

Cougars look to declaw Panthers tonight

NICK BARRON
Business Manager

As another week passes by, Clackamas' men's basketball team remained in first place in the Southern Division and dropped to second in the NWAACC Coaches' Poll, after defeating both of their opponents.

On Jan. 23, the Chemeketa Storm rolled into Randall Gym to play in front of a packed house in their attempt to try to knock the division-leading Cougars from their perch. Chemeketa grabbed the lead early on, scoring on their first four trips down the court. As the first half wore on, Clackamas was unable to contain the Chemeketa scorers, leaving the Cougars trailing by six at the half.

In the second half, Clackamas slowly chipped away at Chemeketa's lead, tying the game at 56-56 with 8:30 left to play. Just over a minute later, the Cougars were able to go in front by two points. But with every score Clackamas made, the Storm kept pace, knotting the score up at 64-64 with 4:20 remaining in the match.

As the final three minutes of play evaporated, both teams traded the lead back and forth.

Cougar fans have been treated to great basketball games this season, with the home team winning numer-

ous matches in the final seconds. This was to be no different, as the air of expectancy in the gymnasium rose with every second. The clock stood at 47 seconds left and the score was tied at 71. Chemeketa took a four-point lead with just 22 seconds remaining in the game, but then Mat Tondreau of Clackamas stepped up and hit a 3-pointer to bring his team within one.

The next venture down the court for the Storm brought a foul call against the Cougars, giving the visitors two free throw opportunities, with Chemeketa making only one of two. With just seconds left in the duel, Clackamas' Marvin Noble brought the ball down the court, looking for a shot. When Noble felt he had one, he offered it up, missing the jumper. The Cougars' Michael Kuebler, no stranger to late-game heroics, grabbed the rebound and put it in, tying the game at 76 to send it into overtime.

In the extra period, Clackamas dominated Chemeketa, as the home team seemed confident in their ability to secure the victory. The Cougars outscored Chemeketa 15-7 in overtime, en route to a hard-earned 91-83 victory.

Kuebler, Cougar hero for the night, dropped in 30 points, which led the team. Noble added 17 to the Clackamas effort, followed by Matt Tabisz with

16. Tondreau snatched 12 rebounds for Clackamas, with nine coming on the defensive end of the court. Chemeketa won the turn over battle, forcing the Cougars to cough the ball up 22 times. But it was the rebounding that handed Clackamas the victory, as the Cougars out-rebounded the Storm 47-36.

After their emotional home game against Chemeketa, the Cougars welcomed Linn-Benton to town. Clackamas controlled the entire match, with the Roadrunners lacking the speed to run with the Cougars, losing by a score of 95-88.

Again it was Kuebler who led Clackamas in scoring, with 27 points, trailed by Evan Kieling and Lawson Struve with 16. Noble was the leader in the assist category, with four. The Cougars out-rebounded their opponent yet again, 36-29, helping Clackamas to score 18 second chance points.

Despite another perfect week for the



MAGGIE JIRASEK / Clackamas Print

Mat Tondreau of Clackamas drives toward the basket against Chemeketa on Jan. 23. Tondreau scored nine points against the Storm and grabbed 12 rebounds in the Cougars' 91-83 win.

Cougars, they lost their number-one ranking in the Coaches' Poll to Tacoma. Southwestern and Lane, members of the Southern Division with Clackamas, are ranked fifth and eighth in the poll, respectively. Both teams have fallen to the Cougars this season.

The next stop for Clackamas is PCC Jan. 30, a team which has struggled this year, holding a 4-15 season record. On Feb. 2, the Cougars make their way down I-5 to meet the Lane Titans, whose 4-2 league record is third in the Southern Division.



Keepin' it real for the STL

By Nick Barron

Recently a friend of mine stormed into *The Print* and voiced obvious displeasure with one of my favorite athletes, St. Louis Rams quarterback Kurt Warner. Her beef was triggered by a Fox Sports special on the Arena Football League-turned-two-time NFL Most Valuable Player, in which Mr. Warner apparently "preached" about his religious beliefs.

