Rodeo: Barrel racer Jessica Crouch was Thursday's top rider

Continued from Page B1

year's Pendleton champion Sterling Lambert will ride him Friday.

Bareback riding

Canadian cowboy Kody Lamb took over the top spot in the event with an 87-point ride on Big Star, moving past Tim O'Connell's 86 from Wednesday.

"I knew I had a really good horse," he said. "I just worried about doing my job. I try not to worry about what has been done. There's nothing I can do about it."

It was the second time Lamb had been on Big

"I had him in Oakdale (California), but I missed him out," Lamb said.

It is the first Pendleton Round-Up for Lamb, who sits 26th in the bareback world standings.

"I've been pro for six years, but the first four I was in college and had a rodeo the same weekend as Pendleton," he said. "The last two years, I was hurt at this time. I love it. It's lived up to the expectations and stories I have heard."

Orin Larsen, last year's Pendleton champ and Lamb's traveling partner, had an 85 on Vee Bar Nine for the second-best ride of the afternoon.

Calf roping

In his fourth showing at the Pendleton Round-Up, 25-year-old Taylor Santos took over the tie-down leaderboard.

The Creston, California, native turned in an 8.3-second run on Thursday afternoon, surpassing Riley Pruitt's second go-round time of 8.9 seconds.

"It's darn sure one of my favorite rodeos of the year," Santos said of the Round-Up. "I've made the short round all three years. It's an adrenaline rush coming off that hill

and onto the grass." Gooding, Idaho, roper Jared Parke held the lead at 11.8 until Santos took over for good four rides later.

Santos currently sits at No. 10 in the world standings with \$91,121 in total earnings. After Thursday's run, Santos said his chances are good to qualify for the Saturday's final and add some more money to that purse.

"If I can win a little money in Pendleton," he said, "I'll be able to qualify for my first national finals. It'll be a childhood dream come true."

Team roping

Clay Smith and Jade Corkill have only been team roping together for three months, but their chemistry is already unbeatable.

The duo roped their steer in 5.9 seconds for Thursday's hottest run — 0.1 seconds faster than Brandon Beers and Justin Davis, who clocked in at 6 seconds flat.

"We didn't make a great run today," Corkill said. "We could've been a little faster."

Smith, a header from Broken Bow, Oklahoma, is No. 1 in the PRCA world standings, and Corkill, a heeler from Fallon, Nevada, is No. 5. Smith first reached out to Corkill to team rope in May, and the two have competed in more than 40 rodeos together since.

"I've known him forever," Corkill said of Smith. "He just called me one day and asked me to rope."

Only five teams had qualifying runs Thursday. Corkill said he plans to continue his partnership with Smith far beyond their run this year.

"We want to keep going as long as we can," he said. "Things change all the time, but, that's the plan."

Saddle bronc

Jake Finlay missed out on the saddle bronc finals by one spot last year, but fans are sure to see the Australian cowboy Saturday after he posted an 87.5-point ride on the back Zaria Hills.

"I'm stoked," he said. "That's a damn good horse. I got on her last week in Puyallup and made some money off her. We treat each other pretty good."

Finlay, who has competed in rodeos in Asia, Australia, Canada and the United States, said Pendleton is by far his favorite.

"It beats Houston and all the big ones," said Finlay, who shares time between Texas and South Dakota. "You can't compare it to anything else."

Sterling Crawley was second with an 86, while last year's Pendleton champ Jesse Wright had an 85.5.

Bull riding

Daylon Swearingen is a man in need of a few dollars.

The Georgia cowboy is sitting 16th in the world standings, just \$1,328 out of 15th and a trip to the

He might have put a few dollars in his pocket Thursday with an 88-point ride on Ols Tubs Nickel Package. His score puts him at the top of the leaderboard, two points better than Jeff Askey's 86 from Wednesday.

Trevor Kastler followed with an 87 on Playing a Chicken, while Sage Kimzey, who has won the past five world titles, had an 84 on Ray's Last Jump.

