



DARREL HOBSON / Clackamas Print

#40 Chris Lohrey and #33 Finnis Bussey fight for a rebound against Portland Community College after #22 Michael Keubler shoots a free-throw last Wednesday night.

## Lane stuns Clackamas at home

DARREL HOBSON

Staff Writer

On Saturday, the Titans from Lane Community College came to Cougar country looking for revenge. Last time these two teams met, it was a fight to the finish with Clackamas coming from behind to win in Eugene.

A packed Randall Gym buzzed with a playoff energy that could be felt by the fans, the players and all the way out to the concession stand. Clackamas felt confident after controlling the tip off and getting a 7-2 lead with only a few minutes gone by in the first. Lane put a stop to the Cougars' early progress by scoring three consecutive baskets and taking the lead by one point. Michael Kuebler threw down a dunk on the other end and fired up the crowd by regaining the lead. Lane answered, but Mike Fisher hit a three-pointer to go up two.

Unfortunately, it was the last lead Clackamas would see in the half. At one point, the Titans went up 12. The Cougars fought their

way back within three with their big men, Chris Lohrey, Finnis Bussey and Nate Block. However, missed free throws and second chance points left Clackamas in a 35-42 deficit at half time.

The Cougars came out of the lockerroom attacking the basket, scoring eight unanswered points and taking the lead by one point. From that point on, the lead went back and forth, resulting in numerous ties and lead changes. The game was down to the final 18 seconds when Lane had a one-point lead and was fouled.

The Titans could have increased their lead to three if they made both free throws. They didn't, and Bussey was fouled as he grabbed the board. Bussey swished both free throws, and Clackamas had the lead with 16 seconds left in the

game.

The Cougars played great defense but Lane threw up a miracle base line jumper that went in. With only seven seconds left, Mark Campbell drove the lane to try and draw the foul, but there was no call by the refs.

To their credit, the Cougars played an outstanding game in which they remained confident, poised and unfazed by a good Lane Community College team.

"I was a tough game and we played very well as a team, but we weren't able to hit the last shot," following the 75-76 loss. "But we still need to step it up and win every game from here on out."

Earlier in the week, Clackamas

*"It was a tough game and we played well, but we weren't able to hit the last shot."*

Michael Kuebler  
Wing  
Men's Basketball

## Is there anything good about sports?

I love sports. There are so many great stories that come from the world of sports.

I love hearing about a team that triumphs over adversity, and about the lessons learned from the agony of defeat. David versus Goliath and rooting for the underdog. Stories about building character and discipline in young people, which helps them for a lifetime.

However, the sports stories coming out lately are leaving a sour taste in my mouth. Get this: Jason Kidd of the Phoenix Suns received a standing ovation after playing a great game against

Vancouver. It was his second game back after being arrested for punching his wife. Cliff Robinson, also from the Phoenix Suns, was arrested late Sunday night for a DUI. The MVP of the Super Bowl, Ray Lewis, was involved in murder charges last year, but he was acquitted even though he was present at the scene of the crime. Former

Blazer JR Rider could be waived from the Lakers because he is being charged with possession of illegal drugs.

Now if that doesn't make you mad, then this will. The Green Bay Packers, Mark Chmura, husband and father, was in court accused

of having intercourse with a minor at a post prom party where alcohol was being served. This incident happened last spring, but since he is a professional football player, they allowed him to finish the season before being tried. He was acquitted on all charges earlier this week, but my question is, what was he doing at a prom party in the first place?

Why do we hear about the bad things in sports? Let's face it, the more shocking, scandalous and outrageous a story is, the more Americans will tune in.

But remember, there are more great people than bad ones in sports... guys who stay out of trouble and work hard to come out winners. I'm talking about players such as Kurt Warner, John Elway and Clyde Drexler.

## The Comeback

So far, it's been a pretty forgettable year in sports.

The Superbowl was horrible, college basketball and pro hockey are rarely interesting before the playoffs and the NBA is boring and in desperate need of an image makeover.

And the XFL? Are we supposed to believe that nauseating camera angles, bad sideline interviews and cheerleaders yelling, "Whoo-hooo!" are really going to make minor league football compelling? Give me a break.

But there was one recent story that rose above the others.

Before Anna Kournikova's golden locks mesmerized men twice her age, to be a famous teen in the world of pro tennis you had to be one thing - really, really good.

Jennifer Capriati was that good. At age 13, she flashed onto the pages of magazines like *Sports Illustrated* and was labeled as the sport's next superstar. The prodigy was tennis' sweetheart, with a marketable personality and a million-dollar smile.

Did I mention that she was good?

By age 16, Capriati was the youngest player ever to have a top ranking, even to semifinals of the French Open, win \$1 million in career earnings, win a match at Wimbledon and be seeded in the Grand Slam system. Later that year, Capriati won her first professional title.

But the spoils of victory did little to relieve the pressure that Capriati felt off the court. Reported demands from her father and the media's spotlight helped to send

her personal life into a downward spiral. As a result, less than a year after an Olympic victory in Barcelona, Jennifer would make other news.

At 17, Capriati's picture flashed across TV sets all over the world. Fans saw a young woman who, uncharacteristically, had dyed her amber hair jet black, gotten a nose piercing and was out of shape for a professional athlete. The facts of the story

rocked the sports world.

Arrested for shoplifting and possession of marijuana, many thought they'd seen the last of Jennifer Capriati. In fact, she abandoned the pro tour in 1994.

But Capriati's return to the tour would occur. After a 2 1/2 year hiatus, marred by several unsuccessful comebacks, she reached another pro final in 1996.

As her struggles had been played out very publicly, the tennis community embraced Jennifer. Amidst endless questions about her past and her fitness, she ended many press conferences in tears. Jennifer quickly became a sentimental favorite on tour and it seemed to help her play.

Last year Capriati won a pro tournament for the first time in three years. Last month, the 24 year-old captured her first ever Grand Slam title by winning the Australian Open.

It's been a long and winding road for Jennifer Capriati. But her rise from the depths of personal anguish to victory, in arguably the toughest sport in the world, is one story that we can all smile about.

dominated the young and inexperienced Panthers from Portland Community College. Campbell was just two rebounds away from a triple double with 16 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds. Keubler scored 29 points, 14 rebounds and six assists. Tom Lennox had 13 points

and was three for three from three-point land. Bussey added 16 points and five rebounds. The Cougars easily defeated PCC 107-87.

Come support Clackamas at home tonight as they face Mt. Hood Community College at 8 p.m.

### Corrections

● In the issue 11 sports section, The headline on Darrel Hobson's column about the golfer Casey Martin should read, PGA vs. Casey Martin.

The Clackamas Print strives for accuracy and completeness in all of its coverage. The newspaper will correct significant errors of fact that are brought to the attention of the editors. If you see an error in the newspaper, please contact the Editor-in-Chief at (503) 657-6958 Ext. 2247 or send email to [ccprint@clackamas.cc.or.us](mailto:ccprint@clackamas.cc.or.us)



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Answer from page 5.

