

Knights

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“The keys to the game for us were to win the 50/50 balls and make Nevin Stinson’s night as hard as possible. We know he is going to score, but we couldn’t let him have any cheap ones,” Smith said. “In the first half, I thought every loose ball and every defensive rebound was ours. In the second half, that kind of slipped away, especially in the last couple of minutes, but it was enough to pull out the win tonight.”

The Knights’ defensive effort certainly caused problems for the Oilers (9-5 overall, 5-1 R5) on the offensive end for most of the game as they didn’t get on the score-board until Easton Liederbach found himself wide open under the basket for a layup with 2:23 left in the opening frame.

By that time, FHS (8-6, 5-1) had already opened up an 8-0 lead with Ian Higley hitting a jumper and a foul shot, Jameson Wofford draining a free throw and scoring off an offensive rebound while Alex Umbenhaur added a pair of free throws.

The basket by Liederbach didn’t exactly open the floodgates for OC’s offense as they managed only a layup from leading scorer Stinson and a free throw from Liederbach to fall behind 14-5 after one frame. Higley offered up two more free throws, Wofford had another offensive board and putback and Nate Fezell added a layup for the Knights.

The second quarter was more of the same as the Knights added

to their lead with an 18-12 scoring edge, putting the halftime score at 32-17. Nolan Parry provided a spark for FHS with six points, Higley had four points, Nate Fezell buried a three-pointer while Wofford had three points and Umbenhaur two points.

Stinson started to heat up a bit with six points in the second while Michael Fink, Liederbach and Brady Fulmer also provided buckets.

Oil City started to assert themselves in the third frame as Steven Heise banked in a three-pointer to start the stanza and Stinson followed with a layup before Derrick Jones added another layup around a layup from Jack McNulty from FHS to cut the lead down to 10 at 34-24. Both teams added 11 points to their total for the rest of the quarter to maintain the 10-point advantage for the Knights.

Heise and Liederbach both added triples for the Oilers while Stinson added four more points and Jones a free throw. Wofford answered with a pair of triples and a layup for FHS while Umbenhaur drained a three-pointer as well.

The Oilers really turned up the heat in the final period as four of the five starters scored at least four points. Despite OC’s improved play, the Knights looked to be firmly in control after Wofford threw down a dunk for a 62-48 lead, but he suffered a cramp after the play and had to leave the floor for a bit.

Oil City wasn’t discouraged, though, as Stinson tallied the next four points while Jones converted an old-fashioned three-point play to get within 62-55. After a free throw by Nate Fezell, Jones scored

on a layup and Heise stole the ball and hit a jumper to get within 63-59.

However, those were the last points the Oilers would score as the Knights held on for the key R5 win.

“I think the biggest thing we can take away from a game like this is the fight we showed down the stretch. There was 1:20 left and I think we were down 11 or 12 points, so to get it down to four points just shows that we are capable of fighting like that,” Chapin said. “That was one of the best post-loss locker rooms I’ve ever been apart of, just because all the kids are using that as motivation. We saw how we played down the stretch, and if we can put that together for a whole game, we are a very dangerous team. I think showing the fight down the stretch not only showed the coaches what we are capable of, but it showed the kids what we are capable of as well.”

Wofford led the Knights with a game-high 21 points and 18 rebounds to go with several blocked shots. Higley followed with 13 points while Umbenhaur provided 10 points off the bench.

Stinson finished with 20 points, Jones had 11, Heise 10 and Fink added eight.

“I feel like tonight, our togetherness was the highest it’s been. Our bench was loud the whole game and every guy was cheering for each other,” Smith said. “We’d been dealing with some disgruntlement lately, but everyone that got in the game tonight, and even everyone that didn’t, were all on the same page.”

Roundup

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Rocky Grove 88, Jamestown 18

Rocky Grove’s boys basketball team continued its grip on first place in the Region 2 standings.

