

Men's Basketball team pulls out road wins over weekend, prepare for home contests this week

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Section Editor

The Clackamas Community College men's basketball team improved their pre-season record to 4-1 with wins over Columbia Basin CC and Blue Mountain CC last week.

Clackamas defeated Columbia Basin, 66-61, in Pasco, WA on Friday night in a slow-paced game.

"They (Columbia Basin) throw a lot of different traps and zones and that is one of the reasons we scheduled them," said Clackamas Head Coach Royce Kiser. "They present so many problems for us."

Clackamas went into the second half down by one. The two teams see-sawed back and forth through the second half, with Clackamas taking the lead towards the end of the game. Kiser felt that his team played ok, but didn't play real well.

Kenny Walker played well, scoring 15 points. Aaron Pearson added 10 points. Jawanza Hadley had a good game with 19 points and 11 rebounds.

Kiser says that Ty Overby played exceptionally well down the stretch. "I didn't start him. He is a good player," Kiser com-

mented. "Maybe he's going to come along and be an excellent player." Overby finished the game with three points, three rebounds and two steals.

The Cougars shot 20-43 from the floor and 4-11 from behind the three-point line.

Clackamas won the second game against Blue Mountain in Pendleton on Saturday, 101-91.

The Cougars were down throughout most of the first half, but came back with a three-pointer just before the half to tie the game at 54.

Kiser said that Blue Mountain was a totally different type of team than they had played the night before at Columbia Basin. The Clackamas defense in the first half had trouble, but the Cougars were able to pick it up in the second half and they executed better.

Clackamas had an average night from the field at 46.9 percent, but struggled behind the three point line with a 7-25 showing.

Hadley lead the team in scoring with 29 points, seven rebounds, and three assists in 36 minutes. Walker had 16 points, six rebounds and four assists.

Brian Mitchell led Blue Mountain with 25 points and nine

rebounds. Thomas Hymas added 18 points and 13 rebounds.

"It was a good road trip in the fact that we won. But we are going to have to play much, much better in league play," Kiser said. "We are going to have to play better defense, much smarter, adjust better, and get ready to play to go through our league the way it is."

"We have to smooth out," Kiser said. "We have already made some big steps."

Kiser feels that Hadley, Pearson and Walker are the most consistent players on the team so far, and hopes that Overby will become one.

Clackamas will play Clark CC in Vancouver tonight. Clark, the defending Northwest champion, is the only team to have beaten the Cougars so far this season.

Clackamas will play host to and Willamette University's junior varsity squad on Thursday and Columbia Basin on Saturday.

The Cougars will compete at the Crossover Tournament at South Puget Sound CC in Olympia Dec. 15-17.

League play begins on Jan. 3 for Clackamas with a home contest against Mt. Hood CC.



photo by Chad Patteson

Clackamas post Jay Lassen moves along the baseline on his way to the hoop during practice this week.

Burck:

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said. "I don't think he thinks of himself very much. From a coach's stand point, you can't ask for more than that from a person."

When out on the cross country course, Burck remains focused and he knows just what he has to do. While on a course, he thinks to himself: "I've got to run as fast as I can and make up as many points as I can and hope the team gets a trophy." As you can tell, Burck worries very little about himself and a lot about the team. Burck chose CCC because he wasn't really sure that he was ready to get away from home. While holding down a part-time job at a local grocery store and a full-time class load at Clackamas, Burck enjoys snow skiing and spending time with friends.

He plans to transfer to a four-year school next year, possibly Linfield College in McMinnville, and major in sociology.

Burck credits Hodges and other coaches for giving him tips and motivational talks. "I always listen to people who have had more experience than me," he said.

As far as the upcoming track season goes, Burck hopes to have "a healthy, successful season" and improve his times from last year. "It would be nice to win an NWAACC title," Burck added.

Burck's philosophy on teamwork seems to be simple: "Others come first and then myself."

"A lot of people will say that cross country is an individual sport," Burck said. "But I think it's definitely, ultimately a team sport."

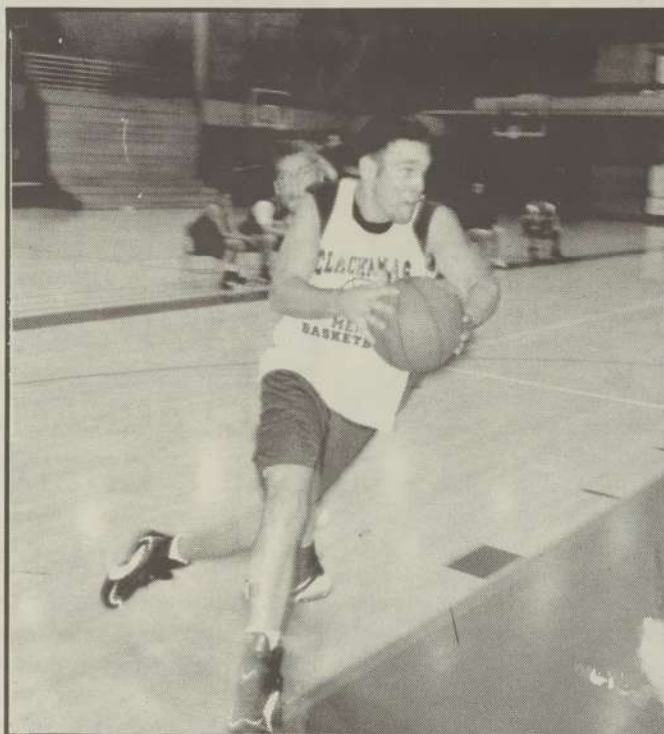


photo by Chad Patteson

Freshman Leif Spencer goes for a layup in practice.



photo by Chad Patteson

Kenny Walker drives past teammate Aaron Pearson.

Wrestling:

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Saturday," said Clackamas Head Coach Mike Haluska. "To have three in the finals was real good."

Clackamas fell to Highline Community College at Randall Hall on Friday night by a score of 24-19.

This week, Haluska hopes his team is focusing more on studying for their finals and on school work than they are on wrestling.

"I'm trying to push them more to study than wrestle right now," Haluska said.

Because his team has their focus on their finals right now, Haluska is not sure that they will be ready for a dual meet next Friday at North Idaho, a team that is perennially one of the top three

teams in the nation.

Clackamas will travel to Des Moines, Washington on Saturday for the Northwest dual meet tournament. The Cougars will be off to Yakima, WA on Dec. 14 for a dual against Yakima Valley Community College.

After Christmas, the Cougars will continue their tough schedule with a triangular meet with Highline CC and Ricks College in Des Moines on Jan. 5. Clackamas will then travel to Tacoma on Jan. 6 for the Pacific Lutheran Open Tournament.

Clackamas then takes on North Idaho and Pacific Lutheran in dual meets at home on Jan. 12 before hosting the Clackamas Open Tournament on Jan. 13.

The Cougars will finish out their home schedule with a four-way meet on Jan. 25.

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