

Hampden pulls away from Bangor for 4th victory

HAMPDEN — The Hampden Academy and Bangor boys basketball teams aren't pursuing the same prize anymore, with the rivals now separated thanks to the state's new five-class format for the sport.

But you wouldn't know that by the intensity level on display Tuesday night, as senior guard Jake Black scored 17 points — including four 3-pointers — to help defending Class A state champion Hampden score a 54-46 win in what is now an inter-class matchup.

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Bangor, now 1-3 in its first season of Class AA competition, used aggressive defense to stay within striking distance of the four-time reigning Eastern A champion Broncos for most of the night.

But a 9-0 Hampden run at the outset of the second half stretched the Broncos' lead to double digits, and while Bangor's Justin Smith kept his team in contention with a flurry of 3-pointers the Rams couldn't get closer than seven points the rest of the way.

"I don't think it was a thing of beauty, but we were on the right end of the score," said Hampden coach Russ Bartlett, whose team is now 4-0 to start the season.

Senior guard Nick Gilpin added 14 points and game-high totals of 10 rebounds, six assists and four steals for Hampden, while sophomore center Ian McIntyre added 13 points and five rebounds.

Black also contributed four blocked shots, but it was his long-range shooting that helped the Broncos maintain a modest lead for most of the evening.

"I thought we did a pretty good job, as experienced, as composed as they are, forcing them into some mistakes," said Bangor coach Carl Parker. "But it seemed every time we forced them into a mistake Jake would hit a three."

Bangor induced several early Hampden turnovers to take a 10-5 lead on a baseline jumper by Smith



ASHLEY L. CONTI | BDN

Hampden Academy's Conary Moore (right) drives the lane past Bangor's Peter Kemble during their game Tuesday in Hampden. The Broncos won 54-46.

midway through the first quarter, but Black nailed a 3-pointer from the corner and Gilpin converted a steal into a three-point play to give the Broncos their first lead at 11-10.

A layup by Ian Nagle gave Bangor a 12-11 edge at the end of the quarter, but a spinning move in the low post and a layup by Ian McIntyre gave Hampden an 18-16 lead en route to a 25-22 halftime advantage.

Gilpin came out quickly to start the third quarter, following in his own miss and then taking a steal in for a layup to make it 29-22.

Another spin move in the lane by Ian McIntyre followed, then Black converted a layup off another Gilpin steal and Conar Moore made 1 of 2 from the line off a fast-break attempt to push Hampden's advantage to 34-22 less than three minutes into the period.

Smith countered for Bangor with a 3-pointer and a drive, and when freshman Marc Hutchings followed with a short jumper, the Rams were back within 36-29.

Bangor got no closer but Hampden wasn't able to pull away, either.

"I don't think we have that killer instinct yet to put people away and

that's something we need to develop," said Bartlett. "We've obviously had it in the past and this group had it last year, but we haven't shown that yet this year.

"Last year when we got games to 10 we'd win by 20 almost every time, and right now we're just kind of holding on. If we don't figure that out shortly we'll get caught. We easily could have tonight but we made enough plays down the stretch."

Brewer 56, Messalonskee 51

At Brewer, Carter Smith scored 25 points to lead Brewer by Messalonskee.

Matt Pushard chipped in with 21 points and 16 rebounds to help the Witches overcome a five-point deficit in the fourth quarter. Messalonskee was led by James Lathrop with 15

Messalonskee was led by James Lathrop with 15 points and Tyler Turner added 12.

Brewer 21 29 36 56
Mess. 21 32 41 51

Searsport 66, Sumner 58

At East Sullivan, Grant Barrett

poured in a game-high 38 points, including 17 from the foul line, to carry Searsport to victory.

Bryce Shorey chipped in with 23 points for the Vikings.

Alex O'Hara led the way for Sumner with 19 points. Jordan Bernier tallied 13 points and Christiansen added nine.

Searsport scorers: Phillips 0-0-3, Powell 0-2-2, Shorey 3-8-23, Barrett 6-17-38

Sumner: Davies 1-1-6, Eklund 1-1-3, Bernier 4-5-13, Pinkham 1-0-2, K. McLean 0-0-3, O'Hara 2-9-19, C. McLean 0-0-3, Christiansen 0-6-9

3-pt. goals: Barrett 3, Shorey 3, Phillips; Davies, K. McLean, C. McLean, O'Hara 2, Christiansen

Nokomis 52, Waterville 33

At Newport, the Warriors surged to a nine-point halftime lead and then steadily pulled away from the Panthers to record the win.

Mike Massow paced Nokomis with 14 points and eight rebounds. Josh Smedstad chipped in with 13 points, four rebounds, six assists and five steals.

Justin Kornsey scored 10 points to lead Waterville and Devon Begin added nine.