The Orioles soared past Jamestown to claim their 10th win on the year and upped their region mark to 6-0.

Rocky Grove (10-4) used a dominant 23-4 first quarter to take command. The hosts made it a 51-9 game at halftime and cruised to the mercy-rule victory in the second half.

Noah Baughman led the way with a game-high 25 points and four assists. Landon Carter finished with a double-double of 22 points, 10 rebounds, four assists and four steals. Dreyden Hughes added six points. Landon Jones had five points, five rebounds and four assists. Aiden Focht finished with three points and six boards. Connor Ritchey grabbed 10 rebounds and had three blocks. Axel Myers had two points and four rebounds. Max Griffin added three assists.

Justyn Graves and Joel Cole both led the Muskies (1-13, 1-4) with four points.

Cochranton 77, Cambridge Springs 50

CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS — Walker Carroll and Tyler Wright combined for 33 points to lead the Cardinals to the Region 2 road win.

Cochranton (6-5, 3-2) posted a 19-13 edge after the first and pulled away with a 27-point second for a 46-25 margin. The Spa (3-10, 1-3) won the third, but the Cardinals



Photo by Christy Fackler

Rocky Grove's Noah Baughman drives to the rim on his way to a game-high 25 points.

closed out with a 17-10 fourth to seal the win.

Carroll led Cochranton with 17 points, while Wright added 16. C.J. Shorts added 13 points. J.J. Walker and Noah Carroll both added eight points.

Latavion Fitzpatrick led the Blue Devils with 13 points.

THE DAILY SCOREBOARD

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS

NHL Expanded Conference Standings										
EASTERN CONFERENCE										
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div
Carolina	48	29	15	4	62	167	143	17-8-1	12-7-3	10-3-0
Detroit	49	29	16	4	62	153	150	17-8-1	12-8-3	8-4-2
Tampa Bay	45	29	13	3	61	160	116	12-9-0	17-4-3	6-3-1
N.Y. Islanders	48	26	15	7	59	162	159	13-10-1	13-5-6	8-6-1
Montreal	47	26	16	5	57	139	130	14-8-2	12-8-3	7-5-2
Buffalo	46	26	16	4	56	153	143	16-6-2	10-10-2	8-3-2
Boston	48	27	19	2	56	159	148	17-8-1	10-11-1	8-8-0
Pittsburgh	46	22	14	10	54	147	140	11-7-6	11-7-4	9-1-3
Toronto	47	23	16	8	54	158	153	16-5-5	7-11-3	6-6-2
Washington	48	24	18	6	54	155	138	14-9-3	10-9-3	9-3-2
Philadelphia	46	22	16	8	52	138	143	12-7-5	10-9-3	5-2-4
Florida	46	24	19	3	51	140	154	14-9-3	10-10-0	5-7-1
New Jersey	47	24	21	2	50	126	145	12-8-2	12-13-0	4-8-2
Ottawa	46	22	19	5	49	151	153	11-9-3	11-10-2	5-5-3
Columbus	47	21	19	7	49	144	157	11-7-4	10-12-3	3-7-3
N.Y. Rangers	48	20	22	6	46	126	147	5-13-4	15-9-2	5-6-1

