

# Men's basketball excels

**Mike Guidice**  
Sports Editor

The Clackamas men's basketball team has been playing solid thus far this season, especially this month as conference play is beginning. The Cougars are 5-0 in the Western Division after their latest victory, a 92-85 win over Umpqua Saturday. Both teams entered the season unbeaten in league play and participated in what Head Coach Cliff Wegner called a "tough, physical" game throughout.

Brian Freeman led the way in the scoring a game-high 30 points, grabbing 19 boards, seven of which being offensive.

Also worth noting is guard David Lindley's all-around solid performance which he contributed 21 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists.

The Cougars were playing the game that had originally been scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup>, but had to be postponed due to the inclement weather experienced last week.

So far this season, the team has been led by sophomore big man Brian Freeman and a host of guards, including David Cernin, Maurice Ross, Nick Eldridge and Steve Vaughan. Wegner cites these players as being the standout performers this season and a big reason why the team has had such success.

Wegner believes that this team of gifted athletes and talented young men is fully capable of winning the Southern Division and contending for the NWAACC championship come tournament time.

"We play an exciting brand of basketball: very up-tempo and very hard. Anyone who comes to a game will get hooked and be amazed at how good the athletes in our league are," said Wegner.

So, not only are these Cougars winning, but they are entertaining to watch, something that any sports fan can enjoy and truly appreciate.

*\*Come support the Cougs tonight as they play host to Chemeketa at 7:30 in the Randall Hall gym.*

RIGHT:

Sophomore Steven Vaughan gets hacked as he drives hard to the hoop in a game earlier this season. Vaughan's versatility has been a huge asset to the team thus far this season.



All Photos contributed by CCC Athletic Department

LOWER LEFT:

Sophomore Sarah Lindley scraps in the paint for a rebound between two defenders in an earlier game. Lindley previously started for PCC, where she was a real force.



## Women's team overcomes

*The women are hot out the gate, winning four of five in the Southern Division. Despite being ravished by injuries, the team has gelled and continues to improve with every game.*

**Frank Jordan**

The Clackamas Print

The Clackamas women's basketball team, despite injuries to two key players, has started off Southern Division playing very strong, jumping out to a 4-1 division record.

Last Sunday, the Cougars played a make-up game with Umpqua CC and got balanced scoring and solid team defense to defeat the Lady Timberwolves 71-54. Freshman Rachel Copeland led the Cougars with 19 points, and she hauled in six rebounds. Sophomore Kellyn Cooper had 16 points and a game-high 11 rebounds, while freshman point

guard Kelsey New had 14 points. The Cougars had a seven-point lead at the halftime break and used a big run early in the second half to break the game open.

"Our players have had to step up their games, since Charday Hunt went out," said Head Coach Jim Martineau. "We played well on Sunday against Umpqua; our defense was solid all game long."

Leading scorer Charday Hunt has been lost for the season due to recurring problems with a hernia she suffered early in the season. Sophomore post Monique Tribble has been out most of the season with various injuries, but is expected back any day now. This will help the Cougars out in the stretch run as they look to make another bid for a NWAACC championship.

"We haven't been scoring as well as we have in the past, but the girls realize that their defense is going to have to get better for us to win ballgames," said Martineau. "We have been finding ways to win games. We had an excellent road win at Linn-Benton CC, to open the league season, and have played really well since. We played well at Lane CC last Saturday; we just ran out of gas (a 79-61 loss)."

Copeland leads the team with a 15.3 points-per-game average, while Cooper is averaging 13.1 ppg, and New is throwing in 12.3 points per game. Cooper is also leading the team in rebounding, hauling in 10.2 rebounds per game. The team is shooting about 40 percent as a team from the floor and 67 percent from the foul line.

Clackamas is currently tied for second in the Southern Division with Chemeketa CC with a 4-1 record, trailing Lane by a game in the standings. The Cougars play their next three games at home, beginning with the Chemeketa Lady Chiefs tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the Randall Hall gym. Clackamas will take on Linn-Benton on Saturday at 4 p.m., also in the Randall Hall gym.

## The good, the bad and the ugly

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Sports Editor

The Good: The Ducks men's basketball team is playing excellently. After beating perennial Pac-10 powerhouses UCLA (number 1 at the time) and Arizona (in the desert) earlier this season, the Ducks have continued to win within the conference and sit atop the standings, tied with the Bruins at 6-1 in league play (18-1 overall).

Next up is a tough road trip that begins Thursday at U Dub with potential Pac-10 Player Of The Year Aaron Brooks sitting on the bench serving the last of his three-game suspension for throwing a 'bow at Ryan Appleby's face in the Pac-10 Tournament last season.

The team's recent success makes one forget about the bad taste that was left in all our mouths by that other team the Ducks have that plays at Autzen Stadium ... well, almost.

Other notable good things: Da Bears are going to the Super Bowl! Being a native Chicagoan, yet a completely loyal Packers fan, I am more than a little torn. Peyton Manning will also be in attendance at the big game in Miami, something that is long overdue. Manning has been an elite quarterback in the league for almost a decade, but has never reached the Super Bowl - until now. Colts O vs. Bears D, Feb. 4, it's going down.

Lastly, the Blazers are very entertaining, and if you haven't been to a game this year, shame on you. The Rose Garden isn't exactly back to 'Rip City' status, but the team plays hard (usually) and scraps with the best of them. The rookie trio of Brandon Roy (leading candidate for Rookie of the Year), LaMarcus Aldridge and Sergio "Spanish Chocolate" Rodriguez continues to impress and give hope for the future.

Also, it seems as if Zach Randolph is finally spending more time working on his post moves and less time chasing hookers, handling guns and street racing. Kudos to Zeebo for acting right; he deserves to be an all-star with the numbers he has consistently been putting up.

The Bad: Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick has apparently not learned from brother Marcus' mishaps on, and off the field. Vick was recently stopped by airport security in Miami for having a suspicious water bottle. I know, sounds ridiculous, but after further inspection, a secret compartment was found behind the label; the compartment apparently contained a black particulate consistent with the smell of marijuana. Criminal charges aren't going to be filed, apparently because lab tests couldn't find significant evidence of the drug.

Regardless, the underachieving quarterback, recently the recipient of \$130 million dollar contract, continues to disappoint his team and Falcons fans.

My thoughts on the whole ordeal? Vick was too stoned to realize he was carrying his homemade bong through airport security.

The Ugly: Watching the undersized Ducks get seemingly every shot rejected during a recent win over the Stanford Trees. The brothers Lopez made already diminutive-sized Tajuan Porter look like Vem Troyer trying to climb Oregon's own great Sitka Spruce.

Lastly, someone should have Mike Tyson deported to Bahrain to be with Michael Jackson; now, that would truly be a thriller.

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