

PETTERSON WRESTLES 2 SPORTS



MOLLY J. SMITH/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Cascade High School junior Brooklynn Petterson is a center forward for the school's soccer team. But she also competes with Cascade's wrestling team, placing sixth in the 106-pound weight class at the 4A Special District 2 tournament as a sophomore.

Soccer star pins rivals in off-season

BILL POEHLER

STAYTON MAIL

TURNER - Brooklynn Petterson wanted to play football when she was younger, but she wasn't allowed.

So in the eighth grade, the soccer standout started wrestling.

What Petterson discovered is that not only does she like the sport, but that it

also has carryover back to the soccer field.

When many players line up for the start of a match, they can be a bundle of nervous energy or let their minds float away elsewhere.

When Petterson is on the field to start one of Cascade High School's soccer matches, she has a laser focus on winning the game.

"When she steps on the field, she has a

look on her face," teammate Emma Woods said. "She has a plan, she knows what she's doing.

"She's really good at going with whatever happens, making a plan while she's going also because not everything is going to happen perfectly. She's good at improvising, just like you have to do on the wrestling mat. You have to react in ways

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Boys soccer

Greater Valley Conference

McKay

Coach: Benjamin Lopez, second year.

Last year's record: 2-3-3 GVC, 7-6-3 overall, lost in second round of state playoffs.

Key athletes: Francisco Cortez-Jaramillo, Sr., D: A skilled player who was second-team all-conference as a junior. Juan Hernandez, Jr., MF: A second-team all-conference player as a sophomore.

Outlook: The Royal Scots have a strong group of players, especially on defense, and have the potential to compete for the top spot in the conference.

McNary

Coach: Miguel Camarena, 15th year.

Last year's record: 2-3-3 GVC, 7-5-3 overall, lost in play-in round.

Key athletes: Ramon Duenas, Sr., D: An honorable mention all-conference player as a junior. Bryan Keo, Sr., MF: A returning starter.

Outlook: The Celtics have an experienced group in the back, but have a young team that will improve as the season goes along.

North Salem

Coach: Rich Swartzentruber, 24th year.

Last year's record: 2-3-3 GVC, 5-6-4 overall, lost in first round of state playoffs.

Key athletes: Adrian Maciel, Jr., MF: A skilled passer who was first-team all-conference as a sophomore. Edwin Ortiz, Jr., MF: An honorable mention all-conference player as a sophomore. Cole Bautista, Jr., D: An honorable mention all-conference selection.

Outlook: The Vikings return 13 varsity players and have a strong group of upperclassmen including seniors Juan Perez and Sergio Villazana and should move up in the conference.

South Salem

Coach: Eric Johansen, 36th year.

Last year's record: 4-2-2 GVC, 11-3-2 overall, lost in second round of state playoffs.

Key athletes: Sebastian Ruelas, Sr., F: A second-team all-state player as a junior. Armondo Lopez Ruiz, Sr., MF: A first-team all-conference selection last season.

Outlook: The Saxons have some experienced players and should compete for a state playoff spot.

Sprague

Coach: Shawn Barnes, second year.

Last year's record: 1-6-1 GVC, 3-10-1 overall.

Key athletes: Xavier Mendoza, Sr., D: A second-team all-conference player as a junior. Brennan Whitezel, Sr., D: An experienced, athletic player in the back. Chris Montoya, So., D: A returning starter.

Outlook: The Olympians have an experienced team and are determined to make a state playoff run.

West Salem

Coach: Eddy Soboll, second year.

Last year's record: 3-2-3 GVC, 11-5-3 overall, placed second in Class 6A.

Key athletes: Stuart Aeschliman, Sr., F: A prolific scorer who was first-team all-state and the Gatorade Oregon Player of the Year as a junior. Tyler Ballenger, Sr., MF: An honorable mention all-conference player and strong presence in the middle. Benje Orozco Jr., Sr., GK: A first-team all-conference player as a freshman, he returns after two years away from the program.

Outlook: The Titans have the talent to compete for the league championship and, if they can stay healthy, a deep run in the state playoffs.

Also in the GVC

Forest Grove: The Vikings placed second in the league a year ago and have the potential to make a state playoff run again.

McMinnville: The Grizzlies won the league championship a year ago and were a state semifinalist, but graduated a huge group of seniors off that team.

West Albany: The Bulldogs have struggled at the 6A level.

Mid-Willamette Conference: Woodburn has been the dominant force in the conference the past decade and has the talent to continue that run. The Bulldogs return a senior class including midfielders Andy Ellingson, Anthony Santillan and Kevin Vasquez along with forward Connor Karsseboom and are expected to be one of the top teams in the state again. Silverton has stepped up in the past few years and returns first-team all-league seniors Ethan Crofts and Ethan Risby. State playoff team Central returns first-team all-league forward Antonio Rincon, a long-range striker, along with seniors Erick Corral and Jose Herrera and junior Evan Hoover.

