

Sooners Advance, Defeating Denver 80-50

Shoot 60% to down Pioneers

[box score](#)

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) -- Transfer point guard Omar Leary scored 14 points to lead a dominant effort by Oklahoma's second unit in an 80-50 win against Denver on Friday night in the second round of the 2K Sports College Hoops Classic.

Freshman Blake Griffin scored 15 points in a second straight impressive performance and Tony Crocker added 12 on four 3-pointers, but the starters weren't the reason the Sooners (2-0) moved on to face No. 3 Memphis in the semifinals next week at Madison Square Garden.

In fact, they watched from the bench as Oklahoma built its lead and played its best basketball.

The reserves gave the Sooners control of the game in the first half, and second-year coach Jeff Capel came out after halftime with all of his starters on the bench. He, too, had an all new look: He ditched his brown suit coat, white button-up shirt and tie, and came out in a white polo shirt instead.

The inspired play continued, with the backups scoring 10 of the first 12 points after halftime to take a 51-28 edge when Leary hit a 3-pointer and then followed it with a nifty scoop shot in transition off an assist from Keith Clark.

Once the starters came back in, Denver (1-1) cut its deficit down to 57-39 on Joe Jackson's 3-pointer before Oklahoma began distancing itself with a 12-2 run the starters got going and Leary topped off with another 3 to make it 69-41.

In between, Griffin had a highlight-reel dunk that showed off the athleticism that made him a McDonald's All-American and one of the Sooners' most highly touted recruits in years. He grabbed a loose ball tipped by his brother, Taylor Griffin, and headed to the rim for a two-handed jam.

David Kummer led Denver with 11 points on 2-for-8 shooting, and Jackson finished with 10 for the Pioneers. Denver committed 19 turnovers.

Taylor Griffin also scored 12 points for Oklahoma, which shot 60 percent and made 13 of 23 from 3-point range.

Capel showed disgust with his starters early on, shouting about the scouting report as the team walked off the court for the first media timeout. A few minutes later, he made a wholesale substitution, and Oklahoma's bench forced Denver into turnovers on five straight possessions during a 16-0 run that David Godbold finished with a layup to make it 31-14.

Kummer broke the string when he got behind the Sooners' full-court defense for a layup. At that point, the Pioneers had committed 10 turnovers and attempted only seven shots.

