

Soccer wins, moves on to semi-finals

By Christina Pearl
The Clackamas Print

The chill and drizzle last Saturday night did not dampen the heat on the field as the Cougar women's soccer team battled hard to win their quarter-final match against the Columbia Basin Hawks at Oregon City High School's Pioneer Stadium.

Clackamas Community College's women's soccer team defeated the visiting Hawks, securing a spot in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community College's semi-final match this upcoming weekend.

Last Saturday's game demonstrated a remarkable struggle between two tough teams. Both came close to scoring in the first half, including one near miss by Cougars Midfielder Gabby Nevell that brought cheers from the CCC crowd, until they realized the shot had traveled just left of the goal.

The brutal Hawks team played rough and earned two yellow cards for unsportsmanlike conduct. Emotions ran high with only a few minutes left in the first half. Hawks Forward Shelby Gunion attempted a back tackle to gain control of the ball over Cougars Forward Rachel Nevell. An accidental elbow from Nevell struck Gunion square – and hard – in the jaw, sending Gunion to the ground and out of play for the remainder of the game.

The first half ended without either team scoring.

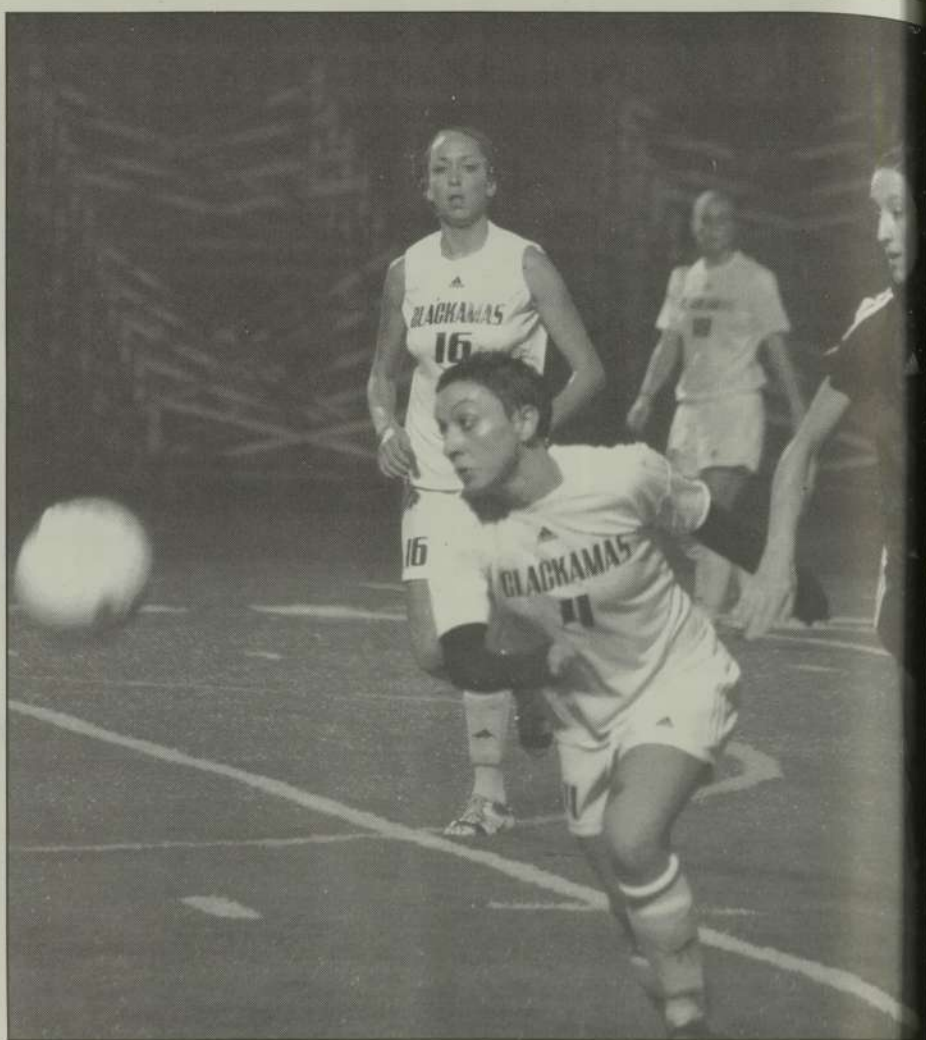
The second half came alive with greater force from both sides. At 55 minutes, the Cougars were awarded a corner kick. Defender Lindsay Bauman played directly off forward Yasmina Coto's kick to score the first goal of the game.

