

Tracksters take unbeaten record to championships

by Brenda Hodgen
Sports Editor

The Cougar track teams swiped another victory over the weekend in the Wolfpack Track and Field Classic at Blue Mountain Community College, defeating eight other teams. The victories launched the men's season record to 14-0, proving them undefeated for two years running. The women stand strong with a 13-1 season record, proving that "the women have learned how to win as a team," says Coach Mike Hodges.

Hodges explains that the victory for the women was an all out battle, while the men were able to coast right by their competition.

"For the women this meet was a real challenge, but the men as the scores indicate, were not

challenged," he said. "The women put out just a super effort. We were with out one member, so the eight girls who competed all battled down to the last three events.

"The last event, which was the 1600m relay, really ended up to be a determining factor for the women. It was a hot day and by the end the girls were exhausted and asked me if they had to run the relay; I suggested that they might as well do what they went there for. At the time I didn't know how close it really was, but they went after it and scored four points in that event and we won by three."

The victories have been great in improving the teamwork throughout the season, but Hodges would like to see more focus on the individual events as the championships draw near.

"The men faced little competition last weekend, and sometimes they need to learn to challenge themselves," Hodges explained. "They need to be more mentally focused and prepared with the championships coming up. We will be able to provide them rest and specific drills to help them focus on their specialties."

This weekend the team will travel to the Oregon Open Invitational in Eugene where they will meet several colleges and universities. Hodges hopes this meet will provide some opportunities for the individuals to prepare since it is not a team scoring meet.

"This meet will give both the men and women a chance to have really intense competition without worrying about team scores."



Photo by Greg Heese

Cougar track members, left, past baton during relay event at a recent meet. The men's track team finished the season undefeated, while the women completed the season with a 13-1 record.

Wolfpack Track and Field Classic April 20, 1991

MEN		WOMEN	
Clackamas	180	Clackamas	90
Whitworth	86	Eastern Or.	87
Eastern Or.	77	N.W. Nazarene	84
N.W. Nazarene	67	Whitworth	80
Blue Mt.	47	Treasure Valley	40
Treasure Valley	24	Whitman	36
Gonzaga	23	Blue Mt.	24
SWOCC	21	Gonzaga	23
Whitman	9	SWOCC	0

PROFILE

High School: Tigard
Sport: Track
Specialty: Sprints
Year: Freshman
How did you become interested in Track? "Ever since elementary school, I've always been active in sports. I played soccer but I was better at running."
Do you plan on attending a four year university? "Yes, PSU. I'm hoping that track will allow me to get through."
What are your goals for the season? "Doing my best at

PAM RAADE

NWAACC. I qualified for short distances 200m and 400m."
What are your feelings toward this year's team? "The team is really fun. It's not just girls and guys, it's combined, which I really like."
What one person has provided you with the most inspiration? "I don't think that way. I don't have anyone who has really inspired me. I've always been self motivated enough I guess."
How do you want people to remember you? "Just as a friendly person. To be remembered by track is not important."
What is most important to you? "Family and friends. Track is after, not before."



PROFILE

KEVIN BUSE



High School: West Linn
Sport: Track
Year: Sophomore
Specialty: Middle Distance
What one thing made you want to start running? "I used to be pigeon toed. In the seventh grade my doctor suggested running. I went out for track in eighth grade, which was good for me because I was always really hyper. I was the worst member on the team. When I transferred to West Linn I made

varsity my freshman year and have been running ever since."
How do you see yourself as a student? "I used to be the worst student in the world. I was ineligible last year during cross-country because of my grades, and that woke me up. Some athletes can get straight A's and have to work at their sport, but I can do well at my sport and have to concentrate on school. I used to say I had a learning disability, now I have the attitude that I can do anything. It may take me longer, but I can get it done."
What one person has made the biggest difference in your life? "Coach Barryman [distance coach] by far has made the most difference in my life along with all the guys on the team this year. We're all like a big family, and we run together. I owe all of my success to them."
What are your future goals? "I hope to run at a four year university. The 3,000m will be my specialty, and I hope to go to either Northern Arizona or Montana State. Later I want to coach and build a successful program at a high school level and eventually coach and teach at a university."
If you could describe yourself in one word what would it be? "Consistent."

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FOR SALE

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