

# Softball team falls

**Frank Jordan**

*The Clackamas Print*

The Clackamas softball team fell to third place in the NWAACC Southern Division over the weekend, losing three out of four to division rivals Mt. Hood CC and Chemeketa CC.

Friday, the Cougars traveled to Gresham to take on the Lady Saints from Mt. Hood. The Saints jumped out to a 7-0 lead in game one and held on for the 9-3 victory.

Renee Santos took the loss for Clackamas, striking out a season-low two hitters in four innings of work. Janelle Cristofaro relieved Santos in the fifth and struck out three in her two innings of work.

Game two was a different story, as the Cougars jumped on Mt. Hood for seven runs in the second inning en route to an 8-1 victory for a split of the twinbill.

Katie King hit her team-leading seventh and eighth home runs of the season in the second game, and Kelsey Hinds had a 4-4 effort from the plate, including a long home run in the second inning.

Santos struck out 15 Mt. Hood hit-

ters in running her season record to 17-4 with the two-hit victory.

With the three home runs in game two, the 2007 Cougars set a new school record with 35 homers as a team for the season, breaking the record of 31 set by the 2005 and 2006 Clackamas teams.

Saturday, the Cougars traveled to Salem to take on Chemeketa CC, and the Chiefs sent Clackamas back home with two losses by scores of 5-3 and 5-2.

CCC trailed game one 3-0 through three innings, but fought back with single runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings to get even at 3-3. But the Chiefs scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth to pull out the 5-3 win.

Sam Daline led the Cougar offense with two hits in four at-bats, including a single and a home run, while Hinds and Jessica Schell each had a key hit to help rally the Cougars. Santos struck out five in the loss, dropping her record to 17-5.

In game two, Clackamas jumped out to a 2-0 lead, before Chemeketa rallied to tie the game at two after four innings. Chemeketa scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth to win the game 5-2.

Heather Rightley led the Cougars at

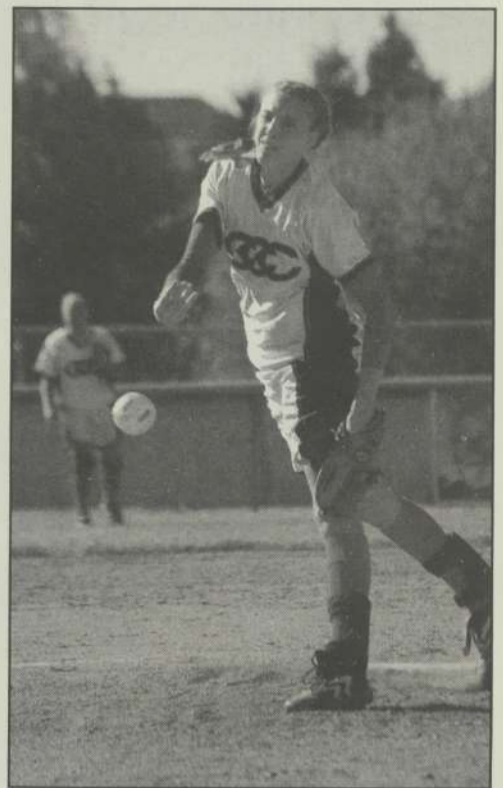
the plate, going 3-4 with three singles, while Schell and Hinds chipped in two hits apiece to pace the CCC offense. Cristofaro took the loss, dropping her record to 11-4 on the season. Santos struck out seven in a relief role for CCC.

Mt. Hood now leads the Southern Division with a 19-5 record in division play, while Lower Columbia has slipped into second with an 18-5 mark. Clackamas is 17-6 in the division for third place.

The Cougars hoped to make up some ground on the leaders as they took on Southwestern Oregon CC in a doubleheader yesterday on the Cougar softball diamond. Results were not available at press time.

Clackamas takes on Lower Columbia in Longview, Wash. on Friday in a doubleheader that could have major seeding implications for the upcoming NWAACC tournament.

