

Hodges Invitational successful



Jeff Sorensen Clackamas Print

Clackamas runners Savannah Walruff (4) Allison Body (1) and Lyndsey McKillip (2) run in a pack as they look to overcome their opponents. The Cougar runners participated in the Mike Hodges Invitational last Saturday, the only home meet of the season.

Frank Jordan

The Clackamas Print

The Clackamas cross country teams ran well in the Mike Hodges Invitational last Saturday on the CCC campus, with the men finishing second among community college teams participating, while three of the women finished the race with lifetime personal records on the 5000-meter course.

The University of Oregon took the top five places to win the men's meet, with NCAA

contender Galen Rupp winning the meet, setting a new course record with a time of 18:40.66. Rupp, the NCAA runner-up two years ago, had not been expected at the meet, but ran when the U of O decided to send their entire team to the annual invitational.

"To tell you the truth, it was pretty exciting to have their top runners here," said CCC Head Coach Keoni McHone. "Rupp and Shadrack Kiptoo are contenders for a NCAA championship, and to have them here and race was really great publicity for this annual

event."

Brandon Snook led the Clackamas men, finishing 71st with a time of 21:17.16.

Spencer Bonney ran a 21:30.25 (79), Chris Baker ran 21:37.36 (83), Nathan Ingram had a time of 21:51.25 (87), Jose Barajas ran a 22:11.51 (93), Daniel Alvarez ran a 22:16.50 (94), and Kyle Pfenning ran a 24:25.27 for 117th place.

The women's team competed very strongly against a terrific field, with all four runners finishing in the top 42 in the race. Andria Scheese set

a lifetime PR with a time of 19:12.30, to finish in 26th place and first among community college runners. Allison Body set a lifetime personal record with a time of 19:29.98 for 33rd place, Lyndsey McKillip ran a season-best time of 19:39.42 for 38th place and Savannah Walruff set a personal record with a time of 19:57.27 for 42nd place.

Sarah Zerzan of Willamette University in Salem won the women's race with a time of 16:25.11. Rebekah Noble of the University of Oregon, the defending NCAA champion in the 800-meter run,

ran her very first cross country race and finished a respectable fourth place with a time of 17:00.63.

"All of our women ran great, three set lifetime records, and Lyndsey (McKillip) ran a very solid race," said McHone. "I am very encouraged by the progress that the women have made this year, and we should be very strong once the NWAACC's roll around."

Both the men and the women have two weeks off from competition until the Southern Region championships on Oct. 28. The NWAACC championships are on Nov. 11 in Spokane, Wash.

Yankee player plays out final day up in air

Nicholas Delzell

Co-Sports-Editor

Baseball is a game that some consider America's pastime. The recent death of pitcher Cory Lidle, of the New York Yankees, messed with more than just baseball fans.

Despite whether you are interested in baseball, when Lidle crashed his small single-engine airplane into an upper East Manhattan apartment complex on Oct. 11, people automatically suspected terrorism.

Here's what's up with the real terrorist mess-up – and this is me saying this nicely – much more than a small apartment. Don't get this twisted up and think that my heart doesn't go out to the Lidle fam., the innocent people injured, the Yankee organization, the countless fans and the people who were gen-

uinely scared for their lives.

The thing is, Lidle shouldn't have been allowed to fly a plane anywhere near the East River. Athletes who compete in real sports should leave the X-game stuff to Tony Hawk and them.

Lidle, who first appeared in the MLB as a replacement player during the 1994 strike, was semi-successful on a number of different teams. Despite being a journeyman player who took a big risk crossing picket lines, he was always outspoken and known as a mouth. He recently put San Francisco's big hitter, Barry Bonds, on blast. Lidle said that his statistics should not be allowed to exist due to his possible involvement with performance-enhancing drugs.

Bonds has never tested positive for any such substance.

Earlier this month, Lidle was quoted in the *New York Times*. He said some half-way

disparaging things about his manager, Joe Torre, after losing in the American League Divisional playoffs.

"I think we got taken by surprise," Lidle said. "We got matched up with a team that, I think, was a little more ready to play than we were."

This was a direct shot at Torre.

Talking about his coach is one thing that he should have never done. With everything this man had earned, why did he imply that his manager didn't prepare his team? With a career riddled with losses, team changes and picket line crossing, was Lidle the right person to call out Joe Torre?

None of this mattered on Oct. 11.

Not surprisingly, no one expected that Lidle would be a Yankee past this season. This doesn't mean he wouldn't have caught on somewhere else, but I'm trying really hard to think of reasons why Lidle should have been in the

air, flying a freaking plane.

Plane-crashing seems to be the Yankee curse. On Aug. 2, 1979, Yankee catcher Theron Munson died while trying to land his single-engine plane in a field in Ohio.

I'm not against hobbies or people who go after their dream of flying; I am against single-engine planes and people with families who put themselves and others in danger because they want to afford a few extra hours of travel time.

This is something that New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said he would rectify by working with Governor Pataki to close all small planes from this area.

I propose this: Professional sports teams need to start writing contracts that take care of this type of reckless behavior and put it out like bad roach before we go through any more X-game deaths involving baseball players.

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