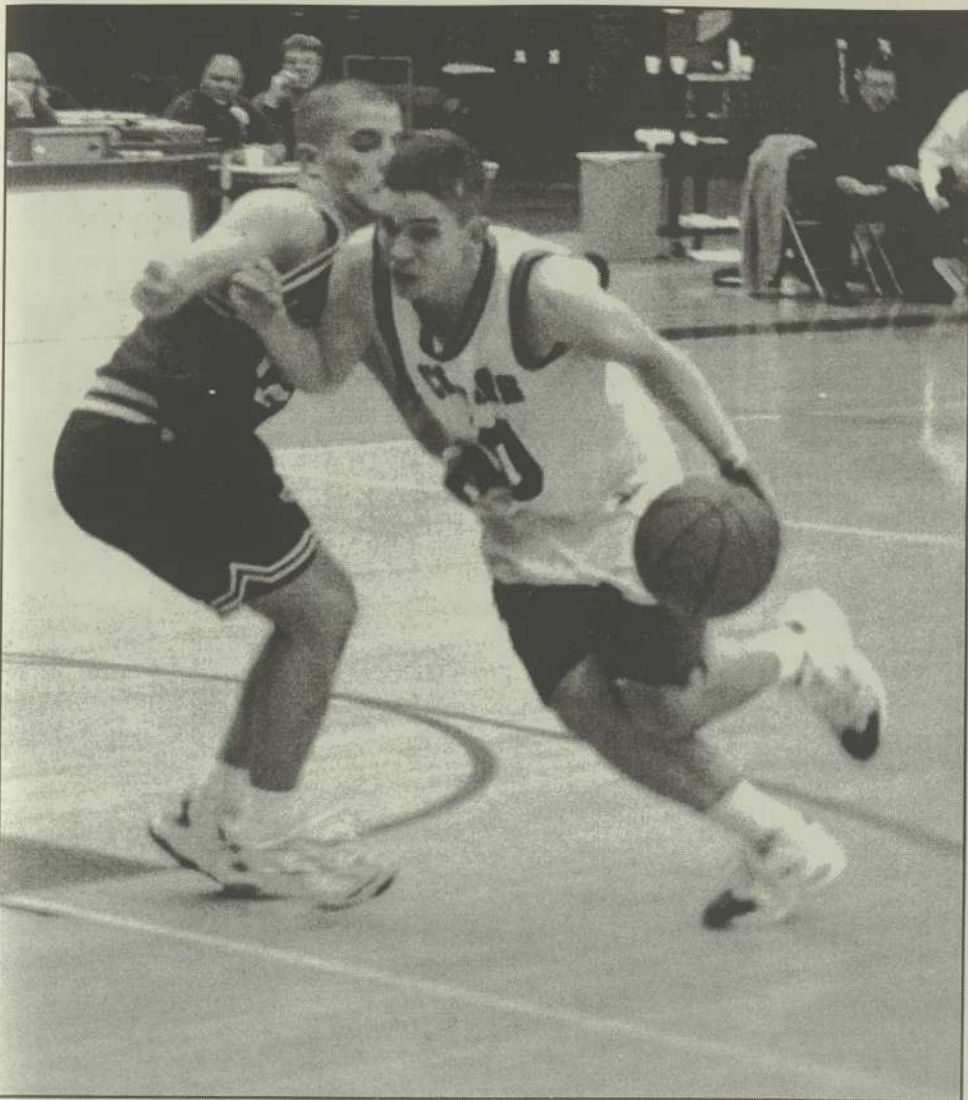




Clackamas point guard Jared Price drives on Linn-Benton's Hamilton Barnes in the Cougars' 99-96 loss on Saturday. Price's 34 points led all scorers in the game which saw 53 fouls called.

JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

Clackamas splits again

JOHN THORBURN
Sports Editor

Maybe the Clackamas men's basketball team only wanted to play one game last week.

Against Chemeketa last Wednesday, the Cougars [4-4, 14-8], looked flawless. Against Linn-Benton last Saturday, they looked horrible.

It's been the case the past weeks for Head Coach Cliff Wegner's squad.

"We just can't seem to play consistent basketball," said Wegner. "We played one of our best games of the year against Chemeketa then turned right around with all of that momentum and didn't show up to play basketball against Linn-Benton."

After the Cougars' 84-79 win over the Storm, the team looked poised to make a run at the #2 spot in the Southern Region. One loss later, Clackamas is just hoping to earn a postseason berth.

In the win, the Cougars' defense held Chemeketa to 34 second half points and was led by Billy Bright's three steals and Tony Edgerton's two

blocked shots.

