



Nuggets lose by two

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — The Detroit Pistons are starting to see the benefits of the painful rebuilding process that started when they traded Chauncey Billups to Denver.

Charlie Villanueva scored 27 points, and Rodney Stuckey had 25 to help the banged-up Pistons hold on for a 101-99 victory over the Nuggets on Thursday night.

Billups missed a layup in the final seconds, allowing the Pistons to run their winning streak to a season-best four games.

“I got what I wanted,” Billups said. “But I tried to get the foul too much.”

Detroit dealt Billups to Denver 13 months ago for Allen Iverson and his expiring contract to create salary-cap space — which the Pistons used to sign Ben Gordon and Villanueva — and to speed Stuckey’s development.

“I know it was tough to let Chauncey go because he was a winner who the fans loved, but we really have the pieces to be good this season and the years to come,” Villanueva said. “I just can’t wait to see how good we will be when we start getting some of guys back.”

Detroit was without Richard Hamilton (right ankle), Gordon (left ankle), Will Bynum (ankles) and Tayshaun Prince (back).

“It’s very rewarding to watch our guys compete,” first-year coach John Kuester said. “We’re starting to learn how to win and finish games. That’s huge.”

Carmelo Anthony scored 40 points for Denver, Billups had 21 and reserve J.R. Smith added 14. The Northwest Division-leading Nuggets have lost consecutive

games for just the second time this season after winning four straight and eight of 10.

“We’re not a great team,” Billups said. “We’re a good team. We should be winning games like this, and the Charlotte game.”

Denver coach George Karl agreed.

“We did what we’ve consistently done in losses — we give young teams hope and confidence early,” Karl said. “I didn’t think we took them seriously in the first half.

“Our scouting report was focused on Stuckey and Charlie, so it shouldn’t have been a surprise that they were the ones scoring.”

The Pistons knew Anthony would be the one scoring for Denver, but they couldn’t slow him down.

Anthony had 30-plus points for the 14th time this season, one more than all of last season.

“He’s amazing when he gets into that offensive groove,” Karl said. “But we just didn’t have enough guys going with him.”

Denver’s Kenyon Martin (dislocated left pinkie) missed his second straight game.

Billups’ return didn’t register much of a buzz at The Palace, where he was adored for helping Detroit win the 2004 NBA title, and he fell to 0-3 against Detroit as an ex-Piston.

“It’s still like coming home when I play here,” he said. “It’s always going to be fun. I’m never going to let this put a blemish on what I feel about this building and the fans here.”

Detroit was very competitive despite adding Bynum to the list of injured players.



ROBIN TUBBS/Colby Free Press
Colby High junior Katrina Kaus got ready to take a free throw during the Lady Eagles’ game at Hays High School on Thursday night. The Colby women’s varsity team beat the Indians 35-32.

Colby girls team squeaks out a win

The Colby High varsity girls basketball team eeked out a 35-32 victory at Hays High School on Thursday.

The Lady Eagles picked up the win despite shooting poorly from the field. Coach Parker McKee said his team was not satisfied with the way they played.

“Neither the players nor the coaches were satisfied by just getting a win,” he said. “We shot poorly and committed too many unforced turnover.”

McKee did give his team “props” for finding a way to win.

“Our will to win got us the victory,” he said. “They were able to find a way to win even when things were not going right.”

The win improved the team’s record to 2-2 on the year. They play St. Francis at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Community Building.

The Colby Free Press was unable to get the games statistics, so a more descriptive article about the game will be run this Monday including team statistics.



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Lady Jayhawks win over UMKC 81-53

LAWRENCE (AP) — UMKC had no answer for Krysten Boogaard, who appeared to be playing above the entire Kangaroos quad.

The 6-foot-5 Boogaard scored 19 points and Danielle McCray added 18 to lead No. 23 Kansas to an 81-53 victory over UMKC on Thursday night.

“It’s not something that we see every day,” UMKC coach Candace Whitaker said. “We’re a team of 6-footers. It’s different for us.”

Boogaard, who is at least 5 inches taller than UMKC players, helped Kansas outscore the Kangaroos 38-14 in the paint.

McCray, who entered the game averaging 19.4 points, paced Kansas with a mix of inside shots and 3-pointers. She scored 14 first-half points in helping Kansas build a 12-point lead at the break.

Angel Goodrich had 10 assists for Kansas (6-2).

“Angel’s one of the best point guards I’ve played with,” Boogaard said. “She sees the floor really well and she makes the passes that you don’t think will get to you.”