Waterville 11 19 25 33

Nokomis 19 28 41 52
3-pt. goals: Baird, Hartsgrove, Allen, Barre, Begin

Girls Basketball

Messalonskee 62, Brewer 44

At Oakland, Sophie Holmes scored 18 points to lead the Eagles by the Witches.

McKenna Brodeur chipped in with 14 points for Messalonskee, now 3-1.

Emily Lord led the Witches with 13 points. Brewer is now 2-2.

Ellsworth 42, Old Town 34

At Old Town, Morgan Card connected for a game-high 18 points to propel the Eagles to victory.

Kate Whitney contributed nine points for Ellsworth.

Abby Sharp paced Old Town with 12 points and Mikayla Rich-

ards provided nine points.

Ellsworth: C. Bean 1-1-3, K. Bagley 3-0-7, O. Colby, M. Card 7-4-18, H. Sargent 1-0-3, K. Omlor, C. Hammer 1-0-2, B. Cummings, K. Whitney 3-1-9

Old Town: M. Folsom, M. Richards 3-0-9, N. St. Louis, B. Mishou 1-0-3, C. Saucier, C. Holmes, A. Albert 2-2-6, C. King 1-2-4, A. Sharp 3-6-12

3-pt. goals: M. Richards 3, B. Mishou 1, K. Bagley, H. Sargent, K. Whitney

Ellsworth 13 23 32 42

Old Town 8 19 25 34

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Oilers edge Bruins for rare win in Boston

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

BOSTON, Massachusetts — Monday night's overtime at TD Garden lasted 41 seconds.

The Edmonton Oilers had the puck in the Boston Bruins' zone the entire time.

Guess who won. "Obviously the more you can hold on to it, the better," center Ryan Nugent-Hopkins said after assisting on defenseman Andrej Sekera's OT winner that gave the surging Oilers their sixth straight win, a 3-2 decision over the Bruins.

"You don't just want to give it up for no reason, you don't want to dump it in too much and take low percentage shots or anything like that," Nugent-Hopkins said. "It's something that we talked about, and the coaches talked to us about."

Nugent-Hopkins, Sekera and right winger Jordan Eberle (one goal, two assists and another goal waved off by a quick whistle) were the three Oilers. Nugent-Hopkins, who scored off Eberle's feed in the first period, had the first shot on goal. Eberle wound up feeding Sekera, whose shot was stopped in front by defenseman Torey Krug. The puck came right back to Sekera, who beat



BOB DECHIARA | USA TODAY

Edmonton Oilers goalie Cam Talbot makes a save off a shot from Boston Bruins center Frank Vatrano during the second period Monday night at TD Garden in Boston.

goalender Jonas Gustavsson with his second goal of the season.

That made a winner out of backup goaltender Cam Talbot, who made a career-high 47 saves to win for the first time since Oct. 29 in his second start since Nov. 14.

The win gave the Oilers, whose new general manager, Peter Chiarelli, was dumped by the Bruins after last season, a sweep of the

two-game series with the Bruins, with both games decided in extra time.

It was also Edmonton's first win at TD Garden since Nov. 7, 1996 as the Oilers ended a 10-game winless streak in Boston. They also won for only the third time in their last 16 games against Boston, moving to 14-15-2 on the season.

Talbot (4-8-1) recorded the first 40-save game of his ca-

reer as the Oilers improved to 7-2 in extra time.

"We're a smart group of players. We know that we stole one here tonight," Edmonton coach Todd McLellan said. "Our goaltender played a tremendous game for us ... I think we can be better in a lot of areas. That was a taste for our group that haven't played in the playoffs in a long time. For me that was like a playoff game."

Manning could start for Broncos this week

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

For the first time in four weeks, Denver Broncos head coach Gary Kubiak opted not to use his Monday news conference to declare Brock Osweiler starting quarterback for the next game.

Kubiak instead wants time to discuss the decision with the key parties, including vice president John Elway and Peyton Manning.

Manning may be back in the starting lineup this week but health will be a major factor.

Osweiler is 3-1 as the Broncos' starting quarterback, but Manning has said all along that Manning would be the starter when he is healthy. However, now Kubiak has to wait until later in the week to determine whether Manning is healthy enough to play.

"I've got to see where (Man-

ning) is at," Kubiak said. "We've got to talk through his situation, where we're at, and talk to 'Greek' (head athletic trainer Steve Antonopoulos)."

Manning, 39, has been sidelined with a variety of injuries, the most serious of which is a foot injury.

He has not played in a game since being removed in the third quarter of a Nov. 15 game against Kansas City, a contest the Broncos lost 29-13.

Manning returned to the practice field for throwing sessions last week, but he has

not gone through a full practice since early November.

