

Opinion

Tyson unfairly tried

by Maurice Glenn
Staff Writer

It's been almost a month since I heard that dreadful decision over the radio, that Mike Tyson received 30 years in prison, 10 years for rape and 10 years apiece on two counts of deviant conduct. I'm not totally convinced that he raped the 18-year-old black beauty pageant contestant. I'm not saying that he didn't do it; what I'm saying is it wasn't proven, without a shadow of a doubt, that he was guilty.

The Indianapolis jury was too influenced by his past activities. Every time I would turn to ESPN Sportscenter to hear the review of the trial, they would play something that was irrelevant. For instance, Judge Patricia Gifford heard testimony from the chauffeur of the limousine that Mike and the victim, Desiree Washington, were riding in. The woman driver testified that Mike exposed himself to her. That testimony, which was irrelevant, just added to the influencing of the jury.

There was also the testimony, that the Judge refused to hear, from three pageant witnesses, who said they had seen Mike and Desiree kissing before the crime. Desiree said under oath beforehand that she and Mike had made no advances towards each other at any time.

In my opinion, Mike Tyson did not get a fair trial, because Don King hired an incompetent lawyer (who has now been fired) or from the participants in the trial being biased towards him because he's a professional boxer, which is a predominantly black sport and portrayed as a dummy sport by the media.

Mike Tyson came into professional boxing six years ago with brute power and force which boxing fans, and sports fans alike, thought a man couldn't possess. Mike breathed life into a dying sport with no superstars; he brought boxing into the pay-per-view commodity that it is today. It's just another case of a black role model being shot down in controversy, whether it's Magic, Sugar Ray or many others. They always come up short at the end, but that's another story.

Mike Tyson, his future uncertain at age 25, the same age as when Muhammad Ali's career was taken away from him in his prime. Mike may have or may not have raped the 18-year-old black beauty contestant, but I think the people owe it to any person a fair trial, and not judge a person by his or her past activities.

There is one thing for certain. Mike may have gone to prison as a young man, but he's going to come out as older, and hopefully, wiser. He should start putting his life into focus, and start to think about the company he keeps. He did the right thing by hiring a new lawyer team; now all he needs to do is fire Don King and his entourage, and try to start over with a new slate, because all he has now is time to think.

CCC sweeps Chemeketa in baseball twin-bill

by Kevin Shields
Staff Writer

A doubleheader sweep last Tuesday over Chemeketa began an impressive week in which the Cougars' baseball team went 2-0 in league.

A four-run fourth, in which the team batted around, was the key to a convincing 9-5 victory over Chemeketa in the first game.

The Cougars got seven strong innings from the right arm of Bill Beck and Greg Grace closed the door with two strikeouts in the last two innings to pick up the save.

Beck survived a leadoff homer by Chemeketa's second baseman and scattered seven hits the rest of the way with five strikeouts. Cody Nelson went two for four with two stolen bases to provide a good portion of the offense.

Up 3-1 in the bottom of the fourth with the bases loaded, Eric Nielson drove in the first run of the inning with a single to left. The bases stayed full and Nichols singled to right for two more RBI's. An error by the shortstop brought in the last run of the inning.

Beck gave up two runs in the top of the fifth thanks to two bloop singles and a walk.

"A lot of stupid base hits, those things happen," Beck said.

However, he settled down and pitched out of a bases-loaded jam for the last out of the inning.

Beck turned right around and pitched a 1-2-3 sixth, ending the inning with a strikeout. Beck felt comfortable pitching with the lead, however, he still felt the pressure.

Baseball Schedule

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|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Sat. 4/25 | Mt. Hood | 1:00 Home |
| Tue. 4/28 | Clark | 1:00 Home |
| Thu. 4/30 | U of O Club | 2:00 Away |
| Sat. 5/2 | Chemeketa | 1:00 Away |
| Sat. 5/9 | Linn Benton | 1:00 Home |
| Tue. 5/12 | Mt. Hood | 1:00 Home |
| Thu. 5/14 | Clark | 1:00 Away |
| Sat. 5/16 | Southern Region | |
| Playoffs | | |
| Thu. - Mon. 5/21-5/25 | | |
| NWAACC Championships | | |

"I got to hold a lead; I can't let them back in it," he said.

The bottom of the sixth was marred with controversy. After tacking on two runs behind a sacrifice fly and some good baserunning from Mike Christman, who alertly scored on a passed ball. Then controversy ensued as Jon Bukowski was hit by a pitch.

Head Baseball Coach Robin Robinson, along with his players and the people in the stands, felt that Chemeketa's head coach intentionally threw at Bukowski with the Cougars up 9-3.

"No question about it," Robinson said.

Robinson defended his players at home plate and a shouting

match between coaches ensued.

When play resumed, Beck shut down Chemeketa, holding them scoreless for the second straight inning and then he turned the ball over to Grace with a 9-3 lead for the final two innings.

Grace pitched a scoreless eighth, thanks to a middle infield that turned a tough double play.

"Brandon (Bittner) and Eric (Nielson) play a smooth middle." If I put the ball in play, the defense is going to make a play on it," he said.

The ninth inning looked like it might be a replay of the eighth when Grace struck out Chemeketa's leadoff hitter on a big breaking ball. However, he served up a two-

run tater to right on a hanging pitch, his only real bad pitch during his stint in relief. Grace struck out the next two batters and got the last out on a pop-up to 1st base, giving the Cougars a convincing victory.

Beck got the win, leaving him with a 3-2 mark for the season while Grace picked up the save.

"We're playing more aggressive; (when we) play aggressive we seem to always win," Beck said.

Tim Ensley belted a first inning two-run homer and Matt Avery went the distance giving up two runs on four hits for a hard-fought 4-2 victory over Chemeketa in the seven-inning nightcap.

