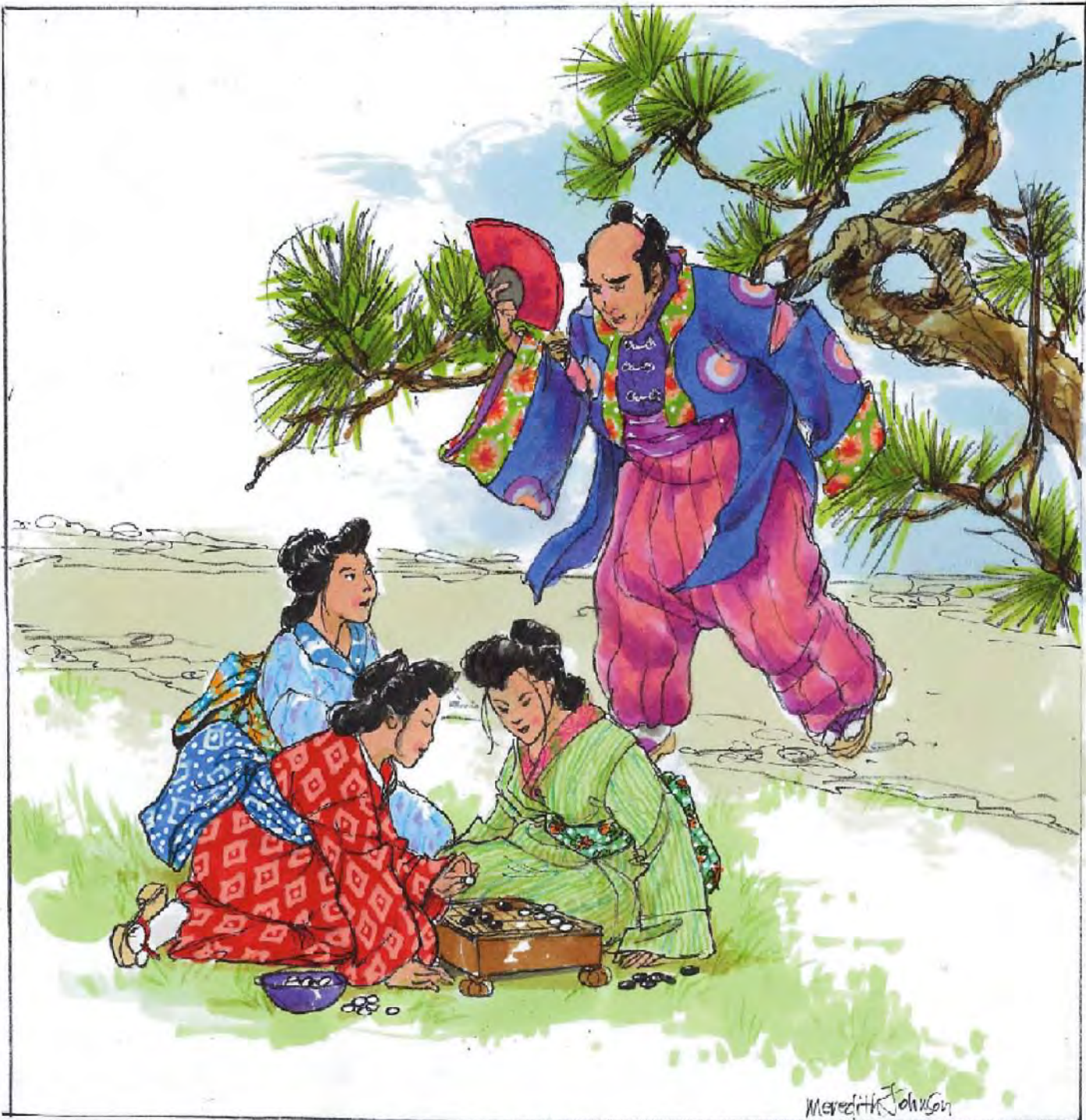
"How wonderful it must be to be a mountain, so strong and peaceful and quiet," he said. And so his spirit turned him into a mountain that stood very still and watched everything, impervious to wind and sun and rain.

Then one winter day, he heard human voices. He looked and saw those voices belonged to stonemasons who were climbing to look for rocks to turn into statues. The stonemasons knocked on the surface of his body with their hammers and picks. At first the stonemason was horrified, but after a while he realized, "A stonemason can separate rocks from my body!"

This caused him to scream.

When the spirits heard him screaming, they transformed him back into a stonemason. So there he was, once again standing in his workshop holding a hammer and chisel. And that is when the stonemason understood that he would be wise to love his life just as it was.

The Stonemason



Virginia routs Vanderbilt in Preseason NIT, 68-42

NEW YORK (AP) — There was the slightest sliver of an opening, and Matthew Fisher-Davis drove the lane then leapt towards the rim.

At that moment, though, Mamadi Diakite arrived from the weak side and knocked the attempted layup out of play. That Diakite was called for a foul was overshadowed by the unspoken message: No easy baskets.

Check that. Perhaps the message was no baskets. At all.

“We have to make every possession defensively hard,” coach Tony Bennett said after Virginia’s 68-42 win over Vanderbilt in the first game of the 2017 Preseason NIT on Thursday in New York.

“I just want every shot to be contested and try to keep the ball out of the lane,” Bennett said. “If they’re going to make (shots) they’re going to have to earn them.”

Kyle Guy scored 18 points to lead the 5-0 Cavaliers. Ty Jerome added 14 points and Diakite 12.

“We don’t have any selfish guys on this team,” Jerome said. “We don’t care who scores. It’s about getting great shots.”

