

Cougars devastate Pacific



Staff photos by Joel Miller

By Rob Conner
Of The Print

When a basketball team can dominate the boards, more often than not they will win the game. The women's team did exactly that and consequently rolled over the Pacific University JV's 77-59.

The Cougars out rebounded Pacific 42-20. Controlling the glass, Clackamas was able to shift their running game into high gear. The Cougars broke the game wide open over the final two minutes of the first half by outscoring their opponents 10 to two. At intermission Clackamas had a comfortable 17 point lead 41-24.

An aggressive one-two-two zone press kept Pacific off balance all night. The Cougars forced 16 turnovers, many of which resulted in easy lay-ups. Clackamas continued to press the entire game. "I don't let up on anybody," Assistant Coach Phil Garver said.

Garver was also quick to point out, "they (Pacific) brought down four varsity girls."

When forced to set up an offense, Clackamas utilized a perimeter passing game looking to pound the ball inside against the aggressive Pacific two-three zone.

Kathy Strickler paced for the Cougars as she netted a game high 20 points. Strickler converted eight of 12 from the floor, four of four in the second half.

Equally impressive was Denise Wheatly. When not leading the fast break, she was deadly from the perimeter. Wheatly was successful on seven of nine field goals attempts and ended the game with 16.

Playing the style of basketball that won the Los Angeles Lakers a World Championship, the Cougars came out hot in the second half. At one point Clackamas reeled off 12 unanswered points to take a 24 point lead. The lead grew as large as 28 at one point.

"We are really starting to come along as a team," Garver boasted. "I was really proud of our bench, they played a good game." Garver singled out the play of Lynn Kershaw and Sherri Bull.

Late in the game Pacific made a mild run at the Cougars, hitting nine straight points. Bull killed the rally, however, as she suddenly came alive to score three straight hoops.

"Mary Christenson did a good job under the boards," pointed out Garver. Sharon Larson also had a good game underneath, all six of her rebounds coming in the second half.

Several times in the second half the Cougar machine sputtered a bit. Garver was somewhat disappointed with the patience and execution of the offense. "We could have run our offense a little better," he stated.



UP FOR TWO, Clackamas hoopster jumps as the mens Basketball team rolled past the Eugene School of the Bible last Friday.

Wrestlers get mixed reviews at Doc Peterson Invitational

By Rob Conner
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After the first week of competition, Head Wrestling Coach Norm Berney has to be looking optimistically towards the future.

The cougars handed Pacific Lutheran University a decisive defeat, 26-13, then made a very tough road trip for two days of wrestling at Chico State.

Dale Earlywine and Steve Peters led the way for Clackamas, each collecting pin falls, in the victory at PLU. Earlywine, wrestling at 126 pounds, pinned his opponent at 1:13 of the second round. He was leading the match 12-0 at that point. The only other fall of the meet went to the 150 pound Peters. Peters did away with PLU's Don Maier in just 2:40.

Mike Bolf also recorded an impressive 20-7 victory over his Washington foe in the 142 pound division.

Receiving praise from Berney was Dan Martin. "He did a real good job for us at

PLU (5-1 victory)," Berney said. Unfortunately, Martin was lost indefinitely with a sprained ankle during a match at Chico State.

Despite a 27-17 duel meet loss to Chico, Coach Berney was pleased. "We were right in it," Berney stated. The Cougar mentor was also quick to point out that the four year California school is ranked 12th nationally among National College Athletic Association division two colleges. "We weren't down to weight and just didn't wrestle well enough to beat them," Berney said. "they had two really good wrestlers in their top weights and that's where it was decided."

The next day the Cougar grapplers again went into action. This time, to do battle with 300 other wrestlers, in the Doc Peterson Invitational, also at Chico State.

Pacing Clackamas was sophomore Mike Bolf, who placed fourth in the 142 pound classification. Blaine Schutzler, the only other Cougar to crack the top six, took sixth at 134 pounds.

These accomplishments are impressive, but even more so when Berney pointed out that Clackamas was the only junior college at the meet.

Wrestling without Martin and Spencer Croyalon, who was put out with a separated shoulder, the Cougars recorded 12 points to finish along the mode of the 30 team tourney.

"We had some guys win some matches, but it was such a big tournament," Berney said. "We lost a couple of real close decisions."

Southern Oregon State College won the tournament with 87½, followed by OSU with 83½, and Fresno State with 56½.

"It's not going to get any easier," Berney said. "We have North Idaho next, they're the number one ranked team in the Nation (NJCAA)."

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