

Early season struggles harm netmen's record

By Mark McNeary
Print Sports Editor

The Clackamas men's basketball team started out their season last week on a less than impressive note, losing two out of the three games they played.

After dropping a lop-sided match to Mt. Hood on Wednesday night 111-73, the Cougars seemed to be getting back on the right track Friday night when they disposed of the Willamette J.V.'s, 68-58. But their success was short lived as Clackamas once again dropped a laugh Saturday night 101-65 to Grays Harbor.

Friday night the Cougars seemed, once again, somewhat lack-luster in beating a weak Willamette J.V. club, but still managed to pull out the victory.

"We really had to struggle to beat them," said coach Len Tirrill of the game. "We didn't move the ball well and if they

had been a little better team we may have lost."

Dan Slick paced the win for the Cougs as he plunked in 15 while Johnny Williams had 14. Glen Johndohl also scored in double figures with 11.

Saturday the Cougars just never could get going.

"We weren't getting any movement and were standing around a lot," Tirrill said. "We just aren't jelling as a team and I'm not sure why."

Tom Tirrill paced Clackamas' attack against Grays Harbor with 13 points and was followed by Dusty Franklin with 10, Dan Slick 9 and Jeff Newton and Johnny Williams with 8 each, to make up the bulk of the Cougar punch.

A lack of defense has also been a problem for the Cougars as they have given up over one hundred points in two of their three games.

"We aren't playing defense that's obvious," said Tirrill. "We aren't screening-off well, which is something we have to

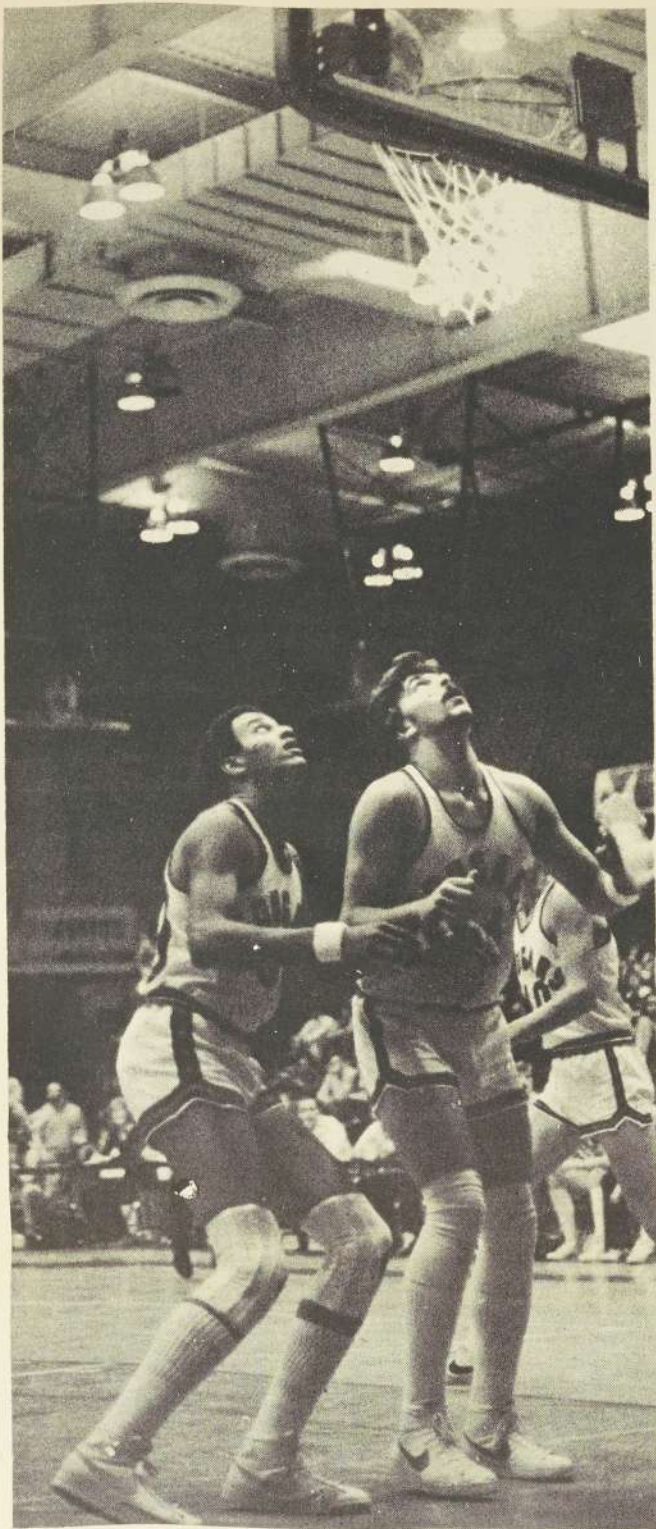
do since we are a small team. We just can't let the players come over backs and get rebounds and so we have to screen them further from basket."

Clackamas also shooting well as their 30 goal percentage shows.

