

ClackamasReview

OC reloads

Sophomore Jo Paine stars in a 63-61 summer win over Clackamas

BY JOHN DENNY

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OREGON CITY – Oregon City has graduated five all-league players from last year’s girls basketball team that went 28-1 and won a 17th consecutive Three Rivers League title.

But the Pioneers have reloaded and they proved earlier this month that they are going to be a force to be reckoned with come the 2010-2011 high school season.

Competing in the End Of The Trail Class Of The Field High School Tournament June 18-20, the Pioneers won all five of their games and finished on top in the Blue Bracket. They then went on to top a veteran team from league rival Clackamas 63-61 in the tournament championship final.

Oregon City coach Kurt Guelsdorf downplayed the win over the Cavaliers.

“Eleven players scored [for Oregon City in the championship game] and 13 played,” he said. “For Clackamas, I think winning in the summer is important. For us, summer is all about playing lots of bodies, having fun and getting better. In March, that’s the time when winning’s important for us.”

Although the Pioneers downplay winning, they have put plenty of wins in the scorebook in summer play. Their summer record heading into last weekend’s Oregon City Shootout tournament was 30-3. The three losses came during a tournament in Prairie, where the Pioneers split their top talent between two teams, Guelsdorf said.

The stars for the Pioneers in their June 20 win over Clackamas were sophomores-to-be Johanna Paine (6-0 post) and Montana Walters (5-5 point guard), and senior-to-be Ashleigh Anderson (5-8 wing).

Paine was a force on the inside, scoring 19 points in 21 minutes of playing time, and hauling in 11 rebounds to lead the Pioneers to an advantage on the backboards.

Walters sparked the offense with nine assists. Anderson had 14 points and seven rebounds.

Paine was honored as the tournament MVP, while Anderson and seniors-to-be Aly Holterhoff (5-10 post) and Jordy Klebaum (5-8 wing) were named to the all-tournament team.

The Pioneers were dominant in bracket play, defeating Spokane’s Shadle Park Highlanders 73-50 for the blue bracket title, after advancing with wins over Eastside Catholic of Seattle (89-35), Wilson of the PIL (77-38), South Eugene (68-48) and Central Catholic (67-52).

Oregon City fared well in all of the divisions of the End Of The Trail High School Tournament. The Pioneer freshmen won their division, defeating Southridge for the title; and the jayvees placed fifth in the small-school varsity/jayvee division.

Among those vying for Oregon City’s top summer team at the End Of The Oregon Trail high school varsity tournament were: seniors-to-be Holterhoff, Anderson, Klebaum, Nicole Peters (5-8 wing/post), Alisha Seigal (5-11 post); junior-to-be Marcie Lugar (5-8 wing); sophomores-to-be Walters, Jenae Paine (5-9 wing), Johanna Paine (6-0 post), Catelyn Preston (5-11 post) and Chelsea Brewer (5-8 point guard); freshman-to-be Alyssa Burr (5-6 point guard); and eighth-grader-to-be Jerusha Paine (6-1 post).

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