

## Cougars' season ends, recruiting begins

### Ten sophomores leave after finishing a disappointing season with a 14-22 record

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Staff Writer

The season has come to an end for the Clackamas baseball team.

The Cougars finished a disappointing season by getting swept by Southwestern Oregon Community College [SWOCC]. Clackamas traveled to Coos Bay to play the Lakers on Saturday. The doubleheader was originally scheduled for Thursday, but was pushed back because of rain.

The Cougars had trouble generating any offense all day, giving the pitching staff little margin for error.

In the first game of the doubleheader, SWOCC scored early and often. Sophomore starter Bryan Hostetler pitched in his final game as a Cougar, lasting five innings while being credited with the loss.

Sophomore Andy Ortmyer led the Cougar offense, going 3-3 with a homerun.

Freshman Rian Alden and sophomore Josh Kelsey had two hits apiece in the loss.

In game two, the Cougars went up against Laker ace John Richards, a hard-throwing lefty that earned second team All-Southern Region honors. Clackamas wasn't able to create much offense in a 5-3 loss.

Sophomore Jeff Williamson started for the Cougars, going four innings in his final outing as a Cougar. Williamson was credited with the loss. Kelsey was 2-5 with a pair of singles to lead the Cougars.

The losses dropped the team's final record to 14-22 overall and 8-14 in league.

Head Coach Robin Robinson finished his eighth season at Clackamas and said it was probably the worst season he's ever had.

"This was a very frustrating season for all of us," said Robinson. "We've got our work cut out for us to become a good team next year."

Robinson, who had high expectations and felt his team could have made the playoffs, expects to improve the team for next year.

"We are on a recruiting trail. We're trying to build a better team for '99. This year, we had a lot of players who were specialists. Some guys were great hitters but could not play defense and others were excellent on defense but were not good hitters. We're looking for five-tool players; well-rounded players who can do it all."

Clackamas had five players earn All-Southern Region honors.

Sophomore Ryan Suyama, infield, was the only Cougar selected to the first team. Sophomores Adam Edwards, infield, Andy Ortmyer, utility, and Jeff Williamson, relief pitcher, and freshman Rian Alden, outfield, earned second team honors.

Coach Robinson enjoyed coaching the sophomores and expects some to continue on in their baseball career.

"We had some tremendous sophomores who were a pleasure to be around," said Robinson. "There were a few sophomores that will leave great memories for me. I really appreciate getting the opportunity to coach them."

One of these sophomores is Josh Kelsey, an infielder who finished his third year with the Cougars after redshirting his first year. Kelsey received a Seattle Mariners baseball scholarship of \$1000 for his excellence



JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

Sophomore Jeff Williamson, who led the team with four saves, was named to the All-Southern Region second team. He joins three other Clackamas players named to the region's second team.

as a scholar athlete. Kelsey earned the award because of his outstanding academic success and leadership. The sophomore is carrying a 4.0 cumulative GPA and is involved with the Associated Student Government [ASG].

The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges [NWAACC] Tournament begins tomorrow at Yakima

Valley Community College's Parker Field.

Southern Division champion Mt. Hood [24-12 overall, 16-6 in league] opens up against Lower Columbia [21-14, 17-9], the second place team from the Western Division.

Lane [29-8, 16-7], the Southern Division runner-up, will open up against Western Division champion Green River.

The eight-team, double-elimination tournament runs through Monday, May 25.



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Sophomore Jeromy Brown leads off against Linfield in a game earlier this year. Brown is one of 10 sophomores leaving the baseball program this year.

### 1998 Final Baseball Statistics

Hitting	AVG.	Pitching	ERA
Ryan Suyama	.416	Art Salinas	3.86
Kelly Corliss	.400	J. Williamson	5.16
Andy Ortmyer	.394	C. Schofield	5.24
Jared Kinne	.379	R. Swearingen	6.30
Adam Edwards	.373	B. Hostetler	7.71
Team Avg. -	.316	Team ERA -	6.47

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