

Panthers Rebound

continued ▲ from front

potential for PCC's program immediately.

"I saw this place as a goldmine that just hadn't been really worked on," he says.

After accepting the position, Broadus immediately began rebuilding the program. First, he revamped the coaching staff hiring Aaron Bell and Tyrone White as his assistant coaches.

Then, it was on to finding the right players.

"We went and found a solid group of men—young men—who could play. Who had the heart to put in the effort it was gonna take. We had to practice long and hard and have some talent," he said.

Most of all though Broadus says it was a matter of infusing a "winning attitude" into the guys. In his first year, the team got past its losing streak to net 15 wins for the season.

Sophomore Carl Appleton rejoined the PCC basketball squad this year after leaving the team a couple of years back when the wins were far from the trend.

"When I played before we weren't very good, and it's not cool going through a whole season losing," says the 6-foot-4 Appleton.

But after hearing about the changes that had followed Broadus' arrival, Appleton dons the PCC jersey again.

"The difference in the coaching staff is the big thing, you know," he said.

Another sophomore, Warren Edmondson, came to the team the same year Broadus took over. He echoes Appleton's sentiments of rejuvenation.

"When I first got here, it was a new kinda energy. Start fresh—fresh scratch paper—and I was ready to roll with it," Edmondson says.

"We're just excited to be representing the city of Portland," Broadus says, "The goal was to turn Portland Community College into a powerhouse, and we're on the way of doing that. And it happened quick. We didn't think it'd take forever, but we're pleasantly surprised with how much we are accomplishing things."

On Saturday, March 1, the PCC Panthers begin their tournament play in a contest against Lower Face Columbia College. The game is part of a playoff schedule that runs four consecutive days at the Toyota Center in Kennewick, Wash.



PHOTO BY DONOVAN M. SMITH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

At the center of his basketball squad, Portland Community College Coach Tony Broadus makes an impassioned appeal to his guys to get themselves a victory. Wins have become a trend at the once underperforming program since Broadus' came to the PCC program after years of coaching at Grant High School. PCC went on to win the Feb. 19 game against Chemeketa Community College and secured a spot in the playoffs for the first time ever in school history.

Packing your lunch should be rewarded.



S.T.A.R.T. rewards you for all the ways you save.

Say hello to S.T.A.R.T.—Savings Today And Rewards Tomorrow®. When you save \$1,000, you'll get a \$50 U.S. Bank Rewards Visa® Card. And you'll get another \$50 Rewards Visa® Card when you maintain your balance for a year. It's more than recognition for money well saved. It's a reward for saving automatically.

How to enroll: branch usbank.com/start 800.720.BANK (2265)

All of **us** serving you®

usbank

Enrollment is required. You must open or maintain an active Silver, Gold or Platinum Checking account AND a Package Money Market Savings account. All regular account-opening procedures apply. A qualifying transfer from your Package Checking account to your Package Money Market Savings account must also be scheduled and maintained. See the S.T.A.R.T. Savings Today And Rewards Tomorrow® Program Agreement for detailed information. Program is subject to change. The U.S. Bank Rewards Card cannot be reloaded with additional funds, nor can it be used at an ATM (Automated Teller Machine). Terms and conditions apply to Rewards Cards. For complete terms and conditions, see the "U.S. Bank Rewards Card Cardholder Agreement" available at www.mysbankcorporaterewards.com. This Rewards Card is issued by U.S. Bank National Association, pursuant to a license from Visa® U.S.A. Inc. Deposit products offered by U.S. Bank National Association. Member FDIC. ©2014 U.S. Bank.