

NBA

Continued from Page B5

Hassan Whiteside in third with 83 points (two first-place votes).

Leonard, a first-time NBA All-Star this season, contributed to a San Antonio defense that led the NBA in points allowed (92.9 points per game) and defensive rating (96.6 points per 100 possessions). The Spurs, a franchise-record 67-15 this season, were even stingier on defense with Leonard in the game. According to NBA.com/Stats, they had a defensive rating of 94.9 when the five-year veteran was on the court and 99.2 when he wasn't — a difference of 4.3 points per 100 possessions.

Leonard also averaged 1.78 steals (12th in the NBA), 5.5 defensive rebounds and a career-high 0.99 blocks to go with career highs on offense of 21.2 points and 2.6 assists.

The honor is part of a series of awards called the Kia NBA Performance Awards.



RUSS ISABELLA | USA TODAY

San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard (left) defends against Utah Jazz forward Gordon Hayward during an April 5 game at Vivint Smart Home Arena in Salt Lake City, Utah. Leonard has been named the NBA Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season.

The series, currently in its ninth season, is part of a multiyear marketing partnership between Kia Motors and the NBA, and includes five of the league's most prestigious year-end honors: Most Valuable Player, Defensive Player of the

Year, Sixth Man, Most Improved Player and Rookie of the Year.

Curry misses Monday shootaround

Golden State guard Stephen Curry was not at Monday morning's shootaround

and as of Monday afternoon was still questionable to play in Game 2 of the Warriors' first-round series against the Houston Rockets Monday night.

Curry, according to multiple reports, was receiving treatment on his right ankle, which he injured in Saturday's series-opening win against the Rockets. He scored 24 points in that game but played only a handful of second-half minutes.

The reigning league MVP did not practice on Sunday either.

Speculation is growing that coach Steve Kerr will rest Curry, giving his ankle extra time to heal.

Game 3 of the series is scheduled for Thursday.



Curry

Thibodeau high on T'Wolves' list

Jeff Van Gundy and Tom

Thibodeau will interview to be head coach of the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Van Gundy was scheduled to be interviewed by Timberwolves owner Glen Taylor on Monday in Cleveland, where he was on the call for Game 1 of the Cavaliers-Detroit Pistons series.

Thibodeau worked for ESPN this season after a split from the Chicago Bulls at the end of the 2014-15 season sparked by clashing with management.

Van Gundy, 54, was head coach of the Houston Rockets (2003-2007) and New York Knicks (1996-2001).

Thibodeau's first NBA coaching job was as assistant coach for the 1989-90 Timberwolves.

The Timberwolves fired interim coach Sam Mitchell on April 14. Mitchell, who took over as coach after Flip Saunders died in October, led the team to a 29-53 record.

Walton not interested in Knicks job

Luke Walton intends to

turn down a reunion with Phil Jackson and the opportunity to team with the president of the New York Knicks on his rebuilding project.

Walton, who played for Jackson and was a former teammate of Derek Fisher, serves as assistant coach on Steve Kerr's staff with the Golden State Warriors. He was 39-4 in Kerr's absence to start the season as the Warriors' interim head coach.

According to multiple reports Monday, Walton has designs on becoming a head coach in the NBA but does not envision the Knicks' opportunity as the ideal fit.

Walton is 36 years old and won two NBA championship rings with the Lakers under Jackson.

The Warriors won the NBA title in 2015 and are the favorites to take the 2016 Finals.

Kurt Rambis was 9-19 after Fisher was fired and is considered a candidate for the job Jackson is seeking to fill for the second time in his third year at the helm.

Mainers

Continued from Page B5

Rolf were able to maintain a pace of about eight minutes per mile through the first 20 miles.

"Then we had to slow down a little bit," he said, "but we were passing people coming in even though we were slowing down.

"There was a lot of carnage out there today with the heat," he added.

Westphal, who took medication for Parkinson's during the race, didn't notice any symptoms of the disease until the last 3 or 4 miles of the race.

"I began to feel a little weak then, but I don't know if that was the heat or the medication," said Westphal. "A lot of people didn't finish, and I ended up walking a few times because I felt like I was falling forward. As I would attempt to regain my composure, I would walk for 20 seconds at a time up some of the hills, and that helped."