Oregon West Conference: Stayton has the talent to continue its recent run of success, which included a league championship and second-place state trophy last season. The Eagles have all-conference players in defender Jose Gomez, goalkeeper Jose Navarro, midfielder Alex Cramer and midfielder Levi Summers along with starters Jacoby Croff and Courage Minton, but have to develop scorers to continue their run. North Marion has emerged as a state power the past few seasons, and reached the state semifinals last year, but graduated a large senior class.

3A/2A/1A Special District 2: Taft is the favorite to win the league championship again, but state semifinalist Delphian also should be a contender. Blanchet has a new head coach in Joe Saltarello and a few seniors including Lucas Miller and Joe Pardo, but has

potential with a large sophomore group.

Girls soccer

Greater Valley Conference

McKay

Coach: Arturo Alfaro, second year.

Last year's record: 1-7 GVC, 3-10-1 overall.

Key athletes: Alejandra Angel, Jr., D: An honorable mention all-league player as a sophomore. Jasmine Rodriguez, So., MF: A returning starter in the middle.

Outlook: The Royal Scots have a young roster comprised of some skilled players and will continue to make strides this season.

McNary

Coach: A.J. Nash, third year.

Last year's record: 2-6 GVC, 6-8 overall.

Key athletes: Jessie Shore, Jr., MF: The team's leading scorer in 2015 and an honorable mention all-league player. Abigail Smith, Sr., D: The anchor of the defense. Kayla Evans, Sr., LF: A player with great speed on the attack from the wing, she was honorable mention all-league as a junior.

Outlook: The Celtics have a strong group of young players to go along with a core group of upperclassmen that should make the team a state playoff contender.

North Salem

Coach: Erik Boyd, fourth year.

Last year's record: 0-8 GVC, 1-12-1 overall.

Key athletes: Erika Vargas, Sr., MF: A player who covers a lot of ground with great field vision who was honorable mention all-league as a junior. Amy DuVall, Sr., F: A skilled attacker and second-team all-league player who is versatile enough to lead the defense as well. Carrie Ochoa, Sr., MF: A talented and creative midfielder who was second-team all-league as a junior.

Outlook: The Vikings had a young team, but returns nearly the entire varsity team and adds in new players who will give the team the depth it needs.

South Salem

Coach: Alvaro Anaya, fourth year.

Last year's record: 4-4 GVC, 6-9 overall, lost in play-in round.

Key athletes: Kaitlyn Paluska, Sr., MF: A four-year varsity player and team captain who has a versatility on the field and is a team leader. Hannah Hersh, Sr., MF/D: A versatile four-year varsity player and honorable mention all-league player willing to play wherever on the field she is needed. Haley Hmura, Sr., D: The key to the defensive line from the center known to move at times and score goals.

Outlook: The Saxons have an experienced senior class that gives the program the chance to compete with the top teams in the league.

Sprague

Coach: Kevin Plechl, ninth year.

Last year's record: 4-3-1 GVC, 6-7-1 overall.

Key athletes: Sarah Teubner, Sr., MF: A first-team all-league player as a junior who scored five goals and had five assists. Natalia Rodriguez Cedillo, Jr., MF: The team's leading scorer last year with six goals and a second-team all-league player.

Outlook: The Olympians were tough on defense last year, but need to develop on offense to contend with the top teams in the league this season.

West Salem

Coach: Jaime Rodriguez, fifth year.

Last year's record: 7-1 GVC, 11-4 overall, lost in first round of state playoffs.

Key athletes: Bailey Hand, Jr., GK: A returning varsity player. Emily Stutz, Jr., D: Played in a reserve role for the team last season.

Outlook: The Titans graduated a large, talented group of seniors who accomplished a lot, but bring in a talented, young group that should keep it near the top of the league.

Also in the GVC

Forest Grove: The Vikings have a good group of seniors that will contend at the top of the conference.

McMinnville: The Grizzlies return senior Jazmin Rojas and four all-league players and is the favorite for the league championship.

West Albany: The Bulldogs have established players such as Caroline Richards, Sienna Higginbotham and Elena Meza Wynkoop and will challenge for the league championship.

Mid-Willamette Conference: Corvallis has the talent to remain the top team in the conference, but Silverton has been a close second the past two years and has a strong team including all-league players Hannah Munson and Maggie Roth and starters Molly Stadel and Maddy Valov that will challenge for the league title again. Central has some promising young players in sophomore Ana Becerra and Sophia Henke and should move up in the league.

Oregon West Conference: Cascade is a heavy favorite in the league again with all-league players including Brooklynn Petterson, Halle Wright, Elisa Kanoff, Kelsey Molan, Emma Woods and Jenica Wiebenga. North Marion has an improved team including defender Madelyn Holm, leading scorer Mar Verastegui and its top distributor in Sonia Jimenez.

3A/2A/1A Special District 2: Blanchet is the favorite in the conference behind first-team all-state junior Emily Collier. Dayton should contend for the top spot in the league and Western Mennonite returns senior Madison Hull and will be a contender.