Chambers: Dark horse emerges from the shadows

Continued from Page A8

He has worked incredibly hard. He doesn't miss anything. He's one of those boys who makes coaching worthwhile.'

Chambers wrestled at 132 pounds most of the season, but with the weight class stocked with a ton of talented guys, the decision was made to move him up

"At the beginning of the season, making 132 was a rough cut," Chambers said. "As the season goes on, it gets easier to cut weight. It was stacked at 132. If I would have been there, I don't know if I would have made it to state.'

Chambers will wrestle Jackson Godsey of Hillsboro in his first match at state, and he feels good about his side of the

"I definitely have a solid shot at placing at state," Chambers said. "We have been breaking the bracket down. I can see myself on the podium at state."

Phillips doesn't doubt

"We are so excited for him," Phillips said. "Look what he's done so far."

From dogs to dentist

Chambers has logged untold hours volunteering with the PAWS animal shelter in Pendleton. When it came time to complete the work for his Eagle Scout badge, he knew it would be something to benefit the animals.

He designed and created about 50 reusable kennel tags, which are used to list the animal's name and health history.

"They are weather resistant and can be used over and over," Chambers

Chambers said college wrestling is not part of his future plans. He knows he will serve a mission for his church, but isn't sure if he will go right out of high school, or if he will attend BYU-Idaho for a year first.

When he returns from his mission, he will complete his undergraduate work before hopefully attending the University of Washington dental

"The one thing I have liked about wrestling, is it teaches good work ethic," Chambers said. "When I move on, I will know how to work hard."

Echo falls to SW Christian in 1A playoffs

By BRETT KANE East Oregonian

Wednesday's 1A state playoff game was one played in brief bursts.

The Echo girls (13-14, 10-4 BSL), fresh off last week's Big Sky League championship loss to South Wasco County, couldn't manage a recovery as they were handed a 37-22 defeat to end their season against visiting Southwest Christian Wildcats.

"I wouldn't say we came out and played our game tonight," said coach Heather Madison. "But I saw some flashes of how we play when we're on top of things.'

The Wildcats, who are No. 3 in the Valley 10 league, held Echo to under 10 points until the third quarter, when they would put together nine points to come within 12 of the lead, but not enough to keep their season alive.

Cougars junior Tylene Skillman scored two at the line to give Echo their only lead with 5:18 left in the first quarter, but a 3-pointer from Wildcats sophomore Rachel Haas flipped the switch and set the tempo for the rest of the game.

Junior Rachel McCarty knocked down three straight



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Echo's Tylene Skillman attempts to pass to a teammate while being triple-teamed during Wednesday's game against the **Southwest Christian Wildcats.**

points in the second quarter to come within two points of the lead, but the Wildcats returned with a nine-point run after four scoreless minutes to round out the half with a 20-9 advantage.

If Southwest Christian had one thing over the Cougars, it was their height. Sophomores Kavla Morgan and Emily Turner, both 6-foot-1 posts, nabbed eight and seven rebounds, respectively, and did their best to beat the Cougars out of the

"We've never played a team that tall before," said Cougars freshman point

guard Faith McCarty. "It took a lot of getting used to, but we put up a really good fight. I'm proud of how we

handled them." McCarty finally got her team into double digits with a basket two minutes into quarter three. And after three unanswered Cougars points in the final quarter, four scoreless minutes ticked away until the Wild-

a seven-point streak. Only four Cougars scored during the game, with Rachel McCarty's nine points leading the pack. Skillman chipped in seven, and Faith McCarty five.

cats finished the game with

"This was a good way to end our season," Madison said. "We made it further than I ever expected us to. We made milestones from our season's beginning until now. This is just the beginning for us. We'll have a really strong girls basketball team next year. This season was a great foundation."

Echo finished the year at No. 2 in the Big Sky League standings.

BOX SCORE

S'west Christian 9 11 10 7 — 37 Echo 6 3 9 4—22 SOUTHWEST CHRISTIAN — Haas 15, Morgan 12, McGuire 4, Turner 4, Arzie 2 ECHO — McCarty 9, Skillman 7, McCarty

Blazers: Play Nets today

Continued from Page A8

Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "He's a proven NBA player. He can score, he can rebound. He's played in big games. So it shouldn't be too difficult."

Kanter will join a second unit that, as it stands, includes Jake Layman, Seth Curry, Evan Turner and another newcomer, Rodney Hood.

Acquired at the trade deadline in a deal with Cleveland, Hood has played in four games with the Blazers, averaging 9.72 points a game.

The moves give Portland better depth as the team heads into the critical part of the season. The Blazers are 34-23 and in fourth place in the Western Conference. They're seven games back of firstplace Golden State, the team they bested by 22 points last week.

'To go into the All-Star break and be confident knowing that we beat one of the best teams, if not the best team in the NBA,

it's huge for us," forward Zach Collins said.

There are still 25 games left, but for the past two years the Blazers have mounted post-break

Last year at this time, Portland was 32-26, sitting in sixth place in the West, and also coming off a victory over the Warriors. The win touched off a 13-game winning streak that helped the team secure the West's third seed for a fifth straight playoff appearance. The team's streak matched the franchise record.

The previous season, Portland lost three straight games to go into the break at 23-33, and an overtime loss at Detroit shortly thereafter put the Blazers 11 games under .500. But Portland caught fire from there and went 13in March. Damian Lillard was named the conference's Player of the Month, averaging 29.1 points in 16 games, and Stotts was named Coach of the Month.

