

sports

Cougars drop pair in weekend clashes

By Brian Rood
Of The Print

It was not a very rewarding weekend for the CCC men cagers as they saw their league record drop to 3-4 losing to Chemeketa CC on Friday night, 94-76, at Randall gym and falling to Lane CC in

Eugene, 74-64, on Saturday.

On Friday night the Cougars ran into a tough zone defense, spearheaded by 6' 7" forward Eric Bailey who controlled the boards, pulling down 19 rebounds. Bailey also sparked Chemeketas' offense as he tallied 25 points to lead all scorers.

The Cougars trailed at the half, 42-33, and were able to get as close as six, but two Cougar standouts, Dan Slick and Johnny Williams, fouled out late in the game which helped slow down the Cougars come-back effort. Slick was high scorer for Clackamas totalling 18, Johnny Williams

was next with 15 and also grabbed seven rebounds.

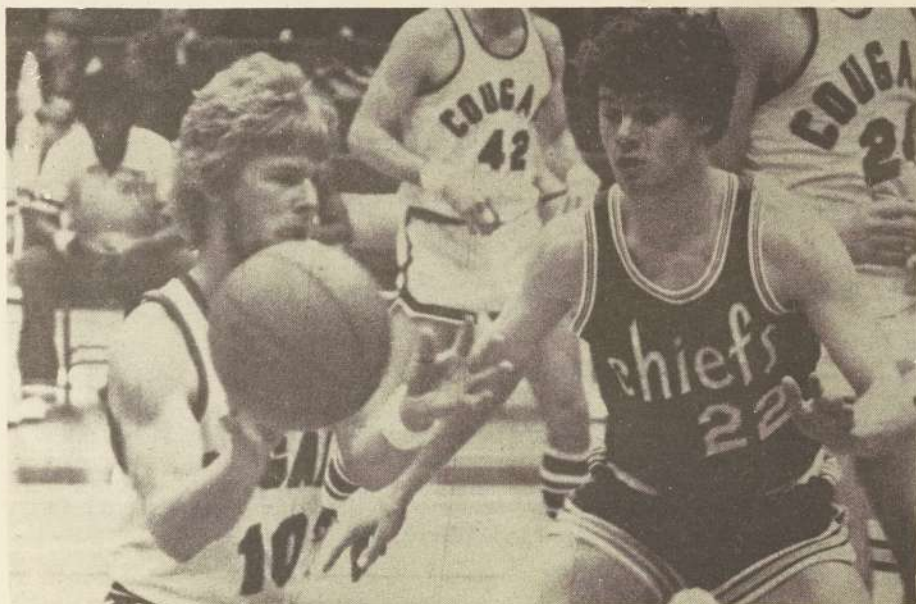
Coach Len Tirrill noted that "they were not getting sufficient movement from their zone offense and have not been playing good basketball in general." The Cougar mentor also added that a team meeting had been called in an effort to get the team back on track.

"Defensively sleeping" were the words Coach Tirrill used in describing the Cougars' play on Saturday night. "On defense we got beat on the baseline, backdoor and lost our defensive relationship when we were playing man," he said. He also noted that the team was not playing well mentally and were at times going in five different directions. Tirrill thought that the Cougars were a superior ball club, and should not have lost to Lane.

The Cougars trailed at half, 32-31, but Lane ran seven quick points to open third period. The two played even until the end of the final period when Lane again ran off six straight points to put the game on ice.

Don Slick and Johnny Williams led the Cougars with 12 points each. Slick is currently the second leading scorer in the conference, averaging over 23 points a game. Johnny Williams remains one of the top board men in the OCCAA.

The Cougars will be looking to get back on track this week with a make-up game against Mountain on Tuesday and take on Central Oregon Community College on Friday. Those games will be held at Randall Gym.



Cougar guard, Tom Tirrill, flies by Chemeketa defender to start a successful break down court.

Photo by Kelly Laughlin

Grapplers looking for peak to start

By Kelly Laughlin
Of the Print

The CCC grapplers haven't reached their peak yet, and Coach Norm Berney, as frank as can be expected thinks, "it's about time they did."

With regionals coming up in three weeks, this week, Berney said, "is the time for our peak to begin."

But a few obstacles have gotten in the way of their immediate goal. A week ago Wednesday they came off a disheartening loss to number one North Idaho 31-8. Earlier, Berney said the team would have to give a "total" effort against the impenetrable Idaho squad, "but we wrestled average against them, really, even if we had wrestled tops against them, it still would have been a difficult match," he said.

A day later, the tide turned as the men's team dropped the likes of Umpqua Community College 30-16. Dan Dunn pinned his man, while Jim Jones out-grappled his opponent 8-2. Three forfeits by their squad, and one by the Clackamas team, which occurred during the trip back from Idaho, helped seal the victory.

Another problem, although more current, is the team's

mental state. After losing number one team in nation, it can do quite a bit to your attitude, and a reevaluation of priorities is in front running.

"We have a few problems right now in the state that must be worked out," said, "but these kinds of problems are common in a community college team. Here, you have the recruitment of a year college, or one more funds than CCC."

On Friday, the CCC faces SWOC, whom they beat earlier in the year. Berney expects a considerable amount of competition, although the team has only won one match far this season. On Saturday the team goes to Mt. Hood Community College for a tournament that will involve other Oregon community college schools, JV football, college wrestlers, and a Central Oregon team. Berney says the team matches well with his upper weight men considers the team to be the wrestlers the biggest test in the tournament.

Then it's to state where CCC men will strictly win community colleges in Oregon.

"By the time state comes around we have to be ready," Berney said, "or we could be upset."

Regionals, however, where the team's opponents, like every other team in the Pacific League. Berney is confident his team can make an impression there, and it is some time away. "I'm wrestling for Nationals very last day we can," he said.

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