

Cougars nip Lane 78-76 in OT

by Mark A. Borrelli
Sports Editor

The Clackamas men's basketball team continues to be on a roll. The Cougars improved their league leading record to an untarnished 4-0, and appear to be a team of destiny.

It took a little bit of luck and magic for Clackamas to pull off a home win over Lane College on Saturday. Lane held a narrow 28-27 halftime lead, and appeared to have won the game, but they didn't count on the late game heroics of Dan Bartel. His lone three-pointer of the contest tied the game, and sent Clackamas into an overtime period with new life.

Lane took command in overtime early, and built a four point lead with less than one minute to go in OT. The lead seemed safe, but once again, Clackamas' "Cardiac Kids" responded to the challenge. The Cougars turned up the defensive intensity, forcing two straight Lane turnovers. David Daniels stripped two Lane players, and Clackamas converted to amazingly come back and post a 78-76 win in overtime.

"It really says a lot about a

team when they win the close games," said Point Guard Daniels. "Our defense really turned it up. We started using the press, and once their starting guard fouled out with a minute and a half left, they couldn't get the ball over mid-court," said Daniels.

Clackamas Coach Royce Kiser was happy to get the win, but feels that his team must keep getting better to keep winning. "We squeaked out of here with a win, but we got pounded on the boards. We really need to be aggressive, we're going to be out-sized by a lot of teams, but we've got to board better," said Kiser. The Cougars were out-rebounded 39-13.

Daniels was the leading scorer for Clackamas as they knocked off Mt. Hood 72-69 Dec. 10 at Mt. Hood. Daniels pumped in 28 points, connecting on 10 in 19 from the field, and 1 in 3 from the three point range. He also dished out eight assists. Tim Osborne chipped in 15 points and seven rebounds.

"I think that we're a little bit better than people thought we would be. Some teams have more

talent than us, but we just play better as a team. We have 4-5 people who could score every night, so people have a hard time just guarding one guy," said Daniels.

The Cougars, 4-0, currently sit alone atop the league standings, but have a very big game tonight at home against Umpqua. Umpqua was one of the preseason favorites to win the division.

"Umpqua is tough. This is an important game for us. We'd like to beat them and SWOCC, and go down to Chemeketa 6-0. That would really put us in the driver's seat," said Daniels.

One of the only few things that have been missing at the Cougar home games have been fans. Although the turnout thus far this season has improved over last year, players would like to see more enthusiasm.

"We're playing really well, some very exciting basketball. We'd love to see this place packed and roaring. Anyone who comes to the game tonight is guaranteed to see an exciting game," said team player Troy Merrill. Tip off tonight is 8 p.m., shortly after the girls' game, which begins at 6 p.m.

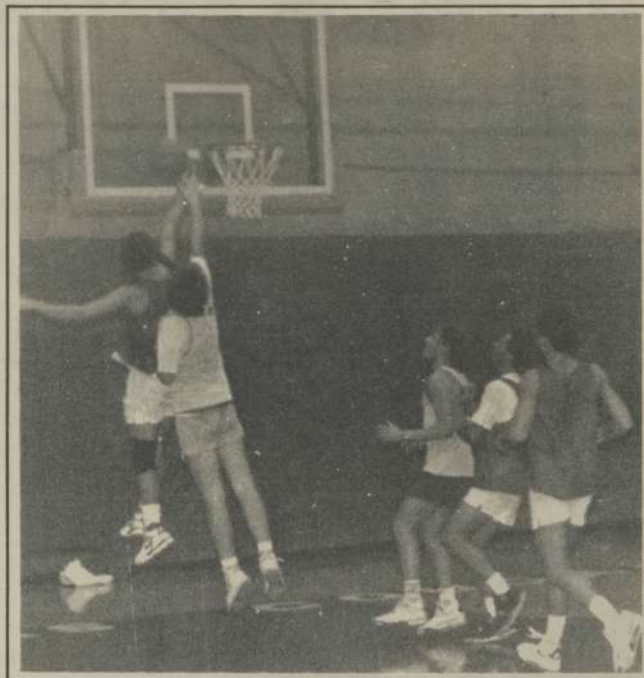


photo by Mark A. Borrelli

Back at work... The play of the Clackamas men's basketball team is surprising a lot of people this year. The Cougars, not picked to finish high, are atop the league standings with a 4-0 record.

Grapplers improving

by Staci Beard
Sports Editor

Cougar wrestlers improved from their last performance to split their first dual meets of the season.

