

Frisbee warriors take to the field



All-photos by Brad Heineke Clackamas

Brad Heineke

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It was like a battlefield: people running, bodies flying, sometimes colliding and tumbling. My heart was pounding. I had nearly sprained my knee. My wrist was strained. I was covered with dirt and grass stains. I came as a mild mannered reporter – but left an Ultimate Frisbee “Warrior”.

It was a glorious summer-like day for the Associated Student Government (ASG) Ultimate Frisbee tournament on Friday, May 15. Fifty people converged on the CCC soccer field for an afternoon of fun and competition. There were 35 participants in all. Some participants came as teams; other individuals chose or were assigned to teams.

The event drew a quite

talented and athletic group including participants from the CCC Cougars soccer and track teams, physical education students and then the many “weekend warriors” with natural physical abilities and Frisbee skills.

The field consisted of a large percentage of females who were quite impressive competitors. Many were playing this sport for the first time, but were quick to develop skills in this intense venue.

Rules of the game were explained before starting. Here is a very basic explanation: the game is somewhat similar to soccer. It is played on a field 100 yards long by 37 yards wide. The play starts with a throw off (as in kick off). The offensive team then proceeds forward toward their goal line while throwing

the Frisbee to team mates. A point is scored when a pass is completed to a player who is past (or passing) over the end zone.

A player cannot run with the disc; they must stop after catching the Frisbee. We allowed up to three steps, basically to regain footing or to step into a throw. If the defense intercepts, they begin the return toward their goal. Possession also changes on an incomplete pass or if the disc goes out of bounds.

Defensive coverage is an effective strategy, but no double teaming is allowed. When guarding an opponent, one should be over an arm’s length away. Intentional contact is not allowed. If contact is deemed excessive, this would result in a foul.

It is unique that players self-referee in Ultimate, even in the World Championships. However, the “spirit of the game” code of conduct and self-refereeing seem to work out well.

The ASG did a nice job of organizing the event. Greg Robertson, ASG campus activities officer, coordinated the event.

“This was the first year,” Robertson stated. “I hope we make it an annual event.”

The pace was quite intense. We went from one match to the next with only minutes of rest. Running, lunging, jumping, juking and diving for nearly four hours was quite physically taxing, but all seemed to have a great time. Lots of laughs, excitement, “touch down dances” and high fives were shared.

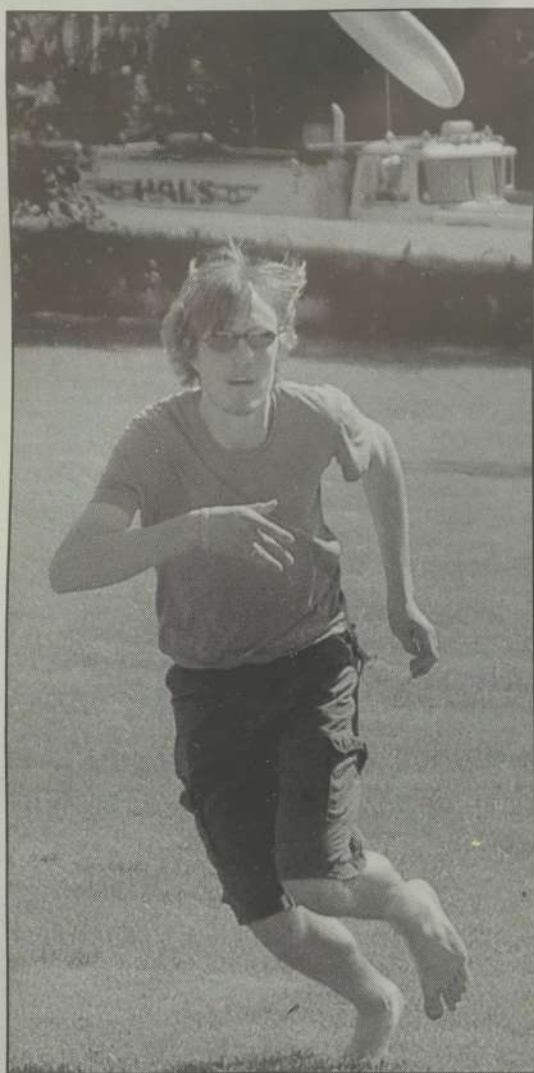
Above left: Narci receives a pass.

Above middle: Kristin (left), Dani Lichty (middle) and Marissa Santana (right) members of the CCC team, celebrate after a goal.

Above right: Lee Ann prepares to pass the Frisbee during the practice session.

Bottom left: Colin sprints to get clear pass.

Bottom middle: Colin (left) successfully catches the Frisbee as Ashley (right) attempts a pass block.



Below: Chelsea Gray (left) makes a pass while Haley Wright (right) attempts to block it.