WESTERN CONFERENCE										
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div
Colorado	45	33	4	8	74	182	103	19-0-3	14-4-5	8-0-4
Dallas	48	27	12	9	63	162	135	12-6-3	15-6-6	7-4-1
Minnesota	48	26	13	9	61	150	136	13-6-6	13-7-3	7-4-2
Vegas	46	23	11	12	58	153	143	11-6-6	12-5-6	7-2-4
Edmonton	48	23	17	8	54	159	158	11-6-4	12-11-4	5-2-3
Utah	48	24	20	4	52	147	132	13-7-2	11-13-2	8-6-0
Seattle	46	21	16	9	51	127	135	10-7-5	11-9-4	10-4-1
San Jose	47	24	20	3	51	148	168	13-9-3	11-11-0	7-7-2
Los Angeles	46	19	16	11	49	122	131	7-10-6	12-6-5	5-1-6
Nashville	46	22	20	4	48	129	151	13-10-2	9-10-2	6-8-2
Anaheim	46	22	21	3	47	153	169	13-8-1	9-13-2	4-5-0
Chicago	47	19	21	7	45	131	149	10-11-4	9-10-3	6-4-1
St. Louis	47	18	21	8	44	117	161	11-9-5	7-12-3	5-8-0
Calgary	47	20	23	4	44	122	141	12-7-2	8-16-2	7-6-0
Winnipeg	46	19	22	5	43	141	144	11-9-3	8-13-2	5-6-2
Vancouver	47	16	26	5	37	126	170	4-12-3	12-14-2	4-4-2

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild card per conference advance to playoffs.

Thursday's Games

Columbus 4, Vancouver 10
San Jose 3, Washington 2
Pittsburgh 6, Philadelphia 3
Buffalo 5, Montreal 3
Winnipeg 6, Minnesota 2
Boston 4, Seattle 2
Calgary 3, Chicago 1
N.Y. Islanders 1, Edmonton 0
Utah 2, Dallas 1
Vegas 6, Toronto 5, OT
Friday's Games
Detroit 4, San Jose 2
Carolina 9, Florida 1
Tampa Bay at St. Louis, late
Nashville at Colorado, late
Anaheim at Los Angeles, late
Saturday's Games
Minnesota at Buffalo, 12:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Calgary, 3 p.m.
Seattle at Utah, 5 p.m.
Carolina at New Jersey, 7 p.m.

Columbus at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.

Florida at Washington, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Los Angeles at Anaheim, 10 p.m.
Nashville at Vegas, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Tampa Bay at Dallas, 2 p.m.
Ottawa at Detroit, 5 p.m.
St. Louis at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Monday's Games
Buffalo at Carolina, 1:30 p.m.
Washington at Colorado, 4 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Seattle, 5 p.m.
San Jose at Florida, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Vegas, 8 p.m.
Winnipeg at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Calgary, 9 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE

Wild-card Playoffs	
Saturday, Jan. 10	
L.A. Rams 34, Carolina 31	
Chicago 31, Green Bay 27	
Sunday, Jan. 11	
Buffalo 27, Jacksonville 24	
San Francisco 23, Philadelphia 19	
New England 16, L.A. Chargers 3	
Monday, Jan. 12	
Houston 30, Pittsburgh 6	
Divisional Playoffs	
Saturday, Jan. 17	
Buffalo at Denver, 4:30 p.m.	
San Francisco at Seattle, 8:00 p.m.	
Sunday, Jan. 18	
Houston at New England, 3:00 p.m.	
L.A. Rams at Chicago, 6:30 p.m.	
Conference Championships	
Sunday, Jan. 25	
AFC lowest remaining seed at AFC highest remaining seed	
NFC	
NFC lowest remaining seed at NFC highest remaining seed	
Super Bowl LIX	
Sunday, Feb. 8	
At Santa Clara.	
Conference Championships winners, 6:30 p.m. (NBC/Peacock)	

