

PENGUINS ROSTER DECIMATED

Clark women down to just six healthy players for NWAACC

By **TIM PYLE**
Columbian staff writer

If the saying is true, good things should be headed Aaron Christian's way any day now.

In his second season in charge of the Clark College women's basketball program, Christian still is waiting for the chance to coach a full roster.

After guiding eight Penguins to the NWAACC tournament last year, Christian entered this season with 11 players in tow.

Injuries, illnesses and one

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■ Clark College women's basketball roster.

■ Penguins schedule, including results

ineligibility, however, have left Clark (4-9) with just six players in uniform in each of its last four games.

The Penguins begin NWAACC West Division play today hoping that healthier times lay ahead.

Next
game



■ Lower Columbia at Clark College, 6 p.m. today.

■ On the Web:
cf.clark.edu/athletics

"I honestly believe if we have enough bodies, we're fine," said Christian, whose team hosts Lower Columbia (5-5) at 6 tonight at the O'Connell Center.

Freshman guard Robyn Unruh and freshman forward Natalie McDonald, a Prairie product, have yet to play this season because of injuries and likely won't, Christian said.

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JEREMIAH
COUGHLAN
/The Columbian

Clark College basketball player Cece Nixon, right, a freshman forward from Naches Valley, goes to the basket over teammate Nina Beckwith, a freshman guard from Woodland, during a recent Penguins practice at the O'Connell Center.

Clark:

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But Clark's biggest loss probably is sophomore guard Danielle Boggs. The Columbia River alumna played last year at Lewis-Clark State, an NAIA college in Lewiston, Idaho, then transferred to Clark.

She was averaging 12.4 points through nine games for the Penguins before being declared ineligible by the NWAACC. Christian said Boggs' season, too, is finished.

The remaining eight players include four locals — sophomore post Danette Bergerson (Washougal), freshman point guard Stephanie Woullard (Hudson's Bay), freshman post Brooke Lowery (Ridgefield), and freshman guard Nina Beckwith (Woodland).

Bergerson is averaging 5.4 points and 4.6 rebounds a game. Christian expects her and sophomore post Lakeesha Cadogan (10.0 ppg, 6.0 rpg), Clark's two returners from a year ago, to be forces in league play.

Woullard is the team's leading scorer at 14.1 points a game, and also averages 2.7 steals and 2.6 assists.

"She's so fast," Christian said. "She's very quick. She's probably one of the fastest in the NWAACC, if not the fastest. Everybody we've played, she's always a problem for them to stop."

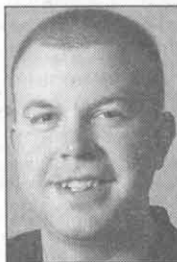
Woullard is hoping that improved health will lead to an up-tempo style for the Penguins.

"If they run with me, we'll make it work," she said. "I think we've got the rebounding, and we've got speed."

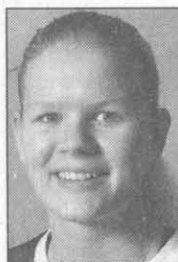
Despite battling a back injury, Lowery

Clark College 2005-06 roster

Player	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	High School
Nina Beckwith	Fr	G	5-2	Woodland
Danette Bergerson	So	F	6-0	Washougal
Lakeesha Cadogan	So	F	5-11	Curtis
Brooke Lowery	Fr	F	5-10	Ridgefield
Natalie McDonald	Fr	F	5-9	Prairie
Cece Nixon	Fr	F	5-7	Naches Valley
Kippy Powers	Fr	F	5-7	Sultan
Maryam Razavi	Fr	F	5-11	Tualatin (Ore.)
Robyn Unruh	Fr	G	5-3	Ilwaco
Stephanie Woullard	Fr	G	5-3	Hudson's Bay



Aaron Christian



Danette Bergerson

provides 9.5 points and a team-high 7.9 rebounds a game.

Beckwith, one of three Penguins to play in all 13 games, averages 3.4 points.

Freshman wing Maryam Razavi can fill a box score, as evidenced by her averages of 10.4 points, 6.2 rebounds and 1.9 steals per contest.

Freshmen wings Kippy Powers (3.8 ppg, 2.0 apg) and Cece Nixon, hampered by a knee injury, are the other two players upon whom Clark expects to rely.

Bergerson believes the Penguins are capable of making a return trip to the postseason.

Last year, Clark finished tied for fourth in the West Division at 7-9, then won a playoff game for the West's fourth and final tournament berth. The Penguins ended up 10-20 overall.

