

# Cougars win streak at 12

**Mike Guidice**

Sports Editor

Last Wednesday, Clackamas' men's team completely dominated an overmatched Portland CC team that continues to play less-than-inspired basketball.

The Cougars, playing at home, won the game by a final score of 99-70, and it wasn't even that close. Clackamas implemented a full-court press most of the game and forced the seemingly sloppier-every-second Panthers into 20 turnovers, 10 of those coming in the form of steals.

"It was bad enough to where I thought maybe we shouldn't be pressing," Head Coach Cliff Wegner said.

The only highlight for PCC was a desperation half-court heave that went in right as the first half ended. However, even that was not enough to give the Panthers a fighting shot.

Steve Vaughan led the CCC sharpshooters with 18 points, while Nick Eldridge chipped in with 16 and David Cernin came away with

15. Brian Freeman contributed a quiet double-double with 12 points and 12 boards.

If nothing else, the one-sided affair gave Clackamas the opportunity to go deep into their bench and get game-time experience for everyone on their roster, a significant aspect of the game that was not lost on Coach Wegner.

On Saturday, the men defeated Umpqua CC by a score of 97-83, extending their winning streak to 12 games and staying perfect in league play at 9-0 in the process.

"We knew it would be a tough game; we expected that from them. It was very physical and hard-fought," said Wegner.

The game Saturday was a night of milestones for the Cougars. The program accomplished winning at least 20 games for the seventh consecutive season, which in turn guaranteed them a postseason appearance for the seventh consecutive year as well.

Umpqua finished the first half strong and cut Clackamas' lead down to four. Coach Wegner was unhappy about the turn of events and called this "the worst possible scenario."

Clackamas responded in the second half and once again controlled the pace of the game as they executed their up-tempo style to perfection.

The Cougars finished the game on a 30-11 run that was highlighted by huge all-around performances by David Cernin (31 pts., 5/7 on threes), Brian Freeman (12 pts., 17 rebounds and 10 assists) and Steven Vaughan (16 pts. and 8 rebounds).

"It was a tremendous run; Umpqua was exhausted, and it looked like we were better conditioned," Wegner cited.

Tonight in Gresham, Clackamas puts their undefeated league standing up against second-place Mt. Hood CC. Tip-off is set for 7:30 p.m.

The team returns home on Saturday to play another heated rival in Southwestern Oregon CC. Earlier this season, Clackamas defeated them on the road in front of what Wegner referred to as a "very hostile crowd." He encourages everyone to come out and support the Cougars as they try and keep the streak alive while enjoying some home cookin'.



**Mike Guidice**

Sports Editor

*The Good:*

So, my Super Bowl prediction ended up being fairly accurate. My educated guess was that it would end with a final score of 21-17 in the Colts' favor. While my family in the Windy City is less than chipper about everything, I'm pretty content.

Peyton Manning finally got his much deserved ring, thereby establishing himself as one of the elite quarterbacks who has ever played the game.

Devin Hester, the Bears' all-world return man, proceeded to take the opening kickoff and take it to the house. Never has a special team's players been such a weapon. Despite being on the losing end, Hester at least deserves my personal arbitrary kudos.

The Colts' victory assured them that they would not be heading to the glue factory, but will be visiting the land of Disney instead. Good for them.

Other great news from the wonderful world of sports includes my personal savior, Brett "Iron Man" Favre, announcing that he is returning to the Packers for at least one more season. The day he finally ends his career is the day I will probably end my life; I have long since accepted this as a fact.

In college basketball, "Rivalry Week" is here. The week's headliner is undoubtedly #5 UNC playing at #16 Duke. The contest is set for 6 p.m. on ESPN; watch the Cameron crazies cry when the Tar Heels reign victorious.

*The Bad:*

Hockey. Despite being borderline exciting live (when they fight, or in the rare instance that they score a goal), hockey is not one of the big three sports in America and more than likely never will be.

While it is huge in Canada, in the U.S., it will never surpass the popularity or big market success that football, baseball and basketball experience.

Back to college ball: The Duckies recently lost three out of four games on a relentless road trip. While the game at U Dub was lost in large part due to the absence of Aaron Brooks, UCLA and USC simply took advantage of a feeble Oregon defense.

Luckily for the green machine, they host five out of their last seven games. Here's to hoping that the Mac Court mystique can propel the Ducks back to the top of the Pac-10 standings where they belong.

*The Ugly:*

Prince, Rex Grossman, and the guy with the beard comb-over from the Sierra Mist Super Bowl ad all top the list.

Okay, so I understand that Prince was once considered one of the greatest performers of all time, but come on, the dude couldn't have been more out of place at the Super Bowl. Wearing a purple suede suit and heels, he must have made Bob Dylan shudder as he covered his classic hit, "All Along the Watchtower."

Gay, straight, or just an alien from Neptune, Prince did not belong at the Super Bowl, and his performance was just ... weird.

Rex Grossman quite simply sucks, and the guy on the Sierra Mist commercial was an abomination; you had to appreciate the bid, though. Most people couldn't look that ugly if they tried.

## Lady Cougs win, improve league record to 7-2

**Frank Jordan**

The Clackamas Print

The Clackamas women's basketball team swept their two opponents off the face of the hoops planet last week with blowout wins over Portland CC and Umpqua CC.

