# Lady Cougs' feel-good season ends abruptly

**Frank Jordan**
*The Clackamas Print*

The Clackamas women's basketball team had a disappointing weekend at the NWAACC championships in Kennewick, Washington, winning their opening game of the tourney, but dropping the next two games to finish out of the trophy hunt at the season-ending tournament.

"I told the girls after it was over that they played pretty well, played their hearts out, but we just didn't get the breaks that we needed," said Head Coach Jim Martineau. "We had some bad calls and some bad bounces. We played good job overall, we just had a tough draw and the girls came up short."

The Cougars opened the tournament with a 78-61 victory over Olympic College Thursday night. Southern Division MVP Charday Hunt led a balanced Cougar attack with 20 points and 10 rebounds while LaToya Hill had 14 points, seven assists and four steals. Kellyn Cooper had 12 points, three steals and three blocked shots, while inside post mate Monique Tribble had 12 points, seven rebounds and three blocks. Kellie Morey had seven points and three assists, and Michelle Reeves had nine points and four steals.

Clackamas shot 42 percent from the field and converted 20-of-30 from the free-throw line for the game, while forcing Olympic to commit 29 turnovers. Olympic was led by Brittany Milne with 17 points, Dominque Simmons with 14 points and Ciera Gero with 11 points and 13 rebounds.

The win moved Clackamas into the quarterfinal round against number two-ranked Yakima Valley CC on Friday and in a wild back-and-forth game, the Lady Yaks prevailed over Clackamas 65-62 to move to the semifinals.

Clackamas did not shoot very well throughout the game, but good defense and some timely made shots kept the game tight. Reeves hit a three-pointer with 22 seconds to go in the game to give Clackamas a two-point lead at 62-60, but Yakima's Elyse Mengarelli hit a big shot at the other end with nine seconds to go and was fouled on the play. Mengarelli hit the free throw to give the Yaks a 63-62 lead. The Cougars missed a shot at the other end, and Mengarelli hit two free throws with two seconds left for the final margin.

Hunt led Clackamas with 14 points and seven rebounds, but only shot 4-17 from the field. Reeves also had 14 points and added four rebounds, while Hill had 12 points, seven rebounds and seven assists. Cooper had a great game in the post for the Cougars with nine points, 17 rebounds and four blocks.

Mengarelli had a game-high 28 points, hitting 17-18 free throws for the victorious Yaks. Tiffanie Ulmer added 11 points for Yakima Valley.

The loss dropped the Cougars into a fourth-place semifinal matchup with division-rival Umpqua CC on Saturday, and in a great offensive game by both teams, the Timberwomen sent Clackamas packing for home with a 98-92 victory.

"Both teams came off the opening tip and shot lights out for pretty much the entire game," said Martineau. "Especially after the halftime break. We tried to keep up, but Umpqua just wouldn't let up. We played pretty good defense throughout, but they got more breaks than we did, and that is tournament basketball."

Hill closed her outstanding Clackamas career with a game-high 33 points on 13-24 shooting, and added five rebounds and five assists. Reeves was right behind Hill with a 32-point effort on 10-19 shooting and had six rebounds. Hunt capped an outstanding freshman season with 15 points and seven rebounds, including shooting 11-12 at the free-throw line. The Cougars shot 30-66 from the field for 46 percent, and converted 26-31 free throws for the game.

Umpqua got 22 points from Ashley Chambers, and all-NWAACC Tournament first-teamer Moina Snyder had 22 points and 10 rebounds as the Timberwomen placed five players in double figures and outrebounded the Cougars by a wide 53-27 margin.

Clackamas ended their season with a 24-6 record, including a 13-1 record in the Southern Division. Co-division champion Lane CC rode that momentum into the NWAACC tournament and defeated Walla Walla CC 77-59 on Sunday to win their first-ever NWAACC championship. Dominque King of Lane was voted tournament MVP.

Clackamas will have three participants in the annual sophomore all-star game this Sunday at Clark College in Vancouver. Hill, Reeves and Morey were selected for this honor.

Harriet Strothers *Clackamas Print*

Freshman Charday Hunt drives past a defender earlier in the season. Hunt was the team leader in points and rebounds.

## Men place eighth in NWAACC Tournament

| Game 1: | Game 2: | Game 3: | Game 4: |
|---|---|---|---|
| Clackamas 69, Bellevue 81. | Clackamas 79, Big Bend 75. | Clackamas 83, Whatcom 71. | Clackamas 82, Centralia 84. |
| ErvinSims- 17 pts. 7 rebs<br>Steven Vaughan- 11 pts. 13 rebs. | Ervin Sims- 25 pts. 12 rebs.<br>David Cernin- 19 pts. | Micah Mooney- 20 pts. 12 rebs.<br>Ervin Sims- 20 pts. | David Cernin 25 pts.<br>Ervin Sims- 19 pts. |

## *arch Madness 101: a beginner's guide*

**ike Guidice**
*ports Editor*

hat special time of the year finally arrived again; one can feel the electricity in the air ee the unbridled excitement ople's faces.

hristmas is nice, with its pres- nd eggnog. Thanksgiving is family time that also offers gs of homemade mashed es and stuffing. The Fourth ly and Halloween are also tes on the calendar, full of ve costumes and flaming orks.

owever, what we have here ger than all of that. Brace elves, ladies and gentlemen rch Madness has returned. ose brackets filled out, it's down, and in a big way.

this time tomorrow the men's basketball tournament will full tilt. Sixty-five teams all ompetition in the first round e same aspirations and goal: in Indianapolis on April 3 National Championship.

OK if you don't know the ce between a Pittsnogle ) and a Southern Illinois ("any of an ancient breed slender dog developed in and Egypt and having a smooth, silky, variously colored coat").

What really matters going into tournament time is that you know a couple basic things that any novice should be able to point out.

The man behind the ugliest facial hair in college basketball is Adam Morrison; he has a pretty sexy game, but his mustache is not GQ.

Gerry McNamara is a little point guard with a big heart. He is extremely clutch when the game is on the line, and shoots well from long-range.

For the past five years at least one number 12 seed has knocked off a number five seed, and never have all four number one seeds reached the Final Four.

Allen Ray plays for Villanova, (not to be mistaken for Ray Allen, although he is good too). Ray almost had his eye poked out last week, luckily for him he has Wolverine-like healing abilities and will play in the tournament. Still, it is something to keep an eye on (pun intended).

Rick Pitino, Bob Knight and Bob Huggin's teams didn't even qualify for the tournament this year, so don't pick them to win.

Nana Papa Yaw Mensah-Bonsu of George Washington has a really long, difficult name, so just refer to him as "Pops." Also, Luc Richard Mbah a Moute of UCLA is another tongue twister, so just know that he won Pac-10 Rookie of the Year.

Super-talent Hassan Adams of Arizona is back and being allowed to participate in the post-season despite possessing just enough intelligence to get caught driving inebriated right before the Pac-10 Tournament.

The Stanford Cardinal is not so fortunate at this point in time. Their mascot, The Tree, was recently cited for drinking under its costume during home games. It's tragic when even foliage begins to need alcohol to survive in college. Their penalty is not even getting invited to the post season. Priorities, people!

I'm sure what everyone really wants to know is my pick to take the trophy and ride off into the sunset with a national championship.

I'm no professional prognosticator, but I'm going to have to go with the Golden Eagles of Oral Roberts. Haven't heard of them? Well that makes two of us.

I figure it's a win-win situation, because if they come through for me, I look like the biggest genius on earth; if they get knocked out on the other hand, say in the first round, I still have my other 10 brackets where I chose the Connecticut team to fall back on.


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