

Cougar softball: Champions 'four-ever'

by Frank Jordan
The Print Staff

Clackamas Community College completed an undefeated campaign through the the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges softball season last week with doubleheader sweeps of South Puget Sound CC and Olympic College to finish the league season 22-0.

Against South Puget Sound, Becky Cordill ran her record to 11-0 in the first game, tossing a three-hitter, while Maja Wirkkala went 3-4 and Brandi Kamrath went 2-3 to help the Cougars to the 8-0 win.

The Cougars went out in the second game and they may have let down a little, trailing 3-2 in the second inning. Then the

Cougars exploded for five runs in the third to take control of the game.

Diana Clift threw a four-hitter to run her overall record to 6-0 on the season, while Wirkkala and Kamrath each went 3-3 at the plate in lifting CCC to the 11-3 victory.

"We let down a little in the second game, but we continued to get solid pitching from Diana and good defense behind her, and it was inevitable that the bats would get hot," commented Head Coach Paul Fiskum. "All of the sudden, I looked up and the score was 11-3 and I was surprised. I didn't think that it was that bad."

On Wednesday, the Cougars took their 20-0 NWAACC

record on the road to the NCAA #10-ranked University of Washington, and the Lady Huskies brought the Cougars back down to earth with a 8-0, 8-0 doubleheader blowout.

"The scores did not reflect how well we played, or how extremely tough UW was," said Coach Fiskum. "We felt that we competed better than the scores indicated, and we did some really good things. Michelle Kolbo threw out a base stealer that will be an All-American this year and Lynn Kinnaman went 2-2 in the first game against an All-American pitcher." Washington would end up travelling to the University of Arizona and, last Saturday split a doubleheader with the NCAA #1-ranked Wildcats.

While the Huskies and Wildcats were locking horns in Tucson, Clackamas would host the Olympic College in the final doubleheader of the regular season. CCC turned back the Rangers in both games, winning 7-4 and 6-2.

Cordill hurled a five-hitter, while Wirkkala and Fitzgerald got two hits apiece in leading CCC in game one. Clift tossed a three-hitter and Emily Routson, Kris Strouhal and Cordill had two hits apiece in leading the Cougars to the win in game two. Korinne Wellin also had a two-RBI triple in game two in helping the Clackamas offense.

Clackamas has clinched their fourth consecutive NWAACC Southern Division

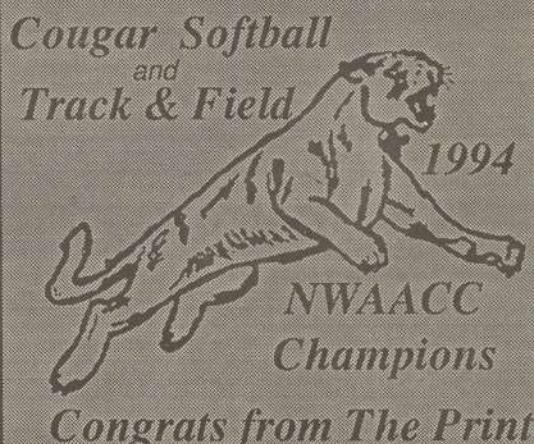
regular-season crown, and also has clinched the best regular-season in the whole NWAACC. The NWAACC tournament will be played this weekend in Yakima, WA, and Coach Fiskum and his team are ready.

"This is as good of a team that I have ever taken to the tournament, and now the time is at hand. I think that our mental approach to the tournament will be the key, but I told the girls that even if we do not win the championship, that it will have been a very successful season. I do believe, however, that we will respond in a very positive fashion. The tournament is so wide open at this time, but I think we can win it."



photo by Karen Bigham

Jason Farmer fires a fastball against Chemeketa in a 10-0 caning of the Chiefs. The Cougars have a tough week ahead of them before they head into the NWAACC playoffs. They traveled to Linn-Benton CC on Tuesday to play a big doubleheader. They end their regular season on Thursday against Chemeketa at home.



In case you missed it

by Jeff Adams
The Print Staff

Tuesday May 3 - The Cincinnati Reds defeated the Chicago Cubs 5-2 at Wrigley Field. This was the Cubs twelfth loss in a row, breaking a 92 year old club record.

Tuesday May 3 - Chris Webber of the Golden State Warriors was named the NBA's Rookie of the Year. Webber average 17.5 points, 9.1 rebounds, and 2.1 blocks per game. Webber edged out Orlando's Anfernee Hardaway by a 53-47 vote. The vote was the closest since 1981 when Darrell Griffith of Utah beat Kelvin Ramsey of Portland by one vote.

Friday May 6 - On this day in 1931 arguably the best baseball player of all time is born: Willie Mays.

Saturday May 7 - Auburn's John Powell became college baseball's all-time strike out leader. Powell struck his 542 batter in his career while playing defending national champions Louisiana State University.

Saturday May 7 - The Denver Nuggets defeated the Seattle Sonics 98 - 94 in overtime. The win wrapped up the five game playoff series for the Nuggets (3-2). This was the first time in NBA history that a number eight seed has defeated a number one seed in the playoffs.

Wednesday, May 11:

Isiah Thomas of the Detroit Pistons announces his retirement from the NBA. Thomas played 13 years for the Pistons, winning two world titles.

Friday, May 13: In 1955, Mickey Mantle has his only three-homer game of his career. His homers come in three consecutive at-bats in Tiger Stadium. The first two homers were left handed and the third was right-handed.

Sunday, May 15: Brett Butler of the Los Angeles Dodgers records his 2,000 hit in his 14-year career.

Sunday, May 15: Michael Jordan update. Through 32 games, Jordan is hitting .246 with six doubles, 18 RBI, nine walks, 33 strikeouts, 10 stolen bases and nine runs scored. Not quite Major League numbers.

Monday, May 16: The Oregon Ducks softball team earned a number two seed in the NCAA West Regional tournament. The Ducks are 35-21 overall and are ranked 14th nationally.

Tuesday, May 17: In 1991, Brian Bosworth starts his life after football. Bosworth, one of the biggest busts in NFL history, makes his acting debut as "Stone Cold" opens nation wide.

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