

SMITH: Buckaroo going the extra lengths to catch on at next level

Continued from 1B
his efforts Smith has been named the All-EO boys basketball Player of the Year. Smith has played basketball since his elementary school days, playing on youth AAU teams with several of his varsity teammates from second through eighth grades. During that eighth grade year is when Smith began to realize that he had a special talent and a real passion for the game.

"I was always playing up a grade and playing well ... but around eighth grade the high school coaches were always coming and watching," he said. "And I started putting more of my time into it and ever since I've loved the game more and more."

His love for basketball can be described as a borderline obsession now, as Smith recently decided to give up playing baseball to focus on elevating his overall basketball game to even bigger heights moving forward.

"I'm trying to get the most exposure I can get for the next level and play Division I college basketball, which is a big dream of mine," he said. "It's going to take a lot more time than what I've been putting in to get where I want to be."

Smith has recently joined the Emerald City Basketball Academy's AAU team based

out of Seattle, Washington for the spring and summer to help him accomplish those goals. Smith said he already knows which areas of his game he needs to focus on over the next several months.

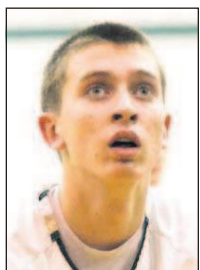
"I need to improve on the defensive end on getting stops and not relying on the offensive game so much," he said. "Better defense will also make it easier for my offense if the team gets those stops. But I also need to work on moving the ball more and get more people involved instead of watching so much."

The Buckaroos team has already met about what's to come for next year, and Smith has the bar set high for his final season in Pendleton. He wants to get his team back to the state tournament and make a run at the state championship, but he knows it won't come easy.

"We've experienced what it will take so we have to do a lot of hard work in the offseason and during the season," he said. "It comes down to simple drills, shoring up our game, and a lot of weight lifting to build up that strength. It all depends on how hard we will work."

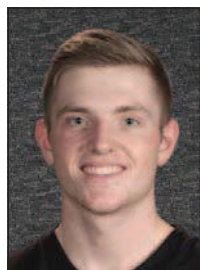
Contact Eric Singer at esinger@eastoregonian.com or (541) 966-0839. You can also follow Eric on Twitter @ByEricSinger.

All-EO Boys Second Team



James Bradt Pendleton, sr.

12 points per game, 9 rebounds per game, 2 steals per game, CRC 1st team



Hunter Yensen Mac-Hi, sr.

15.5 points per game, 9 rebounds per game, 1.5 assists per game, GOL 1st team



Ira Ashley Nixyaawii, sr.

14 points per game, 4.8 rebounds per game, 4.2 assists per game, 3.2 steals per game, 1A All-Tournament 1st team, OOL 2nd team



Fredy Campos Nixyaawii, sr.

14.9 points per game, 4.2 steals per game, 3.1 assists per game, 2.7 rebounds per game, OOL 1st team



C.J. Kindie Heppner, sr.

12 points per game, 5 rebounds per game, 3 assists per game, 2.5 steals per game, CBC 1st team



Austin Naillon Hermiston, sr.

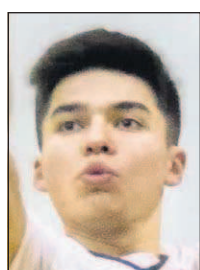
CRC 1st team

All-EO Boys Third Team



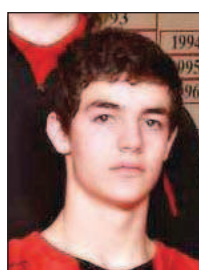
Michael Thompson Echo, sr.

13.5 points per game, 9.4 rebounds per game, OOL 1st team



Daniel Adams Pendleton, sr.

12.5 points per game, 37 percent 3-pt shooting, CRC 2nd team



Shaw Broncheau Weston-McEwen, jr.

11 points per game, 4.5 rebounds per game, 5.8 assists per game, 3.5 steals per game, CBC 1st team



Logan Grieb Heppner, jr.

13 points per game, 5 rebounds per game, 3.5 assists per game, CBC 1st team



Kaden Webb Umatilla, soph.

14 points per game, 4 rebounds per game, 4 assists per game, 2 steals per game, EOL 1st team



Hunter McKay Nixyaawii, sr.

14.6 points per game, 6.6 rebounds per game, 2.5 assists per game, 3.4 steals per game, OOL 2nd team

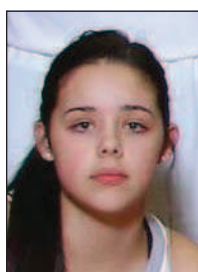
EDMISTON: Former swimmer gives up track as well, earns scholarship

All-EO Girls Second Team



Chelsea Quaepts Weston-McEwen, soph.

9.3 points per game, 5.3 rebounds per game, 4.9 steals per game, 2.5 assists per game, CBC Player of the Year



Jada Burns Irrigon, soph.

15.3 points per game, 4.5 rebounds per game, 3.5 steals per game, 3.1 assists per game, CBC 1st team



Jessie Flynn lone, sr.

