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Tony Dejak/Associated Press

The Cavaliers' LeBron James drives to the basket against the Kings' Carl Landry and Rudy Gay during the second quarter on Jan. 30 at Quicken Loans Arena.

CAVALIERS 101, KINGS 90

LeBron back, Love stars

■ Cavs win 9th in row

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The Cavaliers received word before the game that All-Star LeBron James would play.

That euphoria carried over to the game, as the Cavaliers shredded the Kings on Jan. 30, 101-90, before a sold-out crowd at Quicken Loans Arena.

It was the Cavaliers' ninth consecutive victory, as well as their sixth in a row over Western Conference opponents.

Inside
■ Love expects little love in Minnesota
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James was listed as doubtful before the game with a sprained right wrist. He had missed the Portland game on Jan. 28.

The Cavaliers (28-20) played so well, they probably would have survived without James, who finished with 19 points and seven assists in 33 minutes.

Power forward Kevin Love recorded his 26th double-double of the season with 23 points and 10 rebounds. He shook out of his recent slump by making 9 of 17 shots from the field.

Point guard Kyrie Irving, fresh off earning a berth on the Eastern Conference All-Star team, added 21 points and six assists. He had averaged 46.5 points in his previous two games, including a career-high 55 points against Portland Jan. 28.

The Cavaliers' stout defense continues to impress. It has been outstanding during their winning streak, and has been a key to the team's turnaround.

They held the Kings (16-29) to 35.7 percent shooting from the field. They have held their last seven opponents under 100 points. In that stretch, the Cavaliers are allowing 93.8 points per game and a combined 40.8 percent shooting.

Center DeMarcus Cousins paced the Kings with 21 points.

See Cavs, Page C4

Dumb things could cost athletes a lot

Jim Ingraham

Having no concrete evidence to support this premise, other than years of experience observing all the subtle nuances of societal dumbness — mine and others' — it seems probable that the percentage of professional athletes who do or say dumb things is about the same as that of non-professional athletes.

The only difference is they make more money than we do.

Say, for example, there are 53 people who work in your office, and you've observed two of them consistently doing or saying dumb things.

Now you know how Browns tackle Joe Thomas feels.

He's dealing with about the same percentage in his workplace. Thomas is the one I feel most sorry for in the Browns' ongoing saga of The Bonehead Chronicles.

Thomas is an earnest, professional workman who labors at one of the least glamorous positions in football: offensive tackle. It's a position in which it's possible to play 15 years in the NFL without ever once touching the football.

All Thomas wants is to play on a good team. Thomas has been in the league eight years. He has made the Pro Bowl in all eight of those years, and gone to the playoffs in none of those years.

Now he has to deal with this: two teammates — are names even necessary? — who do dumb things, say dumb things, or make dumb decisions.

Like all of us do.

However, when you and I do dumb stuff, almost nobody knows about it. Our dumb stuff — unless we *really* get carried away — doesn't make headlines in the paper, there's not video of it on TMZ, and there aren't dozens of reporters wanting to ask us about it immediately afterward.

So we have that going for us.

Athletes behaving badly do not. But it's still nice work if you can get it — and you can keep it if you try.

See Ingraham, Page C3

BAY 65 , ROCKY RIVER 55

Sunahara sinks the Pirates

■ Bay senior scores 16 in third quarter

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The Pirates will not forget the name Rex Sunahara anytime soon.

The Bay senior erupted for 16 of his team's 24 points in the third quarter and led the Rockets (10-5, 6-3 WSC) to a 66-55 win over visiting Rocky River (7-9, 2-7 WSC) on Jan. 30.

Boys basketball

"It helps when you have a 6-foot-6 guy who's going to step out and knock down some 3s," Bay coach Jared Shetzer said. "That certainly helps."

A sloppy shooting first half by Bay — the Rockets were 11 of 26 from the field and 1-for-9 from beyond the arc — coupled with a 14-point half by Rocky River's Jack Corrigan — who ended with 18 points on the night to lead the Pirates — put the Rockets in a hole to start the second half.

Trailing, 31-25, entering the third quarter, Rocky River junior Eric Jones knocked down a 3 only 20 seconds into the period to put the Pirates up by nine, 34-25.

