

Streaking K-State handles Raiders

Wildcats win sixth in a row, could still tie for Big 12 title

LUBBOCK (AP) — Jacob Pullen scored 21 of his 28 points in the first half to lead No. 5 Kansas State to an 83-64 victory over Texas Tech on Tuesday night, the Wildcats' sixth straight win.

Kansas State (23-4, 10-3) remained alive for a possible tie for the Big 12 championship with No. 1 Kansas.

John Roberson scored 15 points for Texas Tech (16-11, 4-9), which lost its fourth straight, three of them to Top 25 teams in the past week.

Kansas trailed only at the game's outset and

held off brief spurts by Texas Tech late in the first half.

Three other Wildcats scored in double figures, including Jamar Samuels who also had 11 rebounds.

Denis Clemente scored 14 points for the Wildcats, ending a run that had seen score at least 21 points in four of the last five games.

Kansas State, which won in Lubbock for the first time since 1986, could still share the Big 12 title with the Jayhawks. Kansas would have to lose its three remaining games and the Wildcats would have to win their final

three. They play March 3 at Kansas.

Texas Tech shot poorly throughout, hitting on just 37.5 percent of their 56 field goal attempts. The Wildcats hit on 47.5 percent of their 59 attempts.

Pullen finished 9 of 14 from the field and had three 3-pointers. He had five assists and three steals.

Roberson and Nick Okorie both got their fourth foul with more than 11 minutes remaining and the Wildcats took advantage. Kansas State went up 57-42 with just over 10 minutes remaining after scoring on five straight possessions, which included making 6 of 7 free throws.



Kansas State's Denis Clemente floats past Texas Tech's John Roberson during the first half of the Wildcats' win in Lubbock on Tuesday.

AP PHOTO

Pressure-packed

Eunice girls come up clutch in final moments of district tourney win over Loving

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NEWS-SUN

EUNICE — Morgan Paschal's late defensive rebound and a pair of clutch free throws from Shelby Dudley helped the Eunice girls basketball team hold off Loving, 56-53, in the opening round of the District 7-2A tournament Tuesday at Joe Langston Gym.

The plays from Paschal and Dudley, which came in the final 15 seconds, ended a sloppy streak by the Lady Cardinals that threatened to derail their postseason.

"Before that, we had three turnovers," coach Robbie Robinson said. "We had three turnovers in a row and then (Paschal) got that board, I mean, that saved our tail, big time."

Dudley was fouled with six seconds on the clock and drained her only free throws of the night to push the Lady Cardinals ahead by three points 41 seconds after Loving got within a point on Valerie Lopez's jump shot.

Eight of Eunice's 25 turnovers came in the fourth quarter as Loving did just enough to put a late scare into the Lady Cardinals' bench.

"It was very nerve-wracking, but Dudley stepped up to the line and had her confidence," Robinson said. "She had her confidence and she made two clutch free throws."

Dudley scored eight points. Paschal, who faced a box-and-1 defense almost all night, finished with a game-high 18 points and 12 rebounds. Jessica Gaytan added 12 points and six rebounds for Eunice, which advances to play Jal in the district semifinal Thursday at Panther Gym.

Eunice (10-11) entered the fourth quarter with a 43-39 lead and extended its advantage to eight points with 4:25 to play when Loving made a run. The Lady Falcons scored nine points in less than 2 minutes to knot the game at 50 apiece.

Linsey Ballard's split at the free-throw line with 2:15 to go gave Loving its first lead, 51-50, since the 2-minute mark of the first quarter. Eunice answered with a post basket from Laura Clack and a pair of Paschal free throws to take a 54-51 lead with 1:29 to play.

Clack finished with six points and 10 rebounds.

Eunice dominated the rebounding battle, 44-28, and



Eunice's Morgan Paschal, right, battles Loving's Valerie Lopez for a loose ball during the Lady Cardinals' District 7-2A tournament win Tuesday at Joe Langston Gym.

CREDIT

Eunice 56, Loving 53

Loving	14	14	11	14	53
Eunice	17	13	13	13	56

Loving (14-11)

Linsey Ballard 1-8 4-6 6, Sarah Krupski 2-5 0-0 4, Laura Montez 1-1 0-0 3, Valerie Lopez 6-22 0-0 15, Rebecca Martinez 5-11 4-5 14, Kendra Sullivan 1-4 0-0 2, Sonia Florez 0-1 1-2 1, Destrey Hand 3-6 1-2 8. Totals 19-58 10-15 53.

Eunice (10-11)

Shelby Dudley 3-7 2-2 8, Shai Holland 5-11 2-3 12, Morgan Paschal 6-13 6-8 18, Shelby Gregson 0-2 0-0 0, Jessica Gaytan 4-7 4-2 11, Laura Clack 3-6 0-2 8. Totals 21-46 14-21 56.

coached in on several second-chance opportunities.

"That's what we talked about before the game," Loving (14-11)

coach Gary Carrasco said. "We needed to limit them to one shot. (Eunice) did a better of getting position and getting the rebounds when they needed them."

The Lady Cardinals had to rally early after Loving hit its first two shots — both 3-pointers — to take a 6-2 lead one minute into the game. The Lady Falcons extended their lead to six points with 2:56 remaining in the opening period. Eunice stormed back with 11 unanswered points to pull ahead, 19-14, early in the second quarter.

Paschal jump-started Eunice's run with back-to-back baskets. Shai Holland, who finished with

12 points, Gaytan and Dudley also contributed in the run.

Eunice and Loving played within five points of each other for the remainder of the first half and the Lady Cardinals took a 30-28 lead to the break.

Lopez led Loving with 15 points. Rebecca Martinez finished with 14 as the only other Lady Falcon to reach double figures.

