

Softball controls tough opponents

DAISY BAIN
A & E Editor

Cougar softball played hard last week, losing only the first of a six-game stretch to South Puget Sound, Tuesday, April 23.

"They (South Puget) played very well," said Coach Paul Fiskum. According to the NWAACC conference statistics, as of April 28, South Puget has a 3-12 record in league play, which puts them in sixth place in the conference. "We didn't play our best," said Fiskum. The score book records show two errors by the Cougars, but according to Fiskum, the team made many foolish mental mistakes. Cougars suffered the 6-5 loss.

Shortly after the Cougars showed revenge in game two of the doubleheader verses South Puget.

"We played tough," said Fiskum. Casey Lapp, sophomore, "threw one of her best games of the year," according to

Fiskum. She allowed only one run on five hits and delivered eight strikeouts.

Breau Makin, freshman outfielder, scored the winning run by aggressive base running. She got on base with a walk. Thereafter, every advancement was a thieving inning. The revenge ended a 2-1 game.

Thursday, April 25, Clackamas faced off with Mount Hood Community College and was perhaps the highlight of stress for Clackamas so far this season says Fiskum. "There was more drama in that game than any other game we've had."

The game was thought to be a sure win for Clackamas in the fourth inning. Clackamas was leading until they gave up four runs of four errors. Those mistakes put Clackamas in the hole, 5-4.

"We gave the game away, and came to take it back," said Fiskum.

In the seventh inning, Clackamas had two outs with nobody on base. Morgan Huffstetter,

freshman, slammed the ball to the fence to gain a double. Lindsey Burke, freshman, singled her in to tie the game, 5-5.

"Then the drama began; every pitch became crucial," said Fiskum.

The game went on into three extra innings with no runs scored by either team. In inning 11 the inter-nation tiebreaker was put into effect. The Cougars scored a run made by a squeeze play made by Erin Murphy, sophomore. Kelsey Bisbing, freshman, knocked her in.

To the Cougar's dismay, Mt. Hood retaliated and scored another run to tie the game, again. Inning 12, still nobody scored. Nikki Staley, sophomore, "made two outstanding defensive plays that probably saved the game," said Fiskum.

Finally, in inning 13, Clackamas pulled out five runs on four hits. Mt. Hood tried to make a comeback, scoring one more run but turned out unsuccessful, giving up an 11-7 win for the Cougars.

Over the weekend, Clackamas

again faced off with South Puget Sound, winning 9-0. Vanessa Holm threw nine strikeouts. Coos Bay also felt the wrath of the Cougars being defeated in twice in the doubleheader 6-0 in game one and 7-2, game two. Miranda Gillaspie, freshman, and Lapp both threw strikeouts and a combined nine strikeouts and one walk.

"Our defense was not as good," said Fiskum. Defense hasn't met to the Cougars standards of error-free softball. "It was a real ouch," he said. Five errors were recorded for game two against Coos Bay. Clackamas played Lower Columbia Community College Tuesday, April 30. Statistics were not available at press time.

"Our time is due," said Fiskum, determined to beat Lower Columbia, who has beaten them three times and holds first place in the conference with a 17-0 record in league play.

To reach Daisy Bain e-mail Daisypower2@yahoo.com or drop by B-104.



MIKE POLLOCK / Clackamas Print

Casey Lapp fires a pitch to the plate in Clackamas' 2-1 win against S. Puget Sound.

Track and field runs into a busy week with three meets

J.J. PEARSON
Staff Writer

Some of the best athletes in the country competed at the Oregon Invitational in Eugene on Saturday, April 27, where the Cougars had several competitors place among the best, setting personal records and high standards in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges. The track and field teams also sent representatives to the Western Oregon Open on the same day and competed at the Multi-Championships on April 29 and 30.

OREGON INVITATIONAL

At first glance the Cougars do not look like they placed very high in the box scores, but the times and marks are some of the best in the conference this year. Sara Rowse rebounded from a hamstring injury to vault an NWAACC-leading 12-9 1/2 in the women's pole vault during the twilight session. Unfortunately, Rowse played second fiddle to former Cougar standout Becky Holliday (13-5 1/4), who is now competing for Oregon. Nonetheless, Rowse has recovered from her injury and has reclaimed her status as the NWAACC's top dog in the pole vault and she is looking strong for the upcoming NWAACC championships.

In the men's hammer throw, two



J.J. PEARSON / Clackamas Print

Ben Kennedy, far left, and Jesse Dean, far right, of Clackamas try to oust a recent opponent in the men's 110-meter high hurdles. The track team will be at Mt. Hood CC on Saturday.

of the best competitors in the nation, Kevin McMahon and Lance Deal, participated in the meet. Both McMahon and Deal are professional athletes who were invited to the contest. Currently, McMahon is rated the best thrower in the nation and Deal is the U.S. record holder in the event. Clackamas' Paul Etter said it was very interesting to compete against the pair. He tossed the hammer 182-9, nearly 60 feet behind McMahon—the eventual winner.

During the day session Andre Williams set a personal record in the men's 800-meter run with a time of 1 minute, 55.91 seconds. Dasha Wakefield took first place in the women's pole vault with a leap of

11-5 1/4. And Kari Rissmiller rewrote Clackamas' record books in the women's 800, finishing with a time of 2:18.30, which landed her in the fifth spot on the all-time list. She also finished in third place in the 1500 when she crossed the finish line at 4:40.70, which is the second-best time recorded in school history and is a 4-second improvement on her best time ever. Keonie McHone, Clackamas' assistant track coach, said that Rissmiller's achievements were incredible.

WESTERN OREGON OPEN

At the same time in Monmouth, at an hour and a half north of Eugene, several Clackamas athletes were participating in the West-

ern Oregon Open. McHone said there were some great individual efforts throughout the day.

Kim Provost had a pair of third-place finishes. She ran the women's 100-meter high hurdles in 17.15 seconds and leaped 15-8 3/4 in the long jump.

In the women's 5,000-meter run

Stacy Hopkins finished in seventh place, Jennie Hardie finished in eleventh, and Alyssa Anderson set a personal record with a time of 20 minutes, 49.16 seconds.

Kyle Holland placed first in the men's 800 with a time of 1:56.48, which is a 2-second improvement on his a second best.

Steve Groff (47-2 1/4) leaped into fifth place on Clackamas' all-time list in the men's triple jump. It was also a 1-foot improvement on his best jump of all-time.

In the men's hammer throw Kelly Howlett chucked the hammer a personal best 157-4 to finish in fourth place. Howlett (42-10 3/4) also took sixth place in the shot put.

MULTI-CHAMPIONSHIPS

The multi-championships were held at Lower Columbia College on Monday, April 29 and Tuesday, April 30. There were no results at press time.

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