

Sports

Netters fourth in tourney, record still 5-3

By Rob Conner
Of The Print

Kathy Woods figured she would be coaching volleyball this season. But it wasn't until late this summer that she knew she would be coaching at Clackamas Community College. So much for recruiting.

The former Linn-Benton coach was able to bring two players with her from Linn-Benton, which bolstered this year's team to the grand total of eight players, only three of which are freshmen.

If anything kills the Cougars this season it will be simply the fact that they are undermanned. Woods is definitely three to four players short of being at total effectiveness. This fact became apparent at the Western Oregon tournament last weekend.

Playing in their fourth game of the day and against the tournament favorite, Woods saw her squad go flat after an emotional first game win, 15-11. The four-year school wasted little time, capitalizing on a meek 63 percent attack shown by the Cougars enroute to a 2-15, 8-15 drubbing.

"It was too hard to come back once we let up," realized the coach, "Mentally we took a break." Woods was pleased with her team's service recep-



Brenda Merkley #13 and Les Kingsbury #18

tion at 84 percent. "We just lost our aggressiveness," she stated.

Clackamas opened the five team round-robin tournament with a 15-6, 12-15, 15-12 victory over Woods' old school, Linn-Benton. The Cougars experienced an exceptionally hot serving match, converting 100 percent on serves and scoring 14 aces.

Communication, or lack of, posed the major problem in the women's second match, a 10-15, 9-15 loss at the hands of Western Oregon. "We weren't able to set up (plays)." With a receiving percentage of only 76 percent consequently the

Cougar attack percentage dropped.

In their third game of the tournament Clackamas took just 25 minutes to make haste of Willamette 15-6, 15-3.

"We took charge from the start," Woods stated. "We were very aggressive, our attack percentage went up to 87 percent and our serve reception was also up at 80 percent."

In the Willamette victory, Shari Kamrath picked up five aces and was 21 of 21 in serving. Woods sees serving as her team's strong point: "Our serving was strong (against Willamette) as it was

throughout the tournament."

Following the emotional loss to tournament winner SOSOC, the Cougar squad faced Willamette again to vie for third and fourth. "They (Willamette) came at us," Woods said of the first game score 2-15. "They (Willamette) had nothing to lose and everything to gain."

The Oregon City team was able to regroup in game two as they posted a 15-10 victory. It was not yet time to celebrate, however, as any hopes of a third place finish quickly vanished with a 9-15 loss.

"The third game was mental, mental endurance.

Our service percentage dropped to 87 percent and we were getting tired," Woods said.

A bright spot that Coach Woods was pleased with was the play of sophomore Kelly Flanigan, who was one of six selected to the all-tournament team.

Thursday the Cougars host Eastern Oregon at home then Woods leads her squad into the first of two regional seeding tournaments featuring Northern Idaho, Rick's College and Treasure Valley Community College. The tournament will be Oct. 9-11 at Treasure Valley in Ontario, Oregon.

On The Run

Look for Phils, O's in Series

By Rob Conner
Sports Editor

It's that time of the year again, the World Series is just around the corner. It has been said a thousand times already, the Babe, Cracker Jacks, tradition, etc, etc, so I'm not going to say it again.

Alright, I'll be the first one to say I picked the Atlanta Braves to go all the way this year. In the words of the great Bob Ucker, "so I lied." No seriously, everybody knows that the Braves had a full five game lead over the Dodgers when third baseman Bob Horner went down with the broken wrist. Enough said.

Now we are left with the dilemma of picking between the Dodgers and the Phillies. Oh brother, aren't these teams in it every year?

Actually these teams are so evenly matched that as far as I am concerned it's a toss-up. Both teams have identical .249 team batting averages and

both teams are tops in the National league in pitching, the Dodgers first with a 3.12 team earned run average, and the Phils close behind at 3.34.

Let's face it, with neither team possessing a true .300 hitter (Pedro Guerrero has the highest average on either team at .297) it's going to be left up to the pitching staffs.

The Phils have Steve Carlton, the major leagues top strikeout man at 275 and John Denny, the National League's victory leader with 19. However "Pappa" Lasorda can counter with perhaps the best overall rotation in baseball, Welch, Pena, Reuss and Valenzuela.

Two men can and will make the difference in this National league show down. Pete Rose at .245 and Joe Morgan at .230 might not do it with their bats but will do it with their experience.

Hey, if Seattle isn't in the race, who really cares about the American League championship series anyway? Right?

And what's a A.L. championship without Reggie Jackson? The only guy that is comparable to Reggie is Greg Luzinski. And the only thing the "Bull" can do better than Jackson is eat more Reggie candybars. He is hardly a Mr. October or even a Mr. September for that matter.

Both teams match up pretty evenly in the pitching column, each with identical 3.65 earned run averages. But I have to believe that the Birds have too much offense in the Ripkins, Murrays and Fords. Not to mention Ken Singleton.

There are just too many ex-Mariners on the Chisox for me. Don't get me wrong, I'm a Mariner fan but these guys (Bannister, Cruz and Paciorek) thought they were too good to play in Seattle. Heck, if they would have stayed in Seattle who knows?

Well, I am yet again going out on a limb with another prediction. Philadelphia and Baltimore. Care to put a pizza on it Steve?

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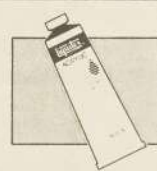
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