

Reynolds, Raimondi & crew seventh in nation

Nancy Reynolds. If a person were to ask who made up the Cougar women's cross country team in 1979, that would be the total response. Although Reynolds proved to be the team leader in 1980, she was by no means the entire team.

She was joined by three sophomores crossing over from the Cougar track team: Beth Kokesh, Carolyn Raimondi and Marci Fisher. Four frosh rounded out the Cougar pack, which would eventually send all but one team member to the National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Cross Country Championships after becoming Region 18 Champions.

A week prior to the women thinclads grabbing the region champion, they had a date to race against three other colleges, including a very awesome Lane Community College squad. But when the Roadrunners didn't show, Cougar Coach Marilyn Linsenmeyer decided to pull her number-one runner, Reynolds, to allow the rest of the College runners a chance to prove what they could do without their leader, and to also give Reynolds a break before regionals.

As it turned out, the remainder of the women Cougar thinclads showed their depth,

as they took the top five positions.

The College women proved that a finish like this was no freak incident, as they went on to capture the region championship title and prove that they were the seventh fastest team in the NJCAA.

The women runners showed that they are high achievers on and off the course, as Reynolds, Beaudry, Raimondi, Winczewski, and Kokesh had combined GPAs high enough to earn the distinction of being named Academic All-Americans, with the fifth highest team GPA in the NJCAA.



Women's cross country team proudly displays championship.

Support wins regional

There may have been some worry going through Jim Colgan's mind at the end of last year's Cougar cross country season, because he was the only one returning for the men's squad in the next season, including the coach.

But as the 1980 season progressed, that worry was replaced with victory after victory as Kelly Sullivan, a former student and runner of the College returned after two years of leave to take on the vacant coaching position. Sullivan and Colgan were joined by a host of eager young thinclads.

One such Cougar runner was Vance Blow, who almost never took up the sport of cross country running, but has put so much effort into it since he has that he was the fourth runner across the finish line in the Region 18 Men's Cross Country Championships to be the

first Cougar across to finish the race, and was also the first Cougar finisher in the National Junior College Athletic Association Championships.

Of course, there were many other Cougars who earned the right to compete in the regionals and the nationals. Those who made it to the regionals are: Jay Marugg and James Hester, who took seventh and ninth, respectively. Other Cougars in the regionals included Colgan, Rex Smith, Mike Knutson, Bob Barker and Mike Chambers. The entire Cougar pack finished well enough in the regionals to give the team a first-place victory.

The College thinclads took seventh as a team in the NJCAA Championships as Blow, Marugg, Smith, Barker, Knutson, Colgan and Hester all represented the College.



Jim Colgan

Wrestling company lone winter sports champion

The Cougar grapplers began with a fairly strong team this year with a number of returning matmen. Though, one of the biggest hindrances was injuries.

This was the case when it came time for the squad's wrestle-off to determine who of the Cougar grapplers would represent the College in the Oregon Community College Athletic Association Championships.

Three wrestlers including Lance Wilson were out with injuries, and therefore couldn't compete in the state meet.

Even with Wilson, one of the team's top wrestlers out with an injury the rest of the squad was able to come up with a second-place team victory.

Individually at the state meet, Bill Blackford and Tom Overbay grappled their way to first-place victories at 158.

Roy Bonner took second at state at 190, as Troy Wentworth, Nathan Winner, Craig Joplin, and Mark Scott took

third at 118, 134, 190, and heavyweight respectively.

Next on the grappler's schedule came the regional meet, where six Cougars placed and four made it to the nationals.

Those who placed in the regionals were: Troy Wentworth at 118 and Nathan Winner at 134 were both consolation winners at fourth place. Those who placed high enough to go to the nationals were Wilson at 142, Blackford at 150, and Overbay placed third as Mike Martin nabbed second.

Two Cougar wrestlers, Wilson at 142, and Blackford at 158 took honors at the nationals placing fifth and sixth respectively. Martin was defeated in the first round, and Winner was held back with a knee injury.

As a sad note, after the season had ended, Cougar Mike Patton drowned in a canoeing accident.

Men's tennis

Inexperience tarnishes season

"When the opportunity arose I took it," stated men's tennis Coach David Buckley.

So, Buckley became the 1981 Cougar men's tennis coach with a roster of players who had virtually no experience competing on the college level. There was one person who had experience on the college level, Charlie Martell.

One other thing that Buckley had going against him was that his decision to take the coaching job didn't come until just a few months before the season would begin.

Buckley's team had even more problems, through things like number-one player, Martell, getting ill so soon before a match that there was no time to do anything but forfeit the match.

But through all the setbacks, the new College competition players kept their hopes alive for a regional berth. They hoped to get as many players as possible to the Region 18 Men's Tennis Championships.

Four Cougar men netters went to Lane Community College to represent Clackamas in the Oregon Community College Athletic Association Men's Tennis Championships, to have one player, Mark Sanford, do well enough to make it to the regionals.

Sanford defeated a Southwestern Oregon Community College opponent, 6-2, 6-3, in the first round, but then lost in the second round to a Mt. Hood player, 4-6, 2-6.

Even with the second round conference loss, Sanford had still achieved the goal of making it to the regionals.

Sanford found the regional competition a little too tough to handle, as he won the first set of the first round, 6-1, but then lost the next two sets, 2-6, 3-6, moving him to the consolation round, where he lost again. So that's where the men's tennis season ended, with one person in regional competition as they had hoped.



Men's tennis coach David Buckley

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