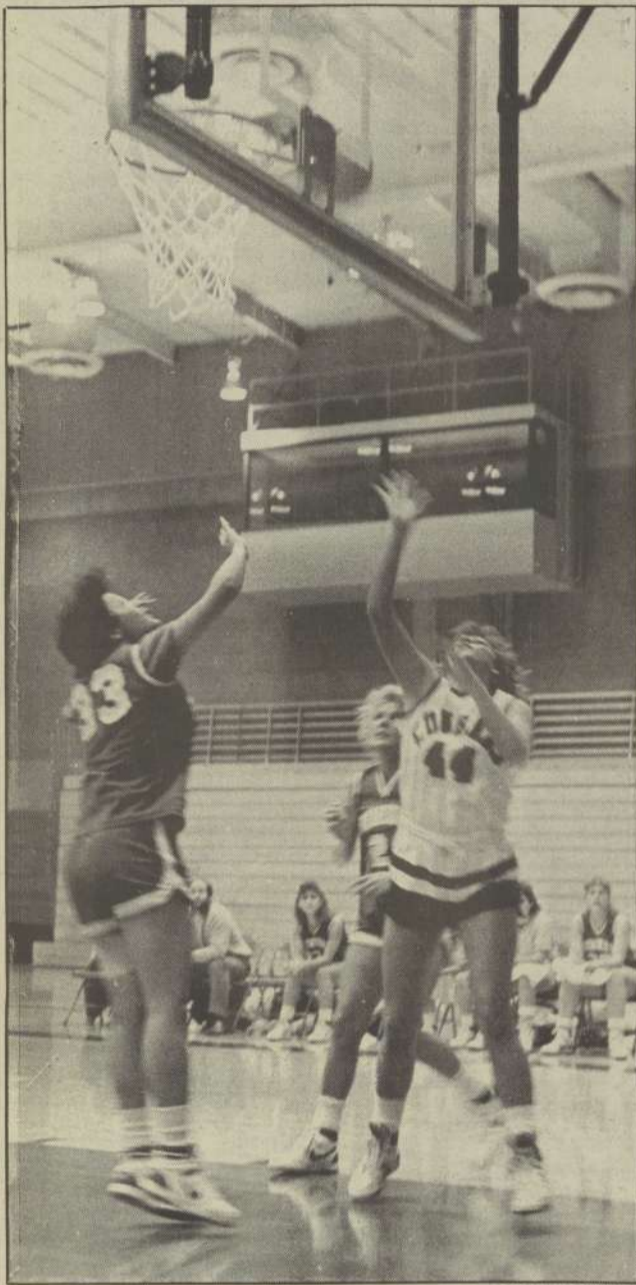


SPORTS

Women enter tournament as number one seed



photos by Heidi Klein

Clackamas forward Leslie Hughes (44) shoots against Chemeketa forward Maxine Hudgins in regular season action. The Cougars face Skagit Valley Community College in the first round of the NWAACC Tournament Thursday at 2 p.m. at Clark College.

by Christopher Curran
Design/Sports Editor

Plainly speaking, the Clackamas women's basketball team will be the number one seeded team from the Southern Division in the NWAACC Tournament March 3-5 at Clark College in Vancouver.

Other than that, there is nothing plain about this year's team.

Saturday it was center Mitzi Finn and guard Angela Hewlett combining for 44 points as the Cougars halted Umpqua 86-73. Finn's 23 points and 11 rebounds were both game highs.

This victory enabled Clackamas to move straight through the Southern Division's mini tournament and on to the NWAACC Tournament, where they will match up against Skagit Valley, who is entering the tournament as the number two seed from the Northern Division.

Clackamas jumped out to a 52-34 halftime lead and never looked back, as they got the better of the Timberwomen for the third time this season.

"We kept a 20 point lead through pretty much the whole game," stated Clackamas Coach Phil Garver. "We really took it to Umpqua Saturday night."

Hewlett had a generous 10 assists (a game high) to go with her 21 points. Sophomore Anna Schlegelmilch delivered 12 points and Freshman Gina Passadore added nine for Clackamas.

Freshmen Lisa Cinfio and Kristy Frady were the sources of the Umpqua attack, scoring 18 and 12 points respectively. Both netted 11 points along with Jennifer Mannix to lead Umpqua in their 66-51 Feb. 5 loss to the Cougars.

In the first round of the mini tournament Hewlett carried

Clackamas to a 74-61 triumph over Linn-Benton, which propelled them to the second round contest against Umpqua.

Hewlett's 34 points were a season high and her 13 assists were a game high as she left Linn-Benton in the dust.

At halftime the Cougars owned a slim 33-30 lead and it looked as though Linn-Benton, who finished fourth in the Southern Division, might make it a contest.

The Cougars put that dismal hope to rest in the second half, outscoring the Roadrunners 41-31 in the second half to secure the victory.

Schlegelmilch placed herself second on the scoring list for the Cougars by netting nine points, and Leslie Hughes and Cami White each added eight points to the Cougar cause. White grabbed a team high 10 rebounds.

Tracy Turner propelled Linn-Benton with 15 points, Kris Keister 13, and Andrea Powell managed 12 in the Roadrunner's season finale.

Going into the NWAACC Tournament, Clackamas has won 21 consecutive games and has compiled a 23-4 record.

The Clackamas-Skagit Valley matchup is the first game of the day Thursday. At 4 p.m. Wenatchee Valley plays Green River, at 7 p.m. Clark and Spokane face off, and at 9 p.m. Highline and Umpqua battle.

If the Cougars beat Skagit Valley, they will face the winner of the Wenatchee Valley-Green River contest, if they lose, they will face the loser of that game in the consolation round.

Garver feels that Skagit Valley is "...a pretty tall team who plays an inside type of game."

"We're looking real strong going into the tournament," stated

Garver. "We're really getting with it."

In a Southern Division coaches' meeting last night, Hewlett, along with Southwestern Oregon's Ann Warren was named Co-Most Valuable Players of the Year.

Finn, Hughes, and Schlegelmilch were named to the second team. Hewlett and Hughes were awarded All Freshman honors. And, after this season's performance by the Cougars, Garver was named the Southern Division's Coach of the Year.

Also, plans are set for an all star game to be played March 13, which will match the all stars from the Southern and Eastern Divisions against the all stars from the Northern and Western Divisions.

For now though, it's Clackamas pinned against Skagit Valley in the first round of the NWAACC Tournament Thursday.

Cougars compete at Nationals

by Mark Borrelli
Staff Writer

Freshman Bryan Schiller demonstrated that he is a force to be reckoned with next year, with a strong showing in the National Junior College Wrestling tournament in Chicago.

Schiller (who is from Milwaukie High School) won two matches in the tournament. Schiller appeared to be on his way to another win, leading Anthony Adamo 8-7 with 13 seconds left in the match, but Adamo pinned Schiller to advance, and put Schiller into the loser's bracket. Schiller responded with pinning Jeff Flynn for a seventh place finish in the 142 pound weight class, and for his efforts Schiller earned all-American honors.

Sophomore Tim Jordan also made the trip, but did not fare so well. Jordan, who perhaps wrestled the worst in his career, dropped both of his matches 9-7 to Jeff Thompson and 15-4 to Bruce Egbert.

Schiller will return to Clackamas next year to try and better his 7th place finish, while Tim Jordan will end his very successful career at Clackamas.

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