

Just kidding! Not your girl! Sorry.



SPORTS OPINION

Andrew Millbrooke
Sports Editor

It should have been a slow week in sports, with everybody discussing the weekend's conference championship games in the NFL or the NBA All-Star starting rosters that were released, but it wasn't meant to be. First, cyclist Lance Armstrong came out, finally admitting to years of doping, followed by Oregon head football coach Chip Kelly reversing course and flying the coop to more notoriety and money in Philadelphia.

But all of that was nothing, compared to the bombshell dropped by Deadspin.com about Notre Dame star linebacker and Heisman finalist Manti Te'o. Te'o was duped into a three-year online relationship with a fictitious woman, Lennay Kukua.

I guess the sports world is ready to join the conversation on mental health that is sweeping the nation after the recent tragic shooting events. This story ranks right up there with the best Jerry Springer episode, sick and twisted to the core. 'Lennay' eventually 'died' from Leukemia, supposedly the same day as Te'o's beloved grandmother. Te'o perpetuated this myth in numerous interviews with CBS, Sports Illustrated and others for over a month all the way through the BCS title game on Jan. 7.

Te'o learned that the woman did not exist sometime in December. How much he knew and when he knew it are still questions to be answered. There are all kinds of rumors swirling about his motives.

A friend of Manti's, Ronaiah Tuiaosopo, is the perpetrator of the scam and has apologized to Te'o. He made the fake online profile of Lennay Kukua and duped his friend with the help of two cousins. All of the details of how that went down have not been reported. Ronaiah Tuiaosopo is reportedly in hiding and has not spoken to anybody, except for the apology call to Te'o.

Te'o has continued to claim that he was the victim of a hoax, but many people are questioning the timeline of events. Lying to the public for over a month will put some doubt in people's minds. Te'o has made only one interview, with ESPN's Jeremy Schaap, since this news broke and he was in control of the content and questions.

Did this affect Te'o's mindset and performance in his preparation for the BCS championship game against Alabama, where he was a virtual no-show in the Crimson Tide's 42 to 14 shellacking of Notre Dame? I'm thinking he wasn't fully focused on the game.

How this affects Te'o's chances to play in the NFL is yet to be seen, but obviously there are red flags about his character, honesty and sanity before even looking at his athletic ability.

I expect this story to continue to evolve and I have no idea what it will produce. Only time will tell, or maybe Ronaiah Tuiaosopo.

WINNING: Walking off the injuries

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Freshman Lacy Effenberger, from Ketchikan, Alaska, added 17 points and four assists. Freshman Tori Wilkinson, from Eugene, played a great all around game, tallying eight points, eight rebounds and four steals.

Jordin and Megan Feldman, 6-foot 1-inch sophomore twins from Estacada, are the two main posts on the team and both expressed that Lane was a challenging opponent. When asked why they felt like they lost to Lane in the preseason Jordin said, "We just mentally broke down."

However, Clackamas had several injured players in the preseason and as the season progresses the injured players are coming back into the fold. Co-head coach Jim Martineau stated that there is some getting used to the new players. Megan Feldman had a similar sentiment about the returning girls.

"We must work hard in building the team," said Megan. Jordin and Megan also stated that the returning girls will allow for other players to have more rest and will produce a team that is less likely to have difficulties with fatigue.

When asked what has contributed to their success so far, Jordin Feldman stated that "positivity and communication" were the main factors.

"The season has gone how it was supposed to go," said Martineau. "I am pretty happy with where we are at." Martineau also expressed what he hopes the team improves on as the season progresses.

"I think our playing together on the floor," said Martineau. "Offensively we've been incon-



Andrew Millbrooke The Clackamas Print

Back in action after a sidelining injury, Laci Effenberger breezes by Linn-Benton defense en route to another win.

sistent and we tend to score more points at home than at away games."

The CCC women soared over Linn-Benton CC on Saturday, Jan. 12 at home. Minutes into the game Clackamas was ahead 17 to 2, displaying a quick and ferocious defense to forge the early lead. The Cougars went on to a 43 to 27 halftime lead, before closing out the win, 73 to 61.

