

Topranked Cougs fight injuries

By Doug Vaughan

Of The Print

Carrying in a pre-season ranking of first in the nation, the College men's cross country team swept the University of Portland Invitational for the first time in the College's history.

Pacing the way for the Cougars was sophomore All-American candidate Tony Macey, who set a new course record of 23:17. Also contributing a strong leg was second year man Steve Gogl, who placed sixth in the 87 runner-field. Competing against the Cougars were Linfield, Lewis and Clark, Pacific Lutheran, University of Puget Sound, University of Portland, and three track clubs consisting of college graduates.

The main ingredients helping the Cougars obtain the number one ranking are their fourth place finish in Nationals last year, and regionals and conference championships in the past two year.

At the helm for the Cougars is third year Coach, Kelly Sullivan, who feels very confident about his club.

"If we are injury-free, I

honestly believe we can win the National championship," boasted Sullivan. "We have great team unity. I find less pressure on myself to do that (create team unity); they are doing it as a group."

The only problem that has hit the Cougars early in the season is injuries. The Cougars have run without Ken Velasquez, their number two runner from last year and All-

American candidate. Injuries have also hampered key runners like Gogl, who was impressive in the University of Portland Invitational. Gogl, with an ankle injury, has not competed since he injured his ankle, but he seems very optimistic even though he has missed workouts.

"I will have to see how it affects me in our next meet before it starts to affect me mentally," Gogl stated. Continuing on how the team has responded to the injuries he explained, "It is better to have them now than in the end. I am sure everyone will be healthy when it comes time."

One of the major challenges that the Cougars are

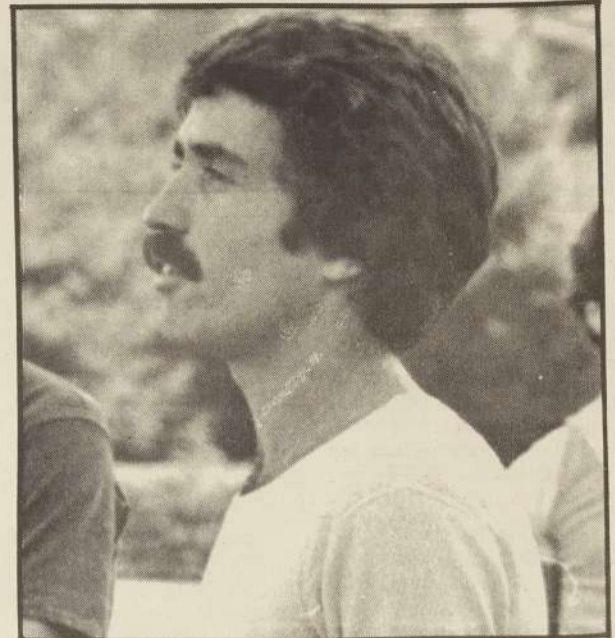
faced with this year is the extraordinary strength of their conference. Sullivan feels that it is the toughest in the nation. Reasons for his belief are that

Southern Idaho (ranked third, nationally), Lane Community College (placed sixth), and Northern Idaho (a top ten contender) are all opponents that the Cougars face in conference meets.

One of the most impressive runners on the squad according to Sullivan is Macey, who is believed to be one of the best distance runners in collegiate competition and a top recruit for major college next year.

Macey sees repeating as an All-American as a personal goal for this season and he would like to see his team earn the National Championship. "We have a good chance, but we have to pull together as a team, become more team oriented," commented the prizied distance runner.

In the most recent meet, Oct. 2 in Seattle, Wash., the Cougars competed against 25 teams, placing fourth. Leading the way through the 10,000



KELLY SULLIVAN

File photo

meter race for the team was Macey who broke a school record, Macey was the top junior college finisher and finished third overall. The only teams to outrun the Cougars were Evergreen Track Club, Western Washington University, and Club Northwest.

Sullivan, who has a confident outlook for his club, explained, "Last year our goal was to finish in the top five. This year I don't think we will be satisfied until we win the National Championship."

Volleyballers win early season tourney

By Rick Obritschkewitsch
Of The Print

A record of 14-4 has been earned by this year's Cougar volleyball team, in a season that promises to have tougher competition.

Last weekend the Cougars traveled to Walla Walla to compete in a tournament. The Clackamas Community College representatives came away winners, defeating Carol 15-12, 14-16, 15-6, and Walla Walla 15-7, 7-15, 15-7. The Cougs took Treasure Valley in two games, winning 15-1, and 16-15. Yakima was the next victim, going down with scores of 15-7, 9-15, 15-2. Columbia

Basin College came next, being defeated 12-15, 15-8, 15-1, with the host being defeated the final time by the Cougars. This time the scores went 12-15, 15-8, 15-1.

With the College dropping from the league this season (story on page seven) the Cougars are playing different and tougher teams. There are many four-year colleges on the volleyball team's schedule this season. Although Coach Loren Swivel is not at liberty to comment about reasons for dropping from the league, she did say that it is better for the team.

Although there are only two returning players on the Cougar roster, Swivel said, "There is a tremendous

amount of potential, but quite a difference in playing. They play with a lot of teamwork and enthusiasm."

Terri Kelly and Mary Imper are the team captains, and the only two returning players. Swivel feels that Kelly has the potential of taking All-American honors.

The remainder of the team consists of Lori Chisholm, a setter from Aloha High School; Sheryl Dischner, a setter from Clackamas High School; Kelly Engle, a hitter (back row specialist) from Colton High School; Sue Frank, a hitter from Yoncalla High School; Shari Kutnath, a hitter from Rex Putnam High School; Teri Larsen, a hitter from Colton

High School; Leah Ruconich, a hitter from Clackamas High School; Susie Smith, a setter

from Colton High School; and Carla Ziegenbein, a hitter from Hood River High School.

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