



Inside
English Instructor Mike Kepler is retiring after 27 years at Clackamas. Read about why he chose to work at Clackamas and his plans for the future on Page 5.

A&E offers several reviews of movies being shown this holiday season. Read more about it on Page 5.



Sports Scores

Volleyball

Clackamas loses to Mt. Hood

Quick Stats:

Score: 10-15, 6-15

Felando 16 assists; Wallsworth 9 Digs

Volleyball

Clackamas defeats Spokane

Quick Stats:

Score: 8-15, 15-9, 14-16, 15-6, 15-10

Felando 53 assists, 24 digs; Kraljev 20 kills

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South dominates NWAACC



JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

Jodi Stirmlinger and Michelle McKinney apply the block to Clark College in the Cougars' opening match of the NWAACC tournament.

Clackamas captures third place as Southern Division teams finish 1, 2, 3

JOHN THORBURN
Sports Editor

To win the Southern Division, you have to beat the best of the best.

Clackamas played hard and well during the season and beat the best teams in the Northwest to capture the Southern Division title.

The team's goal of repeating as Northwest Association of Community College's [NWAACC] champions fell short, however, as the Cougars closed out the year with a 10-15, 6-15 loss to the third seed from the South, Mt. Hood Community College, on Saturday in Bellevue, Wa. Clackamas placed third in the tournament while Southern Division rival Chemeketa took the title.

"A lot of people are going to see that we lost and ask what happened," said Head Coach Kathie Woods. "What happened was that this team was picked to finish last out of those three teams at the beginning of the season. What happened was a team with only three sophomores and 10 freshmen won the South during the regular season.

"The South has the best volleyball teams in the Northwest. Obviously, we were in the tournament to win it but if I had to choose between winning the NWAACC in a tournament or winning the Southern Division during the season, I'd take the South. I say that with pride."

"These three teams," said Woods, "are so evenly matched. On any given day, any one of these teams could have

taken the title. Mt. Hood played better than us on that day."

During the regular season, Clackamas defeated MHCC in both of its league games and split its two-game series with Chemeketa. MHCC also split its games with the Chiefs.

"In that game," added Woods, "we couldn't catch any breaks. We were thrown a couple of bad calls that we couldn't seem to overcome. We couldn't overcome the adversity. The desire was there but nothing would come together for us and everything MHCC did was working."

Michelle McKinney led the team with seven kills and seven digs. Mattye Walsworth recorded nine digs while Amy Felando had 16 assists.

Clackamas fell to Chemeketa in a grueling four-game match to send the Cougars up against the Saints of MHCC.

Against Chemeketa, the Chiefs took control early in the first game winning 15-4. The Cougars fought hard to a 14-11 lead but couldn't gain the equalizer against a stubborn Chemeketa defense and lost the second game 16-18. In the third game, Clackamas came out firing and rolled to a 15-10 win to cut the Chiefs' lead to 2-1 in games but Chemeketa put the Cougars away with a 15-4 victory.

"Chemeketa is big and tall," said Coach Woods. "They put up a block against us that was just a wall that we

See NWAACC, page 7

Graduation to be split up

CHRISTINA MUELLER
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Graduation for Clackamas students will be less stressful and chaotic this year because students will not need to limit the number of guests they invite.

This was made possible by the creation of two separate ceremonies: one for certificate and degree graduates and another for General Equivalency Diploma and Adult High School Diploma graduates.

In the past there have been two ceremonies: one for certificate and degree graduates as well as GED/AHSD graduates who have taken classes at Clackamas or who have registered to take a GED pretest. Only about 80 of 300 GED/AHSD graduates normally attend this ceremony.

See Graduation, page 3

Graduation 1998

- No limit on guests
- Two separate ceremonies: one for certificate/degree graduates, one for GED/AHSD graduates
- Cost for gown rental and cap and tassel (to keep) is \$10

Run-off is hazard to Newell Creek

LAURA ARMSTRONG
Staff Writer

When it rains it pours here in Oregon. During these times when nature shows what she's made of, a lot of damage is done.

At the Environmental Learning Center (ELC), there is a huge problem that needs to be addressed. The rain is causing a steady flow of dirt and silt into the headwaters of Newell Creek.

This is a problem that John LeCavalier, Executive Director of the ELC declares disastrous. A part of his job is to protect the stream from erosion. Essentially, protecting the streams is the responsibility of the college.

The effect of dirt getting washed into the creek is detrimental to fish and animals who make their homes there. Sediment has the potential to clog the gills of fish and other species. The end result is death for the animals in the headwaters and farther down Newell Creek.

Construction is taking place on the north side of the college where the ELC is located. From these construction sites rain mixes with dirt and produces a silty run-off that streams into the creek during rain storms.

See ELC, page 3



Recent rains have endangered wildlife by carrying excessive sediment into Newell Creek.

TIMOTHY BELL / Clackamas Print