



Cougars men's basketball team kicks off
preseason with three tournaments
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deemed unsafe
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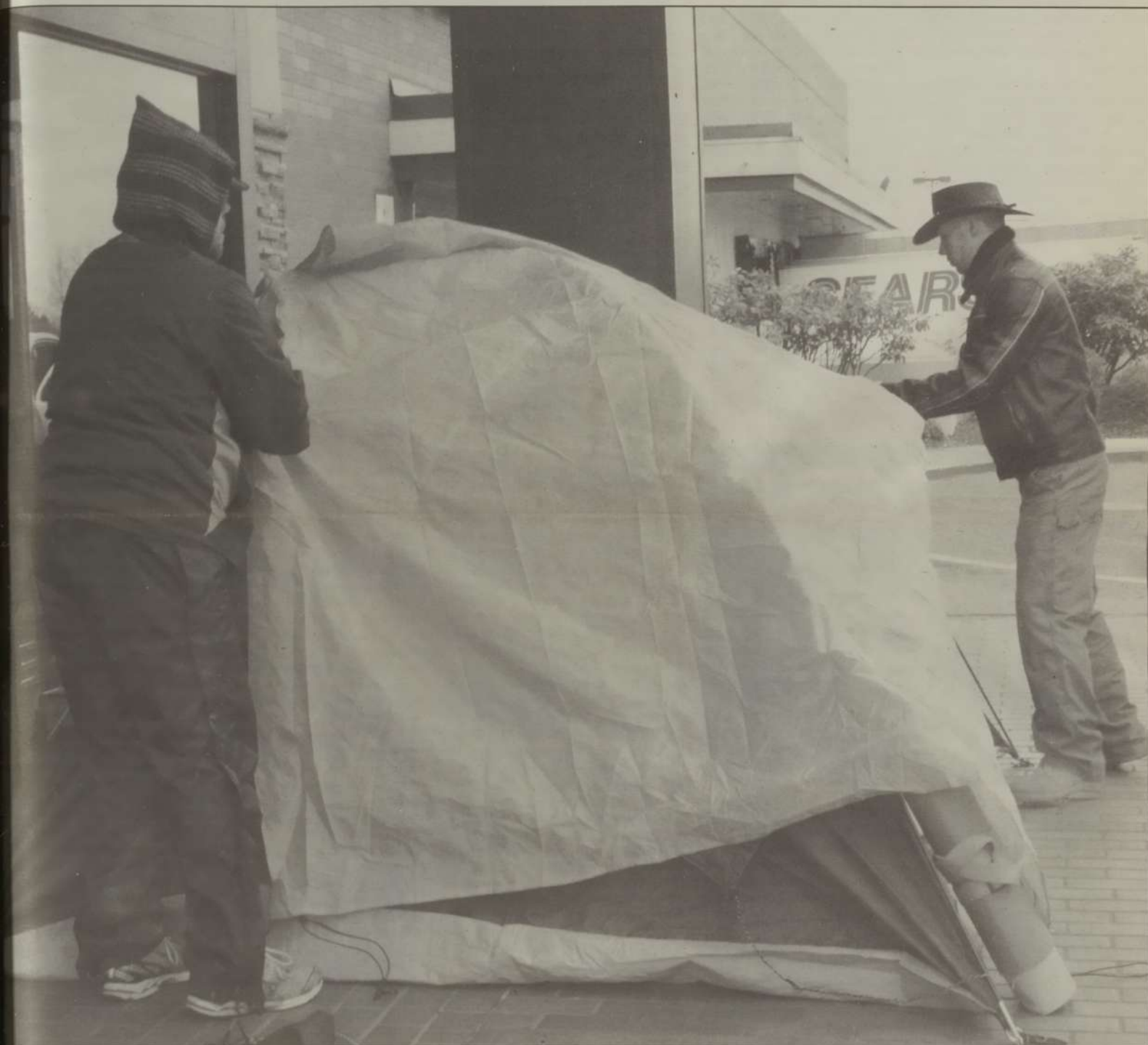
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Shoppers brave cold for good deals



Mandie Gavitt Clackamas Print

Hansen and Brandon Duval set up a tent outside of Sears to camp out for the Black Friday sales on Thursday Nov. 25. Sears later asked them to take the tent down.

By Mandie Gavitt
The Clackamas Print

Black Friday may be taking over
December's favorite holiday.
Many families still struggling
to get the best deals on
shopping is of the utmost
importance for many this year. It
is important for some that
the holiday dinner took a back
seat.

Unless people spent
the evening night camping out
they get the best deals
than anyone else. Some ultra-com-
petitive shoppers begin camping out

even before Thanksgiving. The first
Black Friday campers this year start-
ed camping 10 days before Black
Friday outside of a Best Buy in St.
Petersburg, Fla. Best Buy rewarded
them with free iPads for their efforts.

But what about in Oregon? Will
people brave the cold temperatures
just for the sake of a cheap lap-
top or video game? Apparently, yes.
Black Friday deals are so enticing
that people began camping out at
the Best Buy in Clackamas as early
as Wednesday afternoon. Timmy
Wilson and his friends were first to
arrive.

"It's tradition," Wilson said.
"We've done it for three years."

Wilson said his friends and fam-
ily pay him to stand in line. "They
don't want to wait here, so I do,
and they pay me for the tickets."
That does not mean that the money
he earns by standing in line comes
without sacrifice. To keep the best
spot in line, Wilson had to skip out
on having Thanksgiving dinner. Still,
he feels it is worth it.

Some make sure they get the best
of both worlds. Jason Lattig and his
family also began camping out at
Best Buy on Wednesday. They man-
aged not to miss their Thanksgiving
while still getting the best deals.

The family camps out in a school
bus they have converted into a motor

home, complete with a stove, bunk
beds and Internet. They set up a spot
in line with a covering and take turns
in the motor home.

This allows them to have
Thanksgiving dinner. They pre-
pare their food the day before and
cook it in the motor home, allow-
ing both Black Friday shopping and
Thanksgiving. They have done this
every year for the past six years.

"It's the only time you can get the
best deal on electronics," said Lattig.

The Lattigs are aware of how
competitive Black Friday can be and
refuse to hold spots in line for other
people. "If you want the deal you
better get your ass out here," said

Lattig.

However, there is more to Black
Friday than just competing for the
best deals. "It's a social thing," said
Mariah Slatosch. "It's fun to hang out
with people in line."

Others wait in line because of
their families. Esther Cummings
started camping out at Toys "R" Us
at 8:30 Thursday night and then went
to wait at the Disney Store after she
finished.

"I do it for my daughter. She was
good this year," she said. This was
the first year Cummings waited out
for the deals, though her fiancé does
it every year. "It's worth it," she said.
"We got everything we wanted."