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(Neb.)-Eliason leads Minnesota past No. 11 Ohio State

By: Andrew Lacy Posted at: 01/16/2014 10:18 PM

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Elliott Eliason had 12 points and 13 rebounds to help Minnesota muscle past 11th-ranked Ohio State for a 63-53 victory Thursday night that stuck the Buckeyes with their third straight loss.

DeAndre Mathieu had 13 points, five assists and three steals for the Golden Gophers (14-4, 3-2 Big Ten), who gave new coach Richard Pitino his first signature win. They did it by backing down the Buckeyes and owning the area around the basket, posting a 38-20 advantage in points in the paint and a 39-24 rebounding edge.

LaQuinton Ross scored 22 points for the Buckeyes (15-3, 2-3), who are on a three-game losing streak for the first time in almost four years. The other four Ohio State starters combined for only 19 points, and the conference's second-worst free throw shooting team went 11 for 18 from the foul line.