

Mental errors plague Cougars

by Mark A. Borrelli
Editor-in-Chief

Errors continue to be the biggest opponent of the Clackamas baseball team. Errors allowed four unearned runs to cross the plate in a 8-2 loss to Lane, dropping the Cougar record to 3-12.

Offensively in the game, the Cougars had a couple of people swinging a hot stick. Jason Hawkins, from West Albany, went 2-4, and Jim Squires, from Tigard, went 1-3, and scored twice. Squires, is currently leading the Cougars offensive attack, hitting a sultry .375. Other hot Clackamas hitters include Rob Van Tassel, .325, and Gage Campbell, .308.

Despite their record, Clackamas has seen some good pitching performances. According to Robinson, Brady Miller, Gladstone, Tim Arendell, Oregon City, and new pitcher, Don Nelsen, Rex Putnam, are all throwing the ball very well.

Arendell, despite his 1-3 record, has some good numbers thus far this season. In 28 innings pitched, Arendell has gave up just 11 earned runs. He has 15 K's and 10 walks.

Due to rain, yesterday's game was cancelled against Clark. It will be made up today at 1:00 p.m. at Clackamas. The next contest for the Cougars will be April 21 at Linn Benton.

Men tie for first, women fourth at relays

By Dan A. Fulton
Staff Writer

The Clackamas Cougars went to the Mt. Hood Relays and came home with a first place tie for the men, a fourth place for the women, and a second place trophy for the co-ed team.

The men tied at the top with Mt. Hood with 113 points. The nearest competition was Lane with 45 points. Mike Heib took first in the javelin, tossing it for a meet record of 224'1". Kylo Riggs brought home a first place trophy in the long jump vaulting 23'4-3/4", which is a lifetime best for Riggs. Gabe Crane ran his way to a first-place finish in the 110 meter hurdles with a time of 14.7 seconds.

Other finishers for the Cougars saw Richie Taylor wind up second in the triple jump leaping over the competition with a 46'3-1/4" jump. David Bate followed

his fellow teammate and finished second in the high jump skying 6'6" over the bar.

In the relay competition, the strong legs of the Cougars proved to be running well as they finished either first or second in all seven events. In the 4x800 relay, Buse, Moore, Tierney and McCrum took first with a time of 8:02.1. In the 4x1600 relay, the Cougars cruised to a first-place victory in 18:06.6 seconds. The Cougars, with the team of Fish, McCrum, Buse and Beardall, also ran to a first place trophy in the Distance Medley in a time of 10:18.2.

The team of the day saw Fish, Crane, Gibson, and Larson compete in three events together. In the 1600 meter relay, 3:19.6 seconds was good enough to take home first and become a season best for the team.

"The men had a very good

outing, finishing only second in a couple of relays to Sacramento City Community College," commented Mike Hodges, Cougars track coach. "They ran so many races--it was just a great performance for the sprinters and long distance runners."

The women had a very good performance also only to fall short and finish fourth with 53 points. Even though they finished fourth, this was their best outing in this event in six years. Starting off for the women, Cougars' strong-woman Jean-Maree Lillard brought home two first place finishes. Lillard set a school record in the discus event tossing 137'2". Lillard also heaved her way to a first place trophy throwing the shotput 43'11-1/2".

Chris Nysten brought home some metal finished second in the javelin with a throw of 145'3-1/2",

and finished third in the shotput. The shotput sailed 40'3-1/2", which beat her last record by more than two feet. Erika Lorentson cruised to a second place finish in the 110 meter hurdles, in a time of 14.7 seconds, becoming a personal and a school record.

"The women did very well," commented Hodges. "In a couple of relays, we had athletes that never really raced in those types of races [before]. The women have a lot of team spirit."

The next meet will be this Saturday, April 21, in Coos Bay. The competition will consist of Linn Benton and South Western Oregon Community Colleges. This meet will be a homecoming of sort to Coach Mike Hodges, since Hodges use to coach at SWOCC for 15 years before coming to Clackamas.

7-3 Cougars in first place at halfway mark

by Staci Beard
Sports Editor

Home wasn't exactly the sweetest place for the Clackamas softball team as they split double headers against Green River and South Puget Sound Community College.

"It is a little disappointing since we are used to playing better than .500 ball at home," stated Coach Paul Fiskum.

The contest with Green River started out with what Fiskum called "one of the best games." With only four hits Clackamas came up with the runs needed to win 2-0.

Scoring came from three Cougars. Kristi Northcutt came up with a single then stole second. Lisa Williamson then preceded to get the clutch single to drive Northcutt in. Julie Stichel was the only other run, aided by Green

River's overthrow to third, Stichel's triple became a error-aided homer.

Clackamas didn't need much offense because on the mound Angie Baker threw a one-hit shut-out with seven strikeouts and no walks. The only hit came as a bunt single by the first batter of the game.

Success didn't come for the Cougars in the second game losing 1-5.

Two defensive errors in the second inning put the team in a hole that they never came out of.

Hitting wasn't the problem of this game as Clackamas out-hit them 8-5 but left 11 runners stranded on the bases.

"When the second game came around we just didn't seem to be ready. Also when we get behind we don't sacrifice or strv as aggressive in out hitting when we get

behind. We try to big run innings and then we don't get anything," said Fiskum.

Except for one bright spot, Saturday's contest against South Puget Sound wasn't a good one. Even in the 9-5 win, the Cougars came up with five fielding errors.

Offensive bright spots came from Northcutt who went 4-4 for the game with three RBIs. Stichel also came up big going 3-4 with two RBIs.

"The biggest bright spot came when after making three errors in an inning and being behind 2-4, we were able to bounce back and produce the runs needed to win," explained Fiskum.

This game also saw a lot of errors, two in fielding and two mental errors.

"Our mental errors gave them their three-run inning," stated

Fiskum.

The one with the hot bat was Jenny Wimberly who went 2-3.

"We are not playing as well in the second game as the first. We seem to be losing our concentration. Our games start at 12:30 p.m. with batting, then the first game at 2 then the other one at 4. We are out here a long time and it just seems like the concentration is wavering," explained Fiskum.

The Cougars have reached the halfway point of league action with a 7-3 record. The team will take a week off of league action but will play in Olympia at the Crossover Tournament.

"The whole team feels we should be better then 7-3. We know we can be the best team. Our goal is to get to that level," commented Fiskum.

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