

Women beat #1 Chemeketa, claim region's top spot

Jesse Sowa
Sports Editor

The Clackamas Women's basketball team moved two steps closer to their goal of winning the regional title this season.

The Cougars won both of their home games last week, including a 91-76 upset victory on Jan. 17 against Chemeketa Community College, which at the time was the number one ranked team in the Northwest.

Clackamas defeated Linn-Benton CC (L-B) on Saturday by a 72-54 count. The Cougars jumped out of the gate early against the Roadrunners and led 21-10 with 8:27 remaining in the first half following five straight points by post Clair Cox. Clackamas held L-B scoreless for seven minutes to build a sizable lead.

Balance during the twenty minutes allowed the Cougars to lead 33-20 at halftime. Cox had 10 points, while Melanie Sharp and Denise Haselwood scored eight apiece.

The Roadrunners never challenged Clackamas in the second half as the Cougars cruised to the easy win.

Clackamas was led by Cox, who finished with 17 points, 14 rebounds and five blocked shots. Denise Haselwood added 14 points on 4-7 shooting from the three-point line Haselwood also

dished out nine assists. Sharp scored 11 points, pulled down 13 rebounds and blocked four shots.

Lindsey Hatch had her best game of the season, totalling nine points and nine rebounds. "When she's on defense, she's at her best," said Clackamas Coach Karen Twain of Hatch.

Twain also praised Sharp, who continues to be a strong scorer and rebounder for the Cougars. "I thought Mel was really tough tonight."

Against Chemeketa, Clackamas fell behind early and trailed by as many as nine during the first ten minutes. The Cougars switched from man to man defense to a zone, which slowed down the Chiefs and allowed Clackamas to get back into the game. Trailing 22-13, the Cougars got several steals and easy baskets off of the zone and closed the Chiefs advantage to 22-20.

Chemeketa then scored the game's next five points, but Cox got Clackamas back in the game with six straight free throws, allowing the Cougars to eventually tie the game at 34. Clackamas scored the last seven points of the half to take a 39-34 lead at the break.

The Cougars came out of the lockerroom with an increased intensity, scoring the first eight points to open up the game at 47-

34 with 17:50 remaining.

Clackamas held a sizable lead until midway through the half when the Chiefs cut the lead to 59-56. Chemeketa scored ten consecutive points before a free throw by Barchus put the Cougars up 60-59.

The Chiefs got to within one at 60-59, but Clackamas again made the transition from man to man to zone and began to pull away from Chemeketa.

Clackamas led 72-64 following a lay-in by Haselwood, when the Chiefs made their final run at the Cougars. Chemeketa got as close as three (79-76) with 3:30 to go, but a three-pointer by Lisa Sorenson and a 15-footer by Cox put Clackamas up for good. Two foul shots apiece by Haselwood, Sorenson and Cox gave the Cougars the victory.

Sorenson led Clackamas in scoring with 19, including 4-8 on three-pointers. Haselwood had 17 points and four steals.

Cox scored 17 points and grabbed 15 rebounds, while Sharp had 16 points, 15 rebounds and eight steals.

Kelli Johnston led the Chiefs with 23 points and eight assists.

Clackamas will travel to Portland tonight to take on Portland CC and to Eugene on Saturday to play Lane CC. Both games begin at 6 p.m.

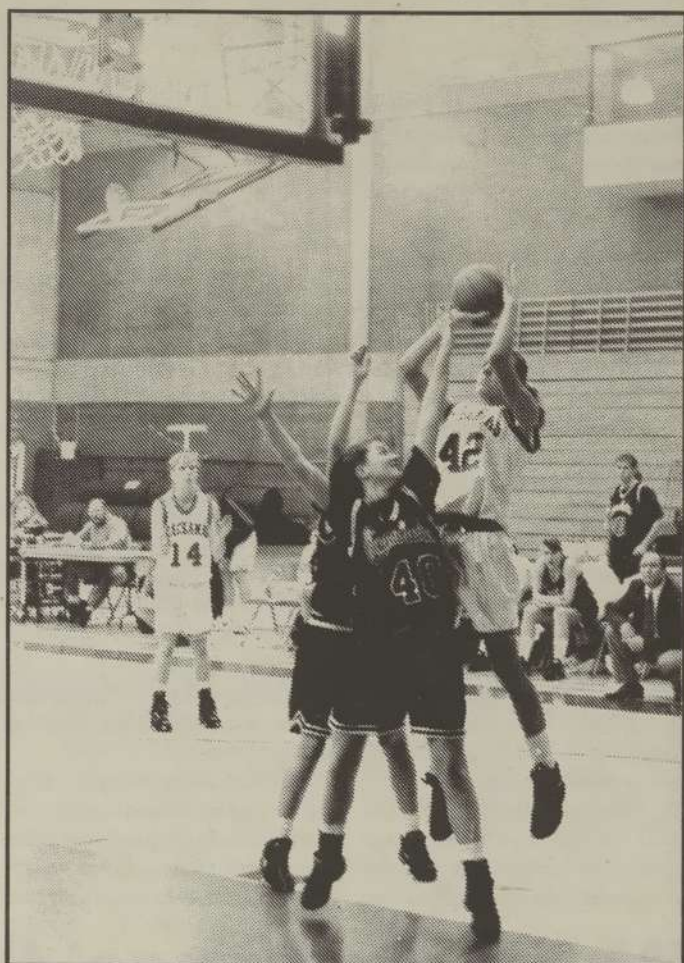


Photo by Jesse Sowa

Clackamas post Melanie Sharp shoots a baseline jumper in the Cougars upset win over #1 Chemeketa on Jan. 17.