The Hawks countered with a straight shot into the net at 65 minutes, tying the game. Intense competition continued until forward Jennifer Jackson finally managed to score a second goal for the team at 77 minutes. Despite fervent effort from the Hawks in the game's final 13 minutes, the game ended with the score of Cougars 2, Hawks 1.

"It was a great win," said Head Coach Tracy Nelson. "We played a very tough team. That was a final game right there. They were a very aggressive, physical team and they were definitely dangerous."

Bauman was adamant about the team's focus. "We were just coming out to play our own game and we weren't looking at anything else. We were very pumped," she said.

Gunion, the injured Hawks player, appeared alright as she packed her sports bag to leave. She ran her hand downward from her nose to her jaw to indicate the pain from Nevell's elbow strike, but declined to comment on the incident or the outcome of the game.



Cougars forward Rachel Nevell goes in for a kick during the playoff game last Saturday. The Cougars beat the Hawks 2-1 and advanced to the semi-finals that will take place this Saturday.

The Cougars move on to the NWAACC semi-final match against Spokane this Saturday.

"I feel confident about next week, but we still have a battle ahead of

us," said Nevell.

The Cougars lost to the Spokane Sasquatch team during their second game of the season this year. The semi-finals will take place at 11 a.m.

on Nov. 20 at the Startfire Sports Complex in Tukwila, Wash. If the rematch against Spokane goes as hoped, the Cougars will play in the finals in Tukwila on Sunday.

Cougars gain potential star athlete

By Katherine Suydam
The Clackamas Print

A basketball fan that has any clue about the NBA should know who Kevin Love is: power forward for the Minnesota Timberwolves. But how many know of the Cougars' post player Max Jacobsen, who played with Love at Lake Oswego High School?

Jacobsen was on the basketball team at Lake Oswego High School, playing in three consecutive Three Rivers League championships. He was awarded a scholarship to play at Portland State University, a Division I school. Why then, you might ask, is he now playing post for the Clackamas Community College basketball team? Why is he a third-year defending champion in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges league and not on a D-1 team?

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He's a very bright kid, and I think he can do whatever he wants to do.

Clif Wegner
Cougars Head Coach

Though he was a member of the Vikings basketball team at PSU for a year, Jacobsen watched most of the season from the side lines with a knee injury.

"I got micro-fracture surgery," said Jacobsen.

Even though he had received a scholarship in high school and played for a Division I school, Jacobsen was not automatically accepted onto the Cougars team.

"I didn't see him much until last spring. He came out here and said that he was not sure if he was going back to Portland State," said Clif

Wegner, Cougars basketball head coach. "At that time, to be honest with you, Max was pretty overweight and slow. His knee hadn't recovered and he really didn't look very good."

Max returned at the end of the summer after telling Wegner that he was still interested.

"He started playing and right away we noticed he had got a lot better. What had happened was that his knee had gotten better and he had slimmed down a bit and gotten in better shape," said Wegner.

As a Cougar, Jacobsen is sure to be an asset on the team. Wegner says that he is a very intelligent player who has a good shot and his footwork is improving.

As for the person that helped Jacobsen become the smart athlete that he is, Jacobsen names his father.

"He always kept me going; he had me out at night shooting shots when I didn't want to. He just always pushed me and he helped me out a lot," he said.

Though he has been playing basketball since he was five years old, Jacobsen does not plan on becoming a professional basketball player. He wants to be an engineer, and though being on the team takes up a lot of his time, he still has the grades for it.

"At Portland State I got a 3.78, and I'm looking to get a 4.0 here," said Jacobsen.

"He has already taken every single math class they have," said Brandon Troxel, a second year forward on the Cougars basketball team. "He's probably the smartest guy on the team."

Jacobsen might have taken every math class, but he still has a long way to go before he is an engineer. He hasn't decided what school he wants to go to after CCC, but he hopes to gain another basketball scholarship.

"He's a very bright kid, and I think he can do whatever he wants to do. If engineering is what he chooses, he is going to be fine," said Wegner.

As a basketball player and as a student, Jacobsen is sure to be an asset to Clackamas. He has drive and the intelligence to bring the team to the top, and Troxel thinks that he could even become Southern Region MVP by the end of the season.



Cougars player Max Jacobsen awaits a pass during practice last week. Jacobsen is a promising new addition to the Cougars roster.