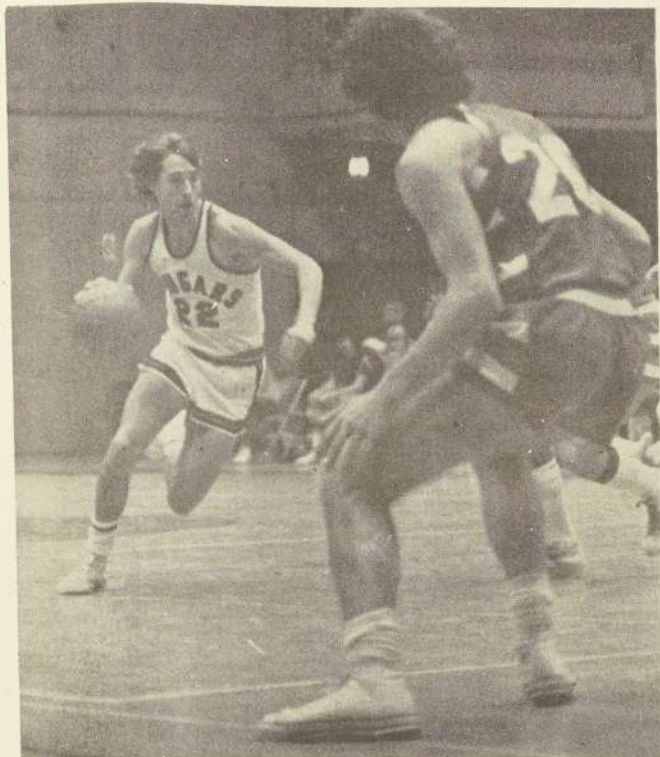
"Our offense is sputtering," Tirrill said. "We're shooting poorly and part of the reason is because the kids are getting the ball inside and instead of getting up with it we're passing it out. We just can't let ourselves be intimidated like that."

The Cougars will try to prove on their game tonight they trek to Mt. Hood for a contest before booking to Vancouver this weekend for Metro Community College tourney on Friday and Saturday.

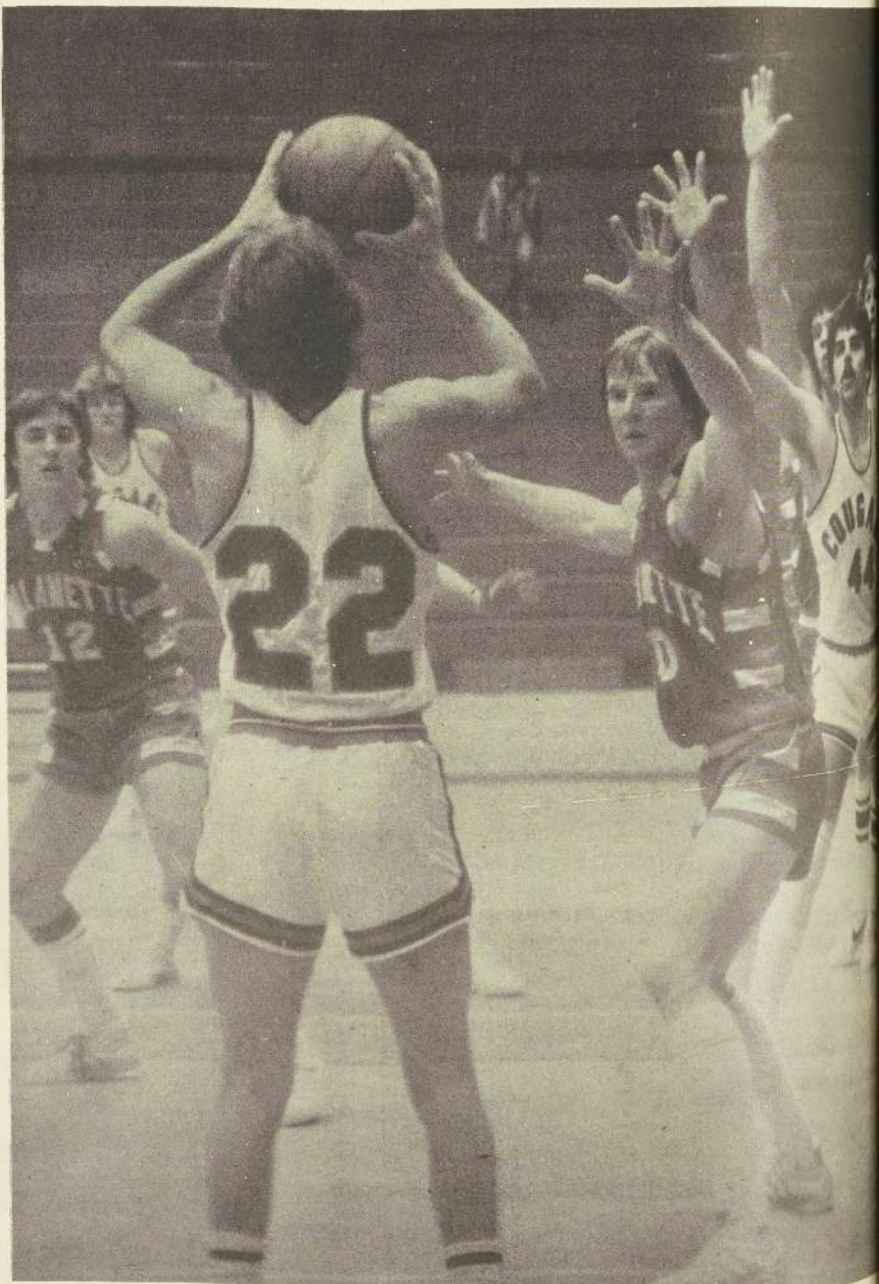
"I'm not satisfied with the way we've played because we have a lot of talent on our team," Tirrill said. "We'll have to keep practicing and hope things start to go our way."



Johnny Williams and Mike Murphy get set for rebound. Tom Tirrill in background. Photos by Kelly Laughlin



Jeff Newton drives the middle versus Willamette.



Randy Worsech, Jeff Newton, Mike Murphy and Glen Johndohl execute a play.

inches										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 (A)
L*	39.12	65.43	49.87	44.26	55.56	70.82	63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06
a*	13.24	18.11	-4.34	-13.80	9.82	-33.43	34.26	11.81	48.50	-2.40
b*	15.07	18.72	-22.29	22.85	-24.49	-0.35	59.60	-46.07	16.51	0.25
D50 Illuminant, 2 degree observer										
										Density
										0.04