

INVITATIONAL: Women's basketball team celebrates near success



Photos by Andrew Millbrooke The Clackamas Print



Left: Jenny Johnson leaves them in the dust as she drives the ball for a basket. The team played three games during the tournament. **Right:** Ashleigh Anderson brushes off an opponent, the ball a blur in her hands, as she races toward a win for the Clackamas Cougars.

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The Cougars also snatched 11 steals in the opening half, leading to 21 points. Clackamas made 11 of 19 three-point attempts on its way to a dominating 58-12 halftime lead. The Cougars shot 58 percent from the field and made nine of 11 foul shots in the opening half.

"We just all shot very well and we played together," said Johnson. "That is what we try to do."

Sophomore Ashleigh Anderson added 13 points, making three of four three-pointers. Freshman Tori Wilkinson had a great all-around half with seven points, five rebounds and four assists.

The second half became a mere formality as the Cougars built a 78-23 lead with just over 10 minutes remaining. The Cougars closed out the win convincingly, 100 to 37.

Johnson finished with a game-high 26 points, leading six

Clackamas players in double figures. Anderson finished with 15 points, while Wilkinson added 13 points and team-highs of eight rebounds and five assists. The Cougars are forced to play only eight players due to injuries.

"We're kind of injured right now, so we have to play everyone," said Johnson. "We have eight people, so it's good for the freshman to get the kinks out."

The Cougars nailed 16 of 33 three-point attempts and out-rebounded the alumni 55-25 for the game. Clackamas finished with 24 assists as a team, while holding the alumni to four.

Semifinals - Clackamas 105, Pierce 83

Clackamas again used some hot shooting from beyond the arc to jump on Pierce early in a 105-83 victory on Saturday night at Randall Gym. The Cougars built up a 31-12 lead with 9:41 left in the opening half, as sophomore Sade Elliot drilled her third three-pointer.

Clackamas kept the pressure on the smaller Raiders with great defense and hot shooting as they extended to a 52-25 lead. The Raiders closed the half on an 8-3 run to pull within 55-33 at the break, but the Cougars were in full control of the game.

Six-foot-one sophomore Jordin Feldman was a monster on both ends of the court in the opening half. Feldman scored 19 points, grabbed nine rebounds, got three blocked shots and garnered four steals in less than 15 minutes of great play. Elliot added 15 points in the half.

Feldman said that "hard work, staying focused and not letting the little things affect you" have led to her early season success.

The Cougars got to the free throw line at will, as the smaller Raiders were forced to foul. Clackamas made 16 of 22 foul shots in the first half.

Finals - Umpqua 87, Clackamas 74

In a game filled with runs, Umpqua CC used the final

one and Clackamas could not answer as the Riverhawks pulled away to win the Thanksgiving Invitational with an 87-74 victory over Clackamas in the Championship on Sunday afternoon at Randall Gym. Umpqua used an 11-2 run to take a 72 to 63 lead with under five minutes remaining.

"We had a lot of energy the first two games," said sophomore post Jordin Feldman. "This game kind of drained us. We kind of let our heads hang, instead of staying focused and running our offense."

The Cougars did not close the gap, as the Riverhawks made six of eight foul shots to close out the victory. "They were being a lot more aggressive than we were," said Cougars co-head coach Jim Martineau. "We fouled them way too many times."

Martineau was not pleased with the defensive performance after giving up over 80 points in consecutive games. "The press

was not working real well and defensively we didn't play good in the post," said Martineau. "We need to play a little better defensively. We can't expect to score 100 every game."

Clackamas scored over 100 points in each of the first two games, but poor outside shooting doomed the Cougars against the Riverhawks. Clackamas made just six of 25 three point attempts and shot just 39 percent for the game.

Feldman led the Cougars with 21 points and 8 rebounds, but fouled out with over six minutes remaining. "She brings so much energy, we need that on the floor," said Martineau. "She has to learn to play with her energy without fouling."

Ashleigh Anderson added 16 points and Jenny Johnson had 15 points and five assists.

"Jenny had a good tournament, she played very well," said Martineau. "Ashleigh had a good game. She is solid and shoots the ball well."

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