

He could... go... all... the... way!!!



AMY PARRISH / Clackamas Print

A Clackamas student outruns Paul Rothi [left] and Kathleen Smith during last week's Pigskin Classic. The flag football games were played last Tuesday and Thursday and were deemed a huge success by their sponsor, the Cougar Club. Story on Page 1.

Yankees sweep into history books to cap season

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On Wednesday, October 21, the New York Yankees won their second world title in three years by shutting out the National League Champion San Diego Padres 3-0.

Andy Pettitte pitched seven and one-third innings to complete the four-game sweep.

After the game, a choked-up George Steinbrenner, the Yankees owner, held back tears as he gave praise to his coaching staff and players.

"This bunch of guys were determined to win every single game this season. Even when the team was

30 games over .500, they would work even harder to stay focused and on top of their games," said Steinbrenner.

All of that hard work seemed to pay off as the Yankees finished the season with an astonishing record of 125 wins and just 50 losses—a winning percentage of .714. Now it can definitely be debated that the 1998 New York Yankees may be one of the best teams in baseball history.

"It was very important to this team to top the season record of the 1927 Yanks," said Yankees Manager Joe Torre. "We have the best record of all time, but I don't know if we are the best team of all time."

Compared to the 1927 team, which listed players like Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig on its roster, this year's Yankees had help from the whole squad, which included a collective team-earned run average of under 3.2 led by ace David Wells, who pitched a perfect game earlier in the regular season.

The New York pitching staff is loaded, from its starting pitchers all the way down to its closer Mariano Rivera. That is what it takes to win the big games consistently.

The 1998 Yankees were stacked on the offensive side of the game, as well. The team's batting average was just over .300 led by American League batting champion Bernie

Williams and unanimous World Series Most Valuable Player Scott Brosius.

Brosius, a high school graduate from nearby Rex Putnam and a former student at Linfield College, was awarded the Series MVP for his presence at the plate. He finished the series with eight hits in 17 at bats [.471 average] including two home runs and six runs batted in.

After the game, Brosius was greeted by his teammates simultaneously chanting his name.

"I think that is every player's dream to get to the World Series and feel like you've played a part in the team getting there and helping the team to win," said Brosius.

Who would have thought, when Brosius hit a bleak .204 for the Oakland Athletics last season, that he would be holding a World Series MVP trophy?

After the regular season ended, the Yankees' record was 114 wins with 48 losses—the second best record ever behind the 1908 Chicago Cubs [116 wins].

The Yankees capped off what experts call the most memorable season ever by doing what everyone expected them to do—winning the World Series. This was the 24th win out of 34 World Series appearances for the most storied franchise in baseball's history, and may be the best of them all.

Another Smith steps forward in college football

Good things come to those who wait, and after 30 years, the wait at Oregon State looks closer to the end.

That's how long it's been since the Beavers last had a winning season. Although they may not finish with one this year, it appears that Coach Mike Riley has the Beavers headed in the right direction.

Oregon State narrowly came up short against Washington, rally-

ing from 21-points down to pull the score to 35-34 on the last play of the game (a 33-yard touchdown pass from Jonathan Smith to Tim Alexander), before missing the 2-point conversion with no time left on the clock.

Despite the loss, however, this game could end up being Oregon State's biggest victory in years. They discovered the quarterback they have spent years searching for, redshirt freshman quarterback Jonathan Smith.

Smith was a walk-on last year, and the backup for most of this year, but after his performance against Washington, that appears

destined to change. Oregon State was supposed to be destroyed on Saturday by the Huskies. After starting quarterback Terrence Bryant went 3 for 14 with 39 passing yards in the first half, that appeared to be the direction OSU was headed in. Apparently though, Jonathan Smith had different plans.

Expected to play occasionally in place of Bryant at planned intervals, Smith put that plan to rest when given his shot to play in the second half. Smith led Oregon State to a third quarter touchdown on an 80-yard pass to receiver Greg Ainsworth. The lead was cut to 28-

21 by the end of the 3rd quarter, but Smith just wouldn't quit there.

As the Beavers' offense continued to gel, Smith just kept rolling on. OSU scored two more touchdowns, one on a 90-yard pass, in the fourth quarter. Oregon State drove 78-yards in 30 seconds on the last drive of the game to pull to 35-34 with no time left on the clock. Even though they missed the two-point conversion, this game was still a major victory for Oregon State.

"We came into our own on offense," said Smith. "We didn't have a false start today. We cut those down. We were playing

sound football on offense. We weren't making stupid mistakes, and we were calm. We missed some opportunities, but we made some great plays."

And calm they were. Playing in front of 71,000 screaming fans in one of college football's loudest stadiums, Smith looked like a veteran. He was calm and composed, throwing for a school-record 469 yards and 3 touchdowns in probably what equals out to about 3 quarters of play. He led Oregon State on touchdown drives of 98, 86, 90, and 78 yards.

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