

sports

Cougars capture 20th win, eye playoffs

By Rob Conner
Of The Print

The Clackamas men's basketball team is on a roll. And there could be no better timing. Coach Royce Kiser has his team running on all six cylinders just in time for the post season. The Cougars soundly defeated the Lewis and Clark and Linfield junior varsities in the last week of the regular season.

A balanced Cougar attack was led by freshman Jim Imper. The 6'7" Imper, who started the season sharing time at center and at forward was only recently moved to the big

guard position. "Since I've switched to the big line-up we've been winning," commented Kiser bluntly. Imper scored 18 points and possibly more importantly added seven rebounds from the guard spot.

Several times in the first half it appeared the Cougars would put Lewis and Clark away early. Several times Clackamas had leads as great as 15 points, but the Pioneers would battle back. With 2:24 left in the half Clackamas had the ball and a 15 point lead. Rather than sitting on the ball and milking the clock, time and time again the Cougars cast off

from long range. Lewis Clark drew to within seven at intermission, 43-36.

Clackamas was able to respond when they had to. At 14:36 of the second half Lewis and Clark narrowed the gap to one, but couldn't overhaul the Cougars. This was due in a large part to a variety of offensive weapons in the Kiser arsenal. Backing Imper's 18 were Tom Welle's 15, Bob Nippert's 14, Mark McLoughlin's 12, and Jim Hill's nine.

With 5:30 left in the contest the Pioneers made a last run at the stubborn Cougs. They closed the gap to within

three this time but seconds later Tom Welle went to the line and iced the game with two freebies.

Clackamas' 85-74 victory overshadowed a spectacular exhibition put on by Lewis and Clark's Mike Monroe. The 6'5" power forward was nearly perfect from the floor (8 for 11) and ended with 17 points and 16 rebounds. Had the Pioneers given Monroe the ball over the final five minutes, who knows?

Led by the ever present Monroe, Lewis and Clark held a decisive advantage in the rebounding column, 47-34. But the story told by the stat sheet

was that of the turnover. The Pioneers gave the ball back 25 times. To be of post season caliber a team must keep this statistic in the low teens, which is precisely what the Cougars did. "That is awfully good," commented Coach Kiser on the fact that his team gave up the ball but 11 times.

Often overlooked on the stat sheet is the assist column. Only a true basketball fan can appreciate a good play maker. Kelly Burke, who handed out 11 assists, could definitely be the key to the Cougars success from here on in.



SOPHOMORE MIKE BOLF prepares for the National wrestling meet held in Worthing, Minn.

Staff photo by Joel Miller

Earlywine, Bolf crowned

By Rob Conner
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Wrestling Coach Norm Berney was a little disappointed Monday morning with his team's performance at the regional meet. Although they wrestled without two men because of injuries and without two more because they didn't make weight, the Cougars posted a respectable fourth place finish with 40 points.

"We should have been second (Rick's at Rexberg, Id.), was second with 51 1/2," Berney said. "Overall the guys that wrestled did a good job."

Dale Earlywine was the first of the Cougars to gain a national berth. Wrestling in the 126 pound division, Earlywine made his way undefeated through the bracket, upsetting the number one, two, and

three seeds, and finally recording a nine-seven decision for the title. Earlywine did get a close scare from Mike Palmer of Rick's in the semi-final match. But the Cougar prevailed with a six-five victory.

Mike Bolf found things a little easier in the 142 pound weight class. Bolf drew a bye in the first round then faced T.R. Raygor of Big Bend. Raygor, a state champion in high school out of Washington, was no match for the experienced Cougar sophomore. Bolf collected a fall in just 1:25. There was to be no title match for Bolf, however, as Rick's 142 pound representative had to default.

Mike Martin got all he could handle in the 150 pound category. Martin won his first

match decisively eight-four then found the going a little tougher. Wilcox of Rick's proved too much for Martin who suffered a fall at 5:51. After an eight-two win, Martin recorded a narrow two-one victory for the third place medal.

Clackamas' fourth and final representative to the national meet will be soph Dan Martin at 158. Martin lost his second match of the championship tourney and was forced to make his way through the losers bracket. In his match for third place, Martin was up against yet another tough grappler from Rick's. The Cougar recorded a four-three win and a national berth.

Northern Idaho, rated tops in the nation, was the easy winner of the team title with 127 points.

Portland Indoor

Thinclads post impressive marks

By Doug Vaughan
Of The Print

The Clackamas Community College Track team got a shot in the arm Saturday at the Portland Indoor track meet as several Cougars broke both personal records and several school indoor records, as the tournament brought out the best of many Cougars.

In the field events, freshman Tony Aldredge, a Milwaukie High standout, broke the school record in the shotput by a foot as he tossed a 51'5" third place throw. Aldredge's shot broke the

previous record that he set in his first meet with the Cougars two weeks ago at the Eugene Indoor.

In the 60-year dash, Cougar sprinter Les Taylor blazed to a first place tie in the 50-man field. Taylor along with three teammates, one a last minute fill-in, also showed well as they finished third in the mile relay.

Steve Kuchabsky, a transfer from the University of Portland, gave a strong effort as he broke a school record with a fourth place finish in the 60 yard high hurdles.

Marcel Douglass broke two school records for the Cougars as he pole vaulted a shattering 14'6" and leaped a 22'6" long jump for the Cougars.

"We performed really well, but there definitely are some people on this team who are out of shape," Head Coach Kelly Sullivan said.

The tournament did not only bring out the best in some of the Cougars but is also gave them a good look at what competition they will be facing throughout the year.



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