On offense, Clackamas eliminated a five-point deficit at halftime behind the firepower of four Cougars scoring in double figures.

Jared Price led all scorers with 22 points while adding six assists. Abe Smith had 20 points with 10 rebounds, while Bright and Cody Eckman had 16 and 12 points, respectively.

In the 99-96 loss to the Roadrunners, the Cougars' defense was virtually nonexistent as Linn-Benton shot 52 percent from the field. On offense, Clackamas was led by Price with 34, Bright with 21 and David Cohen with 20 points. Smith grabbed 10 rebounds.

Coach Wegner's team currently sits in a tie for third place in region standings with Umpqua Community College—a team the Cougars defeated 108-69 two weeks ago in Roseburg.

Ahead of Clackamas, top-ranked Lane has a stronghold on first place, while Southwestern Oregon is two games behind the Titans with a 6-2 record.

"We're in a tough spot right now

but we can work our way out of it these next few weeks," noted Wegner.

Clackamas faces the Panthers [1-7] tonight in Portland in a game the Cougars should win.

"Portland is a scary team," said Wegner. "They've been playing inconsistent basketball but any team in the region can beat anybody else."

After tonight's contest, Clackamas faces Lane in Eugene.

"Two weeks ago, we went down to Roseburg and Coos Bay and split a pair of games in the two toughest places to play," noted Wegner. "Lane's gym isn't a tough place to play, but they make it tough because of the team we're playing."

The Cougars finish up their three-game road trip against Mt. Hood next Wednesday in a matchup Clackamas will be looking to avenge an early season loss to the Saints.

"It all comes down to defense," added Wegner. "We're going to hit defense hard in practice this week and get ready to go for Portland and Lane."

Writer to read and inspire on campus

Valerie Miner visits Clackamas

JEREMY STALLWOOD
Feature Editor

Valerie Miner, award winning author of nine books, will give a fiction reading Tuesday, Feb. 9 at noon in the Gregory Forum.

Miner, who has won fellowships and awards from the Rockefeller Foundation, has been teaching for 25 years, and is now Professor of English and Creative Writing at the University of Minnesota in Twin Cities.

In addition to her reading, Miner will lead a craft discussion in Tim Schell's Creative Writing class Monday, Feb. 8 at 2 p.m. Miner will share the wisdom that has helped her in writing.

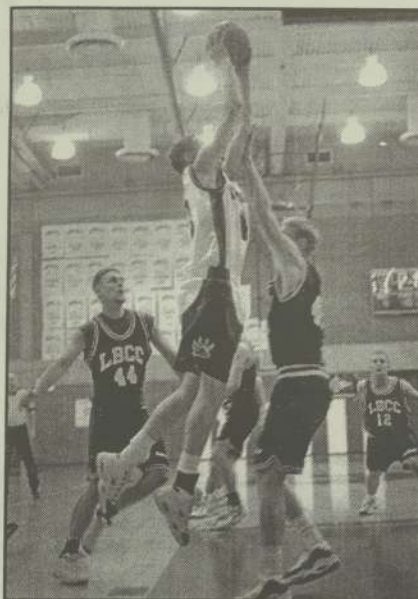
"I'll be talking about the process of re-writing," Miner said of her visit to Schell's class. "As a writer, I've found that it's important to keep reading widely, so I encourage my students to learn more about contemporary fiction. I've also developed a passion for revision. Some students are unfamiliar with the pleasures and benefits of revision."

Style is individual, though, and the art of teaching creative writing only involves helping the enthusiastic student develop that style, using the tools of exposition, dialogue and scene.

"I write about the lives of working-class families," said Miner.

"Much of my writing is set in the American West. A *Walking Fire* is set on the coast of Oregon. *Range of Light* is set in the High Sierra of California. I will be reading from both these books on Tuesday 9, February and talking a little bit about the role of place in my work that day."

Her latest novel, *Ray of Light* (Zoland Books, April 98), Chapter 21 of which is included in last Spring's issue of the *Clackamas Literary Review*, deals with current feminist issues as school friends Kath and Adele take to the mountains for a week of hiking. Other titles by Miner include *A Walking Fire*, *Winter's Edge*, *Blood Sister*, *Movement*, *All Good Women and Murder in the English Department*.



JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

Sophomore post David Cohen elevates over Linn-Benton's Dustin Hamann en route to two of his 20 points against the 'Runners. Cohen and the Cougars face Portland at P.C.C. tonight at 8 p.m.

Wrestling

The Clackamas wrestling squad travels to Highline Community College in Des Moines, Wash. to take part in the 1999 NJCAA Region 18 Championships.



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