



Cougars take championship second year in a row



Clackamas 2005 Soccer Team

(TOP ROW):
Sophomore Stephanie Rodriguez (10),
Freshman Megan Durand (3), Freshman
Stephanie Cielong (14), Freshman
Lauren Elliott (13), Freshman Danielle
Fenton (8), Freshman Amy Cardinas (9),
Sophomore Tianna Meduri (7)

(SECOND ROW): Freshman Mirium Coto
(6), Freshman Maggie Warner (20),
Sophomore Trisha Little (2), Sophomore
Ashley Webster (5), Sophomore Nicole
Cahill (12), Sophomore Emily Ingalls (4),
Sophomore Amanda Triller (15)

(BOTTOM): Freshman Jyella Deloney (1)

Photo contributed by Kara Moody

Imi McDonnell
Clackamas Print

On Sunday, Nov. 20, the Clackamas women were exactly where they hoped they would be at the beginning of the season: the NWAACC final at the Starfire soccer complex in Tukwila, Washington, competing for the championship. The Cougars had their eyes on the prize but first

would have to go through the only undefeated team in the league, Walla Walla C.C. Due to their outstanding regular season record, most thought that Cougars beating Walla Walla for the championship was pretty unlikely, except for Clackamas, that is.

"The final was unbelievable; it was just how a final should be, an intense and exciting edge-of-your-seat-type game, and we won," said Head Coach Tracy Nelson.

"I told the girls at the beginning of the game that all we needed to do was score one more goal than them - that's all, just one more."

And the final score of 2-1 proves they listened.

The game started out with a Walla Walla goal in the fourth minute of regulation, giving them a 1-0 lead and making it just that much tougher for Clackamas.

"It's not like we felt we were out of it as soon as we

trailed," said Nelson. "We'd been there before and were confident we could put one in and then pull ahead."

Which is exactly what they did as soon as Amanda Triller put one in the net during the 24th minute, tying the game at a goal apiece. The rest of the game went scoreless but was far from a defensive struggle.

"Each team had their chances to score," said Nelson. "They would have a chance

and not convert, then we would do the same. It really went back and forth the whole game."

So to overtime they went, and triumphant they were. The Cougars' Amy Cardenas sealed the victory, the season, and the championship by scoring a goal in the 93rd minute, giving Clackamas the edge they needed to win the game 2-1.

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Giving Tree symbolism divides college

Katie Wilson
Staff Editor

The ASG Giving Tree has had questions this year and years past about how a community college should celebrate holidays, especially when that college has as diverse a student body as Clackamas does.

The Giving Tree has been a tradition at Clackamas for 13 or 15 years, according to ASG Advisor Andy Brown. Its primary function is to get students giving to show students who are in need.

Needy students apply at the ASG office and their requests are put on a card which is then put on a branch on the Giving Tree. Students who wish to fill a need contact the ASG office, which then conducts the gifts to the recipient.

The current problem stems from the use of the Christmas tree in the Giving Tree tradition.

No one has ever been against the giving part," said Counselor Andy Wolfson. "But in the past there have been students who

don't celebrate Christmas. Lots of people here come from different backgrounds."

However, many people seem to view the tree as a predominantly Christian symbol and feel it excludes them if they are not Christian or do not celebrate Christmas.

"If it were just a giving tree we would have one in July too," said College Counselor Lupe Martinez, "but we just do it during the holiday season and it's a Christmas tree. I think it is very symbolic. It does exclude people from feeling welcome."

"It's about how warm we make the atmosphere," she continued. "If we're not going to be inclusive of everyone, we shouldn't have anything."

Student and Black Student Union member Freddie Bailey has been conducting student polls and talking to ASG and college president Joe Johnson about the Giving Tree.

"You see all the flags in the Community Center," Bailey said to *The Print*. "We're supposed to be culturally diverse. There

are people who would love to see a menorah next to the Giving Tree. I think a lot of students feel intimidated and that they're not given the chance to display their views."

Some members of the college's community hold a different view:

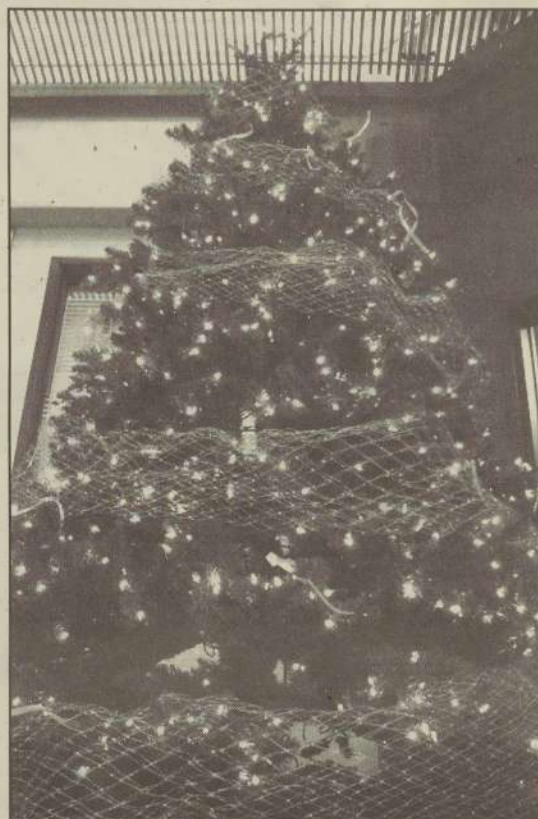
"[The tree] symbolizes the giving of the season," said Tiffany Kimmel, ASG's Child Care Office Senator. "We wanted students to be able to give. The Christmas tree is part of our culture. It's hard when people apply symbols to different things ... the tree was a pagan symbol before it was Christian."

The tree is not decorated as a normal Christmas tree, Brown pointed out. There is no star or angel at the top.

"It's not set up as a big time Christian symbol," Brown said.

English Instructor James Bryant-Trerise is not offended by the Giving Tree being a Christian symbol because "it's actually a pagan symbol. Maybe the Christians should be offended."

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