“Great shots” were something in short supply for Vanderbilt (2-3), which has lost two straight.

Matthew Fisher-Davis led the Commodores with 11.

“Defensively, they did a great job,” Vanderbilt coach Bryce Drew said of Virginia.

Essentially, the game was decided in the opening 20 minutes. At the half, Virginia led 43-17. The Cavaliers made 17 of 32 shots from the field in the opening 20 minutes, including 7 of 12 from 3. They forced seven turnovers and limited Vanderbilt to 26.1 percent shooting.

The Commodores did not score until Larry Austin Jr. made a free throw 4:26 into the game, and did not make a field goal until Djery Baptiste’s half hook at 7:45. At those points, though, Vanderbilt had fallen behind by deficits of 8-0 and 15-1, respectively.

“We missed some shots early,” Drew said. “They made some shots. Virginia is not a team you want to get behind, especially early because they’re really hard to come back on.”

The second half was a virtual replay of the first. Vanderbilt could not navigate Virginia’s defense, and the Cavaliers’ ball movement routinely led to uncontested shots. On consecutive possessions early in the second half, Jerome knocked down wide-open 3s in front of the Cavaliers’ bench.

“It starts defensively,” Jerome said. “That’s how you break their will: You get a stop and work them on offense for a while and get a great shot and get another stop.”

Virginia led by as many 39 points in the second half.

The Cavaliers finished 45 percent (27 of 60) from the field

while limiting Vanderbilt to 23.1 percent (12 of 52).

“It was a very, very good team effort defensively,” Bennett said. “It was one of those things where everything was clicking.”

BIG PICTURE

Vanderbilt: The Commodores entered the game averaging 75.2 points per game and 73.0 points allowed. However, in their last two games — both losses — they have allowed No. 10 Southern California and Virginia to total 161 points, an average of 80.5.

Virginia: Now in his 10th year at Virginia, the calling card for Bennett’s teams has been their ability to dismantle opposing offensive attacks. Virginia has not ranked lower than 54th defensively under Bennett, and six of his teams finished in the top five nationally. Five games is a small sample size, but Virginia has yielded an average of 51.8 points per game.



Virginia’s Kyle Guy (5) drives past Vanderbilt’s Joe Toye (2) during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game in the NIT Season Tip-Off tournament Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, in New York. Virginia won 68-42.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)



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Central Florida guard Ceasar DeJesus is fouled by Nebraska center Jordy Tshimanga, top, as guard Glynn Watson Jr. (5) watches during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game at the AdvoCare Invitational tournament Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. UCF won 68-59. (AP Photo/Phelan M. Ebenhack)

DeJesus, Fall lead UCF past Nebraska 68-59

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — Central Florida rode a strong first half to remain undefeated.

Ceasar DeJesus scored 15 points, 7-foot-6 center Tacko Fall had 11 points and eight rebounds, and Central Florida downed Nebraska 68-59 in a first-round game Thursday at the Advocare Invitational.

UCF (4-0) is off to its best start since 2010-11 James Palmer Jr. had 20 of his 22 points in the second half for Nebraska (3-2).

Palmer's strong second half helped Nebraska, which trailed by 18 early on, get within 53-47 with 3:15 to play but the Cornhuskers could get no closer than six the rest of the way.

"I thought we handled it pretty well," UCF coach Johnny Dawkins said. "We were pretty much able to maintain that seven- to 11-point lead. They switched defenses and that kind of slowed us down. We had to make adjustments."

UCF converted 14 of 25 free throws, while Nebraska went 11 for 13.

"We couldn't get to the line and we couldn't get to the rim, and obviously that's their MO," Nebraska coach Tim Miles said. "Tacko does an excellent job of being an air traffic control guy and just seeing everything in front of him and seeing when to go."

DeJesus scored 10 and Fall had nine, including a slam that came off a nifty move into the paint, as UCF went ahead 36-20 at the half.

Fall departed with 4½ minutes left after landing awkwardly on his right knee after trying to block a shot. He was able to return in the final

minute before intermission.

"I'm okay," Fall said. "Just have to fight through it."

Fall got his lone second-half basket with 1:15 remaining, a slam that made it 60-51

The Knights held a 26-6 scoring advantage in the paint during the opening 20 minutes over Nebraska, which shot 25 percent (7 for 28). UCF's margin in the paint for the game wound up 36-20.

LOOKING FOR CONSISTENCY

Nebraska forward Isaac Copeland, who broke out of an early-season slump with 30 points in Sunday's 92-70 win over North Dakota, had eight points on 3-of-10 shooting. The junior forward missed a good portion of offseason work following back surgery last winter.

JUST MISSED

UCF forward A.J. Davis had eight points and 10 rebounds, and came up just short in a bid for a third consecutive double-double.

BIG PICTURE

UCF: Fall is one of the 40 tallest living persons in the world and the tallest player in NCAA Division I. His shoe size is 22 and has a wingspan of 8 feet, 4 inches.

Nebraska: Both losses have come against teams in the Advocare Invitational. The Cornhuskers lost to semifinalist St. John's 79-56 on Nov. 6.

UP NEXT

UCF: Will play in the semifinals Friday night.

Nebraska: Enters consolation-round play Friday night.

Maye leads No. 9 North Carolina to 102-78 rout of Portland

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — When Luke Maye took stock of what North Carolina was losing from last season's championship squad and what was coming back, he made it a focus to become a better scorer in the post.

Maye made scoring around the basket look easy against overmatched Portland.

