

Cougar men stop team of giants

Nic Delzell
Staff Writer

Men's basketball outplayed a Chemeketa squad on Wednesday night, beating the Storm 79-65 and raising the Cougars' record to 11 wins and only 5 losses.

The Chemeketa Storm showed

up with great height, including the likes of a seven-foot center, and two other players towering over 6'8".

Chemeketa was held scoreless in the first four minutes of play. While Clackamas played excellent defense and took an early lead with the help of two three-point field goals by Brandon Gill, who contributed 13 points to the Cougar score.

Due to high percentage lay-ups

and timely three pointers, the Cougars were never really challenged. The Chemeketa team relied heavily on their seven-foot starting center Chris Botez who led the Storm with 25 points. Once Botez got the ball in the post baskets became easy, but the rest of the Storm did not show up to play. Only four players contributed hoops in the first half, compared to nine on

the board for the Cougars.

Greg O'Neal and center Chris Botez were the only players for the Storm who could find the bottom of the net with any consistency. Keiling played a key part in the defense of Chris Botez. Giving no more than four inches to Botez, Keiling kept him at bay when it mattered most. The Cougars defense limited the rest of the Storm

to roll player status, making their center the only scoring option.

With constant defense and a team effort the Cougars controlled the tempo of the first half from the tip, starting the last period with a 15-point lead 42-27.

The second half started with almost every seat in the bleachers taken. The Cougars attacked the hoop and got Chemeketa to foul early. Clackamas was taking bonus free throws after only five minutes of second-half play.

Cougar Ben Moen-Arnold had a big second half; 14 of his team-leading 17 points came in the final twenty minutes of play.

The only dunk attempted in the game came in the second half. Starting post Evan Keiling of Clackamas missed a two-handed flush that would have put salt in to the cut that was the Storm's effort.

The Storm did elevate their play, however it came to late. Chemeketa, using a full court defense, did push within 10 points with 1:01 to play, but the Chemeketa team could not keep the Cougars off the foul line.

Eleven players scored for the Cougars, a tremendous display of unselfish basketball and good ball movement. The Cougars were able to come away with a key win. The 48 bench points proves that players 1-12 on the Clackamas basketball team have got game. A fourteen-point victory proved that in the land of giants that is college basketball, the bigger team does not always win.



PETE FORD Clackamas Print

Freshman guard (#10) Brandon Gill throws up a lay-in as he is tackled to the floor by a Chemeketa defender.

Women's basketball stumbles, gets right back up

Tina Tate
Staff Writer

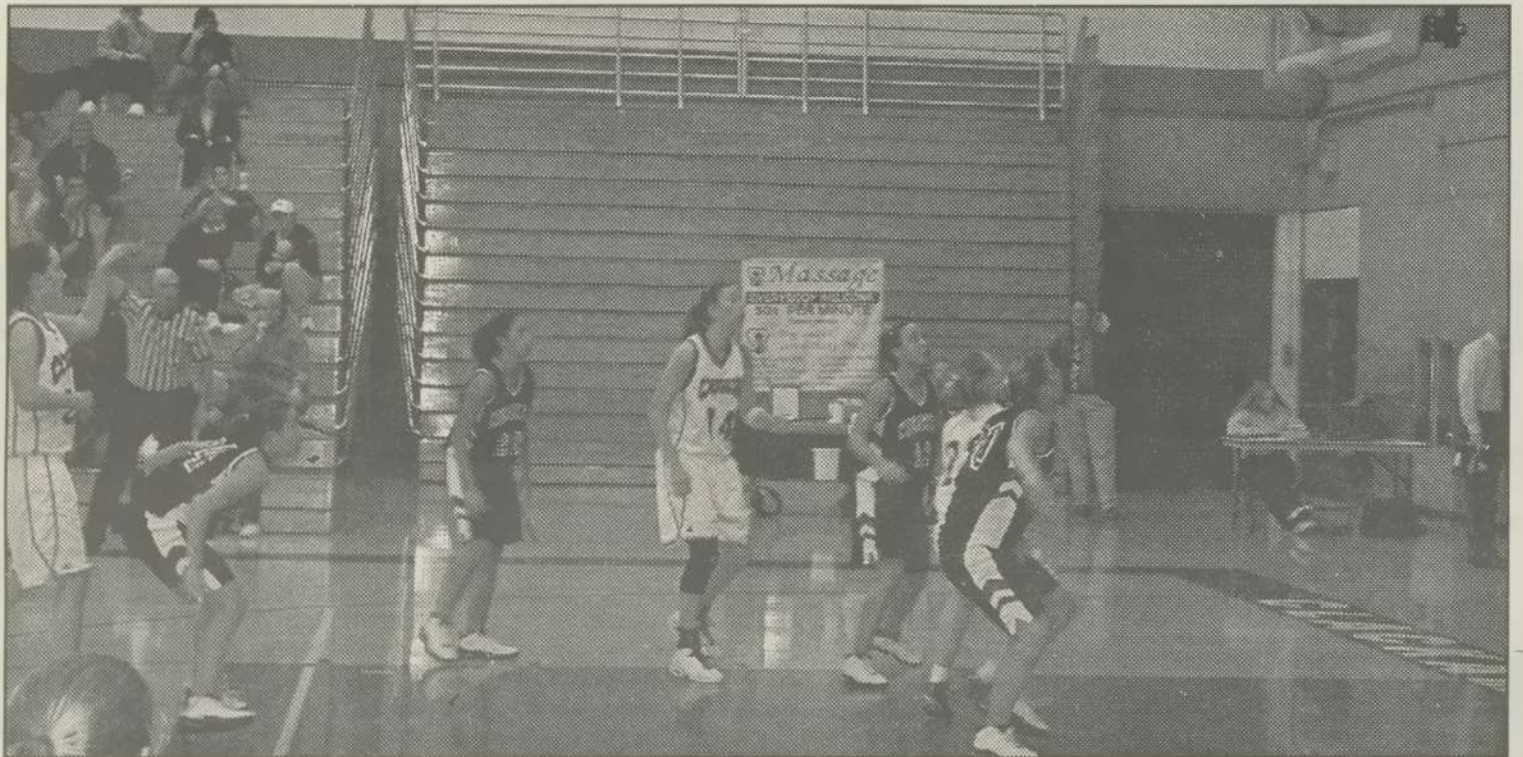
The Lady Cougars fell to Chemeketa CC last Wednesday, but resumed their winning ways the following Saturday against Linn-Benton CC.