Steer roping

King of the Cowboys Trevor Brazile held the fastest run going into Thursday's steer roping event, but two ropers were quick to take over.

Trenton Johnson of Blue Mound, Kansas, was the first to top Brazile's 13.4-second ride, roping his steer in 12.1 seconds to take the top of the leaderboard. Two rides later, Jason Evans outdid them

The Glen Rose, Texas, roper tied the knot in 11.5 seconds to jump to No. 1 in the event.

'It was a steer that they'd missed in the first round," he said. "You don't know what was going to happen with a steer like that. There was some phenomenal ropers today, and the crowd was real good and loud."

Evans, an insurance salesman, said the Round-Up was one of the few rodeos he's found time to rope in so far this

"It was important to me to do so well here," he said. "It's one of my favorite rodeos. Every time you make the short round and go to the finals, it's amazing. You treasure it."

Barrel racing

No racer was able to beat Italy Sheehan's 28.77-second Tuesday finish, but Jessica Crouch Thursday's top rider, clocking in at 29.33 seconds.

The Bend resident edged out Battle Mountain, Nevada's Riata Goemmer (29.44) and Mindy Goemmer (29.94), and Echo's Bobbie Correa (29.93). Three of the 12 riders suffered five-second penalties before finishing.

"That was really scary," Crouch said moments after her finish. "That was totally insane. There was so much energy."

Although Crouch hails from Bend, she's a former Blue Mountain Community College student, and returned to Pendleton to compete in her hometown

"I love it here," she said. "It feels so good to be back."



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Barrel racer Jessica Crouch races to a time of 29.33 seconds during Thursday's Pendleton Round-Up to win the round.



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Kody Lamb of Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada, hangs on to Big Star for an 87-point ride at the Pendleton Round-Up on Thursday afternoon.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

Daylon Swearingen, of Rochelle, Ga., rides his buil to a top score of 88 during Thursday's Pendleton Round-Up.

Prep Roundup: Portland Christian still unbeaten

Continued from Page B1

Volleyball

SOUTH WASCO COUNTY IONE/ ARLINGTON 2 — Ione/ Arlington started strong, taking the first two sets at home against South Wasco County before dropping the next three in a five-set loss, 16-25, 22-25, 25-18, 25-23, 15-7.

Ione/Arlington (4-3, 1-1) continues Big Sky play with three matches next week, beginning Tuesday Dufur on the road.

RIVERSIDE 3, UMA-TILLA 1 —Riverside took the Eastern Oregon League opener against Umatilla in four sets, 25-19, 25-14, 23-25,

"We've just been strug-

gling with coverage and communication on where everybody is supposed to be," Umatilla coach Desirae Zamudio said.

Umatilla's Danica Harseen connected on all 11 of her service attempts in the match, while Chantal Lemus also went 10-11 on services in the loss.

The Viking's (0-6, 0-1) search for its first win on the season with three nonleague matches next week, including a Monday match at Stanfield. Riverside (2-4, 1-0) hosts Stanford for a home tournament match on Saturday.

TOUCHET 3, MAC-HI 1 — The Pioneers struggled with inexperience in a loss at

Touchet in Washington. "We have such a young, young team," Pioneers' coach Lucy Deal said. "We're still trying to overcome the hurdles of being mentally tough."

Setter Cambree Chester contributed 36 assists for Mac-Hi, while Darby Rhodes, Jaycee Deal and Sophie Olivia each tallied two kills. Deal also had five digs and Sydney Dibble added another four.

The Pioneers (0-7) opens Greater Oregon League play next Tuesday at home against La Grande.

Football

WESTON-MCEWEN **46, IRRIGON 6** —The Tigerscots turned two "heartbreaking" first half fumbles from Irrigon into touchdowns the other way and held on for a 46-6 win.

While the Knights played W-M tougher in the second half, the early mistakes were too much to overcome.