The Lady Cardinals made 21 of 46 field goals and 14 of 21 free-throw attempts. Loving turned the ball over 14 times, six of which came in the fourth quarter, and missed 39 of 58 field-goal attempts.

Area Schedule

BASKETBALL

High School

Today — Jal boys @ Eunice, District 7-2A tournament, 6 p.m.
Thursday — Hobbs boys vs. Carlsbad, District 4-5A tournament, 8 p.m.; Hobbs girls vs. Carlsbad, District 4-5A tournament, 5 p.m.; Jal girls vs. TBD, District 7-2A tournament, 6 p.m.; Lovington girls vs. TBD, 6 p.m.
Friday — Tatum boys vs. TBD, District 8-1A championship, 7 p.m.; King's Gate vs. Midessa Warriors, 6 p.m.
Saturday — Tatum girls vs. TBD, District 8-1A championship, 7 p.m.; Lovington boys vs. TBD, District 4-3A championship, 7 p.m.

College

Thursday — NMJC women vs. South Plains, 5:45 p.m.; NMJC men vs. South Plains, 7:45 p.m.; USW women @ Langston, 5:30 p.m. (CST); USW men @ Langston, 7:30 p.m. (CST)
Saturday — USW women @ Bacone, 2 p.m. (CST); USW men @ Bacone, 4 p.m. (CST)

BASEBALL

High School

Friday — Eunice JV @ Hobbs JV tournament, TBA
Saturday — Eunice JV @ Hobbs JV tournament, TBA; Lovington @ Roswell scrimmage, TBA

College

Today — USW @ New Mexico State, 3:05 p.m.
Friday — NMJC vs. Vernon College, noon/3 p.m.
Saturday — NMJC vs. Vernon College, noon

SOFTBALL

College

Saturday — USW vs. Bacone, noon/2 p.m.

TENNIS

High School

Friday — Hobbs @ Midland Invitational, 7 a.m.
Saturday — Hobbs @ Midland Invitational, 7 a.m.

College

Thursday — USW @ Howard Payne, TBA
Saturday — USW vs. Sul Ross State, TBA

Notables

FOOTBALL

Hobbs Alumni Wanted: Alumni Football USA is hosting four full-contact alumni football games in Las Cruces on April 10. One of the games will include a Hobbs alumni team. Players can contact Beau Ingram at (877) 578-8547 or players can go online at AlumniFootballUSA.com to sign up. Only the first 40 players who sign up will get to play. Hobbs is tentatively scheduled to play Carlsbad.

On TV Today

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

5 p.m.: ESPN — Florida St. at North Carolina; ESPN2 — Pittsburgh at Notre Dame
 7 p.m.: ESPN2 — Oklahoma St. at Texas
 9 p.m.: ESPN2 — Idaho at New Mexico St.

NBA BASKETBALL

7 p.m.: ESPN — L.A. Lakers at Dallas

OLYMPICS

1-3 p.m.: NBC — Men's ice hockey: quarterfinal, teams TBA, at Vancouver, British Columbia
 3-6 p.m.: MSNBC — Curling: tiebreaker, at Vancouver, British Columbia (if necessary)
 5 p.m.-12:30 a.m.: CNBC — Men's ice hockey: quarterfinals (three games), teams TBA, at Vancouver, British Columbia
 6-9:30 p.m.: NBC — LIVE: women's freestyle skiing: aerials Gold Medal final; women's bobsled: Gold Medal final; men's short track: 500m; SAME-DAY TAPE: women's Alpine skiing: giant slalom Gold Medal final; women's short track: 3000m relay Gold Medal final; men's cross country: 4x10km relay Gold Medal final; at Vancouver, British Columbia
 10:05-11:30 p.m.: NBC — Women's speed skating: 5000m Gold Medal final; women's short track: 1000m; Award Ceremonies, at Vancouver, British Columbia (delayed tape)
 1-3:30 a.m.: MSNBC — Curling: tiebreaker, at Vancouver, British Columbia (if necessary; delayed tape)
SOCCER
 5 p.m.: ESPN CLASSIC — Men's national teams, El Salvador vs. U.S., at Tampa, Fla.

Netherlands' Sven Kramer, left, is comforted after he was disqualified Tuesday during the men's 10,000-meter speed skating race at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics.



Mixup costs Dutch skater chance at medal

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Bode Miller made the kind of mistake that happens in skiing, especially for a risk-taker like him.

The gaffe made by Dutch speedskater Sven Kramer? Unbelievable. Kramer went through the grueling 10,000-meter race in what would've been record time, but was disqualified for not switching lanes while coming out of a turn about two-thirds into the race.

Here's the craziest part: Kramer actually made the switch but his coach missed it. Thinking his star was about to make an epic mistake, the coach animatedly motioned for Kramer to switch lanes. Kramer seemed to pause before deciding

to follow orders.

Of all the kooky, costly mistakes made in popular North American sports, it's hard to find anything that compares. Maybe if Vikings coach Bud Grant had been the one telling defensive end Jim Marshall what to do when he scooped up a fumble and ran to the wrong end zone — and if that had been in the Super Bowl.

That's how off-the-charts this was. Kramer certainly should've known better. This is a guy who's won the last three world championships at 5,000 and 10,000 meters; holds the world record at both distances; and already won gold and set an Olympic record in the 5,000 at this Olympics.

"I've seen it once or twice in my career," former speedskating champion Dan Jansen said on NBC, "but never with a top skater and certainly never in the Olympic Games."

All Miller did was lose control and fail to finish his first run down the giant slalom course

He missed his chance for a record fourth Alpine medal at a single Winter Games. But he notched what could be called a Bode Slam: a gold, a silver, a bronze and a DNF (did not finish).

Elsewhere around the Vancouver Olympics on Tuesday, Canada's hockey