

Lady Cougs to be tested early

Frank Jordan

The Clackamas Print

The Clackamas women's basketball team wrapped up the 2006-07 regular season with a closer-than-expected victory over Portland CC last Wednesday and locked down the number two seed from the Southern Division for the upcoming NWAACC tournament this weekend at the Toyota Center in Kennewick, Wash.

The Cougars played a good first half against the Panthers and took a 38-31 lead into the half-time break. But CCC went scoreless in the first five minutes of the second half to allow PCC back into the game. The game was nip-and-tuck the rest of the way as the Cougars kept the lead between three and five points for most of the rest of the game.

Clackamas had a 61-60 lead with two minutes left before Vanessa Schmitz buried a huge three from the corner to give the Cougars a four-point lead they would not relinquish, and CCC held on for the 69-63 victory.

Kelsey New led the Cougars with 19 points, including 5-11 from three-point range. Sarah Lindley burned her former teammates from PCC, scoring 18 points on 7-13 shooting, and Rachel Copeland tallied 16 points and grabbed nine rebounds. Schmitz had nine points and seven rebounds, while post Kellyn Cooper had five points and a game-high 12 rebounds.

Krystal Saling led the Panthers with 16 points, and Anne Waibel followed with 13 points. Clackamas shot 43 percent from the field and out-rebounded Portland 37-36 in the win.

Next up for the Cougars is a first-round NWAACC tournament match-up with Walla Walla CC. Walla Walla is one of the hotter teams in the NWAACC at the moment, having won their last seven games, and is one of the more interesting match-ups for the Cougars on the season.

"Walla Walla is hot right now; they are a very solid team and are extremely well-coached," said Head Coach Jim Martineau. "We will have to defend well and score the basketball to have any chance. It will be interesting to see if we have what it takes to make some noise in the tournament."

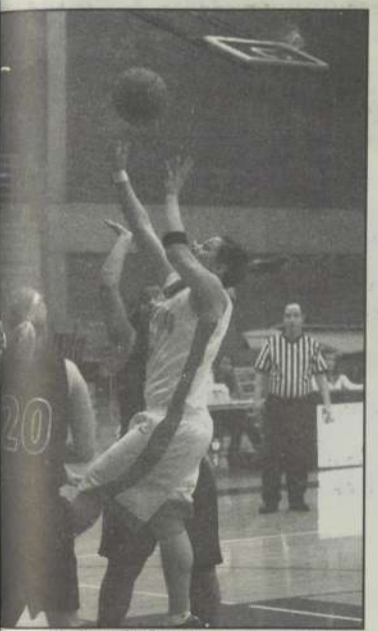
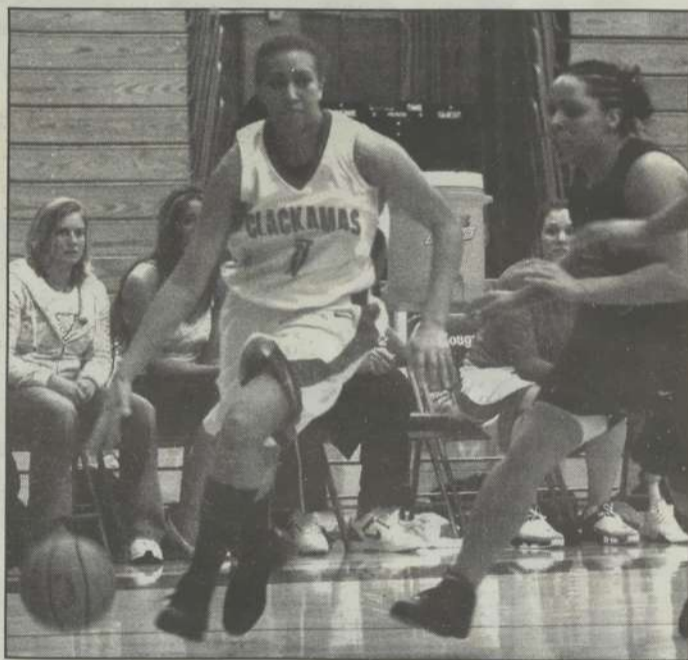
Clackamas opens the NWAACC tournament at noon tomorrow at the Toyota Center in Kennewick. Follow the tournament by going online to www.nwaacc.org, or contact the Athletic Department for game and ticket information. The tournament runs tomorrow through Sunday.

TOP LEFT: Forward Stefanie Pool squares up for a jumper.

BOTTOM LEFT: Rachel Copeland throws up a shot in the lane.

TOP RIGHT: Sophomore Kellyn Cooper attempts to ward off the pressure as she positions herself in the post.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Vanessa Schmitz dribble-drives while the opposition attempts to keep up.



All photos by Sam Krause Clackamas Print

Drexler to dance; Pacman gobbles up money, strippers



Mike Guidice
Sports Editor

The Good:
Spring training is starting up, signifying the official return of America's national pastime. Some major headlines this season will be how the long-suffering Cubs fair after spending an upwards of \$300 million on ex-Mariners pitcher Lou Piniella and a host of players highlighted by the biggest

free agent name, Alfonso Soriano. Also, Bond's race for the all-time homerun record, that no one, including myself, wants to see him break. Will the Mariners compete? Probably not, but it's not like I have ever really followed them, so for the sake of their fans, here's to hoping I'm wrong. Freddie Jones is back in his native land, as he is now a Portland Trailblazer. He became a part of the team after the Blazers traded guard Juan Dixon to the Toronto Raptors. The trade to bring Freddy home (he attended Barlow High School and the University of Oregon) headlined an otherwise dull trading deadline last Thursday. Jones has the size and defensive prowess that the diminutive shooting guard Dixon was lacking, and

should be able to contribute to the team's second unit immediately. **The Bad:** Tennessee Titan "Pacman" Jones is simply out of control. I truly hope that the NFL does in fact implement a three strikes policy from here on out. For the eighth time in the last two years, Jones showered the strippers with the police, this time for allegedly assaulting a stripper during the NBA All Star weekend in Vegas. Jones showered the strippers with over \$80,000, but claimed it was just for "visual effect." The strippers' promoter didn't see it this way, however, and told the strippers to collect the money. Upon witnessing this, Jones became enraged and the proverbial poop really hit the fan.

It pains me to say this, but I agree with ESPN's Skip Bayless: Athletes and night clubs are generally a disastrous combination. In other discouraging news, Jerry Glanville seems set to become the next coach of Portland State's football team. I've never been a fan of the obnoxious southerner, and I'm sorry, but a cowboy in Portland—that is something that no Oregonian should have to tolerate. **The Ugly:** Within a one-week span, I've witnessed two of the most grotesque in-game sports injuries. If seeing Dwyane Wade carted off in a wheelchair in tears wasn't enough as it is, during the Wisconsin Ohio State match-up over the weekend, junior forward Brian Butch sustained a dislocated, fractured elbow. He could be seen screaming in excruciating pain as the team doctor tried to reset the elbow, tending to the player while he was still on the bench. Butch is expected to miss the remainder of the season. In the NBA, Clippers guard Shaun Livingston suffered a dislocated knee cap after coming down hard from a lay-up attempt, landing in a contorted manner. Livingston could be seen writhing on the court in pain. He too is expected to miss the rest of the season. Last but not least, it appears the pride of Portland, Clyde Drexler is making a comeback; unfortunately, it's to *Dancing With The Stars*. This hurts me worse than any physical injury I could sustain. I think.