

BOYS BASKETBALL

Continued from 1B

in his team's defensive performance. And though Johnson turned in yet another high-scoring effort, Feasel noted that he became less efficient as the game went on.

"As you saw in the second half, Johnson struggled to score because he's playing too many minutes. We have to figure out more ways to get other kids involved. But give Cottage Grove a lot of credit. As young as they are, those kids battled and competed," Feasel said.

Pollard said that the Lions did have a game plan for Johnson but that it "obviously" didn't go very well. Cottage Grove began the game in a man-to-man defense but transitioned into a box-and-run — which appeared to be more effective.

After struggling to a 2-5 record before Christmas, Parent said that the team used the winter break to regroup and refocus.

"Our work ethic in practice became a lot better once we realized what it takes for us to win as a young team. We're not talented enough to slack off

and still win," he said.

Parent said that the team is now doing a better job of attacking the basket and getting to the free-throw line.

Against South Umpqua, the Lions set new season-bests for free throw attempts (26) and free throws made (18).

The Lions will conclude their non-league schedule over the next week with games against No. 10 Cascade, Stayton and No. 3 North Marion.

COTTAGE GROVE 79, SOUTH UMPQUA 69

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|------|
| South Umpqua | 27 | 11 | 15 | 16 | — 69 |
| Cottage Grove | 22 | 14 | 17 | 26 | — 79 |

South Umpqua: E. Johnson 36, N. Thompson 10, A. Thompson 8, Gray 6, Kelly 5, Avery 2, Kramer 2.
Cottage Grove: Parent 28, Sentman 25, Tucker 14, Murphy 5, Porter 5, Hopkins 2

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Continued from 1B

In the second quarter, Cottage Grove moved into its defensive press, but the frenetic pace created more opportunities for South Umpqua. Chanel Stewart scored 10 of the Lancers 15 second-quarter points.

Senior Ashlee Neely said that the team typically benefits from being able to play fast and slow, but that it is still working on trying to find a healthy medium.

The Lions extended their lead in the second half and slammed the door on the Lancers with an 11-2 run to start the fourth quarter.

Neely and junior Delia Nichols-Ferguson — two players who missed time before the holidays — made significant impacts in their return to the court. Neely scored 12 points and provided additional ball-handling skills at point guard.

Nichols-Ferguson scored six points and had a big, athletic presence at the post. Clawson said

she is excited to once again have a three player-rotation at that position with Borigo, Nichols-Ferguson and junior Hannah Arnold, who tallied nine points against South Umpqua.

Despite bad luck with injuries, Clawson is pleased with where the Lions are at coming out of winter break. She is also looking forward to a competitive slate of upcoming games that includes No. 5 Cascade, Stayton and North Marion.

COTTAGE GROVE 60, SOUTH UMPQUA 28

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|------|
| South Umpqua | 6 | 15 | 4 | 3 | — 28 |
| Cottage Grove | 19 | 15 | 11 | 15 | — 60 |

South Umpqua: Stewart 12, Davis 7, Mueller 4, Lowell 3, Carter 2.
Cottage Grove: Borigo 20, Neely 12, Arnold 9, Nichols-Ferguson 6, Gardner 4, Lilly 4, Sayles 4, Mootz 1.

OBSTRUCTED VIEW

Continued from 1B

Some of the more memorable examples are too vulgar for print but I'll say that his affinity for free crab legs and infamous misunderstanding of 'no' inspired some creative, albeit low, jeers.

Now, if you've ever experienced a raucous Autzen Stadium you know that Oregon fans can be ruthless. But bowl games are typically a different animal. That particular courage one gets from being an anonymous voice in a home crowd of 59,000 is nonexistent. Not only are the stadiums evenly split between the two fan bases but because of how tickets are bought and resold, entire sections and rows become intermixed as well.

On Thursday, Duck fans boldly went after Winston, and those hecklers grew in confidence when few Seminole fans came to the defense of their embattled quarterback. And though you could say that Winston's antics are completely reprehensible — even to the most delusional fan — it was shocking to see Florida State fans start to leave the stadium in droves by the beginning of the fourth quarter. In two years, he won 26 games, a national championship and the

Heisman Trophy. This may have been his last game as a Seminole yet not too many were inclined to savor the final minutes of the Winston-era.

