

## Men's Basketball

## Cougars beat Umpqua, fall to #1 SWOCC

MANDY GOOD

Sports Editor

After finally returning home to Randall Gym after four straight road games, the Clackamas Cougars fall to 4-2 in the league and are 13-7 overall. On Jan.

## Game Info

Who: vs. LBCC  
When: Sat., 6 p.m.  
Where: Home

19, Wegner's squad defeated Umpqua and on Jan. 22, the squad was defeated by Southwest Oregon

"Against Umpqua, I thought that we

started out playing very well, we had about a ten-point lead early in the game—we were up 18-8," said Wegner. "Later in the game, we started rotating kids through and we didn't play very well together and we wound up being down by two at half time"

In the second half of the game, the team pulled their efforts together. Nate Block and Chris Lowery combined to be major factors in the success of Wednesday night's game.

"In the second half, I thought that we played a good half, we took care of business and got the ball inside," explained Wegner. "We got the ball into Nate Block and Chris Lohrey. Nate finished with seventeen points and eight rebounds. Chris finished with eleven points and seven rebound. Between them they were 11-15 from the field.

"I thought that Ammon Bemis had a pretty good game. He shot 5-6 from the field, 5-5 from the free throw line, had 15 points and he did a really good job on taking the ball in hard. Either getting the shot

himself or creating things for other people," said Wegner.

According to Coach Wegner, Kyle Bracey also had a solid game with 10 points, 7 rebounds and 6 assists. The Cougars shot 52% from the floor and dominated the boards by a 40-23 tally. The final score of the game was 67-56 and left Wegner's team with a win at home.

The Cougar team played SWOCC on Saturday in a game that featured a combined 58 fouls and 88 free throws.

"It was an odd game, there was almost sixty foul calls. I mean in a normal game you have maybe 35 fouls and maybe 45 free throws, between the two teams we shot 88 free throws," explained Wegner. "It was the kind of game where there was never any real flow to it. It didn't seem like there was ever a time where the teams went up and down the court four or five times and really played basketball"

According to Wegner, the game was officiated tight and the team was never able to adjust to that. During the game SWOCC had three players that fouled out and two others that had four fouls each. The Cougars had one player foul out and had five others had four fouls each.

"It seemed like everyone was in foul trouble the whole night, but we could never really capitalize on that," said Wegner. "We finished with a very good run at halftime, it was at the six minute mark when we took a time out and I talked

about getting back in the game. We went back into a press defense and that helped us get things moving," said Wegner.

At halftime, the team was able to bring the points-spread down to five. Wegner's team brought themselves back into the game with the score of 43-38. In the second half of the game, the team was able to take the lead of the game for the first time. According to Wegner, Tom Lennox (11 points) keyed a spirited second half rally as the Cougars battled back from a double-digit lead to take a 77-76 lead. However, SWOCC, made all of the big plays at a crucial time to take the win.

"In the second half, they got up by ten, we made a nice run in the end, and we took our first lead of the night 77-76. Then they basically made all of the plays down the stretch," explained Wegner. "They played like sophomores and we played like freshmen, which we are and they are."

The final score of the game ended in an eight point loss, 82-90. The team shot a 52% from the field and 63% from the free throw line. The win would have knotted a league lead; the loss will drop the Cougars two games behind the Lakers.

"I don't feel too bad, in my heart of hearts, we could have beat Lane, we could have beat SWOCC, we could be 6-0, but we are still very much in a playoff hunt," said Wegner.

*I don't feel too bad ... we are still very much in a playoff hunt.*

Clif Wegner  
Head Coach



JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

6'9" Chris Lohrey elevates over an Umpqua defender en route to two of his 11 points in the Cougars' 67-56 victory against the visiting Timbermen last Wednesday.

## Wrestlers intensify fight

MANDY GOOD

Sports Editor

Clackamas Wrestlers competed in a two-day series of duel matches and dominated the mats when wrestling three out of the four teams.

On Friday Jan. 21 Martindale's team wrestled Lassen, which is an extremely advanced team that is ranked second in the region. Clackamas was defeated in the duel but continues to grow in the intense competition.

"Against Lassen on Friday we wrestled very well," explained Lloyd Martindale head wrestling coach.

According to Martindale his wrestlers made their opponents work for every win that they took. James Adams wrestled excellent against Lassen and lost in an overtime match. Jacob Pence also wrestled very well, taking his opponent into double overtime where he was finally defeated.

On Friday Jan. 22 the Cougar wrestlers competed in three

duel matches. The teams that they competed against were Yakima, Highline, and South West Oregon.

Clackamas defeated Yakima 25-6. According to Martindale, all of the weight classes won their matches except for their 197 pound weight class. James Adam, who usually wrestles at 184 pounds, was moved up to the 197 pound class, due to an injury of another teammate.

"We did an excellent job against Yakima, we've really been working on our top riding positions and these guys are really doing a great job," said Martindale.

In the matches against Highline the Cougars defeated their team 25-12.

"We've been working on our feet, their take downs and they are better than I've seen all year," explained Martindale in response to the Highline matches. "This team is peeking right at the right time, as we are going into our regional tournament.

When Martindale's squad

wrestled South West Oregon, the Cougars won their third and final team during Saturday's duel competition. According to Martindale, all of the matches were won until the 197 weight class and the heavy-weight class.

"Chuck Buffington defeated the first ranked guy in our region with the score of 8-3 so it was a good solid victory for him," said Martindale. "It should boost his confidence going into the regional tournament, this should bump him up into the first or second rank right now."

According to Coach Martindale, the team will be fine tuning their performances so that they will be prepared for the regional tournament that will take place on Feb. 4.

"Between now and regionals we are going to be looking at our bottom escapes and our riding. Mainly we will be working on the bottom, we have a little bit of work to do, but we are in good shape," Martindale concluded.

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