Bittner started the fourth with a walk and stole second, putting him in scoring position with no outs. Nielson slapped out a single to bring Bittner around and then scored himself to give the Cougars a 4-0 lead heading into the top of the fifth.

After getting the first batter to ground to short for the first out of the inning, Avery gave up two consecutive walks to put Chemeketa in scoring position. The two free passes came back to haunt him as Chemeketa's clean-up hitter doubled, scoring two runs and giving them some hope.

Avery got the next hitter on another grounder to short and got the last out of the inning on a strikeout, one of his six of the game.

Avery mowed them down in order in the last two innings to pick up the win. Nielson went two for three with an RBI and scored twice to lead the Cougar's offense.

Cougar softball posts 3-1 record at Yakima Tourney

by Lane Scheideman
Sports Editor

Last weekend at the Yakima Valley CC crossover tournament, the Clackamas softball team took three of the four games they played.

Their only loss came to the host team, Yakima Valley, in a 2-1 extra-inning battle.

Participating in the tournament were the top two teams in the Northern Division of the NWAACC, Wenatchee Valley and Spokane.

Clackamas faced Wenatchee Valley in their first game of the tournament and won 13-9.

Clackamas struggled early with three errors and had to bounce back from losing Launa Meck to injury in the first inning.

Meck suffered a muscular strain in her neck, but at the time neither she, nor the team, was sure how serious of an injury it was.

"It was a scary time for us," said Coach Paul Fiskum. "We weren't sure what exactly what was wrong because you have to be so careful with neck injuries."

Meck had to miss the tournament, but should be back in action in the near future.

Wenatchee Valley took a 6-0 lead after their half of the second inning, but Clackamas scored 13 runs in the next four innings to take a commanding lead.

"This was the finest hitting game I've seen since I started coaching the team," said Fiskum.

The team combined for 18 hits. Cindy Vance and Lisa DeMers were perfect at the plate with four and three hits, respectively. Brandy Toivonen, Jenny Topham, Julie

Braman, and Kristin Freitas each had two hits in the game.

Dawn Seastrom went the distance to record the win.

Clackamas next faced Western Washington University and won the game easily 9-1.

"This was one of the strangest games we've played," comments Fiskum.

Western's pitcher was not a very fast pitcher and Clackamas should have been able to get hits off her, but only recorded two hits in the first four innings.

During the fifth inning, the Cougars found their offense and scored eight consecutive runs to put away Western's team.

Clackamas finished with nine runs on 13 hits, led by DeMers going 3-4 at the plate and Topham finishing 2-2.

"The biggest part of the game was that we didn't commit any errors," said Fiskum.

Jennifer Hefflinger allowed only six base hits, while striking out nine.

After a two-hour break, Clackamas next faced Yakima Valley.

"We started the game like Clackamas-as-usual, lots of hits, with a run in the first," said Fiskum, "We just couldn't keep it up after that."

Yakima Valley tied up the score in their half of the first and that is the way it stayed until the eighth inning when Yakima Valley scored the winning run.

Kim Holum pitched a complete game allowing only seven hits and struck out eight.

"This game really woke us up

and showed us that we are not invincible," commented Fiskum.

The last game of the tournament was against Spokane, who would prove to be a good test for the Cougars.

Clackamas scored three runs by the end of the first and Spokane came back to score four in the second.

The score went back and forth until it was tied at six after the fourth inning.

"There was a lot of offense in this game," said Fiskum.

The game went into extra innings and in the eighth, Julie Stickel appeared to score from second base, but Spokane appealed, saying that she didn't touch third base. The home plate umpire said that the run scored, but the base umpire overruled him and called Stickel out.

Corie Peck then bunted what appeared to be a single, but the base umpire called Peck out at first.

Jenny Topham then hit a triple to get on base, and Holly Rahn singled Topham in to win the game.

"This was a very emotional win after the questionable calls," said Fiskum.

Peck was 3-5 at the plate with 2 RBI and Rahn was 2-5 with 3 RBI. Braman, Vance, and Freitas each had two hits.

Previously to the tournament Clackamas took on South Puget Sound in Olympia.

The Cougars won both games of the doubleheader 10-2 and 3-0.

The combination of Meck and Peck had an excellent day against South Puget Sound. Both were 5-9 on the day, combining for 2 RBI

and 6 runs scored.

Clackamas had 15 hits in the first game and 13 hits in the second.

Freitas also had a good day, getting four hits, scoring one run and knocking one in.

"Freitas is one of our most improved players this year," commented Fiskum. "She's added the bunt and slap game from the left side and has added to our offense."

On the mound, Holum struck out ten batters (a possible school record) and allowed one earned run. Hefflinger threw in the second game, striking out three to record the shutout.

The Cougars next play today at 4 p.m. against Willamette University on the Cougar diamond.

Sport Briefs Volleyball Tourney

This Sunday, the CCC volleyball team will be holding a 3-on-3 co-ed tournament. Anyone is eligible to participate.

The tournament should begin at about 10 a.m., so teams should arrive about 9:30 a.m. to stretch and warm up.

The cost is \$21 per team. The collected funds will be used by the volleyball team to purchase necessary items such as balls and uniforms for next season.

Entry forms can be picked up in Randall Hall by Kathie Woods' office.

If you have any questions, call Kathie Woods at ext. 2418.

5K Road Run

On Sunday, April 26, CCC will be hosting a 5K road run at 10 a.m.

Check-in is at 9 a.m. in lower level Randall. Fees are \$10 with a shirt and \$5 without the shirt.

There will be six divisions for both men and women to choose from.

Ribbons will be awarded to the top three finishers in each division.