

# Big hitter looks to big league

Jacob Izso  
Clackamas Print

With all the hubbub about A.J. Christensen being scouted by scouts, one would think he was carrying the team on his beastly shoulders. He'd be first to get you.

Christensen is the star first basemen for the Cougars baseball team. Many think he is capable of going to the next level.

The guy is easily one of the tougher outs in the league," said Jim Hoppel the assistant head coach. "It's good to have a guy like that on the team."

Head Coach Robin Robinson agreed, "He's a base-guy." He added enthusiastically, "He literally hit his butt off."

Both coaches said that scouts have been really impressed with A.J.'s swing, power, and intelligence on the plate.

"He's really strong," said Hoppel. "The guy is a real swinger; you just tell him, 'do what you do.'"

Despite all this attention, Christensen remained as calm as can be. "It's exciting," was Christensen's response when asked how it felt to be scouted. "It just gave me a chance to live out all those dreams you have as a kid." Christensen went on to say that he had worked hard and is still working to improve.

When asked if Hoppel's comment was true about him being a tougher out, Christensen's response was a simple, "I want to say yes, but there are a lot of other hitters out there."

For the rest of the team seemed to remain pretty calm in the midst of having Christensen considered by professional scouts.

"This is nothing different. I've been around this before," remarked short stop Isaiah Ferrer casually. "It's good having scouts there so they can see other

guys too."

"Other guys get a look," agreed Christensen with a smile. "I take a lot of crap for it, but it's good (for the team)."

Christensen is a sophomore this year and will

graduate this season with more than a few opportunities on his plate.

When asked how he'd fair at the next level, Christensen was a nonchalant as ever, "No idea," he said with grin. "I'm just excited to get a shot."



Brad Heineke Clackamas Print

A.J. Christensen converses with his coach and team during last Tuesday's game. The sophomore, despite being looked at by scouts, remains calm and hopeful about his future.

## Cougar Scoreboard

### Baseball

April 21, 2009

Game One	123	456	789	R	H	E
Lane	003	600	000	12	10	0
Clackamas	000	000	200	2	6	3
Game Two	123	456	789	R	H	E
Lane	100	500	3xx	9	13	1
Clackamas	000	200	1xx	3	7	5

April 25, 2009\*

Game One	123	456	789	R	H	E
Clackamas	---	---	---	1	4	5
Mt. Hood	---	---	---	11	7	1
Game Two	123	456	789	R	H	E
Clackamas	---	---	---	0	9	0
Mt. Hood	---	---	---	1	3	1

### Softball

April 24, 2009

Game One	123	456	7--	R	H	E
Clackamas	203	051	2	12	12	1
Clark	000	10x	x	1	6	3
Game Two	123	456	7--	R	H	E
Clackamas	003	051	2	11	13	2
Clark	031	100	0	5	10	1

April 25, 2009

Game One	123	456	7--	R	H	E
Southwestern Oregon	120	000	1	4	9	2
Clackamas	050	000	0	5	7	2
Game Two	123	456	7--	R	H	E
Southwestern Oregon	000	000	0	0	9	0
Clackamas	101	000	x	2	7	1

### Coming Games

- Baseball
  - Saturday, May 2, Salem, 1 p.m.
  - Tuesday, May 5, Albany, 1 p.m.
- Softball
  - Friday, May 1, Gresham, 3 p.m.
  - Saturday, May 2, Home, 1 p.m.
- Track and Field
  - Friday, May 1, Pacific University

\*We were unable to get the full scores from this game. Sorry for the inconvenience.

## Tournament brings out old and young

Kayla Calloway

Sports Editor

People say that those friends you meet in college and the things you do stick with you all your life. They argue that the friends you make will be there long after you've lost touch with your old high school buddies, especially if that bond you have was created through sports.

The Clackamas volleyball team demonstrated this everlasting bond with their second annual alumni tournament this past Saturday. Prior to last year, the Cougars had informal alumni gatherings in the past, but starting this spring season, it turned into a real tournament.

"We combined it with our spring volleyball season that the NWAACC now has," said head coach Kathie Woods in an e-mail. "Since the current Cougar squad needs competition to play against and since we do not have budget to travel in the spring, we have to invite teams to our place."

Along with past Cougars, including one from the 1985 squad, Woods and the team invite squads from Linn-Benton and Treasure Valley community colleges.

"There are a total of eight teams, including five alumni teams," added Woods.

The excitement created from this event can easily be seen in Woods.

"I have coached all of these girls, and it is an extreme honor to be 'coaching' them again," said Woods. "It is the highlight of my year."

While the event is free, the

team is accepting donations to help fund the food and the T-shirts that the participants get.

"This money to run the tour-

namment is solely funded by fundraising out of the volleyball club account," explained Woods.



Jessica Foster Clackamas Print

Former and current Cougars team up for some good-hearted fun at the annual Alumni Tournament on Saturday.

**Clackamas Community College 1st Annual basketball tournament May 8th Randall Hall, CCC campus 3 - 6 P.M.**

**\$20 per team. Up to 30 teams. Each team must bring its own basketball. Further information: Call 657-6958 ext 2068 or e-mail cwagner@clackamas.edu**