

Sports ReMARKS
by
Mark A. Borrelli

Dream a little dome...

If you read the newspapers or watch TV, which I'm sure you do, then you've heard the latest talk about an event dome to be built in Portland, and Portland landing an NFL expansion football team.

I listened to all of this talk with much amusement. Oh yeah, the National Football League is just going to give Portland an expansion football team after the Oregon Lottery went against the wishes of the NFL to allow betting on professional football games. Even if the NFL was forgiving, and did actually award Portland a franchise, where would they play? Civic Stadium perhaps; they do have the new turf! Oh, excuse me, I forgot: talk about the new dome.

In my 23 plus years as a reporter in Oregon, I've heard a lot of talk about a dome, but that's all it ever turned out to be: talk. Metro, lead by Rena Cusma, is currently heading the talks of a dome, and once again, someone is studying the idea of the building of a dome. Well, nice try, Rena. But I've heard of studying, investigating, and looking for a site all in the past, and it's all amounted to the same thing: no results.

Once again, people are hoping that these stories in *The Oregonian* regarding a possible dome are accurate, and hopes are getting high among sports fans. A private group of business people want to get a dome built to draw an expansion team. They are currently in the "studying stage." These ambitious business professionals have high aspirations, saying that a dome is necessary because they want a Super Bowl! Okay, I can just imagine the NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue saying this: "Well Oregon, so what if you did stab us in the back with your Stab Action game; you went against our wishes betting on games. But all is forgiven. Here, here's a team, and hey, why don't you host the Super Bowl in two years." The day you'll hear those words is the day we'll get a dome...don't hold your breath!

I'm not saying that a dome is not a good idea, don't get me wrong. I'd love to see a dome in Portland, but not unless the taxpayers fund it and will be the ones responsible for getting it under construction; not the politicians, who study things enough. (I hope they were four-point students in school.) I really doubt an NFL team is anywhere in the future for Portland anyway. I think that the City of Roses' best bet would be to try to talk to major league Oregon Lottery isn't betting on them...yet. Wait a minute, what's that I hear? Talks of a new baseball stadium in Delta Park!

CCC still undefeated, run record to 10-0

by Mark A. Borrelli
Sports Editor

The Clackamas men's basketball team continues its winning ways, pulling out another two victories last week. With the pair of victories Clackamas improved their record to 10-0, and now hold a two-game lead over Chemeketa with just four games remaining in the regular season.

Saturday night Clackamas rolled into Eugene to face a tough Lane squad. In their previous meeting, the Cougars needed overtime to escape with a win, but overtime wasn't necessary on this night.

The Cougars got off to a quick start before allowing Lane to rally, and held a 32-31 halftime advantage.

"We really started out strong, we got up by 10, then they roared back on us, but we played well enough to trail by one at the end of the first half," said Coach Royce Kiser.

Once again the Cougars came out of the locker room fired up as they raced to a 10-point advantage. They held a 7-point lead with 60 seconds to play, and held on tough to win 70-69.

"The game wasn't really as close as the final score might indicate," said Kiser. "We led the entire

second half, and they hit a tough three pointer at the buzzer to get that close."

Once again it was the Cougars' big four getting the job done. Tim Osburn poured in 25 points, Todd Spencer added 14, while Brett Nesland and David Daniels each chipped in 10.

"Our big four have been doing it all year. Teams can't key on everyone, so if they key on one

"Lucas was a force in the Lane game, he really got physical. Last time we played Lane, their centers played better, but this time Lucas was a force," said Kiser.

Wednesday night in Randall Hall, the Cougars hosted PCC and the game turned out to be The Todd Spencer Show. Spencer got from everywhere on the court, tossing in a career-high 43 points on 19-25 shooting from the field.

According to Kiser the key to the Cougars' success this year has been the way the Cougars are playing defense. Clackamas' speed allows them to do things other teams are not able to do.