Maye had 20 points and 10 rebounds, Joel Berry II added 18 points and No. 9 North Carolina had five players in double figures in overwhelming Portland 102-78 on Thursday to open the PK80 Invitational.

"I've really had a concerted effort on scoring more in the post," Maye said. "We lost three top players in the post. I'm trying to make more shots in the paint and be a presence in there. I've got a long way to go, but I'm getting there."

The Tar Heels (4-0) continued their offensive outburst to open the season, topping the century mark for the first time this season against the Pilots from the West Coast Conference. Maye has scored at least 20 points in three of North Carolina's first four games.

Kenny Williams added 17 points and Theo Pinson had 11 points, nine rebounds and seven assists for the Tar Heels, who have scored at least 90 points in the past three games. North Carolina pulled away thanks to 55 percent shooting in the second half.

Since going 1 of 6 in the opener against Northern Iowa — all on 3-point attempts — Pinson has made an effort to get in the lane more.

"I don't think I've ever had a player get a triple-double, but he might be the first," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said.

Franklin Porter led the Pilots with 19 points and Marcus Shaver Jr. added 17, but the Pilots shot just 40 percent and lacked the offensive spark to keep up with the Tar Heels.

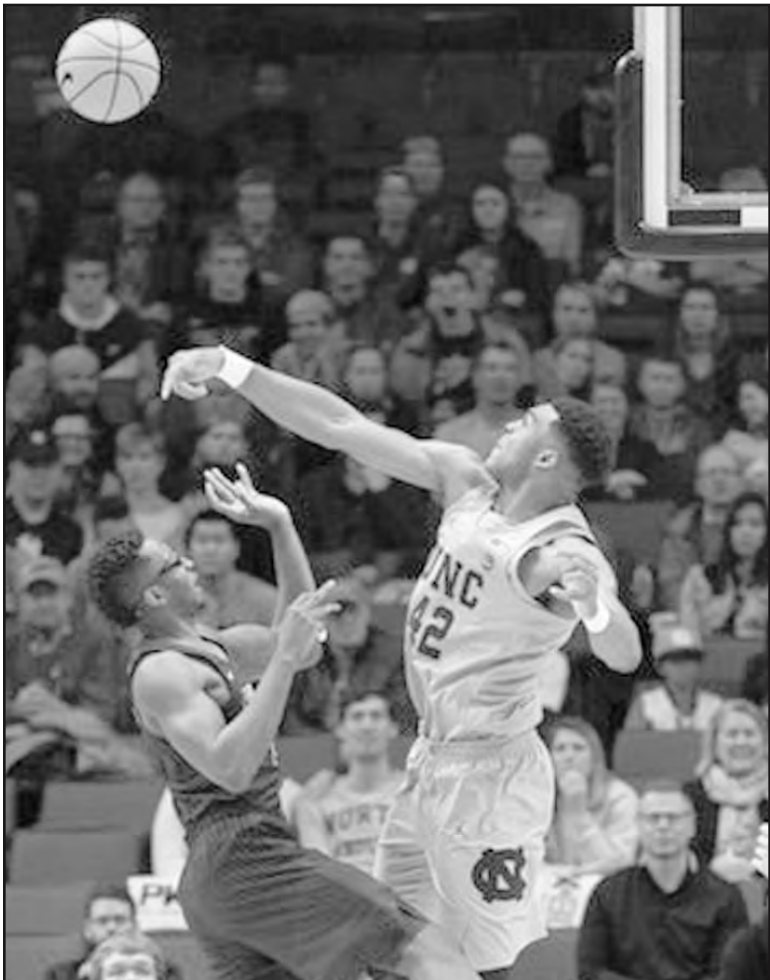
"It's great for our young guys to be in these types of games and our team overall, to be in these type of games, and the big picture is our conference play," Portland coach Terry Porter said. "When we play in games like this, we're going to have carry-over and it's going to help us in our conference play."

The Pilots (2-2) hung around through most of the first half before a late run by the Tar Heels gave them a 48-35 halftime lead. The Tar Heels have scored at least 45 points in the first half of every game this season. North Carolina quickly turned the game into the expected blowout in the opening moments of the second half, scoring the first 12 points of the half and hitting nine straight shots before finally missing. Maye had 14 points in the second half and the Tar Heels lead by as many as 28 in the second half.

"I told coach Porter that they really helped us because they showed us how poor we played on the defensive end of the floor," Williams said. "We've got to get better there. At the same, I liked a lot of what our guys did."

THE TAKEAWAY

Portland: It was a major upgrade in competition for the Pilots from anything they had seen or may see this season. Portland opened the season with a five-point loss to cross-town rival Portland State, then knocked off a pair of NAIA schools — Walla Walla and Oregon Tech — for its first two victories.



North Carolina forward Brandon Huffman, right, blocks a shot by Portland forward Tahirou Diabate, left, during the first half in an NCAA college basketball game at the Phil Knight Invitational Tournament, in Portland, Ore., Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017. (AP Photo/Troy Wayrynen)

Rivers, Chargers beat fading Cowboys 28-6 on Thanksgiving

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Philip Rivers was more than comfortable on the Thanksgiving stage for the first time in his 14 NFL seasons.

Same with Keenan Allen, who didn't have to wait nearly that long.

Rivers threw for 434 yards and three touchdowns, Allen had a career-high 172 yards in his second straight huge game and the Los Angeles Chargers beat the fading Dallas Cowboys 28-6 on Thursday.

Desmond King returned an interception 90 yards for the punctuating touchdown. The Chargers (5-6) moved within 1 1/2 games of AFC West-leading Kansas City after starting 0-4 while the Chiefs won their first five.