Westphal's time qualified him for next year's Boston Marathon, and while he did not definitively say he'd run the 121st edition of the event, he clearly enjoyed this year's race.

"It's just an amazing experience," he said.

Harmon, a former distance runner at the University of Maine, ran the

first 35 kilometers of the marathon in 5-kilometer splits of between 5:40 and 5:49 and reached the midway point of the race in 1:14:37 before backing that up with a 1:27:45 clocking for the hillier second half.

Piers, the three-time U.S. women's masters champion and a three-time U.S. Olympic marathon trials qualifier who will be inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame on May 1, was competing at Boston for the 10th time in the last 12 years.

She averaged 6:35 per mile during her run, reaching the 13.1-mile midpoint of the event in 1:23:55 before closing with a 1:28:05 second half.

Among other Mainers in the race, Christine Hein of North Yarmouth was the state's second-fastest woman finisher, placing 58th overall in 2:57:49. Former UMaine basketball standout Tracy Guerrette of Saint Agatha was next and 59th overall with a personal-best time for the distance of 2:58:02.

Twin brothers Wade Boudreau and Ward Boudreau of Gardiner crossed the finish line together with identical times of 3:34:26.

MDI Marathon founder and director Gary Allen of Great Cranberry Island, who has been nursing a right knee injury in recent months, persevered to finish his 100th career marathon in 5:26:57.



CHLOE EMERSON

Michael Westphal, 58, of Great Cranberry Island takes his hat off to acknowledge a friend as he runs the 120th Boston Marathon on Monday. Westphal, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, completed the race in 3 hours, 38 minutes, 59 seconds. Westphal said he didn't notice any symptoms of the disease until the last 3 or 4 miles of the race.

Boston

Continued from Page B5

Kenyan Caroline Rotich, who was defending her 2015 win in Boston and was widely seen as a favorite in Monday's women's race, dropped out early after appearing to hobble around mile four.

The top placing American woman was Neely Spence Gracey, who finished in 9th place in her marathon debut with a time of 2:35:00. She was born 26 years ago on race day as her father, Olympian Steve Spence, ran the course.

"I was told the crowds were pretty spectacular and I was not disappointed," Neely said, adding she achieved her goal of making it into the top 10.

In total, about 30,000 people attempted the world-renowned course, which brings out crowds of spectators holding signs, cheering, drinking beer and barbecuing.

"It's always been a dream of mine to run Boston," said David Harris, 42, of Atlanta, who qualified for the race.

Harris said the 2013 bombings motivated him.



GREG M. COOPER | USA TODAY

The top placing American woman was Neely Spence Gracey, who finished in ninth place in her marathon debut with a time of 2:35:00.

"That whole thing made me want to do this race even more," Harris said, echoing the feeling voiced by many other runners.

American Meb Keflezighi won in 2014 on the anniversary of the bombings, an emotional win that many said was symbolic of the city's recovery.

The men and women's winners this year will receive \$150,000.

Softball

Continued from Page B5

"I've just been hitting my spots," said Bogdanovich. "In Florida, not all of my pitches were working. I wasn't as confident in myself."

The development of her knuckle changeup has been instrumental in her success. The offspeed pitch not only gets hitters off balance, it makes her other pitches more effective. She also throws a lively sinking fastball, a drop and a riseball.

Bogdanovich threw her knuckle changeup at South Portland High School, where she was a two-time all-state selection, but she ditched it before resurrecting it last year.

"It has been a work-in-progress," said Bogdanovich, a former standout 400-meter runner and soccer captain at South Portland. "I tried a bunch of different types of changeups, but I always fall back to this one.

"It really changes the vision of the ball. It changes the speed so even if it isn't a strike, [it sets up the next pitch]," she said.

UMaine pitching coach and former head coach Lynn Coutts said Bogdanovich has always had her knuckle changeup but lost confidence in it.

"It took about a week in Florida [to re-establish it]. We tweaked a few little things on her stride," said Coutts. "Her knuckle change floats. You can see it coming, but you can't hit it."

"It's tricky," said Binghamton slugger Lisa Cadogan.

Miller added that Bogdanovich's riseball is effective "because there aren't many pitchers who throw riseballs in our conference."

"She's in a real good place right now," said Lynn Coutts, who added that Bogdanovich "loves to compete."