TRANSACTIONS	
BASEBALL	
Major League Baseball American League	
DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with OF Diego Otero on a minor league contract.	
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Acquired INF Gavin Lux and RHP Chris Clark in a three-team trade with Cincinnati and the Los Angeles Angels. Tampa Bay traded OF Josh Lowe to the L.A. Angels. The L.A. Angels traded LHP Brock Burke to Cincinnati.	
National League	
MIAMI MARLINS — Claimed RHP Osvaldo Bido off waivers from the Houston Astros.	
NEW YORK METS — Agreed to terms with INFs Wandy Asigen, Sebastian Toro, Christopher Jaquez, Oscar Pena, Michelle Mercedes, Johnhrires Sanchez and Dayron Oramas, RHPs Oscar Montero, Yunior Canario, Cristian Rosario, Sebastian Gomez, Jhoangel Marquez, Gensil Dudamel and Edgardo Rodriguez, OF Cleiner Ramirez, Ryan Ruda, Yerey Reyes, Emerson Estevez, Royer Bravo, Henry Manrique and Elvis Teran, Cs Frank Moreno, Adrian La Rosa and Yadier Flores and LHPs Eduardo Pina and Mauricio Nunez on minor league contracts. Claimed INF Tsung-che Cheng off waivers from the Tampa Bay Rays.	
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Agreed to terms with RHPs Noah Davis and Chris Devenski on minor league contracts.	
BASKETBALL	
National Basketball Association	
ATLANTA HAWKS — Signed C Christian Koloko to a two-way contract.	
L.A. CLIPPERS — Signed F Patrick Baldwin Jr. to a 10-day contract.	
FOOTBALL	
National Football League	
BUFFALO BILLS — Activated WR Curtis Samuel and DT Ed Oliver from injured reserve.	

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic	25	15	.625	—
Boston	25	15	.625	—
New York	25	16	.610	1/2
Toronto	25	18	.581	1
Phila.	22	18	.550	3
Brooklyn	12	27	.308	12 1/2
Southeast				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	23	18	.561	—
Miami	21	20	.512	2
Atlanta	20	23	.465	4
Charlotte	15	26	.366	8
Washington	10	29	.256	12
Central				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	29	10	.744	—
Cleveland	24	19	.558	7
Chicago	19	22	.463	11
Milwaukee	17	24	.415	13
Indiana	10	32	.238	20 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Southwest	28	13	.683	—
San Antonio	23	15	.605	3 1/2
Houston	17	23	.425	10 1/2
Memphis	16	26	.381	12 1/2
Dallas	10	34	.227	19 1/2
Northwest				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	35	7	.833	—
Oklahoma City	28	13	.683	6 1/2
Denver	27	14	.659	7 1/2
Minnesota	20	22	.476	15
Portland	14	27	.341	20 1/2
Utah	14	27	.341	20 1/2
Pacific				
	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	24	15	.615	—
Phoenix	24	17	.585	1
Golden State	23	19	.548	2 1/2
L.A. Clippers	18	23	.439	7
Sacramento	11	30	.268	14

Thursday's Games

Orlando 118, Memphis 111

Detroit 108, Phoenix 105

Oklahoma City 111, Houston 91

Boston 119, Miami 114

San Antonio 119, Milwaukee 101

Dallas 144, Utah 122

Portland 117, Atlanta 101

Golden State 126, New York 113

Charlotte 135, L.A. Lakers 117

Friday's Games

Indiana 127, New Orleans 119

Cleveland 117, Phila. 115

Brooklyn 112, Chicago 109

L.A. Clippers 121, Toronto 117, OT

Minnesota at Houston, late

Washington at Sacramento, late

Saturday's Games

Utah at Dallas, 5 p.m.

Boston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

Indiana at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix at New York, 7:30 p.m.

Minnesota at San Antonio, 8 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Miami, 8 p.m.

Charlotte at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.

Washington at Denver, 9 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Portland, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Memphis vs Orlando, 12 p.m., London, United Kingdom

Brooklyn at Chicago, 7 p.m.

New Orleans at Houston, 7 p.m.

Charlotte at Denver, 8 p.m.

Portland at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

Toronto at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

SCHOLASTIC BASKETBALL

VARSITY BOYS	
OIL CITY (59)	
Fink 3	2-4 8, Heise 4 0-0 10, Stinson 7 6-9 20, Singleton 0 0-0 0, Jones 3 5-7 11, Liederbach 3 1-2 8, Beichner 0 0-0 0, Fulmer 1 0-0 2, Thompson 0 0-0 0.
Totals: 21 14-22 59.	