

Another game in the bank, next?

Jeff DeVilliers

The Clackamas Print

Good basketball is good basketball, and that is exactly what the men's team at Clackamas Community College is playing. The history of success and promise of more is not the focus of this team. The motto is simple - next game.

Still, it's hard to ignore the amazing success the team is having, currently ranked number one in the entire Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges, and standing 14-2 overall, 2-0 in league play. It's no wonder everyone is saying that this is a fun year. Or perhaps the team is doing so well because they are all having fun.

Coach Cliff Wegner believes that to be the case.

"My team plays better because they have fun," said Wegner.

That is obvious when you watch this team. They are having fun, and they like playing this game with each other. The team

plays a gelled game, they know each other, they know the game - it's all down to an art. At this point, the team is playing like true artists.

A big factor to this is most likely the unity of the team. On and off the court the team clicks well together. Whether it be a turkey dinner at Coach Wegner's house, or goofing off on the road, this team knows how to play. They know how to have fun.

Zach Wilde, a freshman on the team, said he likes the team because of the atmosphere. "It's way better than like in high-school," he said.

But being ranked number one apparently isn't the focus of anyone on the team.

"You can't live in the past, you can't look ahead too far either," Wilde said. "Being ranked number

one puts a target on your back." Next game.

Sophomore guard Austin Dunn echoed this sentiment. "It's one game at a time, but we're all good friends here. It makes a difference."

Over winter break the Cougars took down Tacoma at the Holiday Tourney, breaking their undefeated record and stealing the thunder of the then ranked best team in the league. The tourney MVP J.C. Cook scored 22 points, took 6 rebounds and 3 steals. Chehales Tapscott also was a tourney pick with 15 rebounds, 14 points, and 3 blocked shots. Tapscott is currently

leading the league in scoring and in rebounding.

Couch Wegner is feeling very confident, with good reason, this year. "They know they can beat

"My team plays better because they have fun."

Cliff Wegner
Head Coach
Men's Basketball



Jessica Foster Clackamas

Forward Scott Martin, left, and starting Guard J.C. Cook, right, play a little defense against MHCC in Randall G. Jan. 14. The Cougs beat out the Saints with a score of 100 and are ranked number one in the Southern Region

anyone in the Northwest. That's not cocky, that's knowledge." Next game.

For more information on the

games against Mt. Hood Linn-Benton CC, see scores below.

Everyone's friend shoots last hoop

Sam Krause

The Clackamas Print

Jim Worden, associate head coach of the men's basketball team, passed away December 17, 2008, after a year-long battle with cancer.

After coaching at Oregon City High School, Worden and head coach Cliff Wegner worked at Mt. Hood Community College and in 1998, took over at Clackamas Community College.

Worden and Wegner coached three teams to the NWAACC Championships.

After 25 years of coaching together, Wegner said he never made a decision without talking with Worden first.

"Everyone respected his knowledge," said Jim Martineau, head coach of the women's basketball team.

"A great coach," said Martineau. "But that's pretty small compared to the person he was."

During Worden's 41-year coaching career, he was a "meticulous" history teacher for 25 years, a technology specialist for Clackamas ESD and worked as a contractor on the side.

Worden coached football, swimming, cross-country and basketball.

"Teaching a kid is more important than winning a game," said Wegner. "Take it

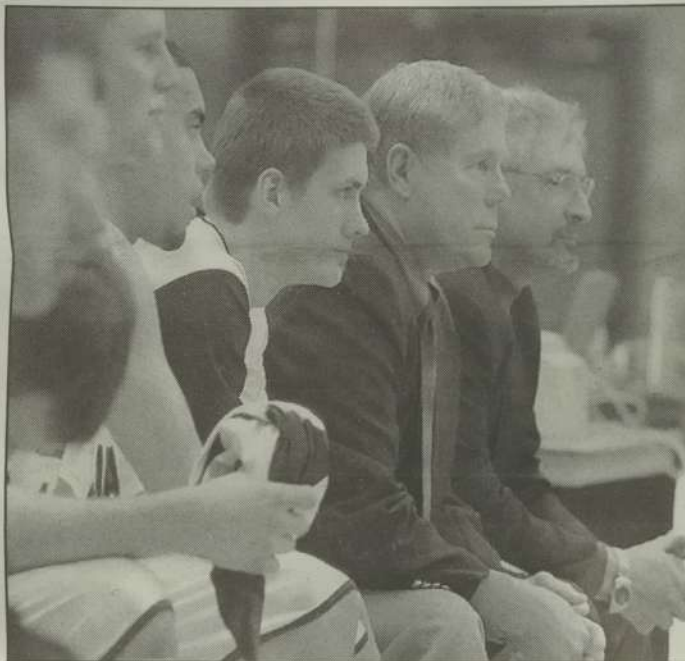


Photo contributed by Tracy Swisher

Associate Head Coach Jim Worden, second from right, sitting with Head Coach Cliff Wegner, far right, and part of the 2007 NWAACC Men's Basketball Champions.

one game at a time."

As the instructor for the college's basketball program, Worden included everyone. According to Martineau, after a few weeks of class, novices and college athletes were drilling and playing pickup games together.

"He made everyone feel okay," Martineau said. "It didn't matter who you were.