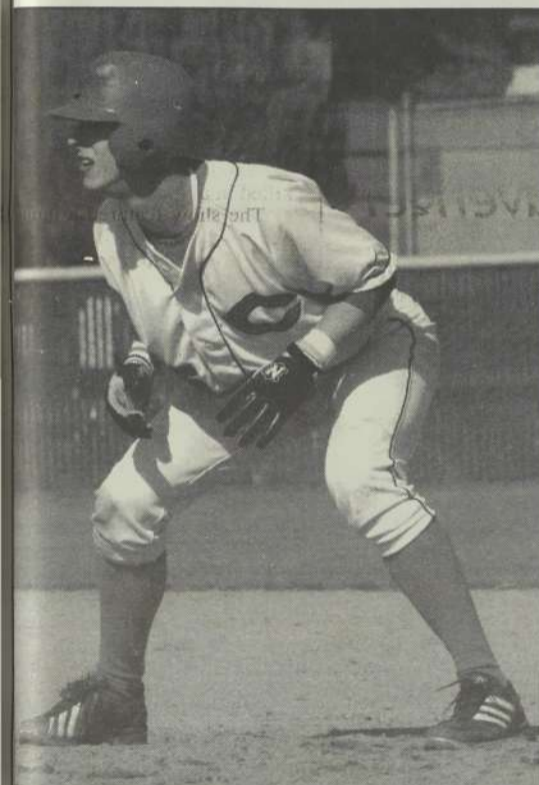
Clackamas will finish the regular season with a home doubleheader against Clark College on Saturday. The games will begin at 1 p.m. on the Cougar softball diamond behind Randall Hall. The NWAACC tournament is May 18 through 20 at Delta Park in north Portland.



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Sophomore pitcher Janelle Cristofaro follows through with her release as she brings the heat.

## Cougs can't climb Mt. Hood, lose by slimmest of margins



Contributed by Tracy Swisher

Freshman OF Sean Sprauer gets low as he looks to advance on the bases. Sprauer hails from West Salem High School.

**Mike Guidice**

*Sports Editor*

The Cougar baseball team played a highly competitive, nerve-racking doubleheader vs. incumbent Southern Region leaders Mt. Hood CC this past weekend. The results were less than ideal, but the quality of baseball was still stellar from both camps.

In game one, Hood jumped out to an early advantage, hitting the ball hard and getting up by a score of 6-2 after two innings. Clackamas battled back, however, scoring three in the third and making the game close throughout.

Freshman outfielder Todd McBride had a huge series, hitting two bombs in the first game and accounting for five RBI's.

"I was just relaxed at the plate and wasn't pressing. I was definitely seeing the ball well," McBride said. "I hit for the cycle in a game during the summer, but I've never hit two homeruns in a game."

Bryce Roby also homered in the contest, and catcher Ben Janal had a productive game, going 2-4 and scoring two runs.

"McBride did a great job stepping up against the best team in the league," Janal said of his teammate's performance.

Game two featured Clackamas scoring a quick three runs right out the gates; unfortunately, their offense turned offensive for the rest of the contest, putting up goose eggs. The final score would

indicate their futility: 4-3, in eight innings.

"They capitalized on the mistakes that we made at inopportune moments. They made some mistakes, too; we just didn't capitalize like they did," freshman 3B Jim Bray relayed.

McBride was a force again, registering two more run-scoring base knocks. Janal also continued swinging a hot bat with two more hits.

The Cougs played at Chemeketa yesterday. Results were not available at press time.

Next up for the team is a must-win home make-up game vs. Chemeketa, on Thursday. First pitch is set for 1 p.m.

## Stars come out to Hayward Field

The track and field team participated in the Oregon Twilight meet this past weekend in Eugene. The meet was a moot point in the grand scheme of things, as the Southern Region Championships is next, the first scored meet of the year and the pre-cursor to the NWAACC Championships.

Hayward Field was full of big-name track and field stars, including top-tier Olympic athletes and NCAA record holders, who all came together to compete in the meet.

For Clackamas, Jeeni Schantin threw the javelin

extremely well, tying her lifetime personal record of 45.86 meters, finishing only slightly behind US record holder Rachel Yurkovich.

In the 400 meter hurdles, Allison Body bested her previous P.R. by three seconds.

The men's 4X100 team sprinted to a first place finish with a time of 42.04 seconds. After winning, the athletes got to take a customary victory lap around Hayward Field, throwing out T-shirts to the crowd.

Clayton Herman (hurdles), Stan Wester (hurdles), Chris Dilley (hammer) and Mike

Simmons (javelin) all equaled or bested their previous P.R.'s in their respective event.

Up next for the Clackamas track and field squad is the aforementioned Southern Region Championships at Mt. Hood CC, in Gresham. The event will be scored, and the pressure on the individual athletes will be heightened.

"There will definitely be a change in philosophy of how we compete this weekend," said Head Coach Keoni McHone.

- Compiled by Mike Guidice,  
*The Clackamas Print*

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