Last Wednesday, the Cougars hosted the PCC Panthers in the Randall Hall gym and used 43 percent shooting and a distinct rebound advantage to blow out their undermanned opponent 79-49.

Rachel Copeland led CCC with 22 points, hitting 4-9 from three-point range, while former PCC starter and current Clackamas standout Sarah Lindley pummeled her former team with 21 points on 9-12 shooting from the field. Kellyn Cooper added 11 points and a game-high 15 rebounds from her post position as she led a 50-38 rebound advantage for the Cougars.

Krystal Saling led the Panthers with 13 points, while Erica Moore tallied 10 points; both girls well below their almost 20 points-per-game averages on the season. Clackamas held the Panthers to 28 percent shooting for the game and forced 23 turnovers.

"Portland has played teams very well lately this season, so for us to come in and play as well as we did was a pleasant surprise," said Head Coach Jim Martineau. "Sarah (Lindley) put on a shooting clinic against her former team; it seemed like every shot she took never even touched the iron. It was a great performance and mirrored the entire team."

Saturday, the Cougars traveled to Roseburg to take on the always-tough-at-home Umpqua

Riverhawks, and after a slow start, Clackamas got the running game going and never looked back in an easy 90-54 pasting of Umpqua.

"We took care of the ball (only 15 turnovers), and we killed them on the glass (a 56-47 rebounding edge, including 23 offensive rebounds)," said Martineau. "Even though we shot pretty poorly, it allowed us to throw up a season-high number of shots (85 field-goal attempts). If we hit half our shots and more free throws, we could have won by 70."

Umpqua jumped out to a quick 8-1 lead in the first two minutes, but after a timeout, the Cougars went on a 23-2 run to take command of the game. Clackamas took a 38-18 lead into the halftime locker room and never looked back, despite 34 percent shooting in the first half, including 1-16 from three-point territory.

Copeland again led the Cougars' balanced scoring attack with 26 points, nine rebounds and four steals, while Cooper had 17 points and a game-high 14 boards. Freshman guard Kelsey New garnered her first collegiate double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds, while Vanessa Schmitz had 14 points and three steals. Lindley contributed 14 points and had seven steals.

Clackamas shot 38 percent from the floor and forced the Riverhawks into 33 turnovers, while holding Umpqua to 33 percent shooting. Amanda Johnston led Umpqua with 18 points, while Marissa Towry had 10 points and 11 rebounds.

A big week awaits Clackamas as the

Cougars travel to Gresham on Wednesday to take on the Mt. Hood CC Lady Saints and then come home on Saturday to take on Southwestern Oregon CC in a 4 p.m. game in the Randall Hall gym.

The Cougars are alone in second place in the Southern Division standings with a league record of 7-2, just one game ahead of both Chemeketa CC and Linn-Benton CC.



Sophomore guard Sarah Lindley goes up for a rebound in a previous game this season.

Jeff Sorensen Clackamas Print

## Wrestling team pins Pacific; regional tourney up next

**Sam Krause**

Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Cougar wrestling team continued their winning season with a dual-meet victory over Pacific University, bringing their record in duals to 8-4.

Brian Jacobs (125) and John Bates (285) took first in their brackets. Coach Josh Rhoden (174) wrestled unattached to place first in his division.

Jacobs started in the second round, after a bye against Pacific's Jaren Luke, defeating his opponent in a fall at :41 seconds. He continued his winning streak in the next round, taking out Justin Phelps, also from Pacific, winning a major decision 17-5. Jacobs defeated Jared Delgleish in the final match by a score of 7-4 to win the 125-133 weight bracket for the Cougars.

Shane Rhoden also participated in the 125-133 weight bracket, winning his first two matches by fall, but coming up short in his remaining two events to place third.

Bates started his meet with a win over Oregon State's unattached wrestler Charlie Alexander by a score of 6-5. After a second round bye, Bates beat Pacific's Mike Weir by a fall in 2:40. Bates' last two matches

were won by scores of 6-4 and 14-6 to bring Clackamas another bracket win.

"We got off to a great start," said Coach Rhoden. "[Bates] has had a solid year." Bates is currently the number-one seed in NJCAA Region 18 with a record of 22-8.

Coach Rhoden also competed against his alma mater to take first in the 174-pound weight bracket. Rhoden took on Jake Reynolds (Pacific) and won with a score of 21-5. In the second round, Rhoden took another win against unattached Joe Maumoyvier by a score of 21-11 to take first place.

Not seen at the dual were Sam Schmitz and Alex Bubb.

"A lot of wrestlers defaulted to take care of injuries," said Rhoden. "[The dual] was kind of a tune-up for us."

Schmitz is ranked number four in the NJCAA coaches' poll. He has a 10-0 record against other community college athletes and a 14-6 record over wrestlers from four-year schools, including Oregon, Oregon State, Boise State and Portland State.

Bubb took fourth last year at the Region 18 tournament.

The NJCAA Region 18 tournament is Feb. 10 at 10 a.m. at Yakima Valley Community College.



Contributed by Tracy Swisher

Alex Bubb has his way with the opposition during a home meet vs. Menlo College on Jan. 19. Bubb won by a fall over Mike Wheeler. Bubb, a sophomore, wrestles in the 165-pound weight class. Last year, he finished fourth at the Region 18 Tournament, qualifying for nationals.