

# Cougars softball bats for the win



Brad Heineke Clackamas Print

Ashley Suter, the rising star pitcher for the Clackamas Community College Cougars softball team, throws another of her fiery balls at one of the team's practices. The Cougars are training hard to take the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges championship.

By Steven Weldon

Associate Sports Editor

Look out Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges, come the Cougars. Through their NWAACC Southern Division win, the Cougars are 13-4 sitting at the top in the southern region. The Cougars rode an eight-game winning streak in Southern Division into Southwestern Oregon on May 30, but fell in the opening game of a doubleheader in a pitchers' duel to a home run in the bottom of the 6th inning by the Lakers'

All-American Annaleisha Parsley.

However, the resilient Cougars bounced back and won the second game coming back from being down two runs to win, 4-3.

The Cougars also split a series against Chemeketa in Salem, first falling 1-2, then rebounding to win 5-2.

During their eight-game winning streak, the Cougars did away with former top ranked Lower Columbia during a doubleheader at Clackamas, winning both games 9-2 and 3-1.

The Cougars also showed the Mt. Hood Saints, who was boss in the historic rivalry, winning the doublehead-

er, 4-0 and 5-3. The Cougars remain unbeaten at home going into their last home games against Clark on May 11, a game that has been rescheduled twice due to rainouts.

Cougars coach Jessica Buel stated in an e-mail that, "Everyone is contributing in one way or another. It has been a total team effort. Everyone has a job to get done and at this point we seem to be doing the right things."

A catalyst for the Cougars' performance this season has been freshman pitcher Ashley Suter. The flamethrowing righthander is 15-4 with a 0.73 ERA and an NWAACC leading 160

strikeouts. On Suter's performance thus far, Buel said, "Ashley is off to a great start this year. She does have the skills to top the NWAACC, it helps her to have such a strong team and pitching staff, that way she doesn't have all the pressure on her shoulders."

Freshman Abbey Tollefsen has been excellent as well, with an 8-2 record and 2.58 ERA.

Offensively, the Cougars have been powered by a balanced attack.

Buel said "Our offense has been a team effort ... Everyone has a job to get done and at this point we seem to be doing the right things."

## Sports terms for hockey dummies; icing on the Stanley Cup edition

With  
Steven Weldon



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By Steven Weldon  
Associate Sports Editor

Are you ready to drop the puck? We're in the midst of the Stanley Cup Playoffs, so it might be time to brush up on your hockey knowledge. So grab your stick, fire up the Zamboni and get to center ice!

**Icing:** Mmm ... tasty. Err ... where was I? ... Oh right! Icing happens when the team in possession of the puck shoots it from behind the red center line to the opponents' goal line to the end of the rink. When a member of the opposing team touches it, it's called icing, and the puck is reset for a face-off in the opponent's offensive attacking area. The only exception to this rule is when the team that commits the icing is down a player (shorthanded). Why is this called? The idea of it is to disallow the ultimate defense of shooting the puck down the ice away from the opposing team. If the opposing team doesn't have the puck how, can they score?

**Fighting:** Have you ever been to a fight and a hockey game broke out? Just kidding. Fighting in a hockey game is not allowed ... sometimes. When a fight does break out, however, the fans in the stands go insane as the fight goes on, and the referees stand back and wait until it gets too physical. The two players involved are sent to the penalty box for five minutes apiece, and order is restored.

**Face-Off:** At the start of every period, there is a face-off. When a goalie sits on the puck in order to stop action, there is a face-off. When the puck flies out of play, there is a face-off! This is just a battle between two opposing players to win possession of the puck.

**One-Timer:** This occurs when a teammate passes the puck and the shooter immediately takes a shot. As opposed to the shooter taking possession and moving around to get a good look, the shooter takes the shot quick in order to catch the defense off guard.

**Stanley Cup:** Probably the largest trophy in all of sports, the Stanley Cup goes to the winner of the National Hockey League playoffs, also known as the Stanley Cup Playoffs. Every year, the winner of the cup receives their entire teams name engraved on the trophy and possession of it until the next season. Currently, if the Pittsburgh Penguins were to win the Stanley Cup Final, it would stay in Pittsburgh for another season.

**Portland Winterhawks:** The Winterhawks are the home hockey team for our area. While they aren't in the NHL, the team is in a major-junior league called the Western Hockey League. Players in the league can come in as young as 16 but must exit at age 20. Many past Winterhawks have gone onto the NHL, such as current players Brandon Dubinsky of the New York Rangers, Brenden Morrow of the Dallas Stars and Marian Hossa of the Chicago Blackhawks, and former players such as NHL great Mark Messier, formerly of the Edmonton Oilers, Vancouver Canucks and New York Rangers, and Adam Deadmarsh, a popular player in Portland who now works in the Colorado Avalanche organization.

Hopefully now you'll be ready for some hockey! Keep watching for the next edition of Sports Terms for Dummies!