

Cougar athletics year in review

As the school year comes to a close, so too does the sports year. The season just ended for the Cougars spring sports teams, so now they join the winter and fall athletes in looking to the 2014-15 year. Before that happens, let's take a look back at what happened for each sports team in the 2013-14 campaign.

SOCCER: The women's soccer team were the Southern region champs for the fourth straight year and the eighth time in the last 10 years. The Cougars made a run to the final four at the



NWAACC championships, but fell short of the finals after losing to Edmonds Community College 2-1. Seven sophomores will move on, including Southern region all-star Marci Haynes, but 10 freshman will return and be joined by 16 recruits.

VOLLEYBALL: The Cougars volleyball team started out slow in its first seven games, going 2-5. However, the team turned it around and went 30-9 the rest of the season to finish 32-14, and



third in the Southern region. The team went 2-2 at the NWAACC championships, good for seventh place of 29 teams. Several players will come back as 10 of the 12 players are just freshman. In addition, five recruits have signed with the Cougars.

CROSS COUNTRY: The men's team claimed the Southern region team championship and the women's team had a top-five finish. Badane Sultessa led the way for the men as an individual Southern region champion. Assistant coach Kaitlyn Reid earned Coach of the Year honors, and Jorge Gil-Juarez and Sultessa earned All-American



honors. At the NWAACC championships the men's team placed third and the women's team placed sixth. Seven of the 11 men's runners are just freshman, but two stars will be missed, sophomores Sultessa and Gil-Juarez. The women's team is also young, with 10 of the 12 runners being freshman, and most of the top performers are freshman. To help replace its All-Americans, the men's team has two recruits coming in and the women's team has three.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: The season wasn't going very well for the men's basketball team two-thirds of the way through the season as the team held a 7-10 record. However, they finished strong, going 9-1 over the last 10 games



of the regular season to secure a trip to the postseason with a 16-11 record. In league games, the team was 10-4 and clinched a share of the Southern region title with two other teams. Unfortunately,

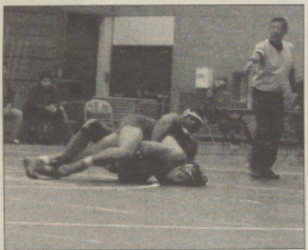
the team was unable to win a game at the NWAACC championships, going 0-2 and finishing the year with a 16-13 record. Of the 13 players, five are sophomores but the team currently has four incoming recruits to help add depth.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: The women's hoops team started the year off strong, posting an 11-2 record before league play started. In Southern region play the team went 8-4 and tied for third in the region. The team took



a 19-6 record to the NWAACC championships but lost their first game to Clark. The team rebounded with three straight wins and finished in seventh place of 33 teams, and ended the year with a 22-7 record. Seven players will return, but that doesn't include sophomore point guard Laci Effenberger who earned All-Region honors. The team currently has three recruits signed to join the returning seven.

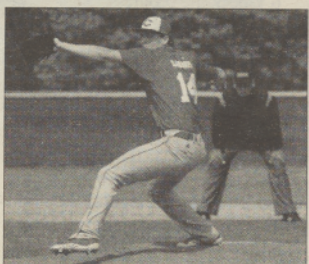
WRESTLING: It was yet another impressive year for the wrestling team. The team posted an 11-3 before capturing the 2014 West Region title and placing



third at the NJCAA championships. The Cougars had a school record seven wrestlers earn All-

American honors: CJ Palmer, Adrian Salas, Kyle Bateman, Ihoghama Odighizuwa, Robbie Rizzolino, Eleazar DeLuca and Brandon Johnson. Two of those All-Americans also were individual national champs, Palmer and Salas. Of the 30 wrestlers on the roster, only four are sophomores. Palmer is one of them, but the other individual champ and all the other All-Americans return. As of now, the wrestling team has seven recruits inbound but is looking to add more.

