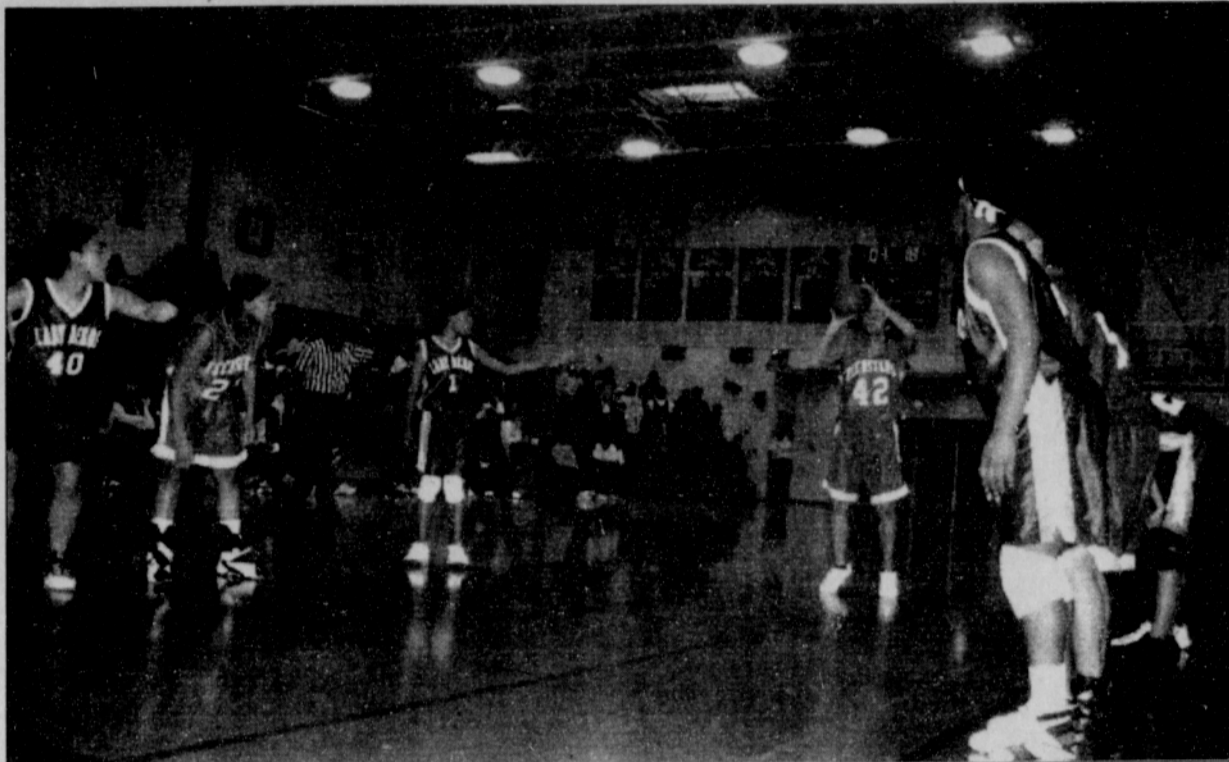


**Metro/Sports**

**Tech Girls Race To The Finish**



The Benson High School Techsters go to the line in a victory over Jefferson last week. Both teams qualified for the Class 4A Girls State Tournament that began on Tuesday. (PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/PORTLAND OBSERVER)

**Class 4A Girls Subtournament**

- Tuesday**  
 A: Clackamas at Bend  
 B: Churchill at West Albany  
 C: Centennial at Redmond  
 D: Grant at St. Mary's  
 E: Tualatin at Ashland  
 F: Klamath at Gresham
- Thursday**  
 A at Benson  
 B at Glencoe  
 C at Willamette  
 D at Tigard  
 E at South Salem  
 F at Silverton  
 G: Lakeridge at Jefferson
- Saturday**  
 A at Barlow  
 B at South Medford  
 C at Lake Oswego  
 D at Pendleton  
 E at Sheldon  
 F at Corvallis  
 G at Beaverton

**Benson and Jefferson Prepare for Matchup**

By Dave Charbonneau

When Jon Tinnon transferred from Benson to Jefferson before his junior year, Jon helped the Democrats to a state championship (1999/2000).