"Playing on Thanksgiving was everything it was cranked up to be," said Rivers, who was 27 of 33 in his ninth career 400-yard game . "As a quarterback, you want to play well and throw it to your guys, and we did a lot today. But I'm more excited about our team."

The defending NFC East champion Cowboys (5-6) have lost three straight games by at least 20 points for the first time since 2004, all without suspended star running back Ezekiel Elliott in a damaging slide for their fading playoff hopes.

Dallas, playing its 50th Thanksgiving game, finally ended a touchdown drought at a team-record 10 quarters on Rod Smith's 2-yard run early in the fourth quarter. The Cowboys have been outscored 72-6 in the second half of the three losses.

Quarterback Dak Prescott has looked lost without Elliott, his backfield mate for a pair of remarkable rookie seasons that led the Cowboys to the best record in the NFC last season. Prescott had two interceptions, giving him five in two games after throwing just four a year ago.

Last year's NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year has nine picks for the season and the Cowboys already have twice as many losses as a year ago with Elliott only halfway through a six-game suspension for alleged domestic violence.

"The last thing I'm doing is pointing a finger and saying, 'We need this guy, we need that to happen,'" said Prescott, who was 20 of 27 for 179 yards in his third straight game without a TD pass. "I'm going to say we've just got to figure out what's going on and get out of this slump."

Rivers had seven completions of at least 22 yards, including Allen's 42-yard catch-and-run when he weaved through five defenders for a 22-6 lead.

Allen, in his fifth season, has two of his three biggest yardage games in the past two weeks. He had 11 catches and a score

after 12 grabs for 159 yards and two TDs in a 54-24 win over Buffalo.

"When I first got here, he was a little heavy," first-year coach Anthony Lynn said. "I think once he got his weight down, you could see the run after catch, the quickness, all those things you see in a No. 1 receiver."

LA, with 500-plus total yards (515) for the first time in two years, overcame the loss of kicker Nick Novak to a back injury, the second straight game that Dallas' opposing kicker was injured and in the same game that Dallas' Dan Bailey returned after missing four games with a groin injury.

Just like last week in the Cowboys' blowout loss to division-leading Philadelphia, neither of the kickers mattered much with the Dallas offense sputtering and the defense not getting key stops.

Novak returned to make a 22-yard field goal after the injury, but left for good after missing an extra point . Punter Drew Kaser was 1 of 3 on extra points. The Chargers went for a fourth-and-13 in field goal range in a scoreless game early in the second quarter with Novak's status in doubt, coming up a yard short.

Four-time Pro Bowl left tackle Tyron Smith returned for Dallas after missing two games with back and groin injuries, but the Cowboys lost 2014 All-Pro right guard Zack Martin to a concussion in the first half.

Austin Ekeler had a 38-yard catch to set up San Diego's first touchdown in the third quarter, and Tyrell Williams added a 31-yard grab before making a 27-yard scoring catch.

THANKSGIVING STREAK

LA has a Thanksgiving winning streak in Texas, because the Chargers' previous holiday showing was a 21-17 AFL win at Houston in 1969, the year before the merger. It was the longest gap (48 years) for a team between Thanksgiving games in NFL history.

WITTEN RECORD

Dallas tight end Jason Witten, already the Thanksgiving record-holder in catches, passed Detroit's Herman Moore for the most yards on the holiday. Witten now has 80 catches for 853 yards.

ANTHEM UPDATE

Chargers LT Russell Okung was the only player from either team with a display during the national anthem, raising his fist while he was a step behind teammates lined up on the sideline.

UP NEXT

Chargers: Browns on Dec. 3 in first of two straight home games.

Cowboys: Redskins next Thursday in last of three straight home games.



Wichita State's Aundra Stovall (3) dribbles downcourt as Tennessee's Anastasia Hayes (1) defends during an NCAA college basketball game in Knoxville, Tenn., Monday, Nov. 20, 2017.

(Calvin Mattheis/Knoxville News Sentinel via AP)

No. 12 Tennessee women edge No. 20 Marquette in OT 101-99

PUERTO AVENTURAS, Mexico (AP) — Anastasia Hayes scored No. 12 Tennessee's last five points in the final minute of overtime and three Lady Vols finished with double-doubles in a 101-99 victory over No. 20 Marquette on Thursday at the Cancun Challenge. Hayes hit a jumper then after a Marquette turnover completed a 3-point play with 32 seconds left for a 101-97 lead. Natisha Hiedeman scored for Marquette but couldn't complete the 3-point play but the Golden Eagles got another chance when Tennessee's Meme Jackson missed two free throws with 15 seconds remaining.

However, Hiedeman's 3-point try with three seconds left missed.

Hayes finished with 16 points. Jaime Nared

had 26 points and 15 rebounds, Mercedes Russell 17 and 15 and Renna Davis 14 and 10 for Tennessee (4-0). Nared, Davis and Evina Westbrook (10 points) — all starters — fouled out, Nared and Westbrook late in regulation and Davis early in overtime.

Allazia Blockton scored 28 points and had 11 rebounds for Marquette (1-2). Hiedeman scored 23 points, Amani Wilborn 15, Lauren Van Kleunen 14 and Erika Davenport 10 along with 12 rebounds. The margin between the teams remained in single digits through the second half and overtime. Blockton was fouled on a 3-pointer with a second to go in regulation and made all three free throws to send the game into overtime tied at 89.

Washington State edges Saint Joe's 75-71 on late 3-pointer

FULLERTON, Calif. (AP) — Malachi Flynn is Washington State's only returning starter, so naturally he wanted the ball with the game on the line.

