

Cougars undefeated in region play

Robert Morrison
Sports Editor

The women's soccer team hit this year in high fashion as they finished second last in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges' South Region. Heading into this week the Cougars are on a 8-2 overall record and an impressive 7-0 record in region play.

The team has gone through changes and has improved since last year. "The team chemistry and the maturity of the players have made improvements," said Nancy Nelson, head soccer coach.

"I think we have improved everything," said All-Region and Region MVP Jennifer Nelson.

The Cougars have had their offensive and defensive ups and downs this year, but according to Nelson, defense has been the key factor in their wins.

"We have to run every time we see another team to score so we have extra motivation," said Nelson. Nelson also likes the phrase "Defense wins championships."

"With our defense and offense being important and our team has really stepped it up," Nelson said.

"Improvements in players as well as improvement in the team are factors for a potential NAAC playoff berth."

"I think our whole team has stepped up. Not any one player more than any other," said Nancy Bauman, a sophomore on the team.

"Winning games against higher ranked teams are always important in having a good season. A team can't win a championship without winning big games."

"I think this last game was our biggest win. It was against Walla Walla. They were ranked high in the NAACCs," said Nelson.



George Craig Clackamas Print

The Lady Cougars practice hard to maintain their winning streak on Oct. 11 on Clackamas Community College's soccer field. With hopes of remaining undefeated, the Cougars will continue to improve their offensive and defensive games.

The Cougars are a team that's used to big wins; the team won South Region Championships in 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2008. They seem to know their way around beating good teams. A good team never underestimates the average team either or a good team

can lose to an average team. One game at a time is a common statement in sports.

"We need to treat every game like Walla Walla," said Bauman. The Cougars lost to Walla Walla (1-3) on Sept. 1, the first of their two losses. Their only other loss

was against Spokane (1-2) in the game immediately after their first loss.

"We would love to stay undefeated (in Region play), but we are taking one game at a time," Jackson said.

Teams win some and lose

some, but with the season well underway and the playoffs rolling over the hill come early November, the Cougars look to play strong as they try to add another NWAACC South Region Championship to the Clackamas Community College books.

Portland Timbers lose in playoffs to Vancouver

By Katherine Suydam
The Clackamas Print

The Portland Timbers suffered a bittersweet end to their season, playing a winning game and losing the playoffs.

The Timbers played their second game in the first round of the playoffs against the Vancouver Whitecaps at the University of Portland's Merlo Field last Sunday, winning the game with a one-to-nothing shutout. But the win did not get them to the second round of the playoffs in Puerto Rico where the Whitecaps will be playing Thursday, Oct. 14.

The Timbers held the Whitecaps to five shots, taking 15 themselves, and both teams took three corner kicks. Timbers midfielder James Marcelin scored a goal in the beginning of the second half, giving the Timbers their last win as a United States Soccer Federation Division Two team.

"I think that apart from this year ... it has progressed. I think the style of football has changed. We're starting to bring in some good players for the future. So I think for the organization, you look at the fan support, you look at the quality of the football, the only thing missing here is a trophy. It's disappointing," said Timbers' Head

Coach Gavin Wilkinson.

"It was an extremely entertaining game. Obviously it would have been nice to go on to the next level, but it was a good game and they played very well. Any other game this season ... we would be celebrating, definitely," said Ryan Pollard, a member of the elite group of fans known as the Timbers Army.

The Timbers got four extra minutes after the second half to get the goal that they needed to tie up the playoffs and go to an overtime shoot out. Though they played hard and the Timbers Army cheered as loudly as they could, they did not get that extra goal.

"It was mostly an offensive effort tonight. We didn't have much to do, well the guys in front of me, the four in front of me did a fantastic job. I mean I don't even know if I really had a save tonight," said Steve Cronin, Timbers goalie. "I'm real proud of everybody going forward and we nearly got them."

"I think they came around late but they did really well, I think that the neatest thing about them this year is that they are so close to the fans and the community, and it's going to be sad to see any of them go," said Timber Joey, the mascot.

Though the season has ended, Timbers fans can look forward to a new beginning next year as a Major League Soccer team, with fresh faces and a stadium of their own.



Contributed by Steven Weldon

Defender Steve Purdy fights to protect his team's point Vancouver Defender/Mid-Fielder Blake Wagner in the playoff game on Oct. 10 in Portland.

Extra! Extra!
The Print has
new boxes!

the clackamas print

Thank you,
Bobby Blake,
John Phelps
and CCC Welding
department