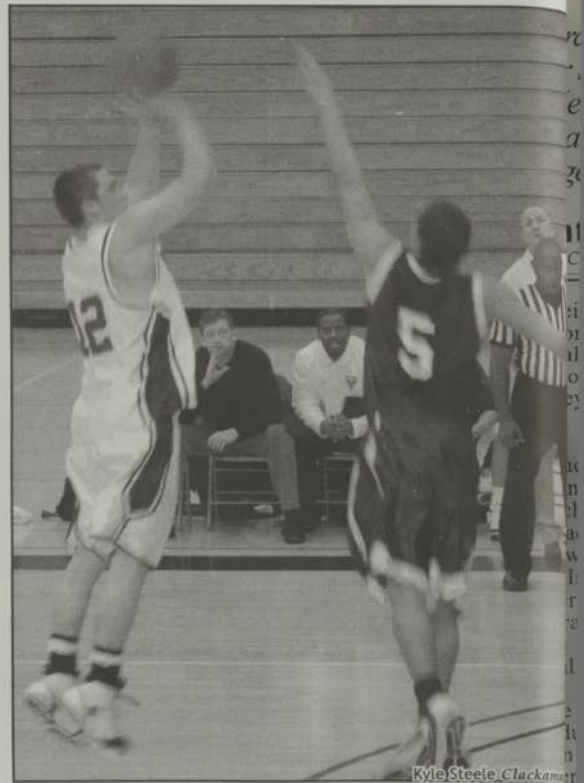


# Cougars race to stay in place



*The men's and women's basketball teams, after having a week of ups and downs, now face a struggle to qualify for the NWAACCs*

**Megan Koler**

Editor in Chief

After a mixed week of games, both men's and women's basketball are now in battle to qualify for the NWAACC championships.

The teams triumphed at their home games last Wednesday. The men defeated Portland Community College 86-78. The women completely dominated over Portland with a 28-point lead, winning 80-52.

But unfortunately, while the two teams won together, they lost together as well. In Albany,

the men and women each lost to Linn-Benton Community College. The men lost 77-78, and the women were defeated 63-73.

The NWAACC championships – hosted in Kennewick, Wash., from Feb. 28 to March 2 – only admit the top four teams in the league.

Currently, the women's team is in fourth place, with three games left to play. Their standings are 6-5 in league play and 16-9 in season play.

The men are in a little better shape, in third place. Their standings are 7-4 in league play and 15-11 in season.

Both the men's and women's teams will face off against Mt. Hood Community College in a home game today. The women will play at 5:30 p.m., and the men at 7:30 p.m., in the Randall Gym.

The teams' next games will be Feb. 15 in Coos Bay against Southwestern. The women will play at 4 p.m., and the men will play at 6 p.m.



TOP LEFT: Point guard Ashley Cunningham, left, struggles to remain open as fellow teammate Jill Niebergall, No. 5, looks for someone to pass to.

TOP RIGHT: JC Cook, No. 12, shoots a three-pointer over Ty Houghton, No. 5.

RIGHT: Toni Davis Fields, No. 21, and Clackamas player Monique Tribble, No. 32, struggle over the ball after falling to the court.

BELOW RIGHT: Sophomore Jeff Segó, No. 10, pushes the ball down the court at home on Feb. 6.

BELOW LEFT: Clackamas' Quincy Alexander, No. 23, defends Shawn West, No. 12, of Portland Community College.

Today, Clackamas will play Mt. Hood at home.

In their last meeting, CCC's men's and women's teams both beat Mt. Hood in Gresham with a final score of 71-57 for the men and 61-53 for the women.