That all of this took place amidst a catastrophic Florida State collapse made it all the more compelling. The telecast may have told a different narrative, but for me this overshadowed everything until 1:36 left in the third quarter when it became apparent that Oregon was on its way to the National Championship Game.

Is Winston the most notorious player in the history of college football? He upstaged a Heisman winner in Marcus Mariota who led his team to a 39-point victory in the Rose Bowl. I may be guilty of recency bias, but I can't think of anyone who was both as successful and reviled as Winston.

JS: Yes, it seems that Winston has even inspired the compilation of lists of some of the "most-hated" college football players in history, though he has yet to crack the top of those I've seen so far. These lists seem to mainly feature players who showcased a greater-than-acceptable level of swagger that played itself out in various ways on and off the field (another

noted Seminole, Deion Sanders, appears on many of them for this reason, and, speaking as a child of the 1980s, I regret being a bit too young for the Brian Bosworth era) though the accusations against Winston certainly go beyond mere swagger.

Still, it's a shame that this drama upstaged an epic afternoon for the Ducks and Marcus Mariota, though it could of course be argued that Oregon is getting the last laugh. It's also unfortunate that Duck fans and players got caught up in that moment and the negativity, as Winston and the Seminoles had already been outclassed and outplayed up and down the football field, a place where character (or lack thereof) shines brightly and without apology.

With luck, we'll weather the next few days without any extracurricular drama, and on Monday, a Duck team that now looks pretty unstoppable will prove itself once again. I'll be blessed not to have a conflict of loyalty between the two teams vying for the National Championship (this Illinois boy finds it oh-so-easy not to like Ohio State), while you'll be one of the lucky ones, a fan with what could be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see (in person)

his team become the last one standing and hoist a brand-new trophy. Here's to safe travels and a big Duck win!

MH: Without doubt, I think this will be Oregon's best chance to win a national title — at least for a while. We may have thought the same thing heading into the 2011 National Championship Game, but that was still only Chip Kelly's second year as head coach. Obviously he's no longer with the program, but I think that this current edition was what he envisioned from the beginning — with a player of Mariota's ability running the show.

Auburn was a slight favorite heading into the game, but once the two teams got on the field, and you could compare the size and speed of the teams, it became obvious — at least to me — that the Tigers were the overwhelming favorites to win. I realize that the final score was 22-19, but if you play that game 100 times Auburn probably wins by doubled digits in at least half of them.

After that, it seemed that a blueprint had emerged for how to beat the Ducks' spread attack: stop the running backs and force the quarterback to throw. But this Oregon team — across

the board — is significantly better than the 2010-11 version. And when I saw them take the field against Florida State, they looked the part. And although we've seen Mariota-led Oregon teams loose a few times, right now he is at the peak of his powers. As long as the offensive line is healthy, I believe that he can lead the Ducks to a win through the air or on the ground.

Given the success that quarterbacks have had at Oregon, it's difficult to parse out the player from the system. But considering the margins by which Mariota has eclipsed his predecessors in the record book, it's fairly easy to say that he is the best to have ever run this offense, and it's hard to imagine anyone do-

ing it better.

I've heard people say that Mariota simply directs this great Oregon offense. But I would liken it more to the relationship between a racecar driver and his car. There are limitations of both, and they need each other to operate. Oregon has been a really fast car for sometime, but Mariota has taken that machine to its maximum speed.

I think that some fans are slightly disappointed that Oregon won't have an opportunity for a Godfather ending: beating Alabama in the title game would have settled all of the family business. But I — for one — will be able to die in peace if the Ducks can beat Ohio State.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 8
Wrestling @ Elmira — 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 9
Girls Basketball @ Stayton — 5:30 p.m.
Boys Basketball @ Stayton — 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 13
Swimming vs. North Bend — 4:30 p.m.
Boys Basketball vs. North Marion — 5:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball vs. North Marion — 7 p.m.

