

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL POWER RANKINGS

STAFF REPORTS
STATESMAN JOURNAL

Each week, Statesman Journal reporters Bill Poehler, Gary Horowitz and Pete Martini rank the best high school football players in Salem and the Mid-Willamette Valley.

Quarterbacks

Sprague senior quarterback Spencer Plant has cemented himself at the top of the Statesman Journal's quarterback power rankings – his 152 yard, one touch-down performance against North Salem accomplished that – but a run-first quarter-back is moving up the list. Cascade senior Quinn Legner has become his team's most prolific running option and has risen to No. 2. Legner rushed for 177 yards and two touchdowns on 31 carries and passed for 38 yards on 5 of 10 passing in last week's win against Philomath.

- 1. Spencer Plant, Sprague Week 7: Beat North Salem 49-21.
- 2. Quinn Legner, Cascade Week 7: Beat Philomath 28-14.
- 3. Levi Nielsen, Silverton Week 7:Beat South Albany 28-21.
- 4. Peter Mendazona, Central Week 7: Lost to Lebanon 40-27.
- 5. R.J. Veliz, Blanchet Catholic Week 7: Lost to Scio 54-12.
- 6. Erik Barker, McNary Week 7: Beat West Albany 16-8.
- 7. Grant Thies, West Salem Week 7: Beat McMinnville 62-13.
- 8. Holden Smith, St. Paul Week 7: Beat Central Linn 62-27.
- 9. Grant Carley, Santiam Christian Week 7: Beat Taft 54-7.
- 10. Brad Milton, Willamina Week 7: Lost to Dayton 14-8.

Running backs

The top spot in the Statesman Journal power rankings for running backs is solidly held by Sprague senior Noah Mellen, but North Salem's Rigo Padilla continues his meteoric rise. Mellen rushed for 203 yards and four touchdowns on 30 carries in last week's win against North Salem, but in the same game Padilla rushed for 151 yards and a touchdown on just 19 carries and rises to No. 2 in the power rankings. For the season Padilla has rushed for 1,126 yards and 10 touch-downs.

- 1. Noah Mellen, Sprague Week 7: Beat North Salem 49-21.
- 2. Rigo Padilla, North Salem Week 7: Lost to Sprague 49-21.
- 3. Jacob Denning, West Salem Week 7: Beat McMinnville 62-13.
- 4. Dru Cook, Scio Week 7: Beat Blanchet 54-12.
- 5. Hunter Meissner, Silverton Week 7: Beat South Albany 28-21.
- 6. Justin Herberger, St. Paul Week 7: Beat Central Linn 62-27.
- 7. Evan Courtney, Dallas



Cascade's Quinn Legner has become his team's most prolific running option and has risen to No. 2. in the Statesman Journal's quarterback power rankings. MOLLY J. SMITH/STATESMAN JOURNAL

- Week 7: Lost to Corvallis 40-26.
- 8. Brandon Piete, Regis Week 7: Lost to Santiam 59-18.
- 9. Ethan Coffey, Cascade Week 7: Beat Philomath 28-14.
- 10. Brody Davidson, Santiam Week 7: Beat Regis 59-18.

Receivers

It's hard to gauge West Salem junior receiver Anthony Gould by numbers alone. But his numbers have helped to keep him atop the Statesman Journal power rankings for receivers and tight ends. He has caught 24 passes for 450 yards and four touchdowns, rushed for 229 yards and four touchdowns on 14 carries, returned two kickoffs for touch-downs and a punt for a touchdown.

- 1. Anthony Gould, West Salem Week 7: Beat McMinnville 62-13.
- 2. Spencer Clements, Silverton Week 7: Beat South Albany 28-21.
- 3. Alex Altringer, Sprague Week 7: Beat North Salem 49-21.

- 4. Andres Delgado, South Salem Week 7: Beat McKay 33-14.
- 5. Teagan Quitoriano, Sprague Week 7: Beat North Salem 49-21.
- 6. Gage Hazelton, Salem Academy Week 7: Lost 19-0 to Sheridan.
- 7. Max Long, Sprague Week 7: Beat North Salem 49-21.
- 8. Zontel Brown, McKay Week 7: Lost to South Salem 33-14.
- 9. Jaidyn Jackson, St. Paul Week 7: Beat Central Linn 62-27.
- 10. Isiah Abraham, Central Week 7: Lost to Lebanon 40-27.

