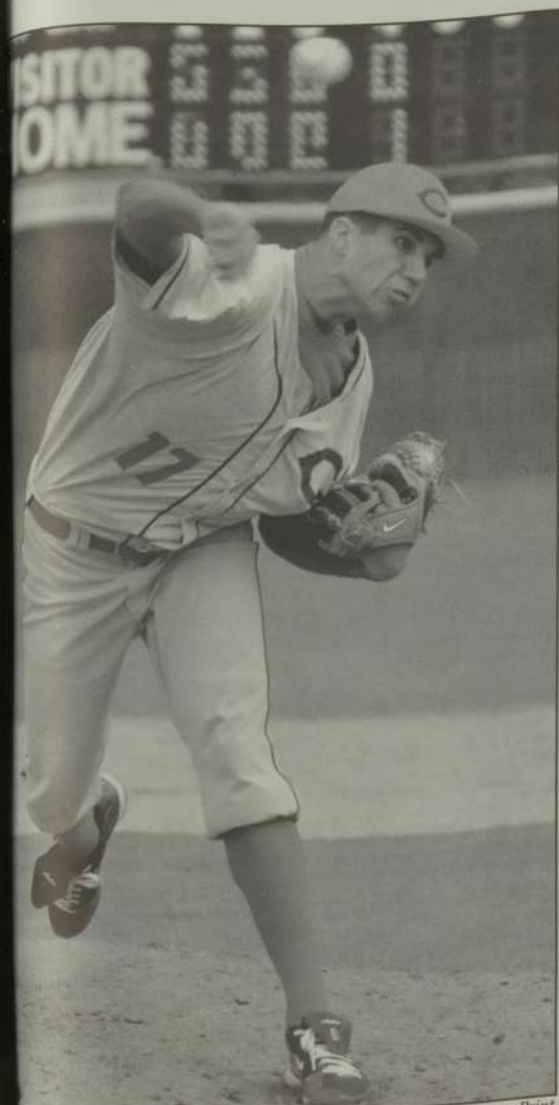


Baseball team holds on to hope



Lorentz, a pitcher for the Cougars, is 3-0 in 11 appearances with one save and a 1.75 ERA.



Beau Day, freshman catcher and first basemen for the Cougars, steps up to bat against Linn-Benton on April 22. Day has a batting average of .295 with 26 hits and one home run and 13 RBIs.

By Robert Morrison
The Clackamas Print

It is crunch time for the Clackamas Cougars baseball team. With two games left against rival Mt. Hood Community College, the Cougars look to finish the season strong. The Cougars head into the two final games of the season with a 15-13 region record. Good enough for fourth place behind Chemeketa by four games. The Cougars overall record so far this season is 20-21 heading into the final two games.

"We need to keep a high level of energy to win," said freshman outfielder Sergio Cruz.

Going into their final games, the Cougars look back at the four straight losses against Lane that lead up to the Mt. Hood games.

Those games very well may have decided the fate of the Cougars this season. Three of those four losses were by one run and the other was a three run loss. A sweep of Lane would have made a playoff run realistic.

The Cougars could gain third place with a sweep of Mt. Hood but are officially out of the playoffs this year. If the team sweeps Hood on Thursday at Mt. Hood they would have won five out of six games against them. The team still looks to finish the season strong.

"We need to win them all. It's in our hands," said freshmen reliever Marshall Crawford. "We came out flat versus Chemeketa but anything can happen."

Many of the players agreed that a little better pitching and better clutch hitting would have

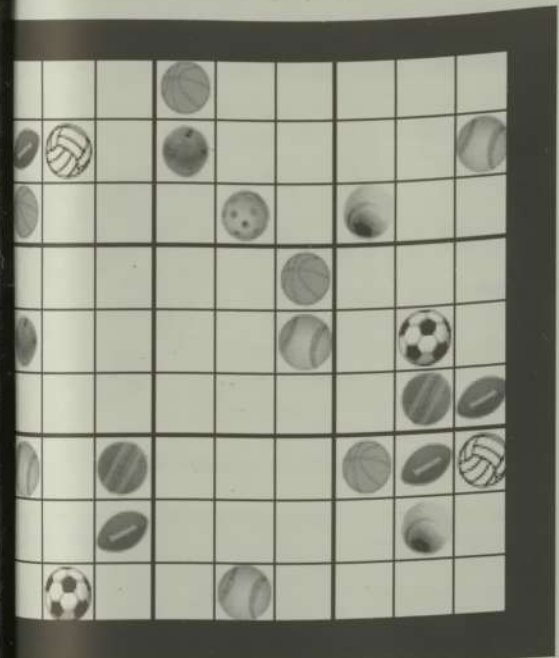
gained the team more runs and probably more wins. The team could have made the playoffs with a few more wins, specifically against Lane.

Sophomore third-basemen Kyle Paul said, "We just need more clutch hitting."

On that same subject sophomore outfielder Joe Bray said, "All of our games are equally important."

All the players have the same goal in place going into the final two games: finish strong and win both games.

The Cougars face the once first place Mt. Hood team, whom they swept a few games ago. Look for the Cougars to finish the season strong and sweep Mt. Hood again to leave a good to improve on going into next year's season.



Sudoku

to play:
e sure the different
ts balls are in each
At the same time,
e must be the differ-
ports balls vertical-
and horizontally. All
ts balls must match
accordingly.

2	4	5	6	8	3	7	9	1
8	7	6	4	1	9	5	3	2
1	3	9	5	7	2	8	6	4
9	2	3	1	5	8	6	4	7
5	6	1	7	9	4	2	8	3
7	8	4	2	3	6	9	1	5
4	9	8	3	2	7	1	5	7
3	5	2	8	6	1	4	7	9
6	1	7	9	4	5	3	2	8

Last week's sudoku answers

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