

## Runners up at Blue Mountain...

# Cougar spikers survive marathon tournament

by Luis Perez  
Staff Writer

Few could blame Cougar Volleyball Coach Kathie Woods if she was at a loss for words to describe her team's performance last Wednesday night against league-leading Mt. Hood Community College.

The Cougars were executed gang-land style in losing three

straight games to fall to a record of 2-5 in league play (8-6 overall).

"All I can say about Mt. Hood is that I'm glad that we don't have to play them again," said Woods.

Last Friday, Clackamas Volleyballers traveled to Pendleton to compete in The Blue Mountain Invitational Tournament, an affair which produced positive

results for the Cougar team. Despite suffering illness and injury to key players, Clackamas still managed to finish second out of a strong tournament field.

Saturday, Clackamas advanced to the final after finishing 8-4 in their group of the round-robin tournament. Although they lost a marathon final to North Idaho College, it was still a strong

performance.

Especially inspirational was the play of team captain Chris McAllister who played in the final in spite of suffering from the affects of a serious cold.

"It was a gutsy performance," said Woods.

Clackamas must overcome injury problems and a cold virus,

which threatens to become an epidemic as Wednesday's key league match against Linn Benton approaches. Already Chris McAllister and Diane Hinman have succumbed to this vicious virus, and an ankle injury, suffered last weekend, threatens to sideline freshman spiker Chris Nysten.

**"It was a gutsy performance"**

# Cross Country prepares for State meet

by Mark A. Borrelli  
Sports Editor

The Clackamas Men's and Women's cross country teams took a week off to train in preparation for the State cross country championships Oct. 29.

Clackamas Coach Mike Hodges feels very confident about his teams' chances at State.

"It really depends on how well we do with our grouping. But I would guess that our women have to be the favorite," he said.

Clackamas' big three all year have been Karin Merritt, Karmay Bond, and Angie Wright. For the Cougars to do well at the State meet, these three will have to finish very highly. But another

key to the success of Clackamas will be the next three Clackamas finishers.

The Cougar women need to group well by having their second group of runners finish close to the first group. If this happens, the Clackamas women will come home with a championship.

The Clackamas men, despite a major injury, are expected to be very competitive. Nick Barger, Mike Paulsen, and Dusty Moore are the main three for the men.

A season ending injury to Ryan Burco hurt the Cougars, but they are still expected to contend for the championship with Mt. Hood, and Lane.

The major problem the men

must overcome, to be in contention for the State title, is grouping.

"We have a big grouping problem. We have a big gap between our first three, and our last three that we need to close before the State meet," said Hodges.

The Clackamas men are one of the favorites, and should finish in the top two. If they could group better, then they could bring home a championship, and we could see a Clackamas sweep.

In a State warm-up meet, held Oct. 8 at Willamette University, both the men and women did very well.

The women finished 12 out

of 21, and 2nd in the community college division. Karin Merritt was 5th with a time of 20:15. Karmay Bond 7th, at 20:29; Angie Wright 8th, at 20:35; Lori Schutt 13th, at 21:33; Heather McElheny 14th, at 21:41; Sonya Hult 15th, at 21:54; and Leona Burke was 22nd with a time of 24:31.

The men finished 13 out of 24, and third in the community college division. Nick Barger was 9th with a time of 26:22; Mike Paulsen 14th, at 27:02; Dusty Morrow 15th, at 27:12; Rich Lilgenberg 22nd, at 28:14; Bob Uttely 27th, at 28:56; Marc Paulsen 29th, at 29:03; and Jack Kegg finished 34th with a time of 30:48.

All these problems aside, Coach Woods likes her team's chances against Linn Benton.

"As of today we are their only league victory so I think we have a statement to make. That (last time) was our first league match and this time I think we'll be more aggressive, and that by now we will have all the jitters out," she said.

Earlier this season, Clackamas lost a five game match to this same Linn Benton team, a match many observers felt that CCC should have won. Next Wednesday, however, the Cougars hope to set the record straight.

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