

# Rain, rain go away ... Cougars are 1-0

JOHN THORBURN  
Sports Editor

The Clackamas baseball team faced a familiar adversary this past weekend.

Rain.

With a scheduled double-header against Southwestern Oregon Community College [SWOCC] in Coos Bay on Saturday, the Cougars and Lakers were only able to face off in one game to open the league schedule for both clubs.

In the one league game, however, the Cougars looked awesome.

Greg Palmer, a draft pick by the Toronto Blue Jays out of Gresham High School, allowed only one run on four hits and struck out five Laker batters.

"Greg is pitching very, very well for us right now," said Clackamas Head Coach Robin Robinson. "He's a very talented athlete."

Chris Lohrey, a 6'8" right-hander from Beaverton High School, earned the save, allowing one hit while striking out three.

"This was only Chris' second outing of the spring for us so we're very pleased with how well he has pitched," added Robinson.

At the plate, Jeremy Barnett was three for four while Ryan Oliver and Alvin Ellis each had triples in the seven-inning game.

Robert McCoy, a freshman out of Pine Eagle High School, had two hits in four at bats.

The victory places Clackamas at the top of the Southern Region standings with a 1-0 record. Overall, the Cougars are 3-10.

"We've played about six or seven games which we lost by only one run," noted Robinson. "We're playing well, we're just not getting some things done."



JOHN THORBURN / Clackamas Print

Glenn Boss has a 1.08 ERA that leads a pitching staff that averages 5.42 earned runs per game.

Last Thursday, Clackamas lost a 14-13 nine-inning game to the Linfield College junior varsity squad.

"Our league switched to wood bats this season," said Coach Robinson. "We're still adapting a bit to that change but we're in the same boat as everybody else in our league."

Linfield competes in a league

which allows the use of aluminum bats.

"When you use wooden bats and you face a team that is using metal bats, it makes a big difference. We stayed with them, though, so we're fairly pleased," said Robinson.

"We're hitting the ball pretty good, but our pitching needs to improve. We need to have a few guys step it up a notch and really start

throwing."

Freshman Glenn Boss [0-1], a righthander out of Beaverton, leads the team with a 1.08 earned-run average and 18 strikeouts in 17 innings pitched.

Palmer [2-0] has a 1.59 ERA with 15 strikeouts in 17 innings.

The team ERA is 5.42.

Oliver is leading Clackamas in hitting with a .562 average in 16 plate

appearances.

McCoy is batting .350 in 40 at bats and has six runs batted in, while Ryan Loren is hitting .310 and leads the team in RBI's [seven] and home runs [two].

Clackamas faced rival Mt. Hood yesterday in Gresham for one nine-inning game. Scores and stats were not available at press time.

## Khosravi: Five talented players top draft

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foot is placed slightly behind his right]. Smith is accurate and has the strongest arm in the draft, with the exception of Kansas quarterback Michael Bishop. This allows Smith to fire the ball into areas with minimal openings. Last season, he showed he is a quick learner, as he had only two years to learn Oregon's offense. Smith has the biggest upside of any quarterback in the draft.

### Donovan McNabb Quarterback-Syracuse

McNabb was a four-year starter at Syracuse. Like Smith, he is a tremendous athlete although, he is far less polished than both Smith and Couch. McNabb doesn't always follow his receiver progressions, and sometimes drops his arm when he throws, resulting in a throw from a three-quarters angle. He is, however, a great prospect that could develop into a franchise quarterback with proper coaching. Without proper coaching, McNabb could end up like Rick Mirer, a mobile quarterback with all the physical tools who never panned out.

Central Florida quarterback Daunte Culpepper may be considered as well. He is more polished in terms of passing mechanics than is McNabb, and is a bigger quarterback. Although physically he may be better, pro scouts are concerned about how he will adjust to the change in level of competition, since he played small college ball. Culpepper may be considered, but McNabb is the likely pick here. Culpepper will go number 7 to the Chicago Bears.

### Daunte Culpepper Quarterback-Central Florida

If physical attributes made a good quarterback, Culpepper would be top. At 6-4 262lbs, he has a linebackers size. Culpepper is mobile in the pocket, and a tough player. Culpepper has great touch and accuracy on his passes. He throws a good deep ball. He is a physical player who can withstand

big hits. Physically, Culpepper will have no problem adjusting to the NFL. Some worry however, that it may take him time to adjust to the mental part of the NFL game. They worry that his level of competition at Central Florida way not have prepared him for the sophisticated defensive schemes he will face in the NFL. However, Culpepper has done well when matched up against big time colleges like Nebraska.

### Chris Claiborne Middle Linebacker-USC

USC linebacker Chris Claiborne is the type of player that can be the cornerstone of a defense for years. He is a tough inside tackler

who possesses good tackling skills; he is an exceptional open field tackler and displayed good instincts in college. Claiborne has excellent lateral movement and speed, which combined with his outstanding coverage and pass-rushing skills combine to give Claiborne a blend of talent and instincts that make him the top linebacker in the draft

### Champ Bailey Cornerback-Georgia

Georgia's Champ Bailey is the top corner in the draft. He is extremely fast as he ran a 4.35 in the 40 on turf (which equals 4.42 on grass). He possesses great deep speed and has a rare burst of speed

to the ball that allows him to close on receivers quickly. Bailey has smooth hips and can turn from backpedal to sideways run ["Turn and Run"] in a smooth motion without losing speed. His great body control and his recovery speed lead to him rarely being caught out of position. Bailey is also extremely versatile. Although he figures to play just defense in the pros, Bailey was also a receiver and return man in college. Some scouts feel that he could also pass as a legitimate receiver prospect.

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