



AMY CASHMAN CLACKAMAS PRINT

Steve Lemma (15), Maycol Rivera (32) and Wes Jensen (12) look on as Ervin Sims (23) rises above the rim and throws down the crowd pleasing jam to end the first half of a Jan. 24 game against Lane CC. Sims scored 12 points and pulled down eight rebounds as Clackamas beat Lane 77-53.

Men's ball on four game winning streak

Frank Jordan
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

Clackamas men's basketball ran their winning streak to four games with a 77-53 victory over Lane CC in the Randall Hall gym last Saturday.

The Cougars got 16 points from Brandon Gill, 12 points and 8 rebounds from Ervin Sims, 10 points from Cole Kieling and 9 points and 6 assists from Alex Swerzbin in the win. Clackamas got off to a slow start in the contest, before using a driving dunk by Sims at the halftime buzzer to give the Cougars a 26-21 halftime lead. The Cougars came out of the locker-room after the half to shoot 61 per-

cent in the second half to blow out Lane.

January 21, Clackamas got 24 points from Gill to lead a balanced attack in the Cougars' 79-68 victory over Portland CC in the Randall gym. CCC also got 21 points and 7 rebounds from Ammon Bemis and 14 points and 8 boards from Sims as the Cougars jumped out to another quick lead at the start and held on for the win.

"We have been inconsistent for most of the season. Our offense is still trying to find its way," said Head Coach Clif Wegner. "We have been hurt and banged up, but we are finally getting everyone healthy and that will

go a long way in determining how far we can go."

The Cougars are currently sporting a 13-5 record overall with a 4-2 mark in the NWAACC Southern Division, tied for second with Chemeketa CC and trailing first place Mt. Hood CC by two games. Clackamas received two votes in the first NWAACC Coaches' Poll on Jan. 18. The next poll is due out on Feb. 8.

Clackamas hosted their own tour-

namment during the winter break from Dec. 28-30, hosting Linn-Benton CC,

"We have been hurt and banged up, but we are finally getting everyone healthy."

Clif Wegner
Men's Basketball Coach

Blue Mountain CC, Mt. Hood CC, Tacoma CC, Linfield College JV team, Lower Columbia College and a team comprised of CCC Alumni. Clackamas defeated Blue Mountain 74-68 and Tacoma 106-73 before falling to Lower Columbia 95-79 in the tournament championship game by a score of 95-79. Gill and Swerzbin were named to

the all-tournament team for their efforts.

"We faced a really nasty road schedule early on and we have survived that and we are trying to work some new players into the lineup," said Wegner. "We have been correcting things in practice and playing harder. We are in the middle of five straight home games and we have to have a good run here. We have Mt. Hood coming up and we need a solid effort in order to get back into the division race."

Tonight, the Cougars host first place Mt. Hood at 7:30 p.m. in the Randall Hall gym. Saturday, Clackamas will host Umpqua CC with game time at 6 p.m. in the Randall gym.

Clackamas Wrestling working towards NJCAA Championships

Sara Atkeson
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

After a season plagued with injuries, the Clackamas wrestling team is struggling to wrestle up to their full potential.

The Cougars participated in a dual meet with Lassen College in the Randall Gym Jan. 16. Three Clackamas wrestlers were out of commission due to injury.

Heavyweight Stan Rodriguez was sidelined with a separated shoulder. One hundred and twenty-five pounder Ben Sevigny was out with knee problems. Sevigny is making a speedy recovery and could be back for the regional tournament. Jimmy Chrisman, at 149 pounds, is done for the season with a separated shoulder.

The highlights of the Lassen meet were the wins achieved by Shawn Siefke and Bridger Sacher.

For Siefke, it was an especially meaningful match. At age 21, this was Siefke's first match at the junior college level. In the 165-pound division, Siefke easily controlled his opponent. He led in points 8-2 in the second round before solidly pinning his opponent.

"I'm glad to see him back on the mat," said Head Wrestling Coach Mike Haluska. "I think he could be a national champion; he's definitely a real good wrestler."

Sacher, at 197 pounds, spent the first round on his feet after several nice setups which all ended out-of-bounds. Round two was nothing but hard shooting and fierce counter attacks ending in an 8-2 Sacher lead. In the final round, Sacher broke his opponent down quickly from the whistle, using strong groundwork and ending with a solid armbars for the win.

According to Haluska, none of these individual meets really matter as much, it's the big show at the NJCAA national championships that really count.

Clackamas hosted the CCC Open Jan. 17. Chris Kidby placed second at 184 pounds. Siefke came in third at 165, conceding in the final round to the defending national champion from Simon Fraser in a one-point match.

Clackamas traveled to Des Moines, Wash., Jan. 21 to compete in a tournament against Pima CC from Tucson, Ariz. They lost the dual against Pima by one point. A contributing factor to the loss was the fact that one wrestler didn't make weight; he was over by two-tenths of a pound.