15.8 points per game, 5.1 rebounds per game, 2.2 steals per game, BSL 1st team



Kalan McGlothlan Pendleton, soph.

8.1 points per game, 7.5 rebounds per game, CRC 1st team



Sydney Richwine Mac-Hi, jr.

12.3 points per game, 8 rebounds per game, 2 steals per game, GOL 1st team



Madison Dave Pilot Rock, sr.

12.4 points per game, 9.3 rebounds per game, 2.2 steals per game, 1.2 assists per game, CBC 1st team

All-EO Girls Third Team



Haley Greb Pendleton, jr.

10.1 points per game, 3.1 assists per game, 1.7 steals per game, CRC 2nd team



Aleesha Watson Umatilla, jr.

12.1 points per game, 5.5 rebounds per game, 3.1 steals per game, 3A All-State 2nd team, EOL 1st team



Kynzee Padilla Hermiston, jr.

5.5 points per game, 5.5 rebounds per game, 1.6 steals per game, 2.1 assists per game, CRC 2nd team



Bekah Roe Pilot Rock, jr.

8.6 points per game, 6.6 rebounds per game, 4.3 steals per game, 3.4 assists per game, CBC 1st team



Yazzmin Chavez Stanfield, sr.

10 points per game, 3 rebounds per game, 3 steals per game, CBC 1st team



Sunshine Fuentes Nixyaawii, jr.

6.8 points per game, 5.6 rebounds per game, 3.9 blocks per game, OOL 1st team

Continued from 1B
her love. In sixth grade, she began to consider this, and understood then she would have to stop doing something she enjoys. Part of her pulled her toward basketball, the sport she most enjoyed and the one she was best at. In the other direction was swimming, with the family connection of her coach mother.

"I loved basketball," Edmiston said. "Even with track, I was good at track, but I loved basketball. That's what I wanted to do when I was older, and that's the only thing that I feel like would keep me going into college. I kinda got nervous or scared when I did other sports, but I knew in basketball I'd be fine."

Edmiston set the goal early to be on the varsity basketball team as a freshman. To accomplish that feat, a relative rarity, she knew she would have to concentrate on one thing. Unfortunately for swimming, it meant that had to cease.

This time it was Edmiston's mother's turn to cry, and although tears were shed, Edmiston made sure they weren't in vain.

Not only would Edmiston make the varsity her freshman season, the day before the season opener she found out she was in the starting five.

"I didn't really believe (the coaches)," Edmiston said. "I was super nervous. I remember I didn't go shake the other coach's hand (during introductions) because I was so nervous."

The first two years of her high school career, Edmiston was still a two-sport standout at Hermiston and competed in track during the spring. She qualified for the OSA State Championships as a sprinter her sophomore year and finished second in the 100-meters and third in the 400. But she declined to try to improve on those medals.

"With track, I was contemplating or months if I needed to do it," she said. "Back then, I can't really remember, but (I just decided to) focus on basketball."

Her focus was rewarded when prior to her senior season she signed a letter of intent to attend Lewis-Clark State University in Lewiston, Idaho on a basketball scholarship.

She went on to earn her second-straight Columbia River Conference co-Player of the Year award, and was named to the All-Tournament second team during Hermiston's fourth-place finish at the state championships.

"I think it all turned out in the end," she said.

SCOREBOARD

Local Slate

PREP BASEBALL
Monday
Walla Walla at Pendleton, 4 p.m.
Heppner at Pilot Rock, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday
Stanfield at Riverside (DH), 1/3 p.m.
Umatilla at Sherman, 4 p.m.
Mac-Hi at Elgin, 4 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Dufur, 4:30 p.m.
La Grande at Hermiston, 4:30 p.m.
PREP SOFTBALL
Saturday
Mac-Hi vs. Yamhill-Carlton, Noon
Mac-Hi vs. Banks, 2:30 p.m.
Monday
Walla Walla at Pendleton (DH), 3/5 p.m.
Tuesday
Echo at Riverside (DH), 1/3 p.m.
Umatilla at Irrigon (DH), 3/5 p.m.
Mac-Hi at The Dalles, 4:30 p.m.
PREP TRACK & FIELD
Saturday
Ione, Stanfield at Sherman, 11 a.m.
Tuesday
The Dalles at Hermiston, 4 p.m.
PREP GOLF
Monday
Pendleton, Hermiston, Mac-Hi boys/girls at Wildhorse Resort, Noon
PREP TENNIS
Monday
Umatilla at Mac-Hi 3 p.m.
La Grande at Pendleton, 4 p.m.
Riverside at Condon/Wheeler, 4 p.m.
Tuesday
Weston-McEwen, Helix, Riverside at Mac-Hi, 4 p.m.
Ione at Stanfield, 4:30 p.m.
PREP LACROSSE
Saturday
Hermiston at Mt. Spokane (WA), 1 p.m.
COLLEGE BASEBALL
Saturday
Blue Mountain at Walla Walla (DH), 1/4 p.m.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
Saturday
Eastern Oregon at Oregon Tech (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Blue Mountain at Big Bend (DH), Noon/2 p.m.
Tuesday

Blue Mountain at Treasure Valley (DH), 2/4 p.m.

