

# Blast off: Softball secures two seed

**Frank Jordan**  
The Clackamas Print

The Clackamas softball team concluded the regular season with a number two seed from the Southern Division and will take on Highline CC in the first round of the NWAACC softball championship tournament at 11:30 a.m. on Friday at Delta Park in north Portland.

"We beat Highline at the NWAACC crossover a few weeks ago, so we are familiar with them and what they try to do," said Head Coach Jessica Farnsworth. "We are rested and ready, so it ought to be an exciting weekend for us."

The Cougars finished the regular season last Saturday with a 19-0 and 19-1 pounding of Clark College. Clackamas brought out the whipping stick in both games as five different Cougars each hit two home runs on the day, including an almost-never-heard-of five homers in one inning.

Sam Daline, Janelle Cristofaro and Renee Santos each hit two homers in game one, while Jessica Slocum hit a solo homer as the Cougars ended the first game early with 17 runs in the fourth inning,

highlighted by Cristofaro and Santos each hitting two homers in the fourth inning.

"Renee only had seven at-bats all season, but she hit two homers in one inning," commented assistant coach Paul Fiskum. "Both of our pitchers hit multiple home runs in the same inning; I never have seen anything like that in all my years."

Santos picked up her 20th win on the season, striking out 12 to finish her freshman season with a Clackamas-record 336 strikeouts for the season, breaking the old record of 223 by Holly Marlow in 2004. Cristofaro struck out a career-high 14 in game two in getting her 14th victory of the season.

Friday, the Cougars took on Lower Columbia College, and despite giving up only one run all day, CCC split a doubleheader with the Lady Red Devils, losing game one 1-0 and winning game two 4-0.

The Cougars fought hard all game long in game one, but just couldn't take advantage of the opportunities that they had. Lower Columbia ended the game as a Red Devil batter sent a long one over the fence in the bottom of the seventh, ending the game with LCC winning 1-0.

"We fought and fought all game

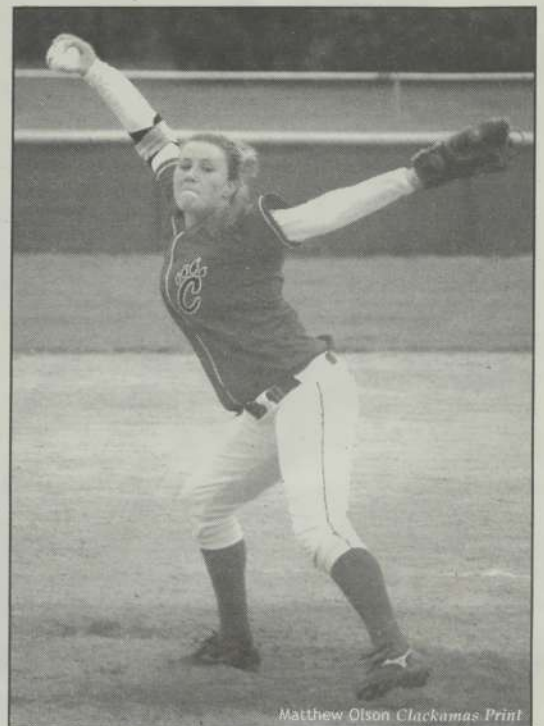
long, but we just couldn't push one across," said Farnsworth. "They hit a walk-off home run to end it, but we felt confident that we could get it back in game two, and we did."

Daline and Lacey Forbito each went 2-3 at the plate, each hitting a single and a double to spearhead the Cougar offense. Cristofaro tossed a three-hitter while striking out six to pick up the victory.

The Cougars finished the regular season with a 35-10 overall record, including 23-7 in divisional play, two games behind division champion Mt. Hood CC and two games ahead of Lower Columbia. Farnsworth is excited about what lies ahead this weekend.

"We come into the weekend pretty healthy, and our spirits are high," she said. "Our pitching is solid, and our bats are swinging great. We keep our heads on task, and we can do some great things at the NWAACC tournament."

If Clackamas wins game one at the tournament, they will take on the winner of Wenatchee Valley CC-Peninsula College at 3:30 p.m. on Friday at Delta Park. Tournament information is available at [www.nwaacc.org](http://www.nwaacc.org), or by visiting the Cougar athletic offices in Randall Hall.



Matthew Olson Clackamas Print

Santos winds up for a pitch in the game against Chemeketa Community College.

## PRs put Cougars on track for NWAACC championship

**Jesse Dees**  
The Clackamas Print

This past weekend the track team competed in the Southern Region Championships at Mt. Hood CC.

"I really liked how people stepped-up and competed," Coach Keoni McHone said after his squad racked up 23 lifetime or seasonal personal records on the day.

For the men, standouts were Benjamin Jackson, Wesley Keller, Stan Wester, Joe Gobel, Brandon

Snook, Quinton Baxter, Chris Dilly and Mike Simmons. Jackson posted a strong day, taking first in both the 100-meter dash and the 200-meter dash. Keller took second place in the 100-meter dash, and Tweedy ran for first in the 400-meter dash.