He liked to help people."

Worden never stopped learning. He was good to see on a bad day to get a laugh or a smile, and his word was as good as gold.

"He had a moral standard that he lived by," Wegner said. "I never worked with a better teacher. I never worked with a better man. I never had a better friend."

A scholarship fund has been set up to honor the memory of Jim Worden. If anyone would like to make a contribution, please send it to:



The Jim Worden Memorial Scholarship Fund
18835 S. Rose Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97045

Cougar Scoreboard

Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball
<p>January 7, 2009</p> <p>Clackamas (83) 1-0 Dorman 5-12 8-10 19, Tapscott 8-9 0-3 16, Wilde 4-8 1-2 10, Cook 6-15 2-2 16, Dunn 4-10 10-11 19, Totals 28-60 22-32 83.</p> <p>Chemeketa (65) 0-1 Derry 7-13 4-6 20, Gary 3-9 3-6 9, Boucher 2-9 0-0 5, Berger 3-12 2-4 9, Richardson 0-0 2-2 2, Martin 2-8 5-8 11, Totals 22-64 17-28 65.</p> <p>January 10, 2009</p> <p>Clackamas (112) 2-0 Dorman 4-11 1-3 9, Tapscott 8-9 3-5 19, Wilde 3-5 1-2 8, Cook 11-16 3-4 28, Dunn 8-13 6-6 22, Totals 44-71 16-23 112.</p> <p>Southwestern (84) 0-2 McBride 1-5 3-4 5, Demith 2-11 0-0 6, Flynn 8-13 0-0 20, King 7-13 7-13 21, Leman 2-4 4-7 8, Totals 28-60 19-32 84.</p> <p>January 14, 2009</p> <p>Mt. Hood (90) 1-2 Jones 3-16 6-7 12, Mortensen 6-8 0-0 13, Wohlers 3-14 0-0 7, Johnson 8-17 6-10 23, Strasburg 2-6 0-0 5, Totals 33-83 17-23 90.</p> <p>Clackamas (100) 3-0 Dorman 9-16 5-11 26, Tapscott 10-16 3-6 23, Wilde 4-7 1-2 9, Cook 7-13 2-2 18, Dunn 6-7 6-8 18, Totals 39-66 17-29 100.</p> <p>January 16, 2009</p> <p>Linn-Benton (77) 3-1 Sundquist 3-8 5-8 14, Christie 4-13 2-4 10, Carter 6-9 2-4 14, Rucinsky 2-6 6-7 10, Teusch 2-5 0-0 4, Totals 22-58 29-37 77.</p> <p>Clackamas (90) 4-0 Dorman 4-10 2-4 12, Tapscott 15-25 3-5 33, Wilde 3-7 0-0 6, Cook 6-12 2-2 15, Dunn 4-5 6-7</p>	<p>January 7, 2009</p> <p>Clackamas (70) 1-0 Fetters 4-7 0-0 8, St. Paul 0-0 17, Peterson 5-11 7-7 17, ell 4-15 0-0 11, Duty 2-11 0-0 4, Totals 25-73 14-15 70.</p> <p>Chemeketa (40) 0-1 Cox 1-1 0-0 2, Wellstead 0, Harris 3-7 0-0 6, Totals 2-6 40.</p> <p>January 10, 2009</p> <p>Clackamas (87) 2-0 Fetters 5-9 0-0 14, St. Paul 4 17, Peterson 10-17 0-3 20, ell 3-13 6-6 14, Duty 5-12 0-0 11, Totals 31-76 13-25 87.</p> <p>Southwestern (56) 0-2 Eng 4-11 3-4 11, Brazier 2-2 8, Richardson 2-7 0-0 4, ley 0-1 0-0 0, Sommers 3, Toatlas 22-60 10-18 56.</p> <p>January 14, 2009</p> <p>Mt. Hood (50) 1-2 Campbell 5-6 0-0 14, ham 1-7 2-4 4, Bahme 4-10 0-0 10, Melonson 4-17 2-2 10, S 3-6 9, Totals 18-64 10-18 50.</p> <p>Clackamas (67) 3-0 Fetters 13-17 1-1 30, 2-9 0-0 5, Peterson 5-14 0-0 10, Powell 0-16 5-8 5, Duty 1-1 0-0 0, Totals 24-67 13-23 67.</p> <p>January 16, 2009</p> <p>Linn-Benton (58) 3-1 Ellingson 3-11 0-0 6, 8-13 4-5 20, Zahner 2-7 0-0 4, long 1-3 1-4 3, Douglass 3-10 0-0 6, Totals 24-53 9-15 58.</p> <p>Clackamas (72) 4-0 Fetters 3-13 2-6 10, St. Paul 0-0 8, Peterson 2-10 8-11 18, ell 3-12 6-6 15, Duty 3-7 0-0 0, Totals 20-65 23-31 72.</p>

Box Score Key: Basketball

Visiting team is listed first, followed by their final score, and then conference standing.

Following a player's name are field goals made and attempted, free throws made and attempted, and ends with the player's total points.

Home games Jan. 24: Men's basketball team vs. Lane CC, game starts at 6 p.m.

Women's basketball team vs. Lane CC, game starts at 4 p.m.