"Jon was the difference," Benson coach Don Emry said. "They wouldn't have won it without Jon. That's when the rivalry started, in more ways than one."

Over the last three seasons, there has been no bigger regular-season game in the state than when Jefferson and Benson meet.

The games always have been crucial in what has become a two-team race for the Portland Interscholastic League championship the last three seasons. The games have gotten too big for the schools' gyms and, starting last season, have been moved to the Chiles Center. The 5,000-seat arena comes close to selling out for every game. "It's given us a chance to be on both sides of the fence," said Jefferson coach Marshall Haskins, who took over before the 1998-99 season. "The first year I was here, they were the better team. Last year, we were the best."

On Wednesday, No. 1 Jefferson will play No. 3 Benson at the Chiles Center for the second time this season. Jefferson won the first meeting 74-65 on Jan. 19.

Assuming Jefferson beats Wilson at home Tuesday and Benson beats Marshall, a win over Benson (18-4, 15-1 PIL) will give the Democrats (20-2, 16-0) their second consecutive PIL championship. If Benson wins, it will force a third meeting between the teams for the PIL title this weekend.

**Psychologist: Rasheed's Problems Will Only Get Worse**

By Landon Hall, AP

It was the most explosive outburst of Rasheed Wallace's 5 1/2-year NBA career: Late in the Portland Trail Blazers' victory over Phoenix on Feb. 1, Wallace was ejected by referee Gary Benson and became so incensed that he charged at the official and threw a towel that grazed his face.

The image of Wallace spewing profanity at Benson, held back by teammates and coaches, was surprising, even considering the player's turbulent history. Wallace was suspended for two games and fined \$10,000.

But two weeks later the Blazers, with the best record in the Western Conference, dismiss the incident as no big



Rasheed Wallace

deal. "If he cares too much and is too excited about it, that's part of his makeup," Portland president and general manager Bob Whitsitt says. "But (for) all these people that decide that they're psychologists and can't even spell the word — and I'm not saying I am either — these are not new subjects. Right now we're a first-place basketball team. But they always want to find things they don't like." Others, however, including some real psychologists, see deeper problems with the talented yet volatile player.

Wallace's inability to control his

anger threatens the stability of his team and even his playing career, they say. Furthermore, his recent blowup — and the relatively light punishment he received for it — could signal worse trouble to come. "It doesn't stop at one level. It escalates," said Tom Tutko, a respected sports psychologist and retired professor at San Jose State University. "If you're not going to be punished for this kind of behavior, it just moves up a notch. Not only am I going to throw a towel in the official's face, I'm going to deck the official. If they're just going to slap me on the wrist for something this serious, why not keep doing it?" A former colleague of Tutko's is Bruce Ogilvie,

who was the Blazers' team psychologist from its first year, 1970, until coach Jack Ramsey left in 1986. Ogilvie, 80, said Wallace clearly needs anger-management counseling.


"If I was his shrink, I'd be working with him one-on-one. I'd be seeing him at least five times a week to see what's going on," he told The Oregonian.

Between the lines, Wallace, 26, is having his finest season. The 6-foot-11 power forward's averages of 19.3 points and 8.2 rebounds are career highs. Last Sunday he played in his second straight All-Star game.

On Tuesday night, he had a typically solid game: 18 points, eight rebounds and six assists, while forcing

Kevin Garnett to commit five turnovers in Portland's 109-88 rout of Minnesota, which snapped the Timberwolves' 11-game winning streak.

Then there's the dark side. Wallace has 27 technical fouls, ahead of the pace to break the NBA record of 38 he set last season. He's been ejected three times, and during his suspension, the Blazers lost to the L.A. Clippers, 90-89. "You always worry about being at risk for him getting thrown out of the game," coach Mike Dunleavy said after the Phoenix game. Wallace's teammates unequivocally support him, praising his selfless play and desire. But even they hint that he needs to chill out.



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