

# Cougars' game calms the Storm

Michelle Sanchez

Clackamas Print

Clackamas dominated the court in the game against Chemeketa last Wednesday in Randall Hall. The Clackamas girls were on fire, as they started out with a strong offensive game plan, driving hard into the court and taking no prisoners. Every team member played with an energy level that was reflected in the eyes of the spectators.

At first, Chemeketa seemed laid back, confident as the calls of, "DEFENSE" came from the benched players. By half-time, Clackamas was already up 47-31, and despite the lead, the Clackamas team came back onto the court with as much energy as they had left the court with. Soon pressure was on, as Clackamas tightened up their defensive playing keeping the Chemeketa team from scoring a single point for seven minutes into the second half.

Julie Ausman gave out a particularly good whoop as McKenzie Meyer, her daughter, came in for another rebound off the backboard.

"McKenzie has played all over the U.S.," Julie Ausman, "and she has been playing basketball since she was in the third grade. It's really a family thing now, and I love to watch the games."

Robin Robinson, an instructor and base-ment coach, also cheered on the Cougars from the stands.

"Our girls are playing well and they are very well coached," said Robinson. "Everybody should go to the games and



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Rylee Peterson, McKenzie Meyer, and Dayle Powell hustle around Chemeketa's Amanda Mack at the Lady Cougar's home game on Feb. 11 in Randall Gym. The Cougars beat the Storm with a score of 96-53. Ranked number three in the NWAACC, the Cougars have already clinched a spot in the championships this March.

support them, and besides it's good entertainment."

Starting into the second half of the game, the Storm seemed tired and their defensive game lagged. Several shots were taken by Chemeketa that were just off the wall. The team's tight defense slackened further and further, as the game progressed with sometimes three players guarding one of our players, leaving the rest wide open.

When discussing the differences in the

experience levels, Robinson commented that, "Our team is very good and very veteran."

He felt that the other team was at a disadvantage because of the strong players the Cougars that have lots of experience with the game.

Meyer especially played a strong game, playing a tough defense and offense.

"The coach just told us to focus on one game at a time," said Meyer. "Our team is

really good about when we're doing well. That we focus even harder, we don't let our lead get to our heads, but instead we play harder."

But, whether it's the coach's words of wisdom, or the girls' devotion and talent in the game, Clackamas wiped the court with the Storm team winning with a score of 96-50.

The next game will be held on Feb. 18 at Mt. Hood and starts at 5:30 p.m.

## Star player reaches for the sky

Nick Kornafel

Clackamas Print

"I have never been afraid to fail," said Chehales Tapscott.

Team player with all the skill and talent and a bad attitude that goes with it is how most would describe Tapscott.

Tapscott, a second term Clackamas student, plays guard position with the Cougars. The 6-foot-5, 205-pound forward is a skilled athlete who currently leads in rebounding and rebounding in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC), NWAACC and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Tapscott has been awarded over 20 scholarships.

"I saw him at one of his games," said Clackamas parent and spectator Sarah Valesquez. "He's really fun and fun to watch."

Tapscott started playing basketball his freshman year at Century High School in Hillsboro where he had an average of 23 points, 4 assists, and 12 rebounds per game. His team also participated in two district championships in a row.

"He's fun to be around," said fellow Cougar player Braimard in regards to Tapscott. "He can be a goofball, but he's serious about basketball. Everybody likes him."

Tapscott is working toward his Associate of Arts degree and hopes to play basketball at Portland State University with the intentions of playing basketball professionally overseas.

"He's a nice kid," says coach Clif Wegner adding to Tapscott's traits. "Unselfish, good teammate, always willing to acknowledge other's contributions, lots of exciting athletic talent."

Along with Wegner, Tapscott considers his father, Lawrence Tapscott, to be his biggest inspiration and his making the basketball team in high school a major turning point in his life. His favorite food, among other things, is chicken, watermelon and Jell-O.

"He's funny off the court," said fellow Clackamas player Jake Rickert. "On the court he's very serious."

When Tapscott isn't playing basketball or study-



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Tapscott enjoys a quick warm-up before a game in the Randall Gym.

ing, he enjoys relaxing by playing video-games, watching football or baseball or just being with friends. Tapscott currently lives in the Hidden Creek Apartments in Oregon City.

## Cougar Scoreboard

Men's Basketball

Women's Basketball

February 11, 2009

**Chemeketa (88) 6-4**

Derry 10-17 3-6 23, Gary 4-9 0-0 8, Boucher 5-8 2-2 15, Berger 5-11 4-7 17, Totals 35-69 12-19 88.

**Clackamas (101) 10-0**

Dorman 6-11 2-2 19, Tapscott 6-8 6-9 18, Wilde 6-8 2-2 17, Cook 7-21 6-6 21, Dunn 3-9 6-8 13, Totals 34-68 11-23 101.

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**Clackamas (55) 11-0**

Dorman 4-12 2-2 11, Tapscott 10-13 6-7 26, Wilde 1-6 0-2 2, Cook 7-13 2-3 19, Dunn 2-7 2-5 6, Totals 31-69 15-26 86.

**Lane (55) 2-9**

Guidry 1-5 4-5 6, Jones 6-11 2-4 15, Wiles 2-6 2-2 6, Britton 3-9 0-0 7, Wilcox 0-3 0-0 0, Totals 21-57 11-16 55.

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**Chemeketa (50) 1-9**

Mack 1-3 4-4 6, Cox 2-8 1-2 5, Leverenz 1-9 2-4 5, Harris 3-7 5-7 11, Totals 16-64 14-21 50.

**Clackamas (96) 9-1**

St. Paul 5-9 1-1 14, Niebergall 3-9 2-2 9, Peterson 6-11 3-6 19, Powell 5-6 2-2 14, Duty 7-9 2-2 16, Totals 34-67 13-22 15-18.

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**Clackamas (59) 9-2**

St. Paul 1-8 2-5 4, Niebergall 0-3 0-0 0, Peterson 4-14 3-4 14, Powell 5-6 2-2 1, Duty 7-8 0-0 15, Totals 23-65 7-12 59.

**Lane (78) 10-1**

Williams 66-12 3-6 15, Cole 5-13 10-10 22, Brown 3-8 2-2 8, Whitfield 3-8 1-1 7, Kimbrow 9-12 1-1 19, Totals 27-60 22-27 78.

Box Score Key: Basketball

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

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