Defenses

The defense of West Salem's football team has drawn attention the past few games. The Titans have allowed two or fewer touchdowns in each of their past three games and puts the team in position to win a league championship this week. The defense is arguably one of the most athletic groups in state behind line-man Alex Hurlburt, linebacker Ryan

Baxter, lineman Christian Janes, line-backer Kolby Cooper, safety Simon Thompson, linebacker Micah Pugh and defensive back Zach Robertson.

- 1. West Salem Week 7: Beat McMinnville 62-13.
- 2. St. Paul Week 7: Beat Central Linn 62-27.
- 3. Sprague Week 7: Beat North Salem 49-21.
- 4. Cascade Week 7: Beat Philomath 28-14.
- 5. Dayton Week 7: Beat Willamina 14-8.
- 6. Scio Week 7: Beat Blanchet 54-12.
- 7. Blanchet Week 7: Lost to Scio 54-12.
- 8. Santiam Week 7: Beat Regis 59-18.
- 9. Central Week 7: Lost to Lebanon 40-27.
- 10. Silverton Week 7: Beat South Albany 28-21.

Silverton Seniors
slate several events

JUSTIN MUCH
STAYTON MAIL

Silverton Senior Center announced a number of upcoming events, beginning with a pancake breakfast scheduled for 8 to 10:30 a.m., Oct. 28 at the center, 115 Westfield St.

The family-friendly fundraising breakfast will include all you can eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit and a beverage. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids under age 12; kids under age 4 eat free.

Old Time Fiddlers Association will perform a concert at the center from 12 to 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10.

The concert is free, but donations to the center will be accepted. Between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. that

same Friday the center will also be host-ing a Mobile Dental Clinic for seniors, provided through Medical Teams Inter-national.

Applications for the clinic are avail-able at the center and must be completed and turned in by Friday, Nov. 3.

Silverton Seniors Clothing Closet Sale takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Satur-day, Nov. 11 at the center.

The event is described as a “gently used ladies clothing sale.” To learn more about the sale or to attain a \$10 vendor’s space, contact Barbara at 503-874-8282.

To learn more about any of the above events, contact Silverton Senior Center at 503-873-3093 or visit www.silvertonseniorcenter.org.

OSAA

Continued from Page 1B

tor of Music and Drama in the Salem-Keizer School District.

During the past year, the Classifica-tion and Districting Committee put forth several proposals of where to place the Bend schools, which are moving up a class to 6A.

It was in the final recommendation, released Sept. 28, that the committee set-tled on a league with the Salem-Keizer schools.

“I think we thought we were safe,” West Salem athletic director Bill Witt-man testified. “It caught us off guard.”

In other topics, many schools pleaded their cases of why their school should be able to play down a classification or move into a different league.

The only change the executive board made from the final recommendation was to allow Rogue River to play down to 2A from 3A.

Aside from Salem-Keizer, Cascade was pleading for changes from the Sep-tember recommendation.

Cascade's administrators urged the board to increase the threshold between 4A and 5A, allowing their school to stay in Class 4A.

“The reality is there are flaws in it,” Cascade athletic director Darren Drill testified about the final proposal. “I need you to have the courage to make some changes.”

Drill cautioned that if Cascade was to be in the 5A Mid-Willamette Conference that its football team, one of the top in Class 4A, will consider playing an inde-pendent schedule in 2018.

The argument did not sway the deci-sion, and Cascade will join the loaded Mid-Willamette with Central, Corvallis, Crescent Valley, Dallas, Lebanon, Silver-ton and South Albany.

That league also will include North Salem — which previously had been ap-proved to play down — and West Albany. Both of those schools have been Class 6A, and both are about twice the size of Cascade.

At the Delegate Assembly meeting, which followed the executive board meeting, the classification thresholds were approved.

Three representatives, Cascade ath-letic director Heidi Hermansen, Co-quille administrator Tony Jones and Baker superintendent Mark Witty, voted against the classification thresholds.

Woodburn previously had been ap-proved to play down to 4A and join the Oregon West Conference along with Stayton, Newport, Philomath, Sisters and Sweet Home.

The 3A West Valley will have Amity, Blanchet, Dayton, Salem Academy, Scio and Yamhill-Carlton, while Willamina and Santiam Christian will move to sepa-rate leagues.

Chemawa, Gervais and Sheridan were previously approved to drop down to the new 2A Central Valley League to join Delphian, Kennedy, Santiam and Western Mennonite, and Jefferson had been approved to go down to join the Tri-River Conference, which also will in-clude Regis.

And St. Paul moves down to 1A after four years at the 2A after a drop in its en-rollment, rejoining its traditional rivals in the Casco League.

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at 3:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.

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We typically sell out these events, so sign up today AND
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