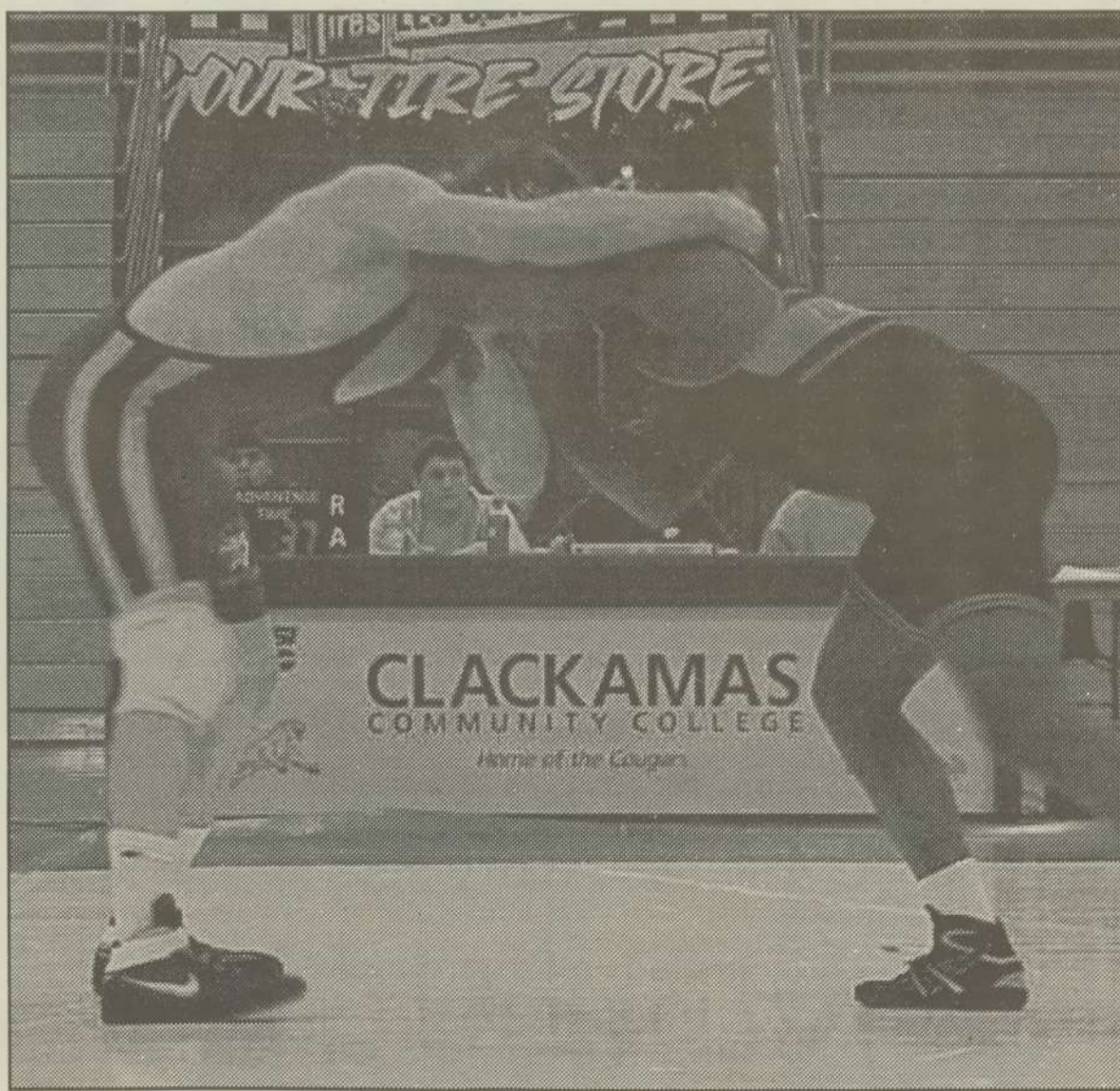
"You could say that we lost (to Pima) by two-tenths of a pound," said Haluska.

January 22, the Cougars drove six hours to Coeur D'Alene, Idaho to wrestle against the second-ranked community college in the nation, North Idaho CC.

"It's really tough to wrestle with a long drive like that. It really didn't seem to affect them," said Haluska.

According to Haluska, North Idaho is a difficult place to wrestle, with knowledgeable fans and loud bands. They turn the lights off, making it a hard atmosphere to wrestle in, but it didn't seem to affect Clackamas, he said.

"We only won three matches out of ten, but they were all real good matches. This is probably the first dual where I felt like they wrestled well, all the way through the lineup both days," said Haluska. "Every wrestler wrestled really well."



SARA ATKESON CLACKAMAS PRINT

Clackamas wrestler Shawn Siefke (left), grapples with his Lassen opponent on Jan. 16.