RESULTS

Boys Basketball
Monday, Dec. 29
Cottage Grove 64, Douglas 35
Tuesday, Dec. 30
North Marion 57, Cottage Grove 44
Friday, Jan. 2
Cottage Grove 79, S. Umpqua 69

Girls Basketball
Monday, Dec. 29
Cottage Grove 49, Douglas 46
Tuesday, Dec. 30
Gladstone 59, Cottage Grove 57
Friday, Jan. 2
Cottage Grove 60, S. Umpqua 28

COTTAGE BOWL

League: Cottage Mixers
Date Bowled: Dec. 17

| Team | W | L |
|-------------------|----|----|
| Bowling Stone | 25 | 10 |
| Cottage Bowl | 25 | 10 |
| Covered Bridge U | 22 | 13 |
| CG Speedway | 20 | 15 |
| Taylor's Towing | 19 | 16 |
| Kelly Trailer R. | 17 | 18 |
| Funseekers | 13 | 22 |
| Swearengin Design | 12 | 23 |
| Commonwealth F. | 11 | 24 |
| Jerry Brown Co. | 11 | 24 |

High Game
Men: Butch Cardoza 251
Women: Jeralee Swearengin NA
High Series
Men: Matthew Owen 693
Mary Whetstone 508

League: 5 O'Clock Shadows
Date Bowled: Dec. 21

| Team | W | L |
|--------------------|----|----|
| V. Richenstein MD | 16 | 8 |
| Ames To Be True | 16 | 8 |
| Amigos Quatro | 16 | 4 |
| Mid-State | 14 | 10 |
| All in the Family | 14 | 10 |
| Book Mine | 13 | 11 |
| Ace's High | 13 | 11 |
| 4 U Simple Book. | 10 | 7 |
| Jim's Tire Factory | 10 | 14 |
| CG Vac & Sew | 7 | 17 |
| Jenni & the Jetts | 6 | 18 |

High Game:
Men: Aaron Ames 256
Women: Jan McTaggart 179
Cherry Bascue 179
Raelene Ames 179

Men Three High Series:

1. Aaron Ames 725
2. Johnny Saldana 586
3. Don Perkins 583

Women Three High Series:

1. Cherry Bascue 477
2. Jen McTaggart 476
3. Jennifer Saldana 463

League: Dynamic Trios
Date Bowled: Dec. 30

| Team | W | L |
|---------------------|------|------|
| Golding Enterprises | 17.5 | 10.5 |
| Cott. Bowlerettes | 17 | 11 |
| K Family Merc. | 16.5 | 11.5 |
| Hs Rowdy Bunch | 16 | 12 |
| Swearengin Design | 14 | 14 |
| Rs Beauty Salon | 14 | 14 |
| New Creations | 13 | 15 |
| H Selective Log. | 10 | 18 |
| Team #10 | 10 | 2 |
| Advanced Eyecare | 9 | 19 |

High Game: Montry McNally 198
Debbie Saldana 198

Three High Series:

1. Megan McNary 562
2. Carolyn Tillery 502
3. Audrey Wardwell 479

League: Meri Rollers
Date Bowled: Dec. 30

| Team | W | L |
|------------------|----|----|
| Three Amigos | 19 | 9 |
| Team Reliv | 18 | 10 |
| Lucky Ladies | 18 | 10 |
| Treasure Chest | 18 | 6 |
| Mom's Girls | 16 | 8 |
| Emerald Valley | 15 | 13 |
| Charlie's Angels | 15 | 13 |
| Simand Chiro. | 12 | 16 |
| Ron's Girls | 12 | 16 |
| Blue Sunshine | 9 | 19 |
| Addi's Diner | 8 | 20 |

High Game: Shelly O'Reilly 234

Three Game High Series:

