

Sports

Cougars trounce Myrtle Point Bobcats

Michelle Binker
IVN Contributing Writer

The Illinois Valley High School Cougars trounced the visiting Myrtle Point Bobcats 49-14 in non-conference play Friday evening, Sept. 15.

While the Cougar offense was heavily reliant on the rush in previous weeks, Myrtle Point's defense effectively shut down I.V.'s running game.

"We wanted to get DJ (Alvarez) involved, and Ryland (Thornhill) and Dillon St. Onge, but we couldn't with the defensive linemen they had. It made it tough on us and we had to put the ball in the air and run it outside, and it worked," head coach Bruce Reece said. "It worked really well."

The Bobcats did intercept one under-powered pass from Cougar quarterback Caleb Hess, his throw weakened due to a minor injury to his wrist. Wide receiver Tanner Jolly and running back Elijah Polk filled in as QB. Hess returned after icing his wrist for a quarter to receive a TD pass from Polk late in the fourth quarter -- Hess' third TD of the game.

The Cougars debuted a new place kicker, Huver Rodriguez, who drilled each of seven PATs against the Bobcats. Reece said he expects to see Rodriguez score from 45-yards or better this season.

It all comes down to practice. Being unable to go outside to practice due to hazardous, smoky air conditions has put all the teams in the region in the same boat.

"But we're starting to gel," Reece said. "We're starting to see some really good things."

Next week Reece expects all his players to be injury-free and ready to play.

On Friday, Sept. 22, the Cougars welcome the Bandon High School Tigers to Cave Junction. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.



(Photo by Michelle Binker, Illinois Valley News)

Rayes Dugas, No.11, lopes past the Bobcat sidelines on a 95-yard touchdown run early in the first quarter Friday, Sept. 15 in Myrtle Point.



(Photo by Michelle Binker, Illinois Valley News)

I.V. senior Adrien Ochoa, No. 52, puts pressure on the Bobcats' quarterback.



(Courtesy Photo for the Illinois Valley News)

Saturday, Sept. 16, Dave Broussard (center) of Cave Junction won gold in the featherweight masters one gi division at the Oregon Open Jiu-jitsu Championship in Hillsboro, Ore. Broussard is a student at Ronin Academy of Martial Arts in Grants Pass.

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