For the next seven minutes, it was all Sunahara and the Rockets.

Bay went on a 24-8 run for the remainder of the quarter, spurred by Sunahara's 16-point outburst that included a dunk, a deep jumper, three 3-pointers and an and-1 that took a Bay deficit and turned it into a seven-point lead.

See Sunahara, Page C5

Eric Bonzar/EBonzar@MorningJournal.com

Midview's Logan Bolin (24) lays it in over North Ridgeville guard Jordan Montgomery (1) on Jan. 30. Bolin had 15 points in the Middies' 68-63 overtime win over the Rangers.

MIDVIEW 68, NORTH RIDGEVILLE 63 (OT)

Middies ramp it up in OT

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Boys basketball

They were tied for second place in the West Shore Conference standings. It was their second meeting of the season. They didn't disappoint.

Midview defeated North Ridgeville, 68-63, in overtime on Jan. 30, boosting the Middies to 5-4 in conference play.

Junior Jacob Wells' 3 with 1:21 left in the game kept the Middies alive. From the corner, Wells' shot tied the score at 56.

"It was great," Midview coach troy DiFranco recalled. "Matt Randolph found him and Jake knocked it down, real calm on his shot. It was a big shot for us."

The shot was also a welcome back moment for Randolph, who was making his return after suffering a concussion during the second game of the season.

Still knotted at 56 at the end of regulation, the Middies entered overtime with energy. Damion Mahone and junior Logan Bolin each swiped a steal that resulted in a 62-58 Midview lead. A technical foul on Midview kept the Rangers close, and junior Jordan Montgomery hit one of two foul shots.

See Middies, Page C5

LORAIN 95, SHAW 51

Titans keep on grinding

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Trailing 18-17 with seconds remaining in the first quarter, the Lorain Titans decided it was time to take charge.

Boys basketball

Junior guard Jamar Ross connected on a 3-pointer to take the lead, followed by a Devon Andrews steal and layup on the inbounds pass to completely take the momentum, and put the Titans (16-0, 7-0) on track for a 95-51 victory over the Shaw Cardinals (3-12, 1-7) Jan. 30.

"These guys just love to play basketball," said Lorain coach John Rositano. "We go 10 deep. We play hard. We play the right way."

Shaw opened the game shooting 7-of-10, and frustrated the Titans defensively with the quick switches and physicality. The tactics briefly slowed down the Lorain offense, but also led to eight team fouls in the first quarter.

"They came at us early," said Rositano. "Offensively, we just had to get settled in and relaxed. Defensively, we started with a loose zone. Once we got into our pressures, the game was over."

Beginning with the five points to end the first quarter, the Titans went on a 27-6 run and never looked back. They scored 36 second-quarter points, and held the Cardinals to 10. Lorain then followed that up with a 22-6 third quarter. The ability of Lorain's bigs to not only clog the lane, but also to shut down the perimeter, was ultimately too much for Shaw to handle.

See Titans, Page C4

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HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Bay 66, Rocky River 55

ROCKY RIVER — Korrigan 18, Jones 13, Seffernick 7, Connors 6, Nugent 5, Kinsley 4, Waite 2
BAY — Sunahara 25, Heideloff 12, White 12, Morriss 11, Koz 4 Kyle 2

Rocky River	**18**	**13**	**11**	**13**	**— 55**
Bay	**12**	**13**	**24**	**17**	**— 66**

Rebounds: Rocky River 22 (Connors 5), Bay 30 (Morriss 9); **Turnovers:** Rocky River 4, Bay 6; **Records:** Rocky River 7-9 (2-7 WSC); Bay 10-5 (6-3)
JV: Rocky River 48, Bay 42

Brookside 60, Oberlin 49

OBERLIN — Allan 8, Carter 6, Hicks 8, Hughley 6, Jackson 5, Johnson 9, Payne 7
BROOKSIDE — Drew 9, Taw 10, Carrion 3, Koltas 2, Gray 9, Jasko 8, Nimene 2, Harcula 17

Oberlin	**13**	**10**	**10**	**16**	**— 49**
Brookside	**21**	**8**	**12**	**19**	**— 60**