Garrison leads wrestlers at PSU

Andrew Beck
Staff Writer

The Clackamas Community College Wrestling Team is living up to its expectations in both dual meets and individual competition.

The Cougars showed impressive results at the Portland State Open last Saturday.

Four wrestlers placed for the Cougars in the tournament, led by Glenn Garrison who took first place at 150 pounds. Jamie Dixon (177) took fourth, Corey Kaywood (134) was fifth and Lonnie Eggert (167) placed sixth at Portland State. Cameron Mitchum (118), competed well, but didn't get past the semifinals.

"Cameron wrestled the best I've seen him this year. He is a hard worker and the hard work started to pay off at P.S.U.," said Clackamas Coach Mike Haluska.

Other hard working Clackamas wrestlers are getting results that many people in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) didn't expect during the preseason. Garrison was

ranked fifth at 150 pounds before the season, but has beaten several wrestlers ranked ahead of him. Kaywood has also beaten some highly-ranked competitors.

"Some of my goals are that all my wrestlers become the best wrestlers that they can be, regardless of whether they win or lose and that after junior college, they compete at four-year universities and national tournaments," Haluska said.

Clackamas's track record of successful college wrestling speaks for itself. Last year the Cougars had eight former wrestlers make four-year universities and compete in national tournaments. This year there are four Cougar wrestlers from the past now at Oregon State and Oregon, alone.

The Cougars next match will be at home tomorrow night in a triangular meet against Yakima Valley CC and Clark CC at 6 p.m. The Cougars will compete in an all-day open tournament at Ellensburg, Wash. on Jan. 27.

Men's basketball improves to 5-1 in league with home win

Jesse Sowa
Sports Editor

The Clackamas men's basketball team came away with a win and a loss at home after a tough week of competition in Southern Region play.

The Cougars defeated Linn-Benton Community College (L-B), 95-89, on Saturday, but were beaten by Chemeketa CC, 93-92, on Jan. 17 on a 25-foot buzzer-beater by Chiefs guard Jermaine Slider. Clackamas improved to 5-1 in the Southern Region.

On Saturday, Clackamas and L-B fought a close battle throughout until the Cougars pulled away during the final minutes of the contest. Clackamas led by five late in the half, but the Roadrunners went on a short run to tie the game at 46 at halftime.

During the first half, Roadrunners guard Steve Roberts kept L-B in the game with four three-point shots well beyond the arc. L-B hit seven three-pointers during the first half and 10 for the game.

Clackamas post Jawanza Hadley led the Cougars during the first 20 minutes with 21 points. Leif Spencer added 11 points in the first half, including three long bombs.

The second half continued the play from before the break as neither team led by more than three for nearly 15 minutes of play. A lay-in by Hadley and a bucket and two free throws by

Spencer gave Clackamas an 89-83 lead with 1:30 remaining in the game. A three by L-B's Chris Swallow cut the Cougars lead to 91-88, but foul shots by Hadley and Kenny Walker gave Clackamas the victory.

The Cougars got out on Roberts in the second half and held him to one shot from three-point land. Roberts led L-B with 29 points and seven rebounds.

Walker had the task of guarding Roberts during the L-B guard's onslaught during the first half, and again in the second.

"We were playing man to man (defense) and he (Roberts) was coming off screens and hitting 25-footers," Walker said.

The Cougars focused on guarding L-B tighter during the second half. "That was the thing that Coach (Kiser) emphasized at halftime," Walker added.

Hadley led Clackamas with 32 points and eight rebounds. Spencer added 22 points and 10 rebounds. Walker and Aaron Pearson had 14 points apiece.

Against Chemeketa, the number one team in the Northwest, Clackamas had the same type of battle that they had with L-B in that neither team secured a lead during the contest.

During the first half, Hadley and Spencer combined for 26 of the Cougars' 42 points as Chemeketa took a 43-42 advantage at the break. Clackamas led 42-37 on a three-pointer by Hadley, but the Chiefs took advantage of several turnovers by the

Cougars to score the last six points of the half.

The teams battled head to head during the second half. Clackamas led 90-88 with time running down, but a steal and two free throws by Slider tied the game with nine seconds to go. After a Cougars timeout, Hadley took the inbounds pass underneath the Chemeketa basket and drove the length of the court for a lay-in with 3.9 seconds remaining.

The Chiefs called a timeout to set up Slider's last second game-winner. Slider got the ball at midcourt, took one dribble and fired away, and the shot hit nothing but net.

Clackamas was led by Spencer, who scored 33 points including six of 14 on three-point shots. Hadley added 23 points, six assists and four blocked shots. Hadley was 4-9 from beyond the three-point arc. As a team, the Cougars were 11-27 from long range.

"I'm happy we're winning, but we must play better defense," said Clackamas Coach Royce Kiser following the game against Linn-Benton. "Hopefully, this week we'll turn the corner."

"We've playing hard, but not as smart as we wanted," Kiser added.

The Cougars will travel to Portland tonight to play Portland CC and to Eugene on Saturday to take on Lane CC. Both contests begin at 8 p.m.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

SESSION WITH

SENATORIAL CANDIDATE

Harry Lonsdale

Friday, Feb. 2nd, Noon to 1 p.m. in CC127

Coffee and cookies will be served