

Clackamas falls short of playoffs

ADAM CRUM
Staff Writer

Whatever hopes the Cougars had of making the playoffs ended Saturday night in the Randall Hall Gymnasium.

In a game Clackamas led throughout, the Linn-Benton Roadrunners came from behind to defeat the Cougars, 97-92 in overtime.

Clackamas led by as many as 12, midway through the second half, but could not hold on to the lead.

The Roadrunners used a three-point play and another basket to take a three-point lead with less than 20 seconds to play. But freshman guard Billy Bright hit a three-point shot to send the game into overtime at 86-86.

Clackamas could never get it going in overtime, and a more experienced Linn-Benton team went on to the victory.

Cougar Head Coach Royce Kiser felt his team outplayed the Roadrunners but struggled in two major areas.

"We only got beat in two categories," said Kiser. "We didn't get to the foul line enough and we turned the ball over down the stretch."

This marked the first time in his 19 years as head coach at Clacka-

mas that Kiser failed to make the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges [NWAACC] Southern Division playoffs.

The Cougars dominated the boards, outrebounding Linn-Benton 30-19. Both teams shot the ball well from the field, but the Roadrunners outscored Clackamas 20-11 from the free throw line.

The Cougars committed only 13 turnovers, but the majority of them came late in regulation and in overtime.

Freshman post Scott Riddle led the Cougars with 19 points and nine rebounds on 9-12 shooting.

Sophomore point guard Oscar Rodriguez was 6-13 from the field and 4-7 from three-point range, scoring 16 points.

Freshman wing Josiah Lake and sophomore forward J.J. Pilgreen scored 15 and 13 points, respectively, and Bright added 11 points on 5-12 from the field.

The loss dropped Clackamas to 5-7 in the Southern Division and 14-13 overall.

The Roadrunners were led by freshman wing Marc Cordle, who scored a game-high 27 points on 8-14 from the floor and 6-10 from beyond the arc.

Sophomore guard Brian Fauth scored 23 points, including 8-10 from the line.

Sophomore posts Nick Matsler and Brian Csergei combined for 33 points and 11 rebounds, helping improve their team's record to 7-5 in the division and 14-10 overall.

Last Wednesday, Clackamas took on Portland Community College in Portland. The Cougars dominated the Panthers in the first meeting and did so again on Wednesday, defeating Portland 104-79.

