

Balanced Houlton boys beat Caribou for first win

HOULTON — Balanced scoring and 18-for-29 free-throw shooting helped Houlton pull away and post a 44-37 boys basketball victory over Caribou for its first win of the season.

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Garrett Ring and Jacob Brown tossed in 12 points each to lead the Shiretowners (1-5).

Donovan Savage poured in a game-best 21 points for 1-3 Caribou.

Caribou: Savage 8-4-21, Sheldon 3-0-6, Allen 2-0-4, Wright 1-2-4, Massey 1-0-2

Houlton: Ring 4-4-12, Brown 3-6-12, Fox 4-0-8, Graham 0-6-6, Cleary 2-2-6

Caribou 11 19 27 37
Houlton 12 16 27 44
3-pt. goals: Savage
JV: Houlton 37-26

Ft. Fairfield 61, Madawaska 27

At Madawaska, Chris Giberson scored 14 points to lead the Tigers to victory over the Owls.

Isaac Cyr connected for 12 points for Fort Fairfield.

Craig Gendreau's eight points paced Madawaska.

Fort Fairfield: Cassidy 1-0-2, Player 3-0-6, Cyr 6-0-12, Giberson 6-0-14, Jellison 1-1-3, Kinney 2-0-4, Bernard 1-0-2, Langner 1-0-2, Goshorn 3-1-7, Ricker 0-1-1, Caldwell 2-2-6, Bruce 1-0-2, Daigle, Harvey

Madawaska: Cyr 2-0-4, M. Gendreau 0-2-2, C. Gendreau 4-0-8, Lavoie 3-0-6, Cyr 1-0-2, Hebert 1-1-3, Desjardins 0-2-2, Bourgoin, Tousseint, Epstein

Fort Fairfield 15 35 46 61
Madawaska 6 12 18 27
3-pt. goals: Giberson 2

Bangor 58, Windham 54

At Red Barry Gym in Bangor, Ethan Dorman scored 23 points and added a 8 rebounds, 4 steals and 4 assists to lead the Bangor Rams to victory over Windham in Class AA action.

Justin Smith scored 13 points with 5 rebounds while Peter Kemble put together a double-double with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Mike Gilman scored 21 points to lead Windham while Kyle Kilfoil and Nick Curtis pitched in with 10 each.

Girls Basketball

So. Aroostook 70, Ashland 27
At Ashland, Kylie Vining led five teammates in double digits with 16 points as Southern Aroostook of Dyer Brook rolled past the Hornets.

Sydney Brewer and Cassidy Mathers added 13 and 12 points, respectively, for the Warriors. Katelyn Slauenwhite and Madison Cummings chipped in 10 apiece.

Laura Sturgeon paced Ashland with seven points while Morgan Doughty added six.

Ashland: Doughty 3-0-6, Stratton 1-3-5, Sturgeon 3-0-7, Driscoll, 1-3-5, Carter 0-1-1, Tardie 2-1-3

Southern Aroostook: Vining 5-6-16, Porter 2-3-7, Brewer 6-1-13, Slauenwhite 5-0-10, Morales 1-0-2, Mathers 5-2-12, Cummings 4-2-10

SA 20 40 55 70
Ashland 9 14 20 27
3-pt. goals: Sturgeon

Schenck 37, PVHS 35

At Howland, Kayla Falone had 13 points and Chantel Lane chipped in 11 to pace the Schenck Wolverines to victory.

Sami Ireland and Amy Hallett sparked Penobscot Valley with 13 and 11 points, respectively.

Schenck: K. Falone 13, Lane 11, Sewall 7, Osborne 2, S. Falone 2, McLaughlin 2, Chase, Noddin

PVHS: Hallett 11, Ireland 13, Roy 4, E. McKinnon 3, A. McKinnon 3, Davis 1, King

Schenck 15 23 32 37
PVHS 11 23 29 35
JV: PVHS 35-34

Dexter 44, Stearns 29

At Guiski Gymnasium in Dexter, Megan Peach scored 18 points to pace the Tigers to the win.

Katie Batron contributed 13 points for the winners.

Abigail Russell led Stearns of Millinocket with 8 points and Peighton Ingersoll chipped in with 7.