"We went through a good week last week. We gave him the weekend off, so we'll see where we're at," Kubiak said of Manning. "We'll have a plan in place by the time we get to Wednesday, but we'll see where we're at today, and kind of take it a day at a time."

Although the Broncos have won three of the four games Osweiler has started, the Denver offense has produced only one touchdown in its last eight quarters.

Pete Rose takes rejection in stride

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

Pete Rose is disappointed with the latest decision to continue to ban him from the Major League Baseball but says he'll continue to be baseball's biggest fan.

Rose held a news conference on Tuesday in Las Vegas after commissioner Rob Manfred issued a three-page statement a day earlier

with his reasons for upholding Rose's lifetime banishment for betting on baseball as Cincinnati Reds manager that has been in place since Aug. 24, 1989.

Baseball's career hits leader confirmed what he told Manfred during a meeting in September that he still gambles but that he now has his life under control. Rose is employed by Mandalay Bay Casino.

"I've worked hard at it," Rose said "I've got it under wraps the last several years. I'm under control right now. Unlike 30 years ago, when I was out of control as a gambler.

"I live in Las Vegas because that's where my job is. You're probably the same as me — I'm a recreational gambler. I don't bet every day. I'm not a casino guy. I don't play blackjack, roulette, dice, all that stuff.

"I occasionally like to bet on horses because I used to be a horse owner and have a

lot of respect for people in that industry. But everything I do is legal. I'm very selective with people I associate with now."

The 74-year-old Rose thanked Manfred for meeting with him and described their relationship as cordial, saying he knows he put the new commissioner "in a tough spot to make a judgment on my situation."

Manfred disclosed that Rose acknowledged during their meeting that he bet on Reds games in 1986 when he was a player-manager. He previously admitted that he gambled while serving as Reds manager after retiring from playing.

"I'm disappointed, obviously disappointed," Rose said. "But I will continue to be the best baseball fan in the world. ... I'm a baseball player. I'm a baseball person, and that's never gonna change."

Rose mentioned a number of teammates who went on to receive induction into the Hall of Fame and still hopes to one day join them in Cooperstown.

"I think I can teach lots of people not to make same mistakes I made, to learn from my situation," he said. "People headed down the wrong path can learn from my situation."

Rose first applied for reinstatement in 1997 and met with then-commissioner Bud Selig in 2002. He finished his playing career in 1986 with a major league-record 4,256 hits and managed the Reds until 1989.

Giants

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the playoffs since 2008. Miami has not won a playoff game since going 1-1 in the 2000-01 postseason.

Now their season is essentially over.

"We're going to see who really loves the game," Dolphins interim coach Dan Campbell said of his players.

Miami got two rushing touchdowns from running back Lamar Miller and a TD throw from quarterback Ryan Tannehill.

The Giants are still in the thick of the playoff race, tied with the Philadelphia Eagles and Washington Redskins for first place in the

NFC East. True, all three teams have losing records at 6-7, but who cares at this point? The most important thing from the Giants' perspective is that they are tied for first and they earned a big road win on "Monday Night Football."

The defense must be better if New York is going to maximize its potential. The Giants gave up 24 points Monday and forced just one turnover. On the bright side, the Giants improved as the game went on, holding Miami to just seven points in the second half.

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Warriors

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Shooting guard Klay Thompson, who sat out the game at Boston last week, practiced Monday and should play Wednesday, according to Walton.

"He said he feels good today. Says his ankle feels good. Looks like he's moving well," Walton said.

NOTES: The Miami Heat recalled forward-center Jarnell Stokes from Sioux Falls of the NBA Development League on Tuesday. Stokes is expected to be with the Heat for their road game against the Brooklyn Nets on Wednesday night.

In seven starts for the Skyforce this season, Stokes has averaged 18.1 points, 8.9 rebounds, 1.3 steals and 1.1 blocks and has shot 65.9 percent from the floor. Sioux Falls has a 6-1 record in games

played by Stokes, who has two double-doubles and four games with at least 20 points. In two games for the Heat this season, Stokes has not scored. He played in 21 games last season and averaged 2.7 points and 1.7 rebounds. ... The Detroit Pistons have recalled guards Spencer Dinwiddie and Darrun Hilliard from the Grand Rapids Drive of the NBA Development League. Dinwiddie has played in nine games for Detroit this season,

averaging 4.4 points, 1.0 rebounds and 1.4 assists in 12.3 minutes per game. Hilliard has appeared in seven games, averaging 3.0 points and 0.9 rebounds in 6.5 minutes per game. Hilliard scored a team-high 23 points with four rebounds, three assists and three steals in 33 minutes in Sunday's game against Fort Wayne. Dinwiddie added seven points with three rebounds and two assists in 28 minutes.