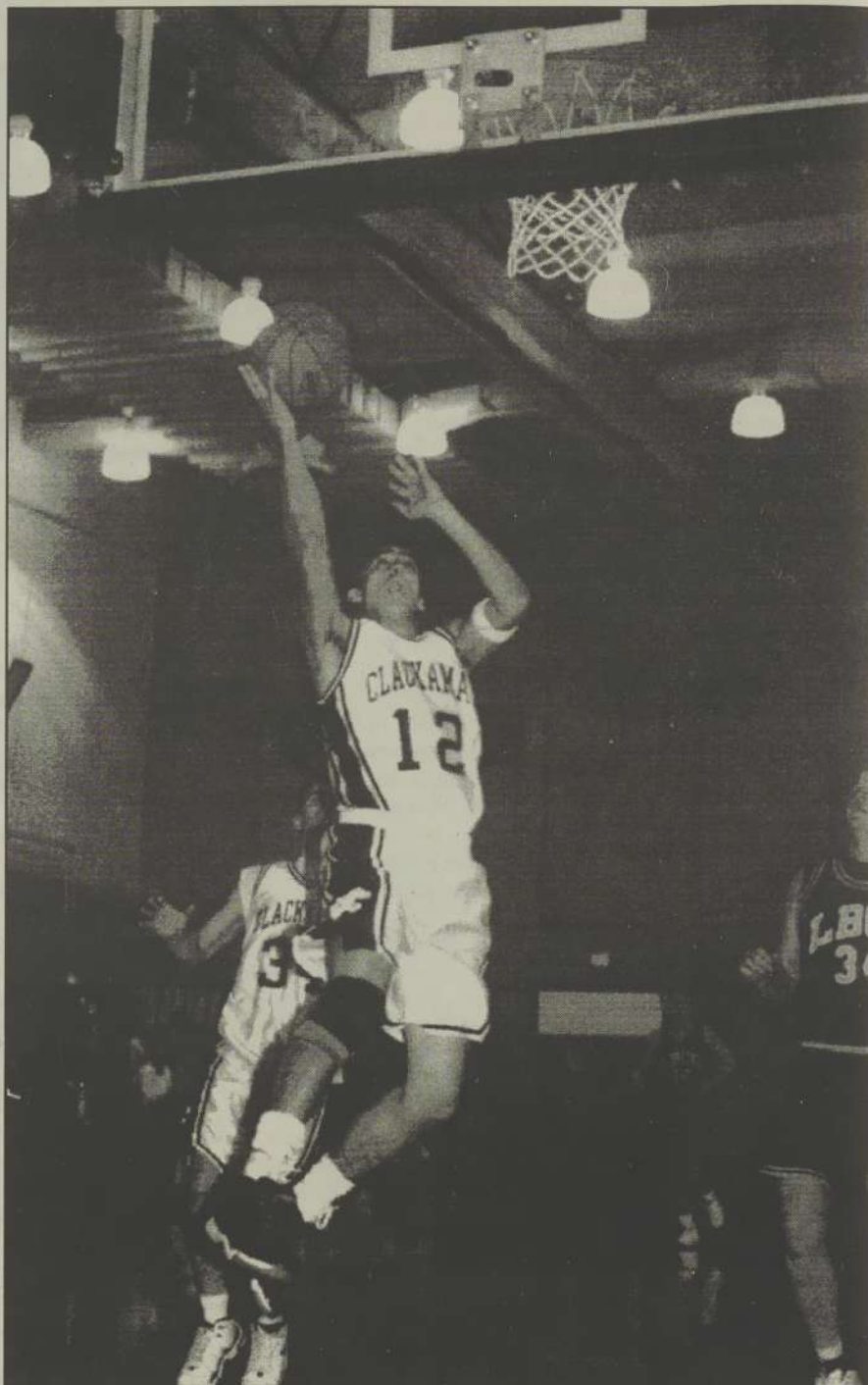
"This was a great overall team effort. Everybody played really well," said Kiser, whose team won back-to-back division games for the first time all year.

The Cougars did not shoot the ball well from the perimeter, hitting only 3-17 from three-point range, but were 42-85 overall, a .494 clip.

Clackamas held Portland to .287 from the field and 5-32 from beyond the arc.

Bright led six Cougars in double figures with 27 points on 10-17 shooting and grabbed six rebounds.

Riddle added 16 points,



Freshman Alfredo Villarreal goes up for two of his six points against Linn-Benton on Saturday night. Villarreal and the Cougars were defeated in a 97-92 heartbreaker in overtime.



JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

Freshman post Scott Riddle prepares to shoot a free throw in the Cougars' 104-79 victory over Portland. Riddle finished with 16 points and seven rebounds.

seven rebounds and five assists on 7-13 from the floor.

Freshman wing Roland Contreras was all over the court, scoring 14 points to go with 10 rebounds and six assists.

Freshman guard Alfredo Villarreal scored 12 points while Rodriguez and Lake added 10 points apiece. Rodriguez also recorded game highs with eight assists and four steals.

The Panthers were led by freshman wing Napoleon Brazile, who had 12 points, nine rebounds, five

assists and three steals. Brazile struggled shooting the ball, going 4-17 from the field and 0-8 from three-point range.

Sophomore point guard Colt Deese added 11 points and seven assists for Portland, who is currently 1-11 in the Southern Division and 7-19 overall.

The Cougars take on arch rival Mt. Hood [9-3, 18-8] in Gresham tonight and battle Lane Community College [10-2, 21-6] in Eugene Saturday night in the final regular season game.

"This was a great overall team effort. Everybody played really well."

Royce Kiser
Head Coach

Women's Southern Division Standings

School	League	Season
Clackamas	10-2	20-5
Chemeketa	9-3	20-7
Umpqua	9-3	23-3
Lane	6-6	14-11
Mt. Hood	6-6	11-13
Portland	4-8	13-13
SW Oregon	4-8	13-13
Linn-Benton	0-12	3-20



Men's Southern Division Standings

School	League	Season
Lane	10-2	21-6
Mt. Hood	9-3	18-8
Chemeketa	8-4	20-6
Linn-Benton	7-5	14-10
Clackamas	5-7	14-13
Umpqua	5-7	14-12
SW Oregon	3-9	9-16
Portland	1-11	7-19