ASHLEY L. CONTI | BDN

Central's Ethan Mailman (center) soars for two past Old Town's Chad Barlett (left), Jake Jarvis (second from right), and Andre Miller in Corinth on Wednesday. Old Town won 63-45.

Stearns: Russell 3-1-8, Ingersoll 2-2-7, Girsas 2-1-5, Alley 2-1-5, Waceken 1-0-2, Carter 1-0-2, Farquhar, Marter, Stanley, Jamo, B. Girsas

Dexter: Peach 5-8-18, Batron 4-5-13, Theodore 3-1-7, Cunningham 2-0-4, A. Webber 0-2-2, Pratt, Reynolds, K. Webber, Lewis, Patterson, Deering

MCI 44, Mount View 40

At Pittsfield on Tuesday, April McAlpine tallied 16 points to lead Maine Central Institute to the win in double-overtime. Jody Bickford chipped in with 11 points.

Jenny Nadeau scored 20 points for Mount View.

MCI moves to 2-4 while Mount View is now 1-5.

Foxcroft 48, Orono 35

At Orono on Tuesday, Abby Simpson lead three players in double figures,

scoring a game-high 17 points to lead Foxcroft over Orono.

Grace Bickford and Madison Chadbourne each contributed 12 points for the Ponies of Dover-Foxcroft.

Syd Robertson led Orono with 10 points with Cassidy Dill and Hannah Steelman contributing 8 and 7 points, respectively.

Foxcroft: A Bourget 3-4-7, A Bourget, Bickford 3-6-12, Chadbourne 3-6-12, Beaudry, Simpson 8-0-17

Orono: 1-5-7, White, Dill 3-0-8, Clement 1-2-4, Richards 1-2-4, Robertson 4-2-10, Henderson 1-0-2, Honey, Witham

Foxcroft 10 19 29 48
Orono 7 19 24 35

Valley 50, Greenville 18

At Bingham on Tuesday, Haven Mayhew and Jordan Belanger scored 11 points

each to lead the Cavaliers to victory.

Kendra Sweet netted 10 points for Valley.

Emily Vraux tallied eight points to pace Greenville.

Greenville: Bilodeau 0-1-1, Am. Carrier, Pelletier, Jardine 1-0-2, Bussell, M. Ward 0-1-1, S. Ward 1-0-2, Vraux 4-0-8, Ab. Carrier 1-2-4

Valley: C. Savoy 1-1-4, Mayhew 5-1-11, Marden 2-0-4, Sweet 4-2-10, K. Savoy, Davis 2-3-8, Belanger 4-3-11, West, Campanelli 1-0-2 Brochu

Greenville 0 9 15 18
Valley 11 21 33 50
3-pt. goals: C. Savoy, Davis

Calais 67, Woodland 50

At Baileyville, freshman Sydney Farrar scored 23 points on Wednesday night to lead the Blue Devils to victory over Woodland.

Faith Tirrell added 14

points for Calais.

Sophomore Jennie Cox led Woodland with a game-high 22 points. Freshman Sadie Smith added 14 points.

Calais: Tirrell 5-3-14, Maxwell 3-0-7, Cavanaugh 1-0-2, Farrar 10-2-23, Lola 0-1-1, Huckins 0-2-2, Doten 2-0-4, Maholland 3-0-6, Mitchell 1-0-2, Vargas 1-0-2, Waycott 2-0-4

Woodland: Johnson 1-0-2, Grass 2-0-4, Fitch 2-0-4, Cox 10-1-22, Smith 7-0-14, Cook 1-0-2, Monk 1-0-2

Calais 21 41 56 67
Woodland 12 18 31 50
3-pt. goals: Cox, Tirrell, Maxwell, Farrar

Ellsworth 51, Hermon 43

At Ellsworth on Tuesday, Madison Card's game-high 15 points led the Eagles to their fifth win. Hannah Sargent added 11 points and Kate Whitney chipped in with 10.

Osweiler to start again for Broncos

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

The Denver Broncos announced Wednesday that Brock Osweiler will start for the

NFL NOTEBOOK

s i x t h straight game at quarterback as Peyton Manning's injured left foot requires more time to heal.

