

sports

Cougars overwhelm Pacific JV by 56

By Tracy M. Sumner
Of The Print

Second-year player Jim Hill scored 24 points and grabbed eight rebounds to help lead the College men's basketball team to a 98-42 man-handling of a seemingly helpless Pacific junior varsity team.

Dave Carlson chipped in a season-high 18 points on nine of 13 shooting from the field. Mike Imper and Bob Nippert led the Cougars in rebounding with 10 boards each. Imper also chipped in 13 points.

As one-sided as the "game" was, College Basketball Coach Royce Kiser hinted that the blow-out was really no indication of how well his team

has been playing.

"I really couldn't tell anything because no one played much more than 20 minutes," Kiser explained.

Clackamas hit a shade under 53 percent of its field goal attempts while holding Pacific to an abysmal 30 percent shooting clip. The Cougars out-rebounded their opponents 62-28 for the game. Kelly Burke and Mark McLaughlin each had six assists to lead the Cougars to 26-13 in that department.

The win over Pacific came on the heels of an 0-2 road trip to Weed, Calif. for the College of the Siskiyous Tournament.

Clackamas was victimized

by poor shooting in the first game, a 73-69 set-back at the hands of Sierra Junior College. The Cougars shot a little better than 38 percent for the game on 30 of 78 as compared to a white-hot 60 percent shooting game for Sierra.

The Cougars were led by Tom Welle's 15 points. Jim Imper added 14 points for Clackamas to go with his 19 rebounds. He grabbed 11 defensive boards and eight on the offensive end.

Another factor in the Clackamas loss was the unusually large differential of fouls called on the Cougars.

Welle, Hill (who was held to six points for the game),

and Burke all fouled out on the way to the team's 27 personal fouls. Sierra had just 14 personal fouls whistled on them. Clackamas was out-scored from the free-throw line 21-9 for the game.

Field goal shooting was no problem for the Cougars in the second game of the tourney, a last minute 69-67 loss to Feather River Junior College. The team shot a sizzling 63 percent for the game.

Feather River scored on a long set shot with five seconds left in the game to secure the victory. Hill's 18-footer at the buzzer missed narrowly to end the game.

"We had a chance to win

it," Kiser said. "It (Hill's final shot) was a good shot. It just didn't go down."

Tom Welle led the Cougars offensively with 26 points on 12 of 16 shooting from the field. Hill and Jim Imper chipped in 14 and 10 points, respectively.

The team's record for the young season now stands at 2-2. The Cougars travel to British Columbia for a game with Vancouver City College this Thursday and a contest with Caplino on Friday.

Cougar tales--Forward Jim Imper didn't play in Saturday's game with Pacific due to illness and is expected to be out of action for about two weeks.

School board lauded as saviors of travel

By Tracy M. Sumner
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With a second place finish at the National Junior College Athletic Association Championship meet to his team's credit this season, College Cross Country Coach Kelly Sullivan turned his attention from the team's accomplishments to those of a group of people whose contributions to the team turned out to be every bit as important as those of NJCAA All-Americans Tony Macey and Brian Abshire.

"We want to express our appreciation," Sullivan said, "to the (Clackamas Community College) school Board of Education. The reason we got the opportunity to place second was because of what they did."

It was the College Board of Education that last summer decided to buck the Oregon Community College Athletic Association and continue its policy of supporting College teams' participating in nationals competition. The presidents of the OCCAA colleges had voted in the summer of '81 to ban nationals travel in most sports for OCCAA schools.

The Board's decision to

have Clackamas teams participate in nationals on an independent basis brought about strong retaliation from the OCCAA. The league decided that its members would not be allowed to compete with Clackamas athletic teams at any time except in Region 18 meetings.

When all this was said and done, the Cougars were no longer members of the OCCAA but could and did prove themselves on the national level against the best Junior College competition in the country. The importance of last summer's exchanges weren't fully realized by Sullivan and his team until after the nationals race in New York on Nov. 14 as Sullivan explained.

"It really hit home how fortunate we were to get the opportunity to go to nationals when we got the trophy," Sullivan said.

"The kids and myself are very grateful that we got the opportunity to go to nationals and prove that we are the second best junior college cross country team in the nation," he said. "Rather than sit home and read the results in the paper and say 'we could have ...'"

Clackamas coaches and

athletes weren't the only ones pleased with the Cougars presence at the championship meet. Opposing coaches from various parts of the nation were also very pleased with Clackamas' decision to attend nationals.

"Coaches from all over the country went out of their way to tell me how happy they were that we were there," Sullivan explained. "They told me how glad they were that we went independent. The other coaches in the nation really respected what we did."

Rick Coleman, coach of NJCAA meet host Mowhawk Valley (Utica, N.Y.) exemplified the attitude of many of the coaches in the meet toward the Cougar team.

"He told me 'You've got the classiest group of kids I've ever seen, we're really glad you guys chose to go independent,'" Sullivan said. "He said that he was impressed by their (the runners) respect for the competition, the coaches, and the meet in general."

Another reason for many of the nation's junior college cross country coaches welcoming the Cougars so strongly is that the top teams wanted the top rated competition that the

Clackamas team would help provide.

"They want the competition," Sullivan said. "they want to know they're the best. If our kids hadn't been there, that's three of the nation's top eight junior college runners not there."

"We really had pressure on us to do well because of what our school board had done," Sullivan said.

If the runners were aware of the pressure, it certainly didn't show in their meet performances. Macey, Abshire and second team All-American Steve Gogl finished 6-7-8 in

the meet to lead the team to the best national finish ever enjoyed by a Cougar cross country team.

Macey will also go down in the record books as being the first Clackamas Community College athlete to be First Team All-American in the same sport two years in a row.

One accomplishment that will never appear in the record books in the College Athletic Department is that of the Board of Education in the summer of 1982. Ironically, it is that action upon which the records of many of the school's future athletes may be based.

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