

Douglass leads men's track to state champs

By J. Dana Haynes
Of The Print

The men's track and field team blitzed virtually every other team in the state at the Oregon Community College Athletic Association Championship meet held in Gresham last Friday and Saturday.

The Cougars took first place for the first time in the school's history with 194 points. The nearest competition was Mt. Hood, who hosted the meet, and ended up with 174 points. Third place went to Lane Community with 80 points.

To add to the Cougar celebration, head coach Buck Monroe was named Coach of the Year, and Marcell Douglass was voted Most Outstanding Performer.

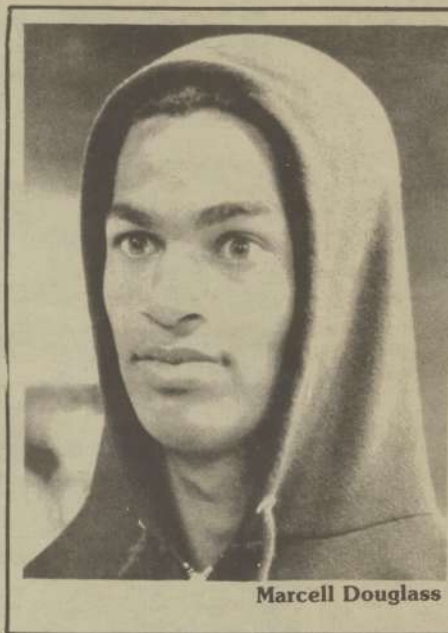
"I'm very excited," Monroe said. "However, the other coaches, Kelly Sullivan, Dale McGriff, and Les Tipton, helped so much, they all deserve the award."

Douglass garnered the title of Most Outstanding Performer by taking first place in the Decathlon, Long Jump, and Pole Vault. His long jump and pole vaults were new school records. Douglass was responsible for 30 of the team's 194 points.

In the steeplechase, Steve Gogl took first place with a school and meet record time of 9:05.8. Jay Marugg came in third with 9:27.4.

In the 400 meters, Jeff Johnson of Clackamas took first with 48.4. Daniel West followed at 48.9 for second place.

Scott Williams of Mt. Hood came in first in the 100



Marcell Douglass



Steve Gogl
Staff Photos by Mike Cato

meter event, with two Cougars, Les Taylor and Larry Psick, taking second and third with respective times of 10.9 and 11.0.

In the 400 meter intermediate hurdles, Mark Barlow took second with a school record run of 54.0, following Paul Webb of Mt. Hood.

In the 200 meters, Williams of Mt. Hood again took first, followed by Les Taylor of Clackamas with a time of 22.0.

Douglass took first in the Pole Vault, with a vault of 15-0. He also took first in the long jump with a leap of 23 feet.

Vance Blow took first in the 10,000 meter run with a time of 32:24, followed by Marco Gutierrez in third with a time of 32:38.

Mike Hortsch came in first in the shot put by tossing the put 52-4, and Roger Barnhurst took second in the javelin with a throw of 218-4.

In the 1600 meter relay, Mt. Hood's team took first place, followed by the Cougars at 3:17.6.

At that point in the competition, the Cougs were behind Mt. Hood in total points. However, in the next event, the 5000 meter race, the rest of the field fell like wheat before the scythe.

Steve Gogl of Clackamas took first place with a time of 14:54.8, followed by Ken Valasquez in second (15:01.4), Tony Macy in third (15:10.2), Vance Blow in fifth (15:24.6) and Jay Marugg in sixth (15:32.3).

"I expected us to do well

in the 5000 meter," Sullivan said, "but to go one, two, three, five and six was great!" It was that event which put the Cougs in first place in total points.

Although there were nine teams participating in the two-day competition, it was practically a two-team meet. Clackamas took first in nine events, and Mt. Hood took eight firsts. The other seven schools won a combined total of three events.

"We expected to do well," Sullivan said. "We figured we'd win by about 20 points, and we did."

Sullivan is very excited about this team, and last weekend's competition. The National Association of Inter-collegiate Athletics also held

their conference championships last weekend, with most of the four-year schools from the general area participating. Out of 20 events at the NAA meet, only three had better times than their OCCAA counterparts.

"This level of competition draws kids who aren't ready to go to the major colleges around the country, but who are better than some of the four-year college runners," Sullivan explained.

If that is true of community colleges in general, then the College seems to have more than its share of outstanding athletes. That includes Douglass and Gogl, who achieved the second best National Junior College Athletic Association time in the steeplechase.

"We have some terrific athletes," Sullivan said. "If you get one or two good people, it draws more good people to you. This year, we won because we wanted to win. It's neat to see a team win by individual efforts. That's what track and field is all about."

Perhaps the one young star most likely to excel is Douglass, who will be back next year. "His jump of 15-0 in the pole vault was great, but I wouldn't be surprised if he goes over 16 feet in the next week," Sullivan said.

Now the Cougars must look toward the regionals, which will be held this weekend at Lane Community College in Eugene. The competition will include the usual OCCAA schools, as well as Ricks Junior College, North Idaho, South Idaho, and Treasure Valley.

State track meet filled with personal bests

By Rick Obritschkewitsch
Of The Print

The women's track and field team took fourth place in the Oregon Community College Athletic Association meet last Friday and Saturday.

Lane came out as the state champions with 176 points, followed by Mt. Hood with 147, Linn-Benton with 114, and Clackamas with 69.

Cyd McCormick came through with a second place toss in the discus, with a whirl of 122-4. She also took third in the long jump with a distance of 32-8, and a fourth in the javelin with a throw of 130-5. McCormick is the only Cougar who has qualified for nationals competition so far.

One other Cougar who has a chance at making it to the nationals is Denise Wheatley. Wheatley was the fourth woman across the finish line in the 100 meter hurdles, with a national qualifying time of 15.2

Coach Marilyn Wynia said, "It's possible she'll be able to do it again, she did it last

weekend," referring to Wheatley qualifying for nationals.

Wheatley was also a member of the Cougar relay team which set a personal best by taking third in the 400 meter relay, with a time of 50.5. The same group also took fourth in the 1600 meter relay, coming in at 4:08.9. The other members were: Debbie Simon, Terri Kelly, and Petra Johnson.

One team member who Wynia is especially pleased

with is Alice Hunger. Hunger ran the 5000 meter in a time of 19:09.6 for second place, and took fourth in the 3000 meter with a personal best time of 10:56.4.

Debbie Simon's day included a third place finish in the 800 meters at 2:20.2 and Terri Kelly tossed the javelin 124-10 for a personal best.

Wynia said the Cougar squad "did quite well overall, but some girls ran better at home (in the previous meet)."

Wynia feels her team will be able to take fourth in the regionals. "I don't think we'll be

able to reach Linn-Benton," Wynia said. Linn-Benton took third in the OCCAA meet.

Wynia said the Cougar

squad will be using the

regionals as an attempt at qualifying for the Nationals. The Region 18 Championships will take place this Friday and Saturday at the University of Oregon.

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