Manning was not expected to practice Wednesday or be part of the active roster for Monday night's game against the Cincinnati Bengals so he can focus on recovering from a torn plantar fascia.

Head coach Gary Kubiak notified the team Wednesday morning of the situation. Manning had hoped to practice this week.

The Broncos (10-4) have dropped back-to-back games and have not scored in the second half in the last three games.

Beckham loses suspension appeal

The NFL upheld New York Giants wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr.'s one-game suspension for multiple on-field confrontations against Carolina Panthers cornerback Josh Norman.

The appeal was heard Wednesday in New York by James Thrash, a former NFL wide receiver in his first year working with the league. Beckham will miss the Giants' road game against the Minnesota Vikings on Sunday night.

NFL official spokesperson Michael Signora announced the suspension on Monday after Beckham had three

personal fouls called against him during the Giants' 38-35 loss to the Panthers at MetLife Stadium on Sunday. The suspension is for "multiple violations of safety-related playing rules."

"Acts that jeopardize the safety of players or expose them to unnecessary risk cannot be tolerated," NFL vice president of football operations Merton Hanks said in his letter to Beckham on Monday.

Beckham has 91 catches for 1,396 yards and 13 touchdowns this season.

"I appealed my suspension because it is a right granted to all players under the NFL's CBA and because I owe it to my teammates to do everything I can to be on the field this week," Beckham said in a statement. "Regardless of the outcome of my appeal, I apologize for my actions on Sunday. I work hard to be great and accepting the Blessing of having the physical skills to play at this level brings the responsibility to conduct myself in a certain way on and off the field.

"Sportsmanship and respecting the game are as important as blocking, running routes and catching the football. I dropped the ball on sportsmanship on Sunday. I apologize to my teammates, the Giants organization, and to all fans of the NFL."

The competitive banter between Beckham and Norman escalated to the point of multiple physical confrontations.

Beckham delivered a deliberate shot to the helmet of Norman after the play was

over in one incident and they repeatedly were shoving and wrestling with each other.

On one drive, Beckham was flagged twice for unnecessary roughness and Norman also drew an unnecessary roughness penalty.

Under the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the suspension may be appealed within three business days. Appeals are heard and decided by either Derrick Brooks or James Thrash. The two former NFL players are the officers jointly appointed and compensated by the NFL and NFL Players Association to decide appeals of on-field player discipline.

During the suspension, Beckham will not be permitted to attend team meetings and functions, attend or watch practices, appear at the club's facilities for any reason, attend press conferences, appear at the team's Dec. 27 game or have contact with any club personnel except to arrange off-site medical treatment or rehabilitation.

Beckham will be reinstated on Monday, Dec. 28.

Hali has surgery for broken thumb

Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Tamba Hali broke his thumb in last Sunday's game against the Baltimore Ravens, head coach Andy Reid confirmed Wednesday.

Hali underwent surgery on Tuesday and his status is undetermined for this Sunday's game against the Cleveland Browns at Arrowhead Stadium.

Hali, who was named to

the Pro Bowl on Tuesday, has three small screws in his thumb and is wearing a splint.

Eifert remains in concussion protocol

Cincinnati Bengals tight end Tyler Eifert remains in concussion protocol and may miss Monday night's game against the Denver Broncos.

NFL Media's Rand Getlin reported Eifert will not play, but the Cincinnati Enquirer reported the Bengals have not ruled out the Pro Bowl tight end for the game at Denver.

Eifert missed last Sunday's game against the San Francisco 49ers due to the concussion. An Enquirer team source indicated Eifert may move out of protocol as soon as Thursday.

Eifert left in the first half of the Dec. 13 loss to Pittsburgh after taking a hit from Steelers safety Mike Mitchell, who was fined \$23,152 for the play.

Eifert, 25, worked out on the side of practice on Wednesday. He has career highs in receptions (48), yards (564) and touchdowns (12) this season.

Hoyer practices, still in concussion protocol

Houston Texans quarterback Brian Hoyer returned to practice on a limited basis Wednesday, but he remains under the NFL concussion protocol.

Hoyer's playing status is still in doubt for Sunday's game against the Tennessee Titans.

