

Sports

Rogue River 20, Illinois Valley 13



(Courtesy photos for the Illinois Valley News)

No. 13 quarterback Skyler Wylie under pressure against Reedsport Friday Sept. 21.



No. 20 running back Tristan Konrad, scampers for yardage during a game against Gold Beach Friday, Sept. 7.

Cougars 'come up short' again with 2 games remaining

Donnell Suggs
IVN Contributing Writer

The Cougars have other fights to prepare for following Friday night's 20-13 loss at Rogue River High School. At 0-2 in League 2A-District 5 play, the Cougars are currently in last place with just two games remaining in the season, both of which are in league play. Coming into Friday's game, both the Cougars and Chieftains were winless in league play and 2-4 overall. The loss hurts the Cougars'

postseason chances but it did not eliminate them and that is something the Cougars and their coaching staff can illustrate going into this Friday. "We played hard and came up short," said Cougars' head coach and athletic director Bruce Reece. "Our players are giving us all they have and we could not be more proud of a group of individuals than these guys."

The 13 points were the most scored by Illinois Valley during the past five weeks of play. The Cougars have not managed to score more than two touchdowns in a game since

their 27-24 loss at Creswell High School Sept. 14. If that can be considered progress then it is coming at the right time.

Illinois Valley has two games remaining in the season and the benefit of both games being at home where the Cougars are 1-1. On Friday, Oct. 19, they host Lakeview High School (2-5). The Honkers may be under 0.500 overall but are 2-0 in league play and will be looking to add to their first place position in the standings.

A week later the Cougars are going to have their season finale against Lost River

High School, currently 3-3 overall and in the middle of the league pack in third place. Both games are important and safe to be referred to as 'must wins'. "We are going to work hard this week to come together as a team for the last two games," said Reece. "We have had great efforts and we still seem to come up short."

The Cougars can't afford to come up short again the next couple of games. Their postseason possibilities depend on it.

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