"I'm never going to give up," said Bogdanovich.

"She has a real good mound presence," Mike Coutts said. "We talk a lot about [concentrating on] one pitch at a time. She has her confidence."

"I really focus on the present moment and that has helped me all-around. I've also become a better person," said Bogdanovich, who transferred to UMaine from Stetson (Florida) and had the opportunity to play with her older sister Alexis, the America East Pitcher of the Year last season.

She said she used to "get a little down and negative on myself, not my team, but now I'm confident."

UMaine catcher Janelle Bouchard said Bogdanovich's fastball has a natural break to it.

"It looks like a drop, but it's a fastball. Hitters have a hard time hitting it, and when they do, it's usually a ground ball," said Bouchard.

Bogdanovich (5-4) induced 12 ground-ball outs on Sunday. She has allowed just one homer in 69 1/3 innings and has lowered her ERA to 3.84.

"I throw my fastball like my drop ball. They work hand in hand," said Bogdanovich.

Bouchard said Bogdanovich has "grown so much since Florida."

"Her mound presence is so much better. She has been throwing her changeups for strikes and she hadn't always been able to do that. It has been really good, and her fastball and drop have worked really well," she added.

Bogdanovich feels her velocity and location have improved and credited her teammates for a lot of her success.

"Everybody has improved. We all pick each other up," said Bogdanovich. "We all pull together."

She admitted she didn't anticipate having the success she has had but said it feels good.

UMaine (17-15, 6-2 AE) hosts Saint Joseph's College of Standish 4 p.m. Wednesday before traveling to Albany for a crucial three-game conference set on Saturday and Sunday.

Red Sox

Continued from Page B5

Hanley Ramirez singled up the middle to make it a one-run game.

David Ortiz pinch hit for Chris Young with two outs, much to the delight of the Fenway crowd, but he struck out looking to end the game.

"He doesn't go down looking too many times," Blue Jays manager John Gibbons said with a smile on his face.

J.A. Happ (2-0) allowed one run on four hits and a walk and struck out four for Toronto (7-7), which split its four-game series with Boston after winning the last two.

Drew Storen allowed two runs in the ninth but still claimed his first save.

"I got some big double play balls, we had some great defense, and a huge

eighth inning for us," Happ said. "Bullpen did a great job of shutting it out."

Clay Buchholz took a no-decision after tossing 6 2/3 scoreless innings for the Red Sox (6-6), giving up six hits while walking two and striking out a pair.

Uehara (0-1) was charged with all four runs and walked two in a third of an inning.

"It's probably just early morning," Uehara said. "It's just my body was not awake. I'll do my best tomorrow."

Shaw, Ramirez, and Josh Rutledge each had an RBI for Boston, with Rutledge's coming on a second-inning double with two outs.

The Red Sox fell to 69-52 on Patriots' Day after winning 11 of the last 15 games on the date.

NOTES: Boston Marathon bombing survivor Jeff Bauman and actor/producer Jake Gyllenhaal, who por-

trays Bauman in the upcoming film "Stronger," threw out the ceremonial first pitches. Bauman lost both of his legs in the April 15, 2013 bombing that claimed the lives of Krystle Campbell, Lu Lingzi, Martin Richard, and later MIT police officer Sean Collier and Boston police officer Dennis Simmonds, and injured hundreds more. ... Blue Jays LHP J.A. Happ was the first southpaw starter the Red Sox faced in 12 games this season. In 1996, Boston waited 13 games before encountering a lefty starter — Baltimore's David Wells. ... Baltimore 1B Chris Colabello entered as a pinch hitter in the ninth for the Blue Jays after being hit in the head with a fastball Sunday, but grounded into a double play. ... Red Sox DH David Ortiz was not in the starting lineup Monday, but entered as a pinch hitter in the ninth.

EXPERIENCE MAINE

There are other places you could look to find something to do in Maine this summer, but our Experience Maine Summer Guide has all the events that residents and tourists alike won't want to miss. Experience Bar Harbor's 4th of July Celebration, Acadia's Centennial, Boothbay Harbor, Windjammer Days and festivals celebrating everything from whoopie pies to red hot dogs.

We've got all your Yankee favorites.



May 27th
in your Bangor Daily News



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