Harvard handles Auburn in tourney

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

Harvard never trailed and advanced to the final of the Division I Classic on Wednesday with a 69-51 spanking of Auburn at the Stan Sheriff Center in Honolulu.

Five players scored in double figures for the balanced Crimson (5-6), led by 14 points from freshman guard Corey Johnson. Forwards Zena Edosomwan and Evan Cummins contributed 13 each and forward Agunwa Okolie had 11 points. Off the bench, forward Patrick Steeves chipped in 10 points and seven rebounds.

Forward Cinmeon Bowers scored a game-high 17 points off the bench for the Tigers (6-4) and reserve guard Bryce Brown tacked on 13. Forward Tyler Harris finished with a 12-point, 12-rebound double-double.

Harvard took command quickly with a 13-0 spurt, capped by Johnson's 3-pointer with 14:27 left in the first half that gave it a 17-4 lead. It led 40-29 at halftime and pushed the margin as high as 20 when Steeves sank a jumper with 11:45 remaining.

The Crimson converted 47.2 percent of their shots from the field, including a solid 8 of 21 on 3-pointers, and drew assists on 15 of their 25 buckets.

The Tigers shot just 30.2 percent from the floor, going 6 of 25 on 3-pointers.

Harvard will play the Oklahoma-Hawaii winner

in Friday's championship game.

UConn 99, CCSU 52

Graduate transfer forward Shonn Miller scored a season-high 25 points and sophomore swingman Daniel Hamilton recorded his first collegiate triple-double as Connecticut crushed Central Connecticut 99-52 on Wednesday afternoon at XL Center in Hartford, Conn.

Hamilton finished with 11 points, 11, rebounds (all defensive) and 11 assists as UConn (8-3) recorded its third consecutive victory.

Hamilton had only two points at halftime and the home crowd clapped in anticipation every time he touched the ball after he reached seven points. The triple finally came with 6:31 left when he grabbed his third steal and raced to a dunk.

Miller finished with 10 field goals, six on assists by Hamilton. Former Husky Shabazz Napier (14 points, 11 rebounds, 10 assists) had UConn's last previous triple-double against Yale on Nov. 11, 2013.

Central Connecticut (1-9) was led guard Austin Nehls with 16 points.

UConn was playing its first game since losing junior center Amida Brimah to a broken finger. Brimah is expected to have surgery on Thursday and miss 6-8 weeks. UConn coach Kevin Ollie started senior forward Phillip Nolan in place of Brimah, who averages three blocked shots. Nolan scored two points.

Giants

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behavior, noting that the team's stance on the 23-year-old receiver being wrong was made clear within minutes after the game ended Sunday.

"There were factors involved starting in pregame, which are well documented, which indicate there was an attempt to provoke him. He

was provoked, he was out of control, he was wrong, no doubt about that but ... there are two sides to this not just one," Coughlin said.

While the Giants deal with the fallout involving one of the league's most prolific players this season, Coughlin spoke of the challenges of moving ahead with business.

"Move forward... you've got to go forward, period," Coughlin said, adding, "The team is looking forward to

the Minnesota game and preparing for them."

Despite the denial of Beckham's appeal, Coughlin is hoping that his team can find a silver lining in what has been one of the biggest stories to rock the league since Deflategate.

"I think as strongly as we can bond together and that it becomes recognized, that would be our strength," Coughlin said when asked if he could use the situation as a rallying point for the team.

SERIES HISTORY: 24th regular-season meeting. Vikings lead series, 13-10. The Giants have won the last two regular-season meetings, the first of which, a 21-3 road win, snapped a four-game losing streak against the Vikings. The Vikings have outscored the Giants 529-432 in the all-time regular-season meetings. The two teams have met three times in the postseason, with the Giants 2-1 in those games.

Boys

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"When we run our offense we get layups and threes, but sometimes the guys get impatient and want to go one-on-one," said McDorman, whose team shot 42 percent (24 of 57) from the

field. "That's just something we've got to keep working on, to go to our strength, which is making open shots."

Senior forward Kyle Ham led Central with 10 points and six rebounds, while Trevor Macomber had eight points and six rebounds. Andrew Prescott also scored eight points for coach Riley Donovan's club.