Rebounds: Oberlin 18 (Payne 4, Jackson 4), Brookside 21 (Drew 8, Jasko 5); **Turnovers:** Oberlin 20, Brookside 20; **Records:** Brookside 5-12, Oberlin 3-13
JV: Brookside 45, Oberlin 40

Elyria 77, Parma 39

PARMA — Pastva 13, Agusto 7, Lyon 7, Banker 6, Demoko 2, Musarra 2, Todd 2
ELYRIA — Furcron 17, Miller 13, Blanton 10, Marks 10, Lotko 10, Egnor 6, Dalton 4, Atkinson 3, Marsh 2, Keopp 2

Parma	**10**	**15**	**9**	**5**	**— 39**
Elyria	**16**	**23**	**18**	**20**	**— 77**

Rebounds: Parma 22 (Jones 7), Elyria 28 (Atkinson 7); **Turnovers:** Parma 19, Elyria 12

Wellington 44, Fairview 43

FAIRVIEW— Butler 2-1-6, Williams 3-1-7, Elder 1-0-3, Kerchenski 1-0-0-20, Hoftyzer 1-0-2, Kohlman 2-1-5
WELLINGTON — Kingle 0-2-2, Holiday 0-1-1, Paramore 2-0-4, Bealer 5-7-17, Gibbs 9-2-20

Fairview	**12**	**8**	**13**	**10**	**— 43**
Wellington	**9**	**13**	**10**	**12**	**— 44**

Field goals: Fairview 19 of 54, Wellington 16 of 49; **Free throws:** Fairview 3 of 6, Wellington 12 of 17; **Three pointers:** Fairview 2 (Elder, Butler); **Rebounds:** Fairview 26, Wellington 47; **Turnovers:** Fairview 9, Wellington 17

Midview 68, North Ridgeville 63, 0T

MIDVIEW — Randolph 6, Wells 10, Blevins 2, Mahone 16, Bolin 15, Redwood 11, Overy 2, Crum 2
NORTH RIDGEVILLE — Montgomery 19, McCall 8, Sullinger 15, Draft 7, Rowe 5, Arnold 11

Midview	**12**	**15**	**19**	**10**	**12**	**— 68**
North Ridgeville	**15**	**13**	**19**	**9**	**7**	**— 63**

Rebounds: Midview 29, North Ridgeville 19; **Records:** Midview 8-7, North Ridgeville 8-8

Lorain 95, Shaw 51

SHAW — Keyes 13, Mason 11, Mitchell 10, Douglass 8, Lashley 4, Scott 3, Johnson 2
LORAIN— Andrews 27, Bohannon 14, Ross 14, Smothers 12, Berry 8, Davis 7, Andrews 4, Smith 4, Sturgill 3, Williamson 2

Shaw	**18**	**10**	**6**	**17**	**— 51**
Lorain	**22**	**36**	**22**	**15**	**— 95**

Rebounds: Shaw 24 (Douglass 7), Lorain 33 (Smothers 8); **Turnovers:** Shaw 15, Lorain 12; **Records:** Shaw 3-12, Lorain 16-0
JV: Lorain 70, Shaw 51

Western Reserve 60, New London 54

NEW LONDON— Phillips 0-1-1, Thomas 3-7-14, Weber 1-2-4, Hamilton 1-0-2, Lane 3-6-14, Molnar 3-1-7, Brady 6-0-14
WESTERN RESERVE — Sapienza 5-1-15, Munz 0-2-2, Craft 5-8-21, Stump 3-1-7, Bartlett 1-0-3, Logan 4-1-11, Buck 0-1-1

New London	**14**	**11**	**16**	**15**	**— 54**
Western Reserve	**11**	**17**	**17**	**15**	**— 60**

Fouled out: x; **Field goals:** New London 17 of 23, Western Reserve 18 of 46; **Free throws:** New London 17 of 23, Western Reserve 14 of 20; **Rebounds:** New London 33, Western Reserve 28; **Turnovers:** New London 14, Western Reserve 11

was fouled in transition and a North Ridgeville travel returned the ball to the Middies' hands, Midview extended a 68-63 lead that the Rangers couldn't overcome.