"We play really good perimeter defense, and our perimeter people are really good off the bench. We have the ability to press full court the entire game, and not many teams can do that," said Kiser.

Clackamas controls their own destiny, needing to win 3-4, or beat Chemeketa, to win the division title. Kiser however is not looking past anyone.

"I want to play Mt. Hood, and beat them...that's our immediate goal. The thing that we need to do is be confident, but not cocky. No team in this league is good enough to overlook another team," said Kiser.

Clackamas closes out the regular season with Mt. Hood at home tonight, then travels to Umpqua Saturday. Clackamas will then return home next Wednesday for their final home game against Chemeketa.

Although Kiser is not ready to celebrate anything yet, he couldn't think of anything better than being 10-0 at this point of the season. "It feels nice, being 10-0 feels really nice."

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person, or two, the other people get the job done," said Kiser. Kiser also noted the improved play of his bench. "Our bench is really coming along. Martineau is a blue chipper, he's a real smart player on the court; Hollingsworth has also been getting in some playing time, and he's played well; and Bartel is a good player," said Kiser.

Troy Merrill has also contributed off the bench with strong inside play.

Kiser was also happy with the play of starting center Chris Lucas.

This game was never close after the Cougars held a 49-44 halftime lead; they destroyed PCC in the second half, and cruised to a 104-82 win. Daniels scored 13, and Chris Lucas added seven points and 10 boards. Kiser was pleased with his team's performance, and was particularly pleased with the play of Spencer.

"Even though we moved Spencer from a guard to the 4 spot, we knew that he would play well, and he's been playing extremely well."

Cougars prepare for regionals with home matches

by Staci Beard
Sports Editor

During the last couple of weeks before Regionals the Clackamas wrestling team made two home appearances. The first was a double dual meet against North Idaho and Pacific Lutheran University on Friday, Jan. 26, which saw the Cougars lose 36-7 to North Idaho.

Only two wrestlers were able to put up wins. Matt Lindland won 3-0 at 150, while Lance Hobson crushed his opponent 12-2 at 177.

The Cougars were not down for long and came back to defeat PLU 26-19. This competition saw a number of wrestlers rack up wins.

Craig Morris defeated his opponent 11-7 at 126. Shannon Hondl had to come from behind to pick up his win at 142. 11-3 was the final on Lindland's defeat of his competition at 150. Kelly Reichner at 190 was able to defeat an opponent whom he had previously lost, 16-3.

Instead of points Steve Teeney took the route of pinning his foe for a victory in the 167 class.

"Overall it was a good warm-up for our own tournament," stated Coach Jim Jackson.

The Cougars made their encore performance the following day at the CCC Invitational. Three members of the team all placed second in the tournament.

At 150 Lindland was defeated by the opponent he beat the night before on North Idaho. Teeney lost in the 177 finals to the tournament's outstanding wrestler Brandon Jensen in a 8-1 match. Hobson also took second but was unable to wrestle in the finals due to a

injury sustained in the semi-finals.

Besides those who placed, a number of wrestlers were within one match of placing. They were Albert Alcantar, Steve Sletter, Jason Bauer, and Riechner.

"A number of different injuries were sustained by our players, but it wasn't due to not being in condition; it was because of the intensity of the matches. It may hurt us when we go to Regionals because we won't be at full strength," explained Jackson.

"Our tournament was well run. A lot of the credit has to go to trainer Mary Groat. I got a large number of compliments on her knowledge, capabilities, and her willingness to share them," stated Jackson.

On Monday Jan. 29, Clackamas competed against Oregon Institute of Technology of Klamath Falls and lost 22-18.

"We didn't wrestle well at all. It didn't help that we arrived ten minutes before we were supposed to wrestle. We were not mentally prepared," said Jackson.


There were some positives to

come out of it.

Dave Moore fought a tough match but lost 10-12 at 158. Robb Ferguson dominated his opponent to a 12-2 win.

The Cougars' next tournament will be the one they have worked toward all season the Regionals at Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho.

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