

Kiser's crew close

Crucial turnovers cost men bid at upsets

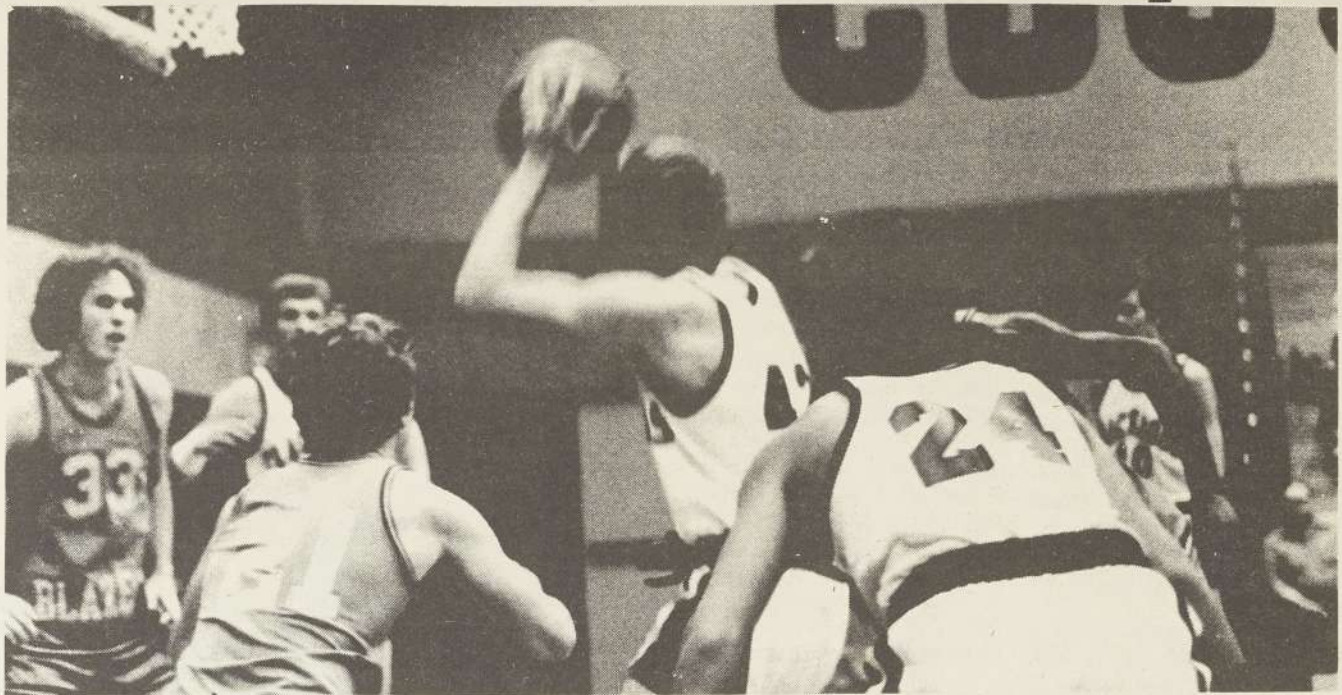
By Doug Vaughan
Of The Print

The Clackamas Community College men's basketball team knew they had their work cut out for them last weekend as they faced two junior college powerhouses, Centralia Community College and Northern Idaho. They easily could have folded with the pressure, but didn't.

"We played as well as we have played all year against two of the toughest teams we have faced this year," Coach Royce Kiser said. "Even though we lost both games, we gave it everything we had."

The word "loss" was covered up by the Cougars' exceptional play, but they still showed up in the loss column, leaving the Cougars at 13-9 for the season.

Friday night's game was the easier, if that can even be determined, of the two. Centralia, the opponent, came in to Randall Hall boasting a second-place rank among Washington junior colleges. The Cougars played the visitors even until the late minutes of the game, before the Washington school squeez-



CLOSE BUT NO CIGAR—Friday night Clackamas lost a heartbreaker to perennial powerhouse Centralia, 68-61.

ed out a seven-point win, 68-61.

"We had to foul at the end and that hurt us a bit," Kiser said. "It was neck and neck the whole second half, the ball just seemed to bounce

their way the last few minutes."

Clackamas struggled from the field against Centralia as they connected on 25 of 57 shots, while Centralia nailed down 50 percent of

their shots.

Backcourtters Pete Newlin and Doug Coffman picked up the slack as they tallied 17 and 22 points, respectively. Newlin hit 8 of 9 from the field and dished out a team high of four assists. Coffman hit 10 of 11 from the line in his top scoring effort.

Saturday night the Cougars had to shake off the loss to Centralia and prepare for North Idaho, the toughest team the Cougars have faced. The Idaho team was ready to make quick picking of the Cougars, but didn't put the game away until late in the contest.

"For 30 of the 40 minutes we played them even. It was just the last 10 minutes that killed us," Kiser said. "With about 10 minutes to go they got a couple of quick baskets and pulled ahead by eight. We just couldn't catch them."

Clackamas ended up losing the game by 14, 77-63, but

the score did not express the intensity of the game.

"I am never pleased when we lose a game, but I was pleased with the way we played in general," Kiser explained.

The simple fact of the game was that the men from Clackamas were out-manned. North Idaho packs a squad of recruits from across the country. "They were an exceptionally good ball club, but we still played with them," Kiser said.

Kiser's crew was led by the inside play of 6-foot-8-inch West Linn product, Roger Edwards. The frontcourter made use of free throws, hitting 9 of 10, in his 17-point, six-rebound performance. Newlin tossed in 12 for the Cougars in the losing cause.

"In those two games we played the best defense we have played all year and that has been one of my concerns all season," Kiser said.



BACK ON TRACK—The women's basketball team has won four of their last five games.

Women up record to 12-10

Phil Garver's women's basketball team upped its season record to 12-10 Monday with a 74-39 win over the Pacific University junior varsity.

"It went pretty well," Garver said. "It was nice playing a j.v. team that we could kick back on."

Lynn Smyth and Les Kingsbury each poured in 12 points to power the Cougs by the hapless Boxer junior varsity. Clackamas had the game well under command at the

half with a 20-point lead, 39-19.

Friday night Garver's squad was put to more of a test. Clackamas hosted Centralia Community College, the top-rated women's junior college team in the state of Washington.

"We had a really good game," Garver stated. Clackamas won 60-55.

The Cougars had three players hit double figures. Lynn Smyth scored 13, while Lynn Kershaw and Carol

Hashberger recorded 12 and 10, respectively.

Clackamas held a six-point advantage at halftime and maintained it throughout the second half.

Seven of the team's next eight games are on the home wood. Friday and Saturday Clackamas hosts Vancouver, BC.

"They're going to be tough," Garver said.

The Clackamas women have now won four of their last five games.

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