LOCAL SLATE THURSDAY, FEB. 21

Girls Basketball Hood River Valley at Pendleton, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 22 Men's Basketball

Big Bend at Blue Mountain, 7:30 p.m. Women's Basketball

Big Bend at Blue Mountain, 5:30 p.m. **Boys Basketball**

Umatilla at Sutherlin, 5:30 p.m. Kennedy at Heppner, 6 p.m.

Nixyaawii vs. St. Paul (at Pendleton High School), 6 p.m. **Boys Wrestling**

Stanfield, Riverside at State Wrestling

Pendleton, Irrigon, Heppner/Ione, Echo/

(Portland), 9 a.m. SATURDAY, FEB. 23

Boys Basketball Pendleton vs. Ridgeview/The Dalles win-

ner (at BMCC) **Boys Wrestling**

Pendleton, Irrigon, Heppner/Ione, Echo/ Stanfield, Riverside at State Wrestling

Girls Basketball Santiam at Heppner, 2 p.m.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	43	16	.729	_
Boston	37	21	.638	51/2
Philadelphia	37	21	.638	51/2
Brooklyn	30	29	.508	13
New York	11	47	.190	311/2
Southeast	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	27	30	.474	_
Miami	26	30	.464	1/2
Orlando	27	32	.458	1
Washington	24	34	.414	31/2
Atlanta	19	39	.328	81/2
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	43	14	.754	_
ndiana	38	20	.655	51/2
Detroit	26	30	.464	161/2
Chicago	14	44	.241	291/2

SCOREBOARD

12 .207 Boston at Chicago, 5 p.m. **WESTERN CONFERENCE** Southwest Dallas at Utah, 7 p.m. 33 26 26 26 31 33 San Antonio .559 Sunday's Games .456 Dallas New Orleans .390 **Pct** 11 **GB** Memphis 36 Northwest .684 NHL Denver 20 23 .649 .596 Oklahoma City **EASTERN CONFERENCE** Portland .561

.491

GB

.474 Pct .719

Tuesday's Games No games scheduled. Wednesday's Games

Utah

Pacific

Minnesota

Golden State

L.A. Clippers

Sacramento L.A. Lakers

Thursday's Games Miami at Philadelphia, 4 p.m. Phoenix at Cleveland, 4 p.m. Portland at Brooklyn, 4:30 p.m. Boston at Milwaukee, 5 p.m. Houston at L.A. Lakers, 7:30 p.m.

30 28

Sacramento at Golden State, 7:30 p.m Friday's Games Chicago at Orlando, 4 p.m.

New Orleans at Indiana, 4 p.m. San Antonio at Toronto, 4 p.m. Washington at Charlotte, 4 p.m. Detroit at Atlanta, 4:30 p.m. Minnesota at New York, 4:30 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Memphis Denver at Dallas, 5:30 p.m. Utah at Oklahoma City, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games Portland at Philadelphia, 10 a.m. Brooklyn at Charlotte, 4 p.m. Indiana at Washington, 4 p.m. L.A. Lakers at New Orleans, 4 p.m. Memphis at Cleveland, 4 p.m. Phoenix at Atlanta, 4 p.m. Detroit at Miami, 4:30 p.m.

Sacramento at Oklahoma City, 5 p.m. Houston at Golden State, 5:30 p.m. Minnesota at Milwaukee, 5:30 p.m. Orlando at Toronto, 12:30 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Denver, 2 p.m.

San Antonio at New York, 4:30 p.m

WESTERN CONFERENCE

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for

overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Tuesday's Games Florida 4, Buffalo 2

Tampa Bay 5, Philadelphia 2 Pittsburgh 4, New Jersey 3 N.Y. Rangers 2, Carolina 1 Montreal 3, Columbus 2 St. Louis 3, Toronto 2, OT Anaheim 4, Minnesota 0 Nashville 5, Dallas 3 Arizona 3, Edmonton 2, SO

Wednesday's Games Chicago 5, Detroit 4, OT Colorado 7, Winnipeg 1 Calgary 4, N.Y. Islanders 2

Boston at Vegas, 7 p.m. Thursday's Games Washington at Toronto, 4 p.m.

Ottawa at New Jersey, 4 p.m. Carolina at Florida, 4 p.m. San Jose at Pittsburgh, 4 p.m. Minnesota at N.Y. Rangers, 4 p.m. Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 4:30 p.m. Philadelphia at Montreal, 4:30 p.m. Los Angeles at Nashville, 5 p.m. St. Louis at Dallas, 5:30 p.m.

N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton, 6 p.m. Arizona at Vancouver, 7 p.m. Friday's Games Columbus at Ottawa, 4 p.m.

Minnesota at Detroit, 4:30 p.m. Colorado at Chicago, 4:30 p.m. Anaheim at Calgary, 6 p.m. Saturday's Games

New Jersey at N.Y. Rangers, 10 a.m. Washington at Buffalo, 10 a.m Boston at St. Louis, 1 p.m. Carolina at Dallas, 2 p.m. Los Angeles at Florida, 2 p.m. San Jose at Columbus, 2 p.m. Colorado at Nashville, 2:30 p.m. Montreal at Toronto, 4 p.m. Pittsburgh vs. Philadelphia at Philadel-

phia, Pa., 5 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Vancouver, 7 p.m. Anaheim at Edmonton, 7 p.m.

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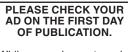
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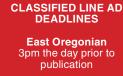
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