1. Allie Simons 586
2. Sam Risso 569
3. Fran Rothauge 563

League: Ball & Chain
Date Bowled: Jan. 2

| Team | W | L |
|-----------------|----|----|
| Bowl Dozers | 17 | 3 |
| Party Patrol | 12 | 4 |
| Roman Numerals | 12 | 8 |
| Thunder Boltz | 12 | 8 |
| Pin Pushers | 11 | 9 |
| Senior Funsters | 10 | 10 |
| More Beer | 6 | 14 |
| Joe's Diner | 6 | 14 |
| Cracker Jacks | 5 | 15 |
| Ally Oops | 5 | 11 |

High Game:
Men: Del Bloesch 255
Women: Vanessa Chenoweth 236

Men Three High Series:

1. Del Bloesch 711
2. Bryan Roman 630
3. Glenn Clark 627

Women Three High Series:

1. Koleen Kelly 668
2. Vanessa Chenoweth 614
3. Callena True 475

League: Junior Stars

Date Bowled: Jan. 3

| Team | W | L |
|------------------|----|----|
| Ten Pin Mafia | 19 | 1 |
| Delivery Boys | 14 | 6 |
| Lane Damage | 14 | 6 |
| Space Money | 11 | 9 |
| Hot Shots | 11 | 9 |
| My Spare Ladies | 11 | 9 |
| Junior Who Cares | 6 | 14 |
| J Dawgs | 6 | 14 |
| Lane Rangers | 6 | 14 |
| Team to Beat | 3 | 17 |

League: CG City League
Date Bowled: Jan. 8

| Team | W | L |
|----------------|-----|-----|
| Dawgnauts | 11 | 5 |
| Who Cares | 10 | 6 |
| Drain Chain | 9 | 7 |
| Jim's Tire | 9 | 7 |
| Addi's Diner | 8.5 | 7.5 |
| Cottage Bowl | 7 | 9 |
| High Yield | 7 | 9 |
| Gladiators | 7 | 9 |
| Urban Honey | 6.5 | 9.5 |
| Gilkison & Dad | 5 | 11 |

MIDDLEFIELD MENS GOLF

Date: Dec. 22
Game: 3-2-1 Best Ball

1. Gary Culp, Jack Doleman, Steve Erickson, Frank Gates (-20), 2. Mike Helms, Steve Lindholm, David Morris, Jerry Fisher (-19), 3. Bill Avery, Darrell Lee, Richard Vargas, Gary Sparks (-14), 3. Gary Ingram, Dave Tooker, Jim Wamsley, Larry Emery (-14), Low Gross: 1, Erickson 67, 2, Doleman 71, 2, Sparks 71, Low Net: 1, Culp 61, 1, Lindholm 61, 3, Ingram 62, Closest to the Pin: No. 5, Ingram, No. 7, Gates, No. 14, Helms, Longest Putt: No. 10, Gates.

Date: Dec. 29
Game: 1-2-3 Points

1. Jake Cox, Bob McCarty, Frank Gates, Gary Sparks 88, 2. Mike Cooney Dave England, Dave Tooker, Richard Vargas 86, 3. Gary Culp, Steve Erickson, Jerry Fisher, Pat Rickard 85, Low Gross: 1, Erickson 73, 1, Sparks 73, 3, Larry Emery 75, Low Net: 1, England 62, 2, Fisher 64, 3, Lindholm 65, Closest to the Pin: No. 5, Erickson, No. 7, Jack Doleman, No. 14, Cunningham, Longest Putt: No. 11 Lindholm

Date: Jan. 2
Game: 2 Best Ball

1. Jake Cox, Mel Gowing, Bob McCarty, Dave Tooker (-16), 2. Russell Bryce, Jim Cunningham, Jerry Fisher, Frank Gates (-13), 3. Mike Helms, Gary Ingram, David Morris, Larry Dreiling (-12), Low Gross: 1, Gary Sparks 73, 2, Helms 75, 3, Larry Emery 76, Low Net: 1, Jerry Pennington 66, 2, Emery 67, 2, Cox 67, 4, Bryce 68, Closest to the Pin: No. 5, Pennington, No. 7, Pennington, No. 14, Ingram, Longest Putt: No. 11, Gowing

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