Of course I took umbrage with her anger, which I felt was another attempt at an "open-minded" Oregonian to undermine a classic Midwesterner's views. I explained to her that very seldom does a superb athlete come from the area that I call home. I continued to tell her that those in the Midwest tire of East or West Coast sports personalities grabbing the highlights and winning the awards, blabbering incessantly about themselves and the injustices wrought upon them by other multi-million dollar athletes.

In Kurt Warner's case, he was a virtual nobody until that fateful 1999-2000 season in which he was king, leading a consistent loser to a Super Bowl victory. What he did on the field was amazing enough, but it was in front of the microphones in which Warner won the hearts of many fans in the Midwest. Kurt shrugged off questions that attempted to belittle his teammates or coaches, instead praising all those who aided him in his quest to become the prolific passer he

is today, including God.

Perhaps Warner doesn't resemble the faceless athlete that many people hope for, the kind of man or woman who does the job and goes home. But when one is shoved in front of reporters and television cameras, it is because they are expected to speak. In an occupation in which numerous athletes are "misquoted" or utter phrases of demeaning and conceited thought, at least Kurt Warner has chosen

"...Kurt Warner...will not be arrested for treating his wife like a tackling dummy."

a cause that does not include the phrase "I want" or "I didn't get."

The city of St. Louis realized that they had something truly special. In this man who always wears a five o'clock shadow on his face, Rams fans found a person who represents them, on the largest stage. Not all Midwesterners agree with Warner's views, even many faithful Ram fans don't believe in what Kurt believes in. But they still admire him, for they know that their quarterback is a man of values that most athletes forget about

once their name is mentioned on SportsCenter.

In Kurt Warner, St. Louis has gained an athlete who will not be arrested for treating his wife like a tackling dummy. Rams fans watch their team perform with the knowledge that their leader is not addicted to cocaine, steroids or painkillers. In short, the people of St. Louis believe in Warner not just for his athletic abilities, but because they know he will not disgrace the name of one of the best sports cities in the nation.

So, even if they don't concur with all that flows from Kurt Warner's mouth, they love him because he can do things that most cannot. I'm not talking about placing a 50-yard pass into the hands of a wide receiver, but about being a real person, even when most people believe you are so much more. For the most part, if any one of us were thrust into the life that Kurt Warner lives, we would not be able to turn down a salary like the one in which Warner did. Our wives might become women who watch the children while we play "doctor" in a hotel room with a hooker.

Perhaps Midwesterners are backward. Maybe the city of St. Louis should muzzle Warner, in order to keep him from "pushing" his views onto other people. But most people back home don't care if people on the coasts of the United States have a problem with our athletes' beliefs. We have been putting up with yours for long enough.

Cougar Athletics

Men's Basketball

@ PCC (Jan. 30) 5:30 pm

@ Lane (Feb. 2) 4:00 pm

Women's Basketball

@ PCC (Jan. 30) 7:30 pm

@ Lane (Feb. 2) 6:00 pm

JUMP-START YOUR COLLEGE DEGREE.

EARN UP TO 45 CREDITS FOR WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY LEARNED THROUGH:

HOMEMAKING	PARENTING
COMMUNITY SERVICE	PERSONAL STUDY
CORPORATE TRAINING	TRAVEL
ON-THE-JOB EXPERIENCE	VOLUNTEER WORK

Not all learning occurs in the classroom. Now you may be able to turn this into college credit through Marylhurst's Prior Learning Assessment Program (PLA) and apply it to your bachelor's degree.

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA) INFORMATION SESSIONS:
Tuesday, February 5th, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
OR

Thursday, March 7th, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Room 200, BP John Administration Building
Register for this free event by calling 503.699.6260.

US News & World Report 2002

lists Marylhurst University in its *Best Universities Category*, #1 in classes under 20 students and #1 in student/faculty ratio in the 15-state Western Region.

MARYLHURST UNIVERSITY

Accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
17600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY (HWY. 43)
MARYLHURST, OREGON - JUST 10 MINUTES SOUTH OF PORTLAND
800.634.9982

Serving students since 1893 www.marylhurst.edu