"They're a well-coached team, they aren't very big but they played really big," Irrigon coach Ken Thompson said. "Mistakes are mistakes, but they still capitalized on

W-M (2-0) has a bye next week and will return to action on Sept. 27 at Culver. Irrigon (0-2) plays Liberty at home next week in another nonleague game.

"We got to block and tackle better," Thompson said of next week. "Liberty is a really good team, I'm looking forward to the challenge.'

SCOREBOARD

LOCAL SLATE

Friday, Sept. 13

Portland Christian at Riverside, 7 p.m. Central Linn at Stanfield, 7 p.m. Heppner at Santiam, 7 p.m. Umatilla at Salem Academy, 7 p.m. Mac-Hi at Tillamook, 7 p.m. Pendleton at Hood River Valley, 7 p.m. Richland at Hermiston, 7 p.m Volleyball

Pilot Rock at East-West Volleyball Classic (at Powder Valley), 8 a.m. Heppner at East-West Volleyball Classic (at Powder Valley), 11 a.m. Irrigon at Baker Tournament, TBD Boys soccer Irrigon at Ukiah/Long Creek, 4 p.m.

Girls soccer Portland Christian at Riverside, 5 p.m. **Cross-country** Pendleton, Umatilla at 43rd Annual

Catherine Creek Scamper Saturday, Sept. 14 Volleyball Hermiston at Sundome Volleyball Festival, 8 a.m.

Pilot Rock at East-West Volleyball Classic (at Powder Valley), 8 a.m. Heppner at East-West Volleyball Classic (at Powder Valley), 9:30 a.m. Ione/Arlington at Dayville/Monument,

Catlin Gabel at Riverside, 1 p.m. Girls soccer Hermiston at Walla Walla, noon Cross-country Hermiston, Pendleton at Oregon City Girls swimming Hermiston at Wenatchee, 10 a.m.

FOOTBALL

Cincinnati

Cleveland

Pittsburgh

West

Oakland

0

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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Pct PF PA

Pct PF 1.000 10 1.000 28 Green Bay 0 0 Minnesota Detroit 0 .500 27 .000 Chicago 0 0 WLT Pct PF PA San Francisco

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Arizona Thursday's Games Tampa Bay 20, Carolina 14 Seattle at Pittsburgh, 10 a.m. Indianapolis at Tennessee, 10 a.m.

L.A. Rams

Seattle

20 13 21 43

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W L T Pct PF PA 1 0 0 1.000 24 16

Arizona at Baltimore, 10 a.m. New England at Miami, 10 a.m. L.A. Chargers at Detroit. 10 a.m. Dallas at Washington, 10 a.m. Jacksonville at Houston, 10 a.m. San Francisco at Cincinnati, 10 a.m. Buffalo at N.Y. Giants, 10 a.m. Minnesota at Green Bay, 10 a.m. Kansas City at Oakland, 1:05 p.m. Chicago at Denver, 1:25 p.m. New Orleans at L.A. Rams, 1:25 p.m. Philadelphia at Atlanta, 5:20 p.m. Monday's Games Cleveland at N.Y. Jets, 5:15 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19 Tennessee at Jacksonville, 5:20 p.m.

Miami at Dallas, 10 a.m. Oakland at Minnesota, 10 a.m. Cincinnati at Buffalo, 10 a.m. Baltimore at Kansas City, 10 a.m. Atlanta at Indianapolis, 10 a.m. Detroit at Philadelphia, 10 a.m. Denver at Green Bay, 10 a.m. N.Y. Jets at New England, 10 a.m. N.Y. Giants at Tampa Bay, 1:05 p.m. Carolina at Arizona, 1:05 p.m. Houston at L.A. Chargers, 1:25 p.m. New Orleans at Seattle, 1:25 p.m. Pittsburgh at San Francisco, 1:25 p.m. L.A. Rams at Cleveland, 5:20 p.m.

Chicago at Washington, 5:15 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 22

Monday, Sept. 23