Similar to its previous two games — both victories — the Jayhawks were sloppy at the beginning, carelessly passing the ball and missing open shots. Kansas’ first four possessions ended with zero points and highlighted the clubs’ early struggles: a missed layup, an offensive foul, a missed jumper and a traveling violation.

“This year we know when we’re struggling and we know how to get back on track,” McCray said. “We just turned the ball over three times and we know we need to get something out of it.”

The sluggish start and turnovers allowed UMKC to take a 17-16 lead, but that didn’t last long. The Jayhawks used an 18-2 run near the end of the first half to take a 42-30 lead.


Goodrich had eight assists in the first half, helping Kansas overcome the rough start.

“Late in the first half we started picking up on the plays and talking earlier and more often,” Kansas’ Sade Morris said. “We were able to do what we needed to do tonight.”


Kansas ran away with it in the second half, using a 13-3 run to build a 22-point lead before UMKC took a timeout.






Chazny Morris led UMKC with 22 points and six rebounds.

“We didn’t have a lot of production from a lot of people inside tonight,” Whitaker said, “and KU had a lot to do with that.”



Free Press Picks



Broncos vs. Colts:	
 Kevin Bottrell, editor of the Colby Free Press.	<p>“The Broncos are playing better, but their up against an undefeated team in their home territory. The Colts are better in passing and average yards gained, but have given up more yards. It should be a well-played game.”</p> <p>Winner: Colts 35-28</p> <p>Accuracy: 65%</p>
Chiefs vs. Bills: Cardinals vs. 49ers: Cowboys vs. Cowboys:	
 Andy Heintz, sports editor at the Colby Free Press.	<p>“The Colts are the superior team and they have home field advantage.”</p> <p>Winner: Colts 42-14</p> <p>Accuracy: 48%</p>
Chiefs vs. Bills: Cardinals vs. 49ers: Chargers vs. Cowboys:	
 Sacha Sanguinetti, general manager at KRQD/KXXX.	<p>“Broncos defense is legit... but so is the Colts offense. Indianapolis has the edge playing at home.”</p> <p>Winner: Colts 27-19</p> <p>Accuracy: 70%</p>
Chiefs vs. Bills: Cardinals vs. 49ers: Chargers vs. Cowboys:	
 Trent Rose, sports info. director at Colby College.	<p>“Indianapolis plays well in front of the home crowd, and they will edge out the Broncos in this hard-fought AFC matchup.”</p> <p>Winner: Colts 24-23</p> <p>Accuracy: 70%</p>
Chiefs vs. Bills: Cardinals vs. 49ers: Chargers vs. Cowboys:	
 Jimmy Chavez, sports broadcaster at KRQD.	<p>“The Colts are a better team — it’s as simple as that.”</p> <p>Winner: Colts 35-10</p> <p>Accuracy: 70%</p>
Chiefs vs. Bills: Cardinals vs. 49ers: Chargers vs. Cowboys:	

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Preview sale items between 5-7 p.m. CT Friday, December 11, 2009

ANTIQUES: Birds eye maple princess dresser w/mirror; Secretary; Oak dresser; Oak desk; Buffet w/beveled mirror; Singer sewing machine cabinet. **HOUSEHOLD:** Cherry wood table, chairs w/corner cabinet; Wooden table, chairs; Glass top table w/4 chairs; Fold-down kitchen table; Oval glass top coffee table; Buffet; Sectional green couch; Leather love seat; King, queen, twin beds; Steel bunk bed w/ futon; Lamps; Chairs (barrel/straight); Lift chair; Computer desks; Sony Trinitron TV; Panasonic TV w/VCR; Maytag washer/dryer; Small Sanyo refrigerator; Sweepers; Kenmore 10 sewing machine; Glassware; Mirrors; Pictures; Records (lots); Lots of Christmas decorations; Pursuit E 21 exercise bike (new); Patio furniture; Camping chairs; Mohawk canoe; Craftsman 4.75 hsp 21” mower; 7000 Diesel generator (new); Plasma cutter; Big tool box; Diesel space heater; 2 barrel air compressor; Lots of hand tools; Big floor jack; Wheel barrow; Ladders; Sump pump; Kent 1800 Trail Blaster bike; Konica 7033 copier; 68 ft. of shelving, 4 & 8 ft. heights, 4” sections; From the Leslie Estate-Crystal and hand painted china.

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2007 Chev Siverado - Gray	38,223	\$23,995
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2007 Dodge Nitro SLT	19,100	\$23,000
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