



THE BRUCE REPORT

"A PERIODIC PIECE OF RECORDS, HISTORY, NEWS, NOTES & STUFF"

May 21, 2009

Odds and ends as the 63rd year of Wenatchee Valley College athletics concludes.

Baseball

Last week it was mentioned that this spring the Knights posted their fourth consecutive winning season in league play. In 40 previous years the school had never had two straight winning seasons in league competition. Now the year is complete and with a 22-21 overall mark it is also the fourth season in a row they have posted a winning season record...and again prior to the last quarter of years it had never ever been done in back-to-back seasons.

The Knights faced Treasure Valley six times this season. The most they've played one team in a season since 2007 when they played both Treasure Valley and Spokane seven times each.

This was the sixth time in 41 years that Wenatchee Valley was won 20 or more games in a season. Of course it was a tad harder to do the first 14 seasons when only once they even played 20 games.

Rusty Keith completed his second season as coach with a 2-year record of 58-31 (65.2%).

Softball

WVC has earned seven straight winning seasons in both league and overall play. The school record in both is 10 set from 1985 to 1994.

The gals have seven consecutive springs of 20 wins or more. The old mark of five was accomplished twice – 1984 to 1988 and 1990 to 1994.

In league competition Wenatchee had their fourth straight season of 20 wins or more breaking the old standard of three set from 1985 to 1987.

Offense. The average runs scored per game for the Black & Silver was 8.14...third best in school history (1st 9.68 in 1985 – 2nd 8.75 and 2007). Twenty-one times the Knights hit double figures in runs. And how's this for a comparison – in the last six years WVC has given up 10 or more runs 22 times. (You just don't get this stuff in Sports Illustrated.)

With an average score of 8.14 to 2.82 the average winning margin of 5.32 is the second largest in school history (1st 5.93 in 1985).

After a decade at the helm of the program, Shell Pflugrath has a record of 292-165 (63.9%).

A Knight to Remember

One more very important event...the WVC Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet. The inductees for 2009 are:

Jill Greenfield, women's basketball

Byron Williams, men's basketball

Tom Perry, football coach

Frank Cumbo, tennis and skiing coach

1954 tennis team, Vern Ball, Roger Barnhart, Jerry Chaption, Gary Clifford and George Stillman

1957 ski team, Torstein Gjestrud, Bud Hatley, Knut-Einar Istad, Doug Nicholson, Ken Paton, Oddvar Ronnestad and Cal Vaughn

Jeff Mertes, long-time Knights booster

June 6, Van Tassell Center, social hour 5:30, dinner 6:30. Tickets for *A Knight to Remember* are \$35, with proceeds benefiting WVC athletics. For reservations, contact the WVC Athletic Department at 509.682-6886. Seating is limited.

A great night for Knights!