Flynn hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with 5 seconds remaining, lifting WSU to a 75-71 victory over Saint Joseph's after the Cougars rallied from a 20-point first-half deficit in the opening round of the Wooden Legacy on Thursday.

Flynn didn't have a good game, with just nine points, two assists, one turnover and zero rebounds. Coach Ernie Kent sat him down for a long stretch before the sophomore returned and hit a deep 3-pointer that put the Cougars up 56-55.

Then Flynn called a play in

the final seconds, and Kent was willing to trust him.

"This team has tremendous moxie," the coach said.

Robert Franks scored 19 points and Viont'e Daniels added a career-high-tying 17 points for the Cougars (4-0), who earned their third comeback win of the season. They outscored the Hawks 51-33 in the second half using a 1-3-1 zone.

"We have confidence in ourselves coming in the second half knowing we can dig ourselves out of the hole," Franks said. "This is going to make us that much better down the road."

Shavar Newkirk led Saint Joe's with 24 points, but he turned the ball over with 2.5 seconds left and he missed a

3-pointer at the buzzer.

The Cougars made a season-high 16 3-pointers — two over their average — and were led by Daniels who sank 5 of 6. Flynn and Carter Skaggs had three each. Skaggs' streak of 10 straight made 3-pointers ended.

The Hawks made 10 3-pointers, getting four from Newkirk, but coach Phil Martelli wasn't happy.

"When you walk out of here shooting 34 3s, that's not our game," he said. "We started indiscriminately putting the ball in the air."

Saint Joe's took a 36-16 lead in the first half after a 23-0 run. The Cougars missed 10 straight shots over a 6½-minute stretch and eventually trailed 38-24 at halftime.



Villanova guard Phil Booth (5) brings the ball up during an NCAA college basketball game against Western Kentucky on Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017, in the Battle 4 Atlantis tournament in Paradise Island, Bahamas.

(Tim Aylen/Bahamas Visual Services Photo via AP)

Western Kentucky upsets No. 18 Purdue 77-73 in Bahamas

PARADISE ISLAND, Bahamas (AP) — Darius Thompson scored 12 points and hit two clinching free throws with 5.1 seconds left to help Western Kentucky upset No. 18 Purdue 77-73 in Thursday's consolation round at the Battle 4 Atlantis.

The Hilltoppers (3-2) led nearly the entire night, but needed to make several clutch plays late to hang on.

P.J. Thompson hit a corner 3-pointer with 5.8 seconds remaining to bring the Boilermakers (4-2) to 75-73, but Thompson answered with two free throws that made it a two-possession game and all but sealed the win.

Justin Johnson led the Hilltoppers with 17 points, including a tough driving score for a five-point lead with 21 seconds left.

Isaac Haas scored 22 points to lead Purdue, which shot just 32 percent in the first half. The Boilermakers trailed 42-31 at the break and never

fully recovered.

BIG PICTURE

Purdue: That's an 0-2 showing in two days for the Boilermakers in the Bahamas. The high-scoring, 3-point shooting offense hasn't found its rhythm here, though Purdue shot 50 percent after halftime in this one to give itself a chance late.

Western Kentucky: The Hilltoppers were coming off a loss to No. 5 Villanova, making this the first time they had played consecutive games against ranked opponents since the 1993 NCAA Tournament. But they earned a win against a ranked team for just the second time in the last 15 tries.

UP NEXT

Purdue: The Boilermakers will play the Arizona-SMU loser in Friday's seventh-place game.

Western Kentucky: The Hilltoppers will play the Arizona-SMU winner in Friday's fifth-place game.

Skins LT Trent Williams, Giants WR Sterling Shepard inactive

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — Pro Bowl left tackle Trent Williams is inactive for the Washington Redskins against the New York Giants because of an injured right knee.

The Thanksgiving night game is the third time in the past five weeks that Williams has been sidelined by the knee. His absence means Washington is missing three-fifths of its starting offensive line, because left guard Shawn Lauvao and center Spencer Long went on

injured reserve this week.

Also out for the Redskins on Thursday is linebacker Martrell Spaight, with an injured left foot.

The Redskins already had announced that tight end Jordan Reed, defensive lineman Terrell McClain, center Chase Roullier and safety Montae Nicholson would sit out because they're hurt. Washington has been dealing with all sorts of health problems and put 15 players on injured reserve, including four

this week alone.

Among those inactive for the Giants are wideout Sterling Shepard, who was listed as out last week with an illness, and cornerback Eli Apple, who didn't play Sunday after his mother had brain surgery.

The Giants are starting their eighth offensive line combination of the season, with guards D.J. Fluker (toe) and Justin Pugh (back) sidelined. Also out is linebacker B.J. Goodson, with an ankle injury.

Giants LB Curtis Grant carted off with injured right knee

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — New York Giants linebacker Curtis Grant has been carted off the field in the first quarter against the Washington Red-

skins with an injured right knee.

Grant will not return to Thursday night's game.

He appeared to get hurt when a teammate fell on him at

the end of a play.

As Grant was sitting on the cart, several teammates gathered around and patted him on the head or shook his hand. A couple of Giants players knelt in prayer.

Earlier in the first quarter, another New York linebacker, Deontae Skinner, hurt his hamstring.

US tops Puerto Rico in World Cup qualifying opener, 85-78

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Jameel Warney and Reggie Hearn each scored 17 points, and the United States opened qualifying for the 2019 Basketball World Cup with an 85-78 victory over Puerto Rico on Thursday night.