There were six lead changes, but the Rangers started on top, carrying a 15-12 advantage after the first quarter due in part to a steal and layup by Tyler Rowe at the buzzer.

Midview junior Dimitri Redwood tied it at 16 before Rangers senior Tyler Arnold sank his third trey of the day to boost North Ridgeville ahead, 19-16.

The Middies regained the lead soon after as junior Mahone snagged a steal and was fouled en route to the basket. Cue sophomore Collin

defensive rebounds.

"We were getting some good looks," DiFranco said. "I thought we missed some easy ones in the first half and I said defensive rebounds are going to win this game."

DiFranco was right, as the Middies yielded just one rebound during North Ridgeville's final four shots of the game. To get there, Midview had to overcome a seven-point deficit in the third quarter.

Sullinger banked his second 3 with two minutes remaining in the quarter for a 45-37 North Ridgeville lead. Randolph responded with a 3 of his own as the Middies cut the difference to trail by one heading into the final stanza.

Sullinger nailed his third 3 to lead off the fourth quarter,

63-59 victor.

As the battle for the West Shore Conference title remains tight amid its final year, DiFranco noted the importance of wins.

"[It was] a great high school basketball game, they don't get much better than that," DiFranco said. "It seems every time we play Ridgeville, it's like that. When we played at their place earlier in the year, it was a similar game but they came out on top. For us to turn the tables tonight was a huge win for our ball club.

"[It's a] crazy conference, you don't want to get too many losses, that's for sure. We want to try to keep pace and see how things play out, so it's a big win in the conference for us."

Sunahara

From Page C1

Bay led, 49-42, entering the final quarter.

"We got out and we ran," Shetzer said. "We played the tempo and the style that we want to play. Anytime you play Rocky River, they're going to try and slow you down and make you play their tempo. They did that for two quarters. We threw the challenge at the guys that if you're going to run, run. If you're not going to run, forget it because we aren't going to win."

Sunahara — who finished the game with 25 points, seven rebounds and four blocks — opened his scoring up on a 3-pointer from the right corner to cut the Rocky River lead to 34-30. A pair of layups by Bay senior Danny Heideloff knotted the game at 34-34 with 5:04 remaining in the quarter, but Evan Nugent's jumper for the Pirates put them back on top, 36-34.

Sunahara hit a deep jumper from the left elbow to knot it back up and senior Alec White hit a baseline layup to give Bay a 38-36 lead. It was the Rockets' first lead since a 6-5 advantage with 5:22 remaining in the first quarter.

"Alec White played probably the best game he's played all season," Shetzer said. "He's a guy who sometimes can be a turnover problem, and he just wasn't tonight. It clicked for him."

That was Sunahara's cue to completely take over.

Sunahara could not miss to end the quarter, slamming home a dunk to put the Rockets up 40-36 and followed it with a 3-pointer from the right corner that somehow touched glass before going in.

"Man, I have no idea," Sunahara said about his third quarter. "I yelled that the one was off and it somehow just kicked off the glass and went in. You know, my friend and I practice bank shots all the time, but I don't think that one was really meant to be a bank shot."

The practice paid off, as Sunahara let loose a 3-point try from five feet behind the top of the key that banked in and put Bay up, 46-38, with 1:03 remaining. He closed out his dominating quarter with a layup in which he was fouled hard and converted the and-1 to put the Rockets up, 49-42, entering the fourth.

"It's not really me," Sunahara said. "My teammates were setting me up very well. They were passing the ball around and getting me open. Danny Heideloff hit two big shots. Brandon Morriss is down there doing what he does best and getting boards. Alec White comes in and plays a heck of a game off the bench.

"I can't credit enough to them. Without them, I can't do what I did."

The Pirates tried to get back into the game in the fourth, cutting the lead to as little as four points, but the Rockets used a 9-2 run over a four-minute span to put the game out of reach.

"You have to give Bay's kids credit," Rocky River coach Michael Murray said. "I thought they made a great run there. A couple of those banked 3s … you don't expect there, but they were playing hard.

"We got back into it and were down by four, but we just couldn't score and went kind of cold and just couldn't get stops. That was probably the difference."