Clackamas finishes third at NWAC tourney

The second-seeded Clackamas Community College softball team steamrolled through the first two days of the NWAC tournament to slide into the winner's bracket final. Second baseman Cassie Cruz got the Cougars going in the tournament opener against Everett, driving in four runs to lead them to a 7-0 win.

Cruz knocked in Clackamas’ first run of the tournament with an RBI single in the bottom of the third inning. She broke the game open an inning later. With two outs in the bottom of the fourth, Cruz ripped a 1-2 pitch to the fence for a base-clearing, three-run double that gave the Cougars a 6-0 lead.

Clackamas pitcher Cassidy Edwards tossed a three-hit shutout in an effort that overmatched Everett. She struck out eight hitters along the way.

The Cougars went on to reach the winner’s bracket final before drooping a 4-1 decision to eventual-champion Spokane.

Clackamas fell out of contention with a 5-4 loss to South Region rival Mt. Hood in the elimination-bracket final.

Clackamas finished the year with a 35-10 record and a third-place tournament finish.

Find expanded tournament coverage in the May 21 print edition.
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