Xavier Munford scored 12 points and Markel Brown added 10 for the Americans, who trailed 57-51 late in the third. A 10-0 run late in that quarter gave the U.S. the lead, and a 22-12 burst in the fourth decided things.

Hearn scored 16 of his points in the second half for the U.S., the two-time defending World Cup champions. The Americans are using players from the G League to try and qualify for the tournament, to which the U.S. would send NBA stars in an effort to claim another gold.

Angel Vassallo scored 16 points and Angel Rodriguez finished with 13 points and eight assists for Puerto Rico, which led by as many as nine early.

The Americans and Puerto Ricans are in Group C of the World Cup qualifying; Mexico was playing host to Cuba in the other Group C opening game later Thursday night.

Hearn's 3-pointer with 8:15 left broke a tie and the Americans wouldn't trail again. Rodriguez made back-to-back 3-pointers late to get Puerto Rico within four, but the U.S. scored the next six points to push the lead out to 83-73.

Warney also had 11 rebounds for the U.S., which outrebounded Puerto Rico 44-26.

Although the game was in Orlando, the U.S. was technically on the road. Puerto Rico was supposed to host Thursday, but could not because of the ongoing recovery efforts from the devastation all over the island caused by Hurricane Maria.

There seemed to be a bit of home-court advantage for the Puerto Ricans. There were Puerto Rican flags, some Latin music coming through the

speakers, even advertising signage in Spanish. When Vassallo opened the game with a pair of 3-pointers for a quick 6-0 lead, most of the pro-Puerto Rico crowd was roaring.

In the end, though, the result was as usual: The U.S. hasn't lost to Puerto Rico since 2005.

TIP-INS

USA: Larry Drew II (strained right hamstring) did not play. Each of the other 11 players on the U.S. roster all got in before halftime. ... In the 10-0 run late in the third, the U.S. got four baskets — each by someone different. ... Jeff Van Gundy improved to 6-0 as U.S. coach, after leading the Americans to gold in the AmeriCup this summer.

Puerto Rico: Gian Clavell, who appeared in seven games with the Dallas Mavericks this season before getting waived last week, scored 11 points. ... Puerto Rico's bench got outscored by the U.S. reserves 49-28.

MIAMI TIES

Many of Puerto Rico's players have some sort of Miami tie. Clavell, Rodriguez, Guillermo Diaz, David Huertas and Carlos Rivera all played high school ball in South Florida. Diaz and Rodriguez played for the University of Miami, Ricky Sanchez's draft rights were held by the Miami Heat, and Clavell was once a Heat summer-league player.

THE FORMAT

After this initial window of games ends this weekend, the qualifiers will continue with more play on Feb. 23, Feb. 26, June 28 and July 1. The top three teams in Group C will qualify for the second round. The second round starts in mid-September and runs through February 2019, and the World Cup in China begins Aug. 31, 2019.

UP NEXT

USA: Host Mexico on Sunday in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Puerto Rico: Visit Cuba on Sunday in Havana.

No. 16 Mississippi St QB Fitzgerald leaves with leg injury

STARKVILLE, Miss. (AP) — Mississippi State quarterback Nick Fitzgerald left with a right leg injury Thursday night in the first quarter against Mississippi.

The 6-foot-5, 230-pound Fitzgerald was running the ball when he was tackled and his leg bent awkwardly. He was carted off the field. Fitzgerald came into the game leading the SEC in

yards rushing for a quarterback, with 968 yards on the ground in 11 games. He also has thrown for 1,770 yards, 15 touchdowns and 10 interceptions.

Fitzgerald was replaced by freshman Keytaon Thompson, who has thrown for 66 yards and a touchdown this season. The 16th-ranked Bulldogs were trailing 7-0 at the time of the injury.



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COOK; Immediate opening at Tradewinds Hotel. Application forms available at the Front Desk and to be filled out with resume and reference. No phone calls please. [11/24]

WAITRESS; Manaia Restaurant; Must be 21 years old, able to work till 11:00pm and have proper documents. Apply in person. Manaia Restaurant (Airport Road). [11/30]

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MANA COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICE is now holding support groups for people who suffer from mental illness or any form of disability. Join me every Friday @ 12Noon @ the Alliance office in Nu'uuli. For more info call Liz Mailo @ 272-3257 or 699-0272.

FEELING ALONE? Come to SURVIVORS TAKING ACTION THROUGH SHARING, a support group for victims of violence (physical or sexual). Join me every Thursday at 12:00 noon @ the Alliance office in Nu'uuli. You don't have to do it alone. For more info, call Liz Mailo @ 272-3257 or 699-0272.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS NETWORK. A parent to parent support group for families with children with disabilities. Contat Sandy 731-3959 (English), Ivorie 770-6678 (Samoan).

SAMOAN SAINTS ORGANIZATION Roadside Clean Up on the 21st and 29th of this month until the end of the year. All are welcomed. Meet in front of Lupelele Elementary School, 5:30pm, rain or shine. Do it for our beautiful island. Contact Jay @ 254-0651 for more info.

URGENT HOMES NEEDED FOR ADULT DOGS being trapped at Lyons Park!! Majority of adult dogs trapped are healthy & very friendly but will be humanly euthanized if no one claims them after 48 hours of being held. PLEASE HELP! Call Mona at 258-4116 or 699-9445.

ASOA General Meetings. Will be held each month on the 3rd Friday at 10am at ASOA Center in Tafuna on Tasi St. All seniors welcome. Questions, call 699-1131

WHEELCHAIRS Old, Battered or Banged up. Pls donate, in any condition to ASOA so we may be able to help someone in need. Call Marysita 770-1838 or 699-1131

SCUBA FISHING BAN It is unlawful to possess any spear while using SCUBA. Marine & Wildlife Resources. 633-4458 / 252-0445.