With the new players com-

ing back, there is hope that the Cougars will beat both the teams they lost to in the pre-season. One of those injured players recently back in action is freshman guard Effenberger, who scored 20 points, making six three-pointers in the win against Linn-Benton.

Megan Feldman added 16 points, while her sister Jordin grabbed seven rebounds in the win. Sophomore Ashleigh Anderson added nine points, six

assists and six rebounds. Wilkinson grabbed a team-high eight rebounds.

Overall, the women's basketball team has been succeeding. Hopes are high and as the opponents get tougher the women's basketball team will have to dig deeper to stay atop the Southern Region standings.

Men's basketball strives for wins

Andrew Millbrooke
Sports Editor

The Clackamas Community College men's basketball team is struggling to right the ship with six losses in its last seven games. The Cougars (9-10, 1-4) are tied for seventh in the Southern Division, but only one game out of fourth place as three teams are tied at 2-3. The Cougars must

finish in the top four to make the NWAACC tournament for the 14th consecutive season.

Lane 87, Clackamas 80, OT - Last Saturday, the Cougars stormed back from 24 points down in the second half against Lane CC to force overtime, but fell 87 to 80 as the Titans controlled the extra period.

6-foot 3-inch freshman Keynan Middleton led the Titans with game-highs of 22 points, 10 rebounds and six steals. Middleton put down some nice

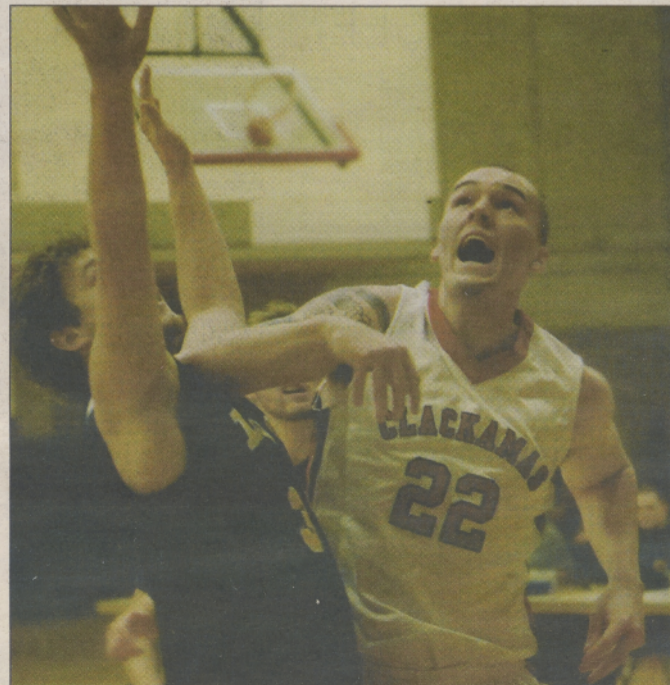
breakaway dunks after a couple of his steals. Clackamas was led by freshman Grant Sitton, from Vancouver, Wash., with 18 points. Freshman Michone Hopkins added 17 points, seven rebounds and five assists for the Cougars.

Clackamas 71, Mt. Hood 69 - The Cougars pulled out a close win over the Saints in Gresham last Wednesday by making seven of 15 three-pointers in the second half. Freshman Michone Hopkins led the Cougars with 16 points

and six rebounds.

Linn-Benton 73, Clackamas 72 - Freshman Sam Stafford hit a driving, twisting layup with 0.7 seconds remaining to lift the Roadrunners over the Cougars on Saturday, Jan. 12 at Randall Gym.

"Clackamas has a very good team," said Linn Benton head coach Randy Falk. "This is a strong win for us against a very good program."



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Jordan Barber eyes a rebound during the tough home game against Albany's Linn-Benton Community College in which Linn-Benton won by an unfortunately precise last-minute basket Saturday, Jan. 12.

Fitness Challenge

All CCC staff are currently eligible to compete in the staff Fitness Challenge now through March 15. Sign up in CC 152 with Michelle Baker, Advising Specialist for Student Life and Leadership Department. Create a team of four people to compete and gain points. \$5 per person (\$20 per team) submit your team list to CC 152.



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