At the first meet at Highline Community College, Clackamas came up against sixth-ranked Ricks College of Rexburg, Idaho; they suffered a 27-15 defeat.

"It not indicative of the way we wrestled. Out of the matches wrestled we won four of them while they took six. They are a more experienced team; this is their tenth dual meet while it was only our first," stated Coach Jim Jackson.

The later match against Yakima Valley Community College from Spokane proved to be a winning endeavor by the team. Aided in the 32-15 win was two forfeits by Yakima.

Clackamas helped its own chances tremendously by two consecutive pins. The first one came in the 167 weight class by Steve Tenney in 34 seconds. The next pin by Lance Hobson topped that time by defeating his opponent in 30 seconds in the 177 class.

Pacific Lutheran University sponsored Saturday's Open in which the two Cougar wrestlers

place. Competition include 200 participants with about 10 in each weight class.

Taking second at 150 was Matt Lindland.

"Matt's only loss of the day was to a two-time defending NAIA champion. But even to get into the championship match he had to beat a defending national champion from Simon Fraser University," said Jackson.

Craig Morris was the other high finisher taking fourth at 126.

Two others who came close the placing were Teeney at 167 and Dave Moore at 158.

"Teeney wrestled four tough matches, but didn't place. We were real pleased with his effort because he wrestled tough all day. Moore only wrestled in two matches but had to go against a good international style wrestler from Canada," stated Jackson.

Jackson felt the team had improved from the previous week and are on the right track to get ready for the Regionals in February.

Cougars next meet is on Friday, Jan. 19, in Couer d'Alene, Idaho.

Saturday, Jan. 20, sees the team back in Tacoma for the Olympia Dual.

Women continue to dominate league

by Mark A. Borrelli
Sports Editor

Blowouts continue to be the name of the game for the Clackamas women's basketball team. The Cougars are four games into their league season, and are still untested, sporting a perfect 4-0 record, and in the process outscoring their league opponents 364-244.

The latest victim to hit the Clackamas buzz saw was the Lane Titans. Lane was expected to be in contention for the league championship, but they were not able to give the Cougars a game. Clackamas got all over Lane right away, sprinting to a commanding 51-23 halftime advantage. Lane never recovered, and Clackamas rolled to another blowout, 96-72. Angela Hewlett poured in 31 points, and Alicia Stephenson added 20 points, and 13 rebounds.

It seemed things couldn't get much tougher for the Cougars as they traveled to Gresham to face

Mt. Hood Wednesday, Dec. 10. Clackamas started out surprisingly slow, as they saw Hewlett pick up three quick fouls. Despite some questionable officiating, the Cougars escaped to the locker room with a 40-26 advantage.

"We played really well in the first half. The officials called 16 fouls against us, and only five against them. We were just getting hammered, and it wasn't getting called, but our girls responded and came back in the second half and really dominated the ball game," said a Head Coach Phil Garver.

Clackamas came out inspired in the second half and put the lady Saints away. The Cougars outscored Mt. Hood 49-41, and cruised to an 89-67 victory. Pam Pember led the squad with 22 points, and Kelli Brown chipped in 19.

Despite the 22 point margin of victory, it could have been worse, but the Clackamas bench played

much of the second half.

"It's been like that most of the year. No one on this team plays 40 minutes. I could go out there and run up the score to 150, said Garver, but what's the point of doing that?" The Clackamas depth is a luxury that no league team has and that many teams in Washington probably don't have.

"We have a very strong bench. They have been getting a lot of playing time this year, and that has really helped the freshman. We're very solid, and I really don't see us losing. If we lost, I think that would be a big upset," stated Garver.

The next opponent/victim to take their shot at the Clackamas machine, is Umpqua. Clackamas will battle Umpqua tonight at 6 p.m. in Randall gym. "Umpqua is big; they have 5'8" and 5'10" gals. They're strong, but they're not very quick. We're going to run like hell against them," remarked Garver.

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11(A)	12	13	14	15	
L*	39.12	65.43	49.87	44.26	55.56	70.82	63.51	39.92	52.24	97.06	92.02	87.34	82.14	72.06	62.15	
a*	13.24	18.11	-4.34	-13.80	9.82	-33.43	34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07	
b*	15.07	18.72	-22.29	22.85	-24.49	-0.35	59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19	
D50 Illuminant, 2 degree observer											Density					
											0.04	0.09	0.15	0.22	0.36	0.51