

Track: Men excel, women stumble at Mt. Hood CC

J.J. PEARSON
Staff Writer

It was a gloomy, gray and wet afternoon this past Saturday, April 13, when the Cougars' track and field teams fiercely competed at the Mt. Hood Relays. The men's team repeated as champions, running away with the title, while the women competed without three of their best athletes, which left them wondering what could have been.

The men out-dueled Highline (117-95) for the top spot, and the women finished fourth, 85 points behind first-place Spokane. Head Coach Jack Kegg said he thought the women could have finished in the top two or three if Rebekah Yancoskie (out with an ankle injury), Maria Skipper and Christy Strout (both needed rest) were able to participate for Clackamas. Coach Kegg was very pleased with the way the team had prepared themselves for the relays. "Everyone was very self-motivated, it was nice to see," said Kegg.

Once again the women swept the top three spots in pole vault. Dasha Wakefield, quite possibly the most impressive Cougar athlete this week, lead the way with a personal-best leap of 12'0". Sara Rowse and Elisabeth

Malsey rounded out the top three places. In addition to the pole vault, Wakefield placed first in the high jump and finished the day with an amazing 24 individual points.

Corey Swim busted out of his slump in the javelin when he tossed the pointy stick 185'11". Earlier in the year he threw the javelin 196'10", which is the second-best throw in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges this season. Swim complemented his javelin victory with a first-place tie with teammate Matt Tondreau in the high jump, each leaping 6'2". Swim finished the meet with a notable 19 individual points.

Paul Etter threw the hammer 189'8", beating his own school record by 10 inches. He also placed third in the discus, tossing it 151'9". Kegg said the strength in their field events gave the Cougars an advantage over their opponents. He added that Saturday's Cougar Invite will bring some of the best competitors of Oregon's smaller schools to campus, including Portland State, from Division I-AA, Western Oregon (Division II), Willamette (Division III), and Mt. Hood (junior college). Kegg is confident that individually, his team will be able to compete with the

better athletes. Saturday's meet begins at 10 a.m. at Clackamas.

Other Cougar top finishers: *Lan Evers (5'0") finished second in the women's high jump. Steve Stenger (20'4") finished in second-place in the men's long jump. In addition to her second-place finish in the pole vault, Rowse had a personal-best throw in the women's hammer (141'7"), which landed her third on CCC's all-time list for the event. Jesse Dean, Seth Marshalek and Matt Muravez swept the top three spots in the men's pole vault. The men's 3,200m-relay team finished third with a time of 7:56.46, and the 400m-relay team (43.59 seconds) placed second. The women's sprint medley relay team finished three seconds behind Spokane for second place. The men's 1,600m relay team (3:19.47) ran the second-fastest time in the NWAACC this season and eighth all-time in school history. The men's 6,400m-relay team placed second, five seconds ahead of Mt. Hood. And the men's throwers 400m relay team finished first, one second in front of Clark.*

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Baseball team drops four straight games

ELENA BORYSKA
Sports Editor

With some assistance from Oregon's unpredictable weather, the Cougar baseball team was only able to play one of the two doubleheaders scheduled this week, while making up a pair of games that was postponed from April 9.

On April 11, Clackamas traveled down to Eugene to take on the Southern Region leaders, Lane CC, in a series that was delayed from two days prior. The first game was a rout by the host Titans, with the Cougars falling 12-1. Matt Paulsen was credited with the loss. After that beating, the Cougars kept the next game a lot closer, but were still unable to overtake Lane, losing 3-4. Brandon Gleich picked up the loss in this game.

On Saturday, April 13, the Cougar diamond men took off to Salem to try to steal two games from Chemeketa and even out their league record at six wins and six losses. However, Chemeketa wasn't about to let that happen. The first game was another Cougar loss, 2-0, with Jordan Denney being handed the loss. After a short intermission, the Cougars came back in the next game to take even more of a beating, falling to a four point loss, 5-1.

This loss was put on Jeremiah Beckett's shoulders.

After playing all of these away games, the Cougars came back on April 14 to try to make up a rainout from April 7. While both teams were ready to play, the weather wasn't ready to comply, forcing this game to be rescheduled once again. There was also a scheduled doubleheader on Tuesday April 16 against Southwestern Oregon CC. Results were unavailable at press time.

The four games that the Cougars were able to play this week added to their lopsided league record, which is now 4-8, and 7-13 overall. This record puts them at the second to last position in the Southern Region of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges. Lane is at the top of the standings, followed by Chemeketa, Mt. Hood, Linn-Benton and Clackamas, with Southwestern Oregon holding down the bottom spot.

This week's scheduled games include a repeat of Tuesday's games at Southwestern Oregon CC on April 20, and a set of home games against Mt. Hood on April 23 at 1 p.m.

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Soccer Anyone?

Women's Soccer Coach Tracy Nelson will be holding open tryouts for any women interested in playing soccer for CCC in the fall of 2002. Tryouts will be held on Friday, April 19, from 2-4 p.m. at the practice field located at the main entrance to the college. For questions, call (503)657-6958 ext. 2099.

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