

Westbrook does it all

Russell Westbrook gets his first triple-double of the season with 17 points, 17 assists and 15 rebounds as the Thunder downs the Warriors. **Page C2**



SPORTS

In this section:
Bowling
 Page C8
BuckEyes
 Page C10

Section C
 Saturday,
 January 17,
 2015

WWW.CHRONICLET.COM

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Smooth change

Elyria Catholic promotes Stupka to head coach, keeps veteran Riesen as offensive coordinator

Shaun Bennett
 The Chronicle-Telegram

Elyria Catholic named Dave Stupka its new head football coach — appropriately on a Friday night — and the Panthers should see the easiest transition into the role in program history.

Stupka served as a Panthers assistant last year, so he's already familiar with the returning players, and he's keeping longtime area coach Jeff Riesen as the offensive coordinator. He also knows how to move from assistant to head coach after having been promoted at Bedford Chanel and Midpark High.

"He's ran a very solid, quality program at each stop (in his career)," Elyria Catholic athletic director Bob Thayer said. "In talking to Dave and interviewing Dave, we just thought it was an outstanding fit. We just think he'll be a very, very good leader for our young men and the football program."

Stupka moved to Elyria Catholic two years ago from Lutheran West after a teaching job became available. He agreed to coach the wide receivers last season for Mike Plevacik, who resigned as the Panthers head coach two weeks ago.

"The opportunity to be a teacher here was the No. 1 priority," Stupka said. "My family has a great belief in Catholic education and to have the opportunity to be a teacher here as well as a coach was at the forefront for me."

See **STUPKA, C3**

CAVALIERS 126, CLIPPERS 121

Cavs sweep L.A. behind Kyrie, LeBron

Beth Harris
 The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kyrie Irving scored 37 points, LeBron James added 32 and the Cleveland Cavaliers held off the Los Angeles Clippers 126-121 on Friday night.

NEXT UP WHO: Cleveland vs. Chicago
WHEN: Monday, 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: The Q
TV/RADIO: TNT; WEOL 930-AM, WTAM 1100-AM, WMMS 100.7-FM

Tristan Thompson had a season-high 24 points and grabbed 12 rebounds starting in place of Kevin Love, who sat out after hurting his back in Thursday's win over the Lakers.

Blake Griffin had 34 points and 19 rebounds to lead six players in double figures for the Clippers, who had won six of their previous eight. DeAndre Jordan had 19 points and 12 rebounds, Matt Barnes added 17 points and Chris Paul had 15 points and 14 assists.

James tied the game at 97 early in the fourth on a 3-pointer over Austin Rivers, who became the first player in NBA history to play for his father after being signed by the Clippers.

Jamal Crawford's three-point play gave the Clippers their last lead of the game, 100-97.

James and Irving teamed to power the Cavs on a 20-7 run that put them back in front, 117-107.

See **CAVS, C2**

BOYS BASKETBALL

Still going strong

Lorain's Devon Andrews soars to the basket over Warrensville Heights' Joseph Vallery during Friday night's game in Lorain. Andrews scored 27 points and handed out seven assists as the Titans improved to 12-0.



STEVE MANHEIM / CHRONICLE

Lorain tops tough Tigers, stays perfect

Mike Perry
 The Chronicle-Telegram

LORAIN — Lorain coach John Rositano finally got what he's been looking for.

After the Titans reeled off 11 straight wins to open the season, with its only real test coming in its season opener against Newark, Rositano was hoping his team would face a challenge. Defending Lake Erie League

LORAIN 77, WARRENSVILLE HTS. 71

champion Warrensville Heights was just what the doctor ordered.

Lorain jumped out to a big early lead, but the Tigers made things tight at the end before falling 77-71 at Lorain High School.

"They were very athletic and very aggressive," Rositano said of the Tigers. "The speed of the game was very up-tempo, and when both teams play at that speed there are going to be some turnovers because of the athleticism and the length of both teams."

"But that was a good win for us. We needed to be tested and they gave us a really good test. We got Round One, now we've got to go over there at the end of the year for Round Two. It should be another great game."

At first it looked like the test Warrensville Heights would provide the Titans would be more like an open-book pop quiz. Lorain (12-0, 5-0) jumped out to a 21-14 lead after the first, led 42-26 at halftime and by as many as 19 early in the third quarter.

See **TITANS, C6**

EC 66, ROCKY RIVER 55

EC relies on basics, late run to win

Bob Daniels
 The Chronicle-Telegram

ELYRIA — There's a widely recognized idiom that says all high school basketball teams consist of good shooters. Therefore, the saying goes, high school games are won on defense, the backboards and at the foul line.

Elyria Catholic gave it a shot of credibility Friday night.

The Panthers trailed Rocky River after each of the first two quarters and managed a tie after the third.

Then in the fourth quarter, they went to work in the three areas some consider most important to their sport. The result was a tough 66-55 West Shore Conference victory made possible with a 13-2 run to open the fourth quarter.

See **EC, C5**

ELYRIA 80, MAYFIELD 52

Elyria hitting stride

Tim Gebhardt
 The Chronicle Telegram

ELYRIA — Midway through the first quarter Friday night, Elyria already had a 20-point lead over Mayfield.

That's what happens when a team starts to jell, and the Pioneers, who rolled to an easy 80-52 win, are doing just that.

Elyria (8-2, 3-1 Northeast Ohio Conference Lake Division) won its fourth in a row since losing at Lorain in the Holiday Classic. Mayfield fell to 4-4 and 2-1. The Pioneers will be at Elyria Catholic tonight to renew their rivalry with the Panthers for the 20th time.

"This is a big game for us because we fell to Parma," said Blake Furcron, who led Elyria with 22 points, of the Pioneers' early league loss.

See **ELYRIA, C6**



KRISTIN BAUER / CHRONICLE

Elyria's Josh Lotko looks to pass the ball Friday night as Mayfield's Gage Bican tries to block his progress.

SLIMAN'S DODGE JEEP CHRYSLER RAM WELCOMES



BRETT CLAPHAM



BOB ZIMMERMAN



CHRIS OLEJKO

SLIMAN'S IN AMHERST



400-948-4484

www.Slimans.net

We would like to invite our friends and past customers to stop by, say hello, and see Sliman's selection of over 500 new and pre-owned vehicles.

