



Jordan Denney struck out 10 batters in the 2-1 Cougar home victory over Linn-Benton on May 11.

Silena De La Cruz/The Clackamas Print

Cougar Athletic Calendar

Softball-
NWAACC
CHAMPIONSHIPS
Saturday & Sunday,
May 18 & 19
Delta Park, Portland

Track-
NWAACC
CHAMPIONSHIPS
Thursday & Friday,
May 23- 24
@ Mt. Hood C.C.

No playoffs for Cougar baseball

ELENA BORYSKA

Sports Editor

After losing both games at Linn-Benton on May 7, the Cougar baseball team came back home to sweep a doubleheader on May 11 and showed just how much of a success this season might have been.

Tuesday, the Cougars just couldn't get the job done. The first game went into 12 innings, even though the Cougars were leading in the ninth. Clackamas committed an error in that inning which allowed three runs to score and send the game into extra innings, where Linn-Benton defeated Clackamas by a final of 5-4.

The second game of the doubleheader

was less dramatic, as Linn-Benton coasted to an easy 3-0 victory.

When the Cougars took the field on Saturday against Linn-Benton, they were extremely shorthanded. Out of a 22-man roster, injuries limited Clackamas to only 13, and two out of those 13 were not completely healthy. Despite the shortened roster, the Cougars were able to win both games with the help of some great pitching.

Game one was a close victory by Clackamas by a final of 2-1. Jordan Denney pitched really well, striking out 10 Linn-Benton men and earning the win. Brandon Ferguson came in to relieve Denney and grabbed the save. The two runs by the Cougars came from Beau Holstad, who hit an RBI double, and Tom Henderson's RBI single.

gle.

Matt Paulsen took the mound in game two and pitched a complete game, all the while shutting out the offense. He led his team to a 7-0 victory over Linn-Benton to end the series. Jesse Gaylord was 3-3 with a double and a walk. Scott Hunter and Colin Griffin each had a two-hit game, while Paulsen and Dewey Steinmetz each had an RBI single.

The injuries that the Cougars experienced on Saturday have been the story the entire season. They have lost quite a number of players, including their leadoff hitter and designated hitter, as well as five pitchers. The loss of the pitchers has been felt more so than possibly any other players. "Many games, we just needed one more pitcher," said Robinson.

It may be because of the losses of the pitchers that the Cougar season will be over after only a few more games. In a season that Robinson had expected his team to be at the top of the league, the playoffs are not part of the future for these men. Despite the disappointments of this season, Robinson is quick to point out the positives on this team.

"We have guys that are playing great," Robinson said. "We have some tremendous talents."

A doubleheader was scheduled for Clackamas against Chemeketa CC on Tuesday, May 14 on the Cougar diamond. Results were unavailable at press time.

To reach Elena Boryska e-mail crazyforlance@hotmail.com or drop by B-104.

Bash brother summer relived



From the Bleachers

Nick Barron

Staff Writer

We were two blonde-headed boys, flying into adolescence at the precipice of being teenagers, full of the drama that girls and cars would bring. It was summertime in Missouri, and along with playing on our little league baseball teams, my brother Travis and I, would venture into the summer heat for a little round of our own version of baseball.

Our ball was actually a hacky sack or a tennis ball, the bat made of plastic and covered in duct tape. Home plate was just feet in front of our house, the outfield walls were tree limbs and sidewalks.

It happened once or twice a week, when I could coax my older brother out of the air conditioning and into the humid day

to play a game of baseball with me. But when he would finally appease his little brother, we would be Major Leaguers in our front yard.

Travis would be Mark McGwire, a player I didn't know much about, but I did know he hit home runs and played in the World Series. His counterpart, my wise sibling informed me, was Jose Canseco, and together they were the Bash Brothers.

I would see posters of the duo at Wal-Mart, imagining that it was Travis and me, hoping that one day my lack of athletic ability would rise to equal his superior talent and we would play on the same Major League team we would literally be the Bash Brothers.

On Monday, May 13, 2002, Jose Canseco called it quits, retiring from baseball. He was middling in the minor leagues, years removed from his Bash Brother days, batting just .172 with five homers for the Chicago White Sox's Triple A affiliate, the Charlotte Knights.

At the end of last season, McGwire became the first Brother to ride off into the sunset. McGwire's career varied differently from Canseco's, as the slugging first baseman played for just two Major League teams, as opposed to the seven Canseco suited up for.

Canseco leaves behind a

career that many argue, and probably rightfully so, is not suitable for the Hall of Fame. McGwire, on the other hand, will slide right into Cooperstown, eventually outlasting his former teammate and putting the finishing touches on a majestic career.

Now that I am older and wiser, I see how perfect it was for Travis and me to pretend we were the Bash Brothers. My brother was the jock, the one who could play any sport he desired to, and I was the one who was a little bit different.

I always loved sports, and I knew exactly what I needed to do to be successful at them. The problem was that I couldn't make my body do what my mind told it to, and for that I was always a little more goofy and a little more clumsy than my brother.

So as I grew up, I suffered from always wanting to be like my older brother. But on those sunny summer days, when we were the Bash Brothers, I felt that we were equals.

Now as Canseco has retired, I am faced with two truths: Even one of the Bash Brothers was a better player than his counterpart, and that even the Bash Brothers grow up and grow old.

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