



ROBB EGAN Clackamas Print

Cougar midfielder Helen Philpot (right) attempts to pass around Jennifer Cule (center) to Tara Wood during practice. The Cougars take a 9-2-1 record into this week's home games against Southwestern Oregon CC, Tacoma CC and Lower Columbia CC.

## Soccer faces critical week

Elena Boryska  
Sports Editor

During a two-week period that included losing five players to injury, the Cougar women's soccer team went 4-0 to take over second place in the Southwestern Division of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges.

During the weekend of Oct. 18-19, the Cougars played two games at home and won both of them, helping them move into their present position in the division standings. The next weekend, they took on and defeated both Green River CC and Highline, bettering their league record to 9-2-1.

The two games on Oct. 18 and 19 resulted in a lopsided 5-0 Friday victory against Shoreline, as well as a 3-2 nailbiter over Bellevue on Saturday. Clackamas found themselves with a shortage of available players, due to injuries, against Bellevue and this forced CCC to finish the game without any substitute players. Though Head Coach Tracy Nelson wasn't overly happy with her team's performance in those games, she was satisfied with the results of the two matches.

"We actually ended the (Bellevue) game with no subs," Nelson said. "But they battled through, found a way to win the game, and that's all you can ask in that situation."

Of all the women injured at the time, the only two who sat out last weekend's games were Richelle Trute and Jamie Dodrill. Dodrill will be ready for the upcoming games, but Trute, who has a severely sprained ankle, is out until at least the end of this week. The games without Dodrill and Trute were played on the road against Green River, where the Cougar women walked away with a 4-2 victory, and at Highline, which ended with Clackamas on top, 6-1. These games were a chance for Nelson to put some women in situations where they wouldn't normally play, as well as give the injured players some much needed rest.

This week, all of the top teams will be pitted against each other, making for some fierce battles. The Cougars will be facing their tough opponents in front of the home crowd. Today, Clackamas will take on Southwestern Oregon CC; on Friday, they play Tacoma and Saturday, they will play Lower

Columbia CC. These will not be easy games for the Cougars, but with most of their players back and ready to play, they will be prepared.

"I'm not worried. I know when this team's on, they can beat anybody," Nelson said. "Obviously keeping people healthy and taking one game at a time is the key this week. We'll get through Wednesday, and then we'll worry about Friday and then we'll worry about Saturday. And I think the girls are going to be very motivated because we haven't beaten SWOCC yet, we lost to Lower Columbia and we tied Tacoma. So I think the girls are going to want to get those three games and get the results."

## Running for home



Keoni McHone Contributed

Despite some strong performances from both the men's and women's cross country teams, neither team was able to bring the Southern Region title home to Clackamas.

Sophomore Kari Rissmiller earned herself the Southern Region women's title. Rebekah Yancoskie was the only other Cougar woman to place in the top ten, finishing eighth. Despite these two performances, Clackamas' women's team took the bottom spot, with Clark College winning the team title.

On the men's side, Eli Nevarez (pictured above) was the highest Cougar placer with a third-place finish. Ira LaFontaine was close on his heels, grabbing the fifth-place spot, while Russ Pruden and Pat Searing took the sixth- and seventh-place positions, respectively. The men took second place behind men's champion Mt. Hood CC.

The Cougars will get a week off before they head to Vancouver, WA for the NWAACC Championships on Nov. 9.

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