

Athlete of the Week

Clackamas volleyball star Carley Johnson leads team with dedication

Jess Sheppard

The Clackamas Print

Not very many people stick with something that they started in middle school.

Their interests change, their schedules don't coincide, their parents disapprove or they just get lazy.

This hasn't been the case for volleyball player Carley Johnson, a very determined young woman and a member of Clackamas' volleyball team.

Johnson began playing volleyball in her middle school years.

"I ran track in middle school, and all my friends wanted to try out for volleyball, so I tried out with them," she said.

On top of volleyball, in high

school she also participated in track and Club Volleyball. The various coaches of Club Volleyball influenced her volleyball career.

For her, though, it's the teamwork of the sport that she really enjoys.

"In volleyball, you rely on your teammates for help on the court," she said.

It's a sport where "everyone touches the ball," as opposed to some other sports that are more of a "fend-for-yourself" or "support-one-person" type of competition, she added. Collaboration is important.

This strategy apparently works, since Clackamas' volleyball team took second place at the NWAACC last year.

The fact that she is still playing now that she's in college speaks of her determination to succeed. Juggling being a team co-captain and having a full course schedule is a difficult feat.

"I don't work during the school year so I can focus on school and the team," Johnson said. "I do homework before I go to tournaments. I just stay organized."

Coach Kathie Woods said, "Carley is one of the most dedicated athletes I have ever had. She has almost a 4.0 GPA on top of being a co-captain. She never has excuses, but always gets the job done."

Currently, Johnson is working toward her general associate degree here at Clackamas. Afterward, she plans to transfer to a four-year university to further her education.

"She's already had several offers of interest from four-year colleges," Woods said.

Johnson does not plan on playing volleyball professionally, but that doesn't necessarily mean that she will give up athletics entirely. Instead of playing professionally, she would like to be an athletic trainer.

Right now, her goal is for her team to win this year's NWAACC.

The volleyball team will have its next games on Oct. 26 and 27, in Gresham. There they will compete in the Dorian Harris Classic Tournament. They will then face Chemeketa Community College on Oct. 31 at home.



Collect them all! Carley Johnson #2 in series of collectable cards.

U of O number two, OSU number five in Pac-10 standings

Melanie Fisher

The Clackamas Print

College football has seen many upsets this season.

Teams that were ranked high have lost to unranked teams, and some that weren't the best last season have come back to regain their prominence. Then there are the teams that really haven't changed much.

A very nice surprise has been the Oregon Ducks.

The Ducks are currently ranked number five in the nation. Compared to last year, this is a giant leap forward.

U of O has only lost one game by a margin of one touchdown, having beaten each opponent by an average of 25 points or more.

One of their best players, running back Jonathan

Stewart, was named the Pac-10 offensive player of the week following his dominating performance during the Huskies game Oct. 20. Stewart had 32 carries, 251 rushing yards and two touchdowns.

Another key player on the Oregon team is quarterback Dennis Dixon. Dixon has completed 137 out of his 198 attempts, has had 16 touchdowns and 1,712 yards.

The OSU Beavers have experienced an unfortunate turn of events.

They have lost to their opponents by an average of 23 points. In some cases, the numbers have been even more staggering.

Their victory over Cal is among the few game highlights thus far. Cal is ranked number two in the nation.

A player who has come through for OSU has been

Yvenson Bernard, who was named the Pac-10 offensive player of the week during the week of Oct. 15. During the upset of Cal, he had 110 yards, made two touchdowns and caught eight passes for 53 yards.

Another valuable player is Alexis Serna. Even though he isn't always the best, he puts his heart into every attempt, and that is what the team needs: a player who has the ability to lift the entire team to victory in nail-biting moments.

As far as the other teams go, the rankings show what they have accomplished or, in some cases, what they haven't accomplished.

At the moment, Arizona State is leading the Pac-10. UCLA follows as number two with a 5-2 record on the season. USC is number three with a 6-1 record, which isn't too

shabby considering that they have lost many of their great players in the last couple of seasons.

Oregon is tied with USC with their 6-1 record, and Cal is after U of O with a 5-2 record. OSU is number five with a 5-3 record.

The last ranked team is Washington State, considering they haven't won a Pac-10 game yet.

There have been ups, downs and those teams that are just average. It will be exciting to see who has the strength and courage to emerge on top.

Current Pac-10 Standings

- 1 - ASU
- 2 - U of O
- 3 - UCLA
- 4 - USC
- 5 - OSU
- 6 - Cal
- 7 - Stanford
- 8 - Arizona
- 9 - Washington State
- 10 - Washington



LEFT: Oregon State cornerback Brandon Hughes jumps for an interception in the game against Arizona on Oct. 6.

BELOW: U of O running back Jonathan Stewart dodges Huskie defenders in the game against U of W on Oct. 20.



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