In a disappointing defeat, the Lady Cougars lost at home 83-70 to the Chemeketa Storm. Entering the game with identical 2-0 league and 13-1 overall records, both teams were striving to advance in the Southern Region playoff chase. Clackamas commanded early, taking a 19-7 lead in the first ten minutes, but the Storm came back with a fury, capturing a 21-20 lead with eight minutes remaining in the first half.

Chemeketa's full-court press into a half-court zone produced 15 Clackamas turnovers in the first half. Nonetheless, Clackamas reclaimed a 40-39 lead heading into the locker room.

Chemeketa regained control after halftime, though Clackamas was able to keep within six points for the majority of the second half. By the time only 8:40 remained in the game, Chemeketa had built a 64-54 lead and never looked back.

"We were at times two different teams out there," said Head Coach Jim Martineau. "At times we looked really good going through their press and getting buckets...When we attacked them and got the ball inside a little bit, and moved it around a little bit, we got easy shots. When we struggled, a lot of it was just that we were against the clock so much because we took so long to get



PETE FORD Clackamas Print

Freshman forward Somer Erickson shows the crowd just how easy a free throw can look when you have good form.

the ball down the floor."

Clackamas turned the ball over 31 times in the game, including 19 steals by Chemeketa. Chemeketa scored 38 points off turnovers.

"We're just shooting ourselves in the foot when we turn it over," Martineau said. "The way we look at it, 31 turnovers is 31 shots we don't get. So, I look at it and think, 'If we had taken better care of the basketball, then we win that ball game.' It was a big game and we need to win at home, and we didn't get that done. That was probably the most frustrating part about it."

"The way we look at it, 31 turnovers is 31 shots we don't get."

Jim Martineau
Head Coach
Women's Basketball

Clackamas capitalized on its next opportunity, claiming a 74-68 road win

at Linn-Benton Community College on Saturday afternoon. Leading Clackamas' offensive attack against Linn-Benton were freshman Somer Erickson and sophomore co-captain Cappie Smith, with 21 and 20 points respectively.

Freshman Lindsay Calmettes collected nine points and eight rebounds. Sophomore co-captain Melissa Gibson had nine points and seven rebounds. Sophomore Morgan Hayes grabbed seven rebounds.

Clackamas will be on the road for its next four games, returning home

Feb. 8 to host Southwestern CC.

In the first NWAACC / Horizon Air Coaches' Poll of the season released Jan. 12, Clackamas received 80 votes for a first place ranking in the conference. Chemeketa was ranked second with 64 votes, and Big Bend was third with 61 votes.

Two other Southern Region schools received votes. Lane CC, currently leading the league with a 4-0 record, received 20 votes for fourth place. Umpqua was ranked seventh with 12 votes. The next poll will take place Feb. 2.