WOMENS HOSPITAL AUXILIARY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS of all ages to help in the Fale. Support your hospital, donate your free time by calling 633-1222 Ext. 199. All proceeds from Fale sales donated to purchase equipment for LBJ.[till]

HUNTING BAN ON WILD BIRDS & BATS is still in effect - it is unlawful to kill or hunt wild birds & bats. Dept. of Marine & Wildlife 633-4458 / 252-0445

USED MOTOR OIL? Take it to a LUBE CUBE. Drop off used motor oil at a service station near you. Protect the land, protect our drinking water. ASEPA 633-2304

HURTING? ABUSED? Free peer-to-peer teen counseling at Teen Challenge for peer pressure, suicide prevention, drug & alcohol prevention. TC open Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm & Fri 9am-noon. 699-2635/2636 Teen Hope 699-2641

FEELING DOWN and like there is no one to talk to? Contact Catholic Social Services, 8 am - 4 pm, 699-5683 or 699-6611. Where someone is there to listen.

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Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy Parker November 24, 2017

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1 Install paintings
5 Resell illegally
10 "Shucks!" alternative
14 Love, in Lima
15 Flag supporters?
16 Cookie brand
17 Actress Turner
18 List with a board game
19 Loaner car
20 Cellar-dweller fans' lament
23 Far from well-off
24 Lashing aftermath
25 Black-ink items
28 Cheese variety
30 Rodeo misses?
31 Put forward
33 Solo in a spaceship
36 "You already heard it from me"
40 Novel
41 They open regularly
42 Sundry collection
43 With a brooding ill humor
44 Werner Herzog, for one

- 46 Seat
49 Gumption
51 "I didn't think of that"
57 Boorish
58 Primitive calculators
59 On the ocean
60 Depletes (with "up")
61 Traditional customs
62 Downy surfaces
63 Shipped
64 Affirmatives
65 Do a house-keeping job
DOWN
1 Sentry's warning
2 Asian domestic
3 Word before "the worse"
4 Feature of aging
5 Wild indulgences
6 "Wish I ___!"
7 Mixture of metals
8 Fermentation sediments
9 Attention-getting sound
10 Classic bumper-car ride
11 "I have ___ good idea"
12 Send in, as payment

- 13 Common lunchtimes
21 Animal tender
22 Not in the dark
25 Opposin'
26 Rescue
27 Offed, Biblically
28 Terrestrial amphibians
29 Cotillion star, briefly
31 Carbon monoxide's lack
32 Certain evergreen
33 Legendary Celeste
34 Met tune for one
35 Gas in a sign
37 Cherish
38 Letters signifying debt

- 39 Certain tennis stroke
43 Deprive of status
44 Rock similar to granite
45 Superlative suffix
46 "Hannah Montana" actress
47 Apartment alternative
48 Poet W.H.
49 Celebs
50 Variety show host
52 Like meat past its prime
53 Certain woodwind
54 Jacob's twin
55 Agents, for short
56 3:00 direction

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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EUGENIA LAST

Friday, November 24, 2017

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

Happy Birthday: Consider new ways to use your skills. Experimentation should be one of your main criteria this year. Trying new things and making new acquaintances will be a learning experience that will help you move forward in life. Engage in what moves you and spend time with those who contribute to making your life easier and your goals doable. Your numbers are 12, 18, 22, 27, 33, 37, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get involved in activities that are challenging but satisfying. Too much of anything or anyone will leave you feeling frustrated. Constant change and new endeavors will help deter you from spending time brooding over past regrets and failures.***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Problems with partnerships will surface if you let your emotions override common sense. Listen carefully and deduce what your best course of action is before you take action. Offering alternatives, incentives and positive input will help your cause. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take what you know and put it to the test. Work, money and getting ahead are featured as long as you don't let your emotions interfere with getting things done on time and to specification. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be careful when dealing with joint ventures. Don't offer money in order to make an impression. Simple pleasures will be just as effective when trying to impress others. If someone wants more than that, you should question his or her motives. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Tow the line when it comes to maintaining balance and integrity within important relationships. Do your part and don't let anyone get away with taking advantage of you. Social events will expand your knowledge as well as your friendships. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make positive changes at home. Getting along will be half the battle when it comes to accomplishing things. A willingness to do your part will help you avoid a confrontation with someone demanding. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Plan something special. Host an event with a friend who shares your interests. A short trip will encourage you to take up a new pastime and could lead to an interesting encounter with someone you find quite special. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Expect to experience a sensitive issue when dealing with a peer, neighbor or relative. Listen attentively before you issue a response that may endanger your relationship. Offer compassion and understanding. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't waste time pondering what to do next. If you aren't enthusiastic and proactive when it comes to work, money and getting ahead, you may miss out on an opportunity that only comes along once in a lifetime.****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be aware of what everyone around you is doing. Avoid anyone who shows traits of inconsistency or overindulgence. Avoid getting involved in someone else's problems or you may end up being accused of meddling. Update your look. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Stay calm and take the time to monitor what's going on around you before you react. Too much of anything will lead to trouble. Avoid senseless spending and indulgent behavior. Work quietly on self-improvement instead of starting nonproductive discussions. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll have an interesting way of looking at a situation, but it's unlikely it will lead to productive insight. Be willing to compromise if you want to get things done on time. Make love, romance and self-improvement your priority****

Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

LANDLORD QUESTIONS TENANT'S CLAIM THAT HE SLEEPWALKS

DEAR ABBY: I am a man who owns a large four-bedroom home, and I have two tenants. One pays the rent on time, helps with cleaning and yard work, and is an all-around great roommate. The other has been here for four months, has never paid his rent on time and always disappears when we must clear off the driveway or do yard work.

