

Cougar Sports Calendar

Now with more real Cougar!

Softball

Friday, April 25
at South Puget
Sound
@ 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 26
Chemeketa
@ 2 p.m.
HOME

Tuesday, April 29
Grays Harbor
@ 3 p.m.
HOME

Baseball

Saturday, April 26
at Lane
@ 1 p.m.

Tuesday, April 29
Mt. Hood
@ 1 p.m.
HOME

Track

Saturday, April 26
Oregon Invitational
at Eugene, Ore.

Monday/Tuesday,
April 28-29
NWAACC Multi
Championships
at Spokane, Wash.



NIC DELZELL Clackamas Print

Softball players celebrate an out during their April 12 game against Lower Columbia. The Cougars defeated Lower Columbia 4-2, ending LCC's NWAACC-record 54 game win streak.

Softball captures third place in Crossover Tournament

Frank Jordan

The Clackamas Print

Clackamas softball closed out a 5-2 week with a third place finish at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges' Crossover Tournament held last weekend in Wenatchee, Wash.

Clackamas opened the tournament Saturday morning with a 3-1 win over Edmonds CC. Carleen Lessard allowed only two hits and one run in four innings of work, while Brienne Thurn allowed one hit in her two innings pitched. Miranda Gillaspie hit her second homerun of the season. Carla Lillis and Jessica Nagi supplied RBI singles in the win.

The Cougars took on Wenatchee Valley CC in the second game on Saturday and played well, but lost a heartbreaking game to the host school, 2-1. Two close calls at the plate went against the Cougars in the sixth inning, helping WVCC to the win.

"We played really well, but sometimes those things happen," said Head Coach Paul Fiskum. "We hit the ball really hard, but the breaks went against us."

With the loss, Clackamas fell into the third-place bracket and met Shoreline CC Sunday morning. CCC bounced back from the loss to Wenatchee Valley and defeated Shoreline 3-2.

The Cougars got singles from Angie Roberti and Kim Kraxberger in the second inning to drive in the first two runs of the game, then Lillis doubled home Randi Middagh in the fifth to finish the Cougar scoring. Thurn pitched four innings for the win, allowing one run on five hits, while

Gillaspie gave up one run on two hits in relief.

Clackamas took on second-ranked Spokane CC Sunday afternoon and used a dominating pitching performance by Lessard to defeat Spokane 3-0. Lessard allowed two hits, striking out eight in five innings. Brooke Comstock had two RBI singles at the plate and Lillis knocked in a run in the fifth inning.

"We got to see a lot of high quality teams..."

Paul Fiskum
Head Softball
Coach

Clackamas took on Chemeketa CC in the third-place trophy game and used a complete game from Thurn to defeat the Chiefs 5-0. Thurn allowed four hits and struck out six. Comstock had two more RBI at the plate as part of a ten-hit attack for the Cougars.

"We got to see a lot of high-quality teams that, frankly, we don't get to see much during the season. It only helps to see them because we will likely face some of them come NWAACC tournament time," said Fiskum. "Edmonds, Wenatchee, Spokane, all of those teams are perennial playoff and championship contenders in this conference, so it is good to see them now to get ready for them later."

Earlier in the week, Clackamas lost 2-1 to Mt. Hood CC. Lessard threw a four-hitter, and although

the Cougars hit the ball hard, they couldn't get enough breaks to defeat the Saints. Clackamas had runners on second and third with one out in the seventh, but a line drive to the second baseman, who then stepped on second base to force a runner out, ended the game.

Clackamas took on number-one ranked Lower Columbia College in a makeup game last Wednesday, and came away with their second straight win over the defending NWAACC champions by a score of 7-5.

Clackamas got behind 4-0 after three innings when Lower Columbia's All-American second baseman Megan Jezierski hit two homeruns. The Cougars bounced back in the fourth when Nicole Obrist singled, Kraxberger singled, Melissa Gibson walked to load the bases, Morgan Huffstutter walked to force in a run and Middagh singled home Kraxberger. Lillis lined into a double play, but on the play, Huffstutter charged around third and scored on the fielder's choice.

Clackamas scored three more runs in the fifth when Nagi reached on an error, then Obrist singled, Kraxberger bunted for a single and Gibson knocked home Nagi on a fielder's choice. Huffstutter reached on another error, scoring Kraxberger, then Middagh laid down a bunt to bring home Gibson.

After giving up a leadoff home run in the sixth, Lessard was relieved by Thurn on the mound. Thurn gave up a single, then struck out the side to finish the LCC rally and seal the victory.

"We showed our competitive spirit in this game, we just never gave up after getting down 4-0," Fiskum said. "We weren't going down without a fight. We put some great pressure on LCC and it showed in the way the game played itself out. It may have led to some errors on their part. I am just so proud of these girls."

The next home action for the Cougars will be April 26 against Chemeketa CC. The doubleheader with the Chiefs begins at 2 p.m.



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