Wester took second in the men's 400-meter hurdles, and Snook took second in the 3000-meter steeplechase, also achieving a personal record. Simmons threw for first place in Javelin. Baxter posted a huge day, achieving three personal records in three events. He threw for a four-foot

personal record in shot put, two-foot in the discus throw and three-foot in the hammer throw.

Dilly came up big, taking first place in both the hammer throw and javelin. The 4x100-meter relay team of Gobel, Keller, Jackson and Wester took first place and grabbed a personal record. The 4x400-meter relay team of Gobel, Jackson, Keller and Tweedy took first place.

For the women, standouts were Rachel Hemphill, Andria Scheese, Lyndsey McKillip, Jamie Burg, Meaghan Durand, Stefani Dittmar,

Allison Body and Tricia Bolier.

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## Baseball team looks to stay alive

**Mike Guidice**  
Sports Editor

Do or die. This is the situation that the baseball team is faced with as they ready themselves for their final regular-season games: a twin-bill vs. Southwestern Oregon CC tomorrow. If they sweep the two games

and Linn-Benton fairs worse in their match-up with Chemeketa, then Clack will almost certainly get into the NWAACC tourney as a two seed out of the South. If they flounder, however, they will more than likely find themselves on the outside of the playoff bubble looking in.

Last week saw the team split two doubleheaders with Chemeketa,

and most recently, one with Linn-Benton on Saturday.

In the first game, the Cougars managed a measly five hits, while committing three errors en route to a 5-2 loss. Sophomore Jess Jensen took the loss.

"We couldn't get anything going on offense. We just didn't come up big when we needed to," OF Todd McBride said.

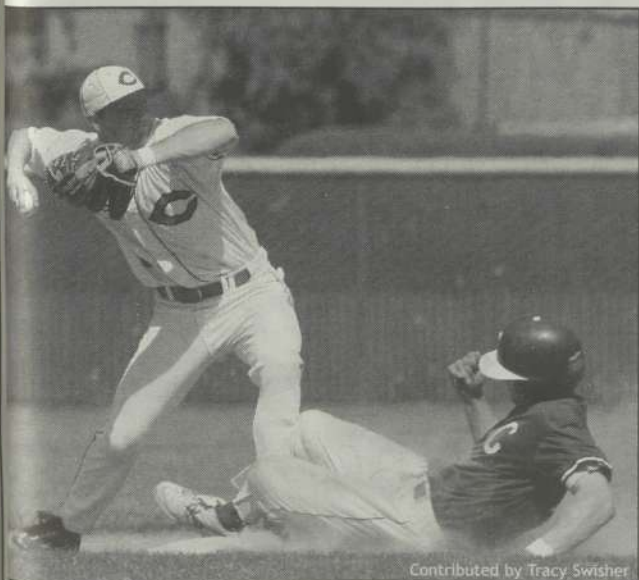
Game two was a different story, however, as Clackamas was victorious behind a dominant pitching performance from freshman flame-thrower Nate Reif.

In their 3-1 win, Clack reversed the rolls as the game saw LBCC commit four errors and only register six hits throughout.

"I was just trying to keep the ball down and work at a quick pace. I wanted to get my defense off the field as fast as possible," Reif said. "They were getting themselves out, but our D was making some great plays as well."

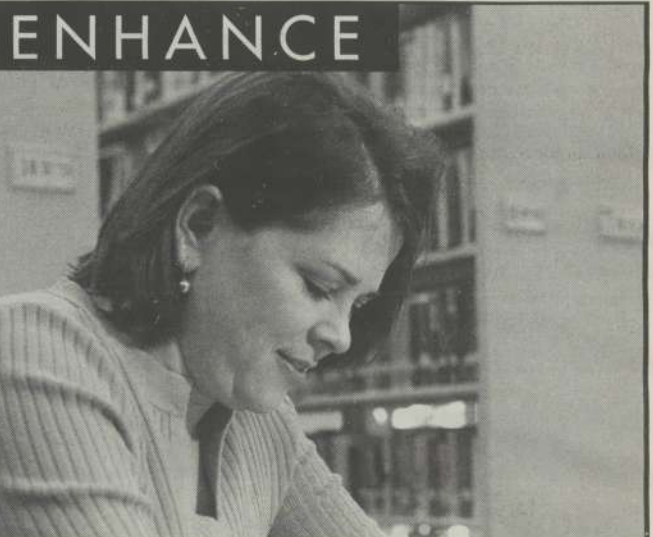
The significance of what is on the horizon is lost on no one, especially the athletes involved in the push for the postseason.

"If we play to the best of our capabilities, we should be fine - there shouldn't be any doubts," Reif said. "It would be awesome; the school hasn't been to the playoffs for a while, so it would be great to get back to a winning tradition. That was our goal at the beginning of the year."



Contributed by Tracy Swisher

Ben Stutevoss (Madison HS) snags the double-play to help Clackamas win against Chemeketa.



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