

Cougars drop out of playoff race

Clackamas is eliminated from post-season play after losses to Lane, Chemeketa

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Staff Writer

The Clackamas baseball team is playing for nothing but pride.

The Cougars have been eliminated from the playoffs with a week remaining in the season.

Clackamas lost to Lane on Tuesday, May 5, ending any hopes for a playoff run.

Lane jumped on the Cougars early with three runs in the second inning and eight in the third off sophomore starting pitcher Robert Kinnee.

The Titans added one in the fifth and five in the sixth to take a 17-0 lead.

● **Thursday:**

Chemeketa 9
Clackamas 4

● **Next up:**

Thursday at
SWOCC, Noon

Clackamas finally got on the board in the bottom of the sixth with three runs. Each team added another run and Lane went on to win 18-4.

Clackamas Head Coach Robin Robinson used five pitchers in the game, combining to allow 18 hits.

Kinnee was credited with the loss and Lane freshman Corky Wray earned the win. Last Wednesday, Clackamas traveled to

McMinnville to take on Linfield JV in a non-league contest.

The Cougars' bats came alive early and often en route to a 14-5 victory.

Clackamas put a five-spot on the board in the top of the first inning.

Freshman Ryan Loren singled to start the game, followed by walks to sophomore Josh Kelsey and freshman Tim Fellows.

Freshman Kelly Corliss hit a double to score Loren and Kelsey. Sophomore Ryan Suyama followed with an RBI single to give the Cougars a 3-0 lead.

After an RBI ground out from sophomore Adam Edwards and a strikeout, sophomore Jeremy Brown delivered with a two-out single, scoring Suyama to put Clackamas up 5-0, a lead they would never relinquish.

Swearingen pitched four shut innings, allowing only one hit while walking two and fanning four.

Loren led the Cougars' 16-hit attack, going 4-5 with three singles, a double, three runs scored and two stolen bases.

Corliss was 3-4 with a double, a homerun, two runs and three runs batted in and Suyama was 3-3 with a double and an RBI.

Brown and freshman Jared Kinne had two hits apiece and combined for four RBI's.

The following day, Clackamas traveled to Salem to play Chemeketa in a single nine-inning game.

The Chiefs scored two runs in the first inning to take an early lead.

Clackamas battled back with a run in the second and a run in the fifth on a homerun by Edwards. In the bottom of the fifth, Chemeketa broke the game open with four runs and added another in the sixth. Clackamas scored a run in the eighth and ninth but came up short, falling to defeat by a score of 9-4.

Sophomore Bryan Hostetler pitched 4 2/3 innings in a losing effort. Hostetler allowed six runs on eight hits with one walk and three strikeouts.

Freshman Clayton Schofield relieved Hostetler, going 2 1/3 innings, allowing one run on two hits.

Edwards led a Cougar offense that totaled eight hits by seven different players, going 2-3 with his sixth homerun of the year and two runs scored.

Sophomores Jeff Berard and Andy Ortmyer both had an RBI single and sophomore Nick Miller contributed with a run-scoring triple. Corliss, Suyama and Kinne also had one hit apiece.

Chemeketa starting pitcher Scott Zemke pitched a complete game, walking only one and fanning four.



Freshman pitcher Ryan Swearingen shut out the Wildcats in four innings of work —allowing only one hit and striking out four.

JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

The loss dropped Clackamas' record to 8-12 in the Southern Division and 14-20 overall.

The Cougars were scheduled to host a doubleheader versus Chemeketa on Saturday and a single nine-inning game against Southern Division leader Mt. Hood yesterday, but both were postponed due to rain.

The Cougars hope to get those three games in, along with a doubleheader against Southwestern Oregon Community College [SWOCC] scheduled for Thursday, by Monday, May 18.

The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges [NWAACC] playoffs are being played in Walla Walla, Washington, beginning Thursday, May 21.

Team Leaders

- **Hits:**
Ryan Suyama [46]
- **Runs:**
Ryan Suyama [35]
- **Home Runs:**
Adam Edwards [6]
- **RBI's:**
Adam Edwards [32]
- **Wins:**
Art Salinas [5]



Sophomore Jeremy Brown went 2-4 at the plate in the Cougars' 14-5 victory over Linfield last Wednesday.

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