Basketball

NCAA Men's Tournament
FINAL FOUR
At NRG Stadium
Houston
Saturday
Villanova (33-5) vs. Oklahoma (29-7), 3:09 p.m. (TBS)
North Carolina (32-6) vs. Syracuse (23-13), 5:49 p.m. (TBS)
NCAA Women's Tournament
FINAL FOUR
At Indianapolis
Sunday
UCConn (36-0) vs. Oregon State (32-4), 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Washington (26-10) vs. Syracuse (29-7), 5:30 p.m. (ESPN2)
NBA
Friday's Games
Charlotte 100, Philadelphia 91
Dallas 98, Detroit 89
New York 105, Brooklyn 91
Milwaukee 113, Orlando 110
Toronto 99, Memphis 95
Cleveland 110, Atlanta 108, OT
Utah 98, Minnesota 85
Miami 112, Sacramento 106
Boston 109, Golden State 106
Washington 106, Phoenix 99
Saturday's Games
Indiana at Philadelphia, 4:30 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 5 p.m.
Toronto at San Antonio, 5:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Denver, 6 p.m.
Miami at Portland, 7 p.m.
Sunday's Games
New Orleans at Brooklyn, 10 a.m.
Washington at L.A. Clippers, 12:30 p.m.
Dallas at Minnesota, 12:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Houston, 12:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Cleveland, 12:30 p.m.
Utah at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Memphis at Orlando, 3 p.m.
Chicago at Milwaukee, 4 p.m.
Indiana at New York, 4:30 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 5 p.m.
Boston at L.A. Lakers, 6:30 p.m.
Hockey
NHL
Friday's Games
Detroit 3, Minnesota 2
Boston 6, St. Louis 5

Chicago 5, Winnipeg 4, OT
Washington 4, Colorado 2
Vancouver 3, Anaheim 2
Saturday's Games
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 10 a.m.
Ottawa at Philadelphia, 10 a.m.
Dallas at Los Angeles, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 4 p.m.
New Jersey at Tampa Bay, 4 p.m.
Montreal at Florida, 4 p.m.
Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 4 p.m.
Columbus at Carolina, 4 p.m.
San Jose at Nashville, 5 p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 7 p.m.
Washington at Arizona, 7 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Boston at Chicago, 9:30 a.m.
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 2 p.m.
Minnesota at Winnipeg, 5 p.m.
St. Louis at Colorado, 5 p.m.
Dallas at Anaheim, 6 p.m.

Soccer


MLS
Today's Games
New England 1, New York 0
Saturday's Games
Philadelphia at Chicago, 2 p.m.
Toronto FC at Colorado, 5 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Sporting Kansas City, 5:30 p.m.
Columbus at FC Dallas, 6 p.m.
Montreal at Seattle, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Vancouver, 7 p.m.
D.C. United at San Jose, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Portland at Orlando City, 5 p.m.
Golf
PGA
Shell Houston Open
Thursday
At Golf Club of Houston
Humble, Texas
Purse: \$6.8 million
Yardage: 7,411 Yds Par 72 (36-36)
Partial Second Round
Charley Hoffman 64-70—134
Jamie Lovemark 67-68—135
Chez Reavie 66-70—136
Will MacKenzie 69-68—137
Russell Henley 70-68—138
Charles Howell III 69-69—138
Harris English 68-70—138
Scott Brown 65-74—139
Bernard Wiesberger 68-71—139
Ricky Fowler 69-70—139
Lucas Glover 71-68—139
Andrew Loupe 67-72—139

Scott Pinckney 66-73—139
Whee Kim 67-73—140
Henrik Stenson 69-71—140
Jordan Spieth 67-73—140
68-72—140
Luke List 69-71—140
Patrick Reed 70-70—140
David Hearn 69-71—140
Si Woo Kim 66-74—140
Justin Hicks 67-73—140
Steve Marino 69-71—140
Phil Mickelson 70-70—140
David Toms 69-71—140
Boo Weekley 69-72—141
Brian Harman 67-74—141

Charl Schwartzel 69-72—141
Sean O'Hair 68-73—141

Tennis

Miami Open
Friday
At The Tennis Center at Crandon Park
Key Biscayne, Fla.
Purse: Men, \$6.13 million (Masters 1000);
Women, \$6.13 million (Premier)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Men
Semifinals
Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. David Goffin (15), Belgium, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Kei Nishikori (6), Japan, def. Nick Kyrgios (24), Australia, 6-3, 7-5.
Doubles
Women
Semifinals
Timea Babos, Hungary, and Yaroslava Shvedova (4), Kazakhstan, def. Margarita Gasparyan, Russia, and Monica Niculescu, Romania, 7-5, 4-6, 10-8.
Bethanie Mattek-Sands, United States, and Lucie Safarova (3), Czech Republic, def. Yi-Fan Xu, China, and Zheng Saisai (8), China, 6-2, 6-1.



for providing the funds to update the shower rooms at the Pendleton Convention Center.

We are happy to provide our visitors with the new look.

Learn more about the Wildhorse Foundation at:
www.thewildhorsefoundation.com