BASEBALL: It was a disappointing year for the baseball team as they finished with a 7-27 record. The team was second to last in the Southern region, and it was Coach Robin Robinson's last season after 20-plus years at



the helm. Fortunately 20 of the 30 players will return as the team looks to improve. The team also currently has four recruits ready to join the roster.

SOFTBALL: The Cougars softball team had a great year, finishing 39-7 and second in the Southern region. It seemed like the only team the Cougars lost to was Mt. Hood, who beat them in the finals at the NWAACC championships as well as in the regular season. If not for them the Cougars would've been first in the region and all the NWAACC but as it is, second place is a great achievement. Several Cougar players made the NWAACC All-America team: Rashaun Sells at third base, Cassidy Edwards at shortstop and Rachel Ray at outfielder. Ray also won the golden shoe award. The NWAACC Championship All-Tourney team featured multiple Cougars as well: Sells, Edwards, pitcher Breann Morrison and outfielder Samantha Owirka. Sells, Ray, Edwards and pitcher Alyson Boytz also made

the Southern Region All-Stars first team, and Morrison, infielder Nicole Lehman and utility Kiara Vasquez made the second team. The Cougars were an experienced



team as Ray, Lehman, Vasquez, Boytz, Owirka, Morrison and Sells were all sophomores. However, the team returns 12 players and has eight inbound recruits so far.

TRACK & FIELD: The Cougars track teams have been synonymous with consistency, placing in the top three 11 times in the past 10 years. This includes third place finishes at the NWAACC championships by the men's and women's teams this year. The men's team



was led by All-Americans Seth Buck, Jake Cleverley, Daniel Fauss, David Hilts-Hoskins, John Koch, Thomas Sutherland and individual NWAACC champion Zach Rial. The women's team was led by All-Americans D'Nara Jones and individual NWAACC champion Elizabeth Venzon. All of these athletes will have to be replaced since they're all sophomores, and this will be no easy task. Currently, the track teams have just three incoming recruits.

— Compiled by **BLAKE THOMASON**

WHAT'S UP with that



Workout equipment? More like "doesn't work"-out equipment. The Print investigates what's up with the broken equipment in Randall's gym.

by **LIZ GOMES**
associate photo editor

Clackamas Community College offers several amenities to promote the health and wellness of its students. The sprawling campus has miles of walk-

able nature trails, a variety of sports fields and a track.

Since the school happens to be in one of the rainiest states in the country, the most reliable option is the indoor fitness center where all students can use standard gym equipment for free

during open hours.

This option, however convenient, has been narrowing since the beginning of the school year.

Several machines are out of order, including two of the five treadmills, one of two ellipticals, one of four

electronic stationary bikes, one pulley weight station, and one free weights station.

In addition to the unusable equipment, several machines are functioning at less than 100 percent. The incline, speed, and heart rate functions of some machines are disabled. Most of the padded machines have upholstery held together with duct tape or chunks of foam missing from corners. Even the "out of order" signs are out of order.

As a student in a P.E. class, I have been injured on a piece of broken equipment. When I reported the malfunction to the student employees of the center, their only available solution for addressing the issue was to create an "out of order" sign to place upon it, subsequently cutting the availability of ellipticals in half.

So why aren't these machines getting fixed? Who is responsible for these repairs?

I asked two people who are considered "in the know" — a fitness center employee and the assistant athletic director; neither had the answers I sought, but they referred me to Jim Martineau, the CCC Director of Health, P.E. and Athletics. He was able to shed some light on the problems. "Our department is responsible for

maintaining the equipment," he said in an e-mailed response.

He explained that the reason behind the apparent lack of maintenance was primarily budgetary and repairs weren't possible despite best intentions.

"Budgets have been tight this year so we have done the best we could," he said.

As for when the much needed repairs will take place, Martineau projected a realistic plan. "We are hopeful that we can address fixing a couple of the treadmills and some of the other equipment this summer," he wrote.

For the rest of the repairs, students and faculty will just have to wait for what budget talks and the proposed bond measure bring in the fall.



A torn "out of order" sign covers a broken workout machine.

Liz Gomes