

Sports



(Photo by Dan Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

2 Idalis Calvert looks to take home during the IVHS home game loss against Bandon Saturday, March 30. The Lady Cougars lost both games.

IVHS softball team takes loss against Bandon

By
Trisan Stocker
IVN Contributing Writer

The Lady Cougars suffered two losses on Saturday, March 30, in a doubleheader against the Bandon Tigers in home games here in the valley.

In the first game, the Lady Cougars set off to a bad start, giving up five runs in the first inning. However, the girls picked up the pace

and outscored the Tigers in the second, third and fifth innings when they scored three, four and three runs respectively, leaving the final score 18-13.

Shelby Mason went two for three, Shauna Augustadt went three for four and Idalis Calvert went three for four.

"This is a game we could've won," said head coach Rick Dees. "We just need to focus on hitting better since we don't have a practiced pitcher yet."

To help aid the girls in pitching is assistant coach Ken Reinhart, who's had experience playing fast-pitch softball in the past.

The second game against Bandon/Pacific was a JV game wherein five freshmen got their first chance to play for the Lady Cougars.

"We only had one bad inning in the second game where we gave up seven runs," said Dees. "Aside from that, we played neck-and-neck with them."

In the second game, the JV Lady Cougars

had three hits, four walks and two errors.

"The kids are playing better with a lot of enthusiasm," said Dees. "It just takes time. Our pitchers are getting better and as long as we can hit the ball we'll be a competitive team."

Next on the agenda for the Lady Cougars is an away game at Prospect Charter on Tuesday, April 2, against the Panthers, a team that is currently undefeated with a 3-0 record.

Cougars play back-to-back doubleheaders

By
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The Illinois Valley Baseball team had a busy week, playing two doubleheaders against Glendale on Thursday, March 28, and then Bandon/Pacific on Saturday, March 30.

In the first game against the Glendale Pirates, a 2A team with a 1-7 record, the Cougars had four hits and two errors, while the Pirates had eight hits with two errors, leaving the final score 5-4, Glendale.

Pitching for the Cougars for the first five innings was sophomore Conrad Davis. Senior Gregorio Duarte then stepped up and pitched the remaining two.

The second game against Glendale yielded much better results for the Cougars. They got 12 hits and had no errors, while the Pirates only had two hits and finished with three errors, which allowed the Cougars their first victory since March 16 with a final score of 12-3.

Aside from pitching the entire game, junior Zach Welch hit a single, a double and scored a run. Among

other notable achievements for the Cougars, junior Lander Nordal hit two doubles and sophomore William Housel hit a single, a double and had two walks.

"Housel's been catcher for us for the last four games," said Head Coach Javier Aranzubia. "He's really doing a phenomenal job."

Two days later the Cougars found themselves in Tiger territory for yet another doubleheader.

In the first game, Nordal hit a triple and sent the ball flying into right field, and as he neared first base, he collided with the first-baseman.

"Luckily he was able to make his way onto third," said Aranzubia. "It would have been interesting to see if he would have scored a home run had that guy not been in the way."

But despite Nordal's rousing efforts, the Cougars ended up taking a 12-2 loss.

Pitching for the second game against Bandon was Mason LaFlamme, who was later relieved by Tyler Andrew. LaFlamme also hit a single and a double, as did Nordal, who also had two RBIs.

The Cougars played a better game the second time around, but it

still wasn't enough to put them in the lead. The final score rested at 7-4.

"We have a losing record right now, but we've been playing pretty good," Aranzubia said. "The preseason's presented us with a few ups and downs, but it's showing us what we're made of."

There are three games left in the preseason. The first is an away game on Tuesday, April 2, against Prospect Charter for a rematch. The Cougars then have another doubleheader against Umpqua Valley Christian up in Roseburg on Saturday, April 6.

Building ... Continued from A-1

If local nonprofit organizations, many of whom are short on cash to run their programs, are expected to cover funding for the building, Hoyle hopes they'll be allowed to expand their use of the building for money-making activities.

The Family and Friends Senior Meals program (part of the national Meals on Wheels program) has been serving meals to seniors three times a week, both at the building and delivered to their homes, for about 20 years.

"Some of these people live on a monthly income of \$600 and this is often the only meal they have that day," said Bertha Bardt, manager of the senior meal site.

Many meal recipients don't drive, so they walk or hitch a ride, and are able to access the program because of the building's location.

"The convenience for people is key," Bardt said. "These elders paid their taxes for a lot of years. They deserve this building. It's not just the meal, they socialize here. We put on a

Christmas dinner, and for many of these folks, that's it. It's their only Christmas celebration."

The Rogue Valley Council of Governments currently pays the program's rent.

The Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District has had its offices in the building since it was first constructed, and for many years didn't pay any rent, but does now.

Valley residents come to the building each fall to get a flu shot, and the Women, Infant and Child program meets there twice monthly.

Because many local gallery businesses closed during the economic downturn, IRVAC now utilizes the building as the hub for Cave Junction's popular "Art Walks" and the group's annual Artisans' Holiday Faire which enables local artists and crafters to supplement their incomes with gift sales.

The Lions Club routinely serves meals during the annual Blackberry Festival at the building and also runs bingo games during that weekend and again on Thanksgiving.

The I.V. Baptist Church holds services on Sunday and also hosts Wednesday evening activities; "CJ Cares" uses the building to distribute toys to kids at Christmas; the library holds annual book sales; the I.V. Garden Club and the Illinois Valley High School both hold plant sales; and numerous other groups use the building for meetings, bake sales and other fundraisers.

Countless residents are trying to nurture more cooperative efforts to ensure the vitality and growth of the Valley and some express frustration that the area sometimes suffers unfairly from an unfavorable reputation.

"On this side of the hill it seems like we're thought of and treated differently," said Takilma resident John Woodward. "We're like the red-headed step child of the county."

The potential closure of the Forks Park by the state park board is another concern fresh on many residents' minds.

"New and more creative solutions have to

be found in these difficult economic times," Hoyle said. "It's typical that smaller rural areas get hit hard, but we can't allow Cave Junction to suffer a death by a thousand small cuts."

Rumors that the building could be closed down have circulated through the Valley, but Heck wants to reassure people.

"Tell everybody to take a deep breath," Heck said. "We fully realize that the building is well-utilized by many local programs, but there's got to be some solution to going into a fiscal hole. Let's face it, this is a time when the county cannot absorb losses like that."

The upcoming meeting will provide Valley residents with an opportunity to voice their concerns and bring ideas to the table that address funding and maintaining the building more efficiently.

For more information about the meeting, located at 102 S. Redwood Highway, contact Commissioner Simon Hare at share@co.josephine.or.us

Arts Red
Garter

**Lizzard
Mafia**
9 til close
4.5 & 4.6

Karaoke - Dancing
Live Music

B'
Wishes

Friday April. 5, @
5:30pm

**Taylor's
Country Store**

Wild River
HANDCRAFTED FOOD & ALE
Saturday April 6,
6 pm

**Now and
Again
Trio**

Every Wed Open Mic Night
From 6-8 p.m. with
Jim Nolan

Pool Tourney
Every
Saturday
Cash Prizes

**Sportsman
Tavern**

**Kate's
Redwood
Bar and Grill**

Winter hours
Tuesday to Saturday
Noon to 8 pm

Stop in and see
Mamie and Kate
Today!

**Lonesome
Road**
April 5

**McGrew's
of Course!**