The major problem I have with this guy is he sleepwalks -- at least he claims he does. He opens doors at night. Some mornings I have found the front door or garage door wide open.

Additionally, he raids the refrigerator late at night. He claims he doesn't realize he's doing it. It's really annoying to find food I prepared the night before to take to work has been eaten.

I have spoken to him about it on numerous occasions, and he claims that he can't control his sleepwalking. I feel he should have told me about his issues prior to signing the lease. None of the references he gave mentioned his sleepwalking.

Is it considered a disability? Would I be discriminating against a disability if I chose to not renew his lease because of his sleepwalking? -- LANDLORD IN WISCONSIN

DEAR LANDLORD: Because doors are being left open, it might be in your interest to install inexpensive security cameras. Sleepwalking (and sleep eating) can be symptoms of a sleep disorder, or possibly be caused by certain sleep medications. If your tenant is unaware of this, he should be informed and advised to be evaluated at a sleep disorder clinic.

Because he doesn't pay rent on time or do other things expected of him, you may not be obligated to renew his lease. My advice is to talk to a lawyer about how -- and whether -- you can get rid of this tenant.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-mother-in-law, "Blanche," takes my 14-year-old daughter, "Grace," shopping often. I was grateful at first, but now she buys her anything she wants.

Grace has a high school dance soon, and I was looking forward to shopping with her. But before I could go, Blanche took her and bought her a \$299 dress. I wasn't consulted because Grace knew I would've said no. She's a freshman and that's just way too much money to spend.

I asked them to take the dress back, and Blanche said OK. A week later I called her to explain why I said no, but instead of listening, she told me it was her Christmas and birthday present for Grace, and she wasn't taking it back. My daughter never spends that kind of money. Grace said she was keeping the dress, and I told her she was not wearing it. How do I explain this to my daughter who has become self-entitled because of her grandmother? -- ANYTHING SHE WANTS

DEAR ANYTHING: You have already explained it to your daughter. You told her it was too much money to spend. The problem isn't just Grace, it's also your ex-mother-in-law. You are Grace's mother, and your wishes should have been respected. I don't blame you for being angry.

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11/24

LET IT VE By Timothy E. Parker

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



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NORTH KOREA OWES NEW YORK CITY \$156,000 IN UNPAID PARKING TICKETS.

IN 2011, AN OPERATOR AT THE MILLENNIUM MINE IN ALBERTA, CANADA, DISCOVERED A 110-MILLION-YEAR-OLD DINOSAUR FOSSIL WITH PRESERVED SKIN, ARMOR PLATES AND SCALES.

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Calvin & Hobbes © by Bill Watterson

WHAT'S THIS STORY YOU'RE GOING TO READ ME, DAD? IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY ROMANCE IN IT, DOES IT?

UH...

EDIT IT OUT IF IT DOES. I HATE ROMANCE. DOES IT HAVE ANY BORING DESCRIPTION IN IT?

WELL...

SKIP IT IF YOU SEE ANY. I LIKE MY STORIES FAST AND GRIPPING.

IT DOESN'T HAVE A MORAL, DOES IT? I HATE BEING TOLD HOW TO LIVE MY LIFE. SKIP THE MORAL, TOO, OK?

DOES HIS MAJESTY PREFER COLOR PICTURES OR BLACK AND WHITE?

WATTERSON 11-24

PEANUTS © by Charles M. Schultz

IT'S MY LIFE, AND I'LL DO WHATEVER I WANT WITH IT!

I'M MY OWN PERSON!

IT'S MY LIFE, AND I'M THE ONE WHO HAS TO LIVE IT!!

WITH A LITTLE HELP..

SCHULTZ

WHEN DO WE TELL TRUMP THAT McMASTER SAID HE HAS THE BRAIN OF A KINDERGARTNER?

OH, GEEZ.

WELL, DON'T DISTURB HIM DURING NAP TIME.

best friend Vlad

Show and Tell

clown COAL

THEN TELL HIM HE'S FIRST IN HIS CLASS.

ANDREWS McMEEL SYNDICATION

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ZIGGY ©

...IT WAS A WONDERFUL EVENING, ZIGGY... LET'S NOT SPOIL IT BY SEEING EACH OTHER AGAIN!

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Tom Wilson

Sudoku Pacific

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

		1		5	8			
		4			6			
	7				1	4		8
		9						
3		6		2		8		4
						7		
2		8	1					6
			9			5		
			3	6		2		

11/24 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Thursday's Puzzle Answer 11/23

7	2	9	6	3	4	8	1	5
6	1	4	5	2	8	3	9	7
3	5	8	9	1	7	4	6	2
4	8	1	2	7	3	9	5	6
5	7	2	8	6	9	1	3	4
9	6	3	1	4	5	7	2	8
8	3	5	4	9	2	6	7	1
2	9	6	7	8	1	5	4	3
1	4	7	3	5	6	2	8	9

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Hagar the Horrible © by Chris Brown

HALT! WHO GOES THERE?!

YOUR MOTHER!

PROVE IT!

IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS, THREE WEEKS, FOUR DAYS AND SIXTY MINUTES SINCE YOUR LAST VISIT!

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11-24

GARFIELD © by Jim Davis

WHEN I DIET, SOMETIMES I SKIP A MEAL

BREATHE!

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JIM DAVIS 11-24