"I tell them just to wait, just to wait," Bergerson said of her advice to teammates. "We haven't reached our full potential yet, and that will come. I wasn't sure it was going to come last year, but

Clark College 2005-06 schedule/results

Date	Opponent	Result/Time
Nov. 18	*Portland	L, 53-49
Nov. 19	*Tacoma	W, 64-52
Nov. 20	*Olympic	L, 56-46
Nov. 26	at Chemeketa	L, 58-64
Dec. 2	^Malaspina, B.C.	W, 53-50
Dec. 3	^Wenatchee Valley	L, 76-51
Dec. 4	^SW Oregon	L, 66-56
Dec. 7	Mt. Hood	W, 64-51
Dec. 10	Everett	L, 87-59
Dec. 15	%Bellevue	L, 52-50 OT
Dec. 16	%Mt. Hood	W, 62-59
Dec. 17	%Blue Mountain	L, 56-42
Dec. 29	at Portland	L, 59-46
Jan. 4	Lower Columbia	6 p.m.
Jan. 7	at Green River	3 p.m.
Jan. 11	Pierce	6 p.m.
Jan. 14	Tacoma	1 p.m.
Jan. 18	at Grays Harbor	6 p.m.
Jan. 21	at Centralia	5 p.m.
Jan. 25	Highline	6 p.m.
Feb. 1	at South Puget Sound	6 p.m.
Feb. 4	at Lower Columbia	5 p.m.
Feb. 8	Green River	6 p.m.
Feb. 11	at Pierce	5 p.m.
Feb. 15	at Tacoma	6 p.m.
Feb. 18	Grays Harbor	1 p.m.
Feb. 22	Centralia	6 p.m.
Feb. 25	at Highline	1 p.m.
March 4	South Puget Sound	1 p.m.
March 9	\$NWAACC Championships	TBA

* Shoreline Tournament at Seattle

^ Capital City Round Ball Classic at Olympia

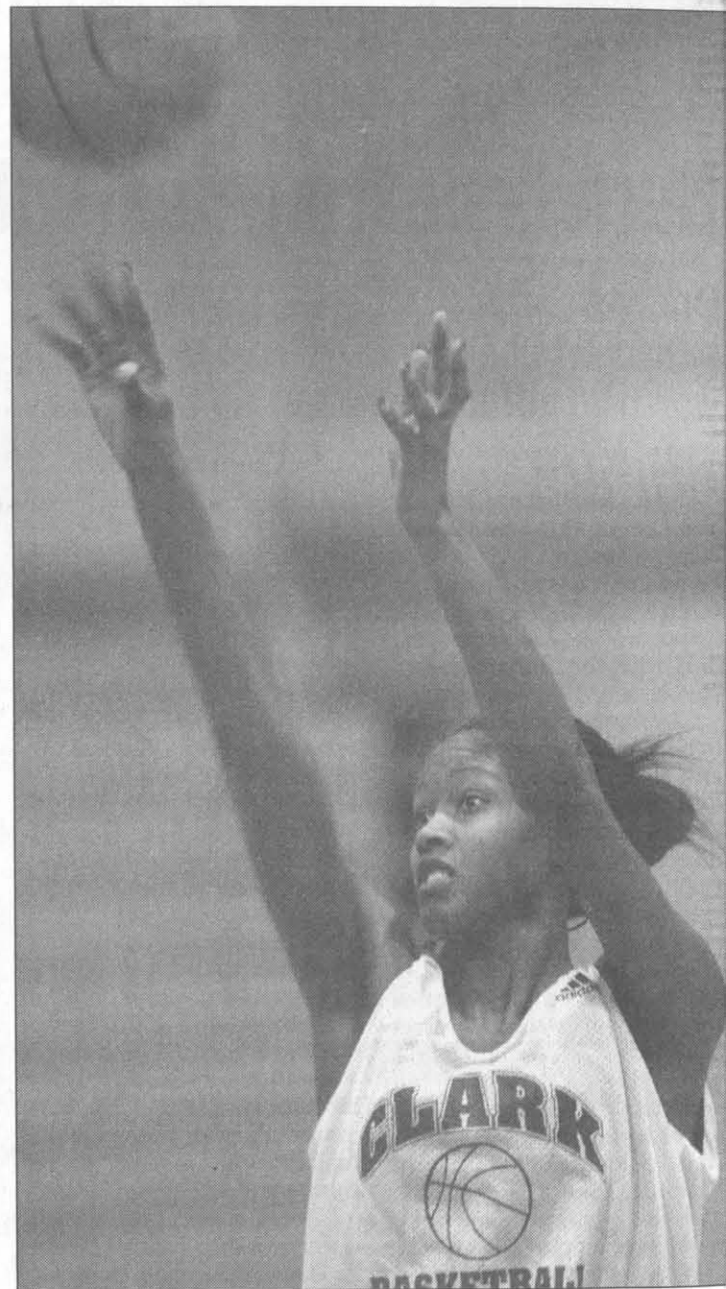
% Whatcom Crossover Tournament at Bellingham

\$ at Pasco

it did because we just came in the gym every day and worked hard."

Christian sees a competitive fire similar to last year's team in his current group.

"Whoever's in there plays to the best of (her) abilities, tries to compete and gives us the best chance possible," he said. "They represent. They don't ever give up."



JEREMIAH COUGHLAN/The Columbia

Lakeesha Cadogan, a sophomore forward from Curtis High of Tacoma, is one of only two players returning from last year's Clark College team. She is averaging 10.0 points and 6.0 rebounds a game during non-conference play this season.