

SPORTS



Above, Seth Miller makes a save in practice.

Inexperience does not dim optimism within Columbia boys soccer program

By Walker Sacon
Columbia Gorge News

Columbia High School's new boys soccer coach Daniel Mangum said he hopes to lay the foundation of a winning culture this season, expecting his team to make the most of its eight-game schedule.

He said the community of White Salmon has enough soccer talent to field perennial 1A state tournament contenders. He hopes to coach the team "for a long time."

Mangum said his team - and its competitors - will be relatively inexperienced this year. The last time a full season was played, this year's seniors were sophomores.

"Guys who would've had time to develop on JV are now varsity starters," he said.

One of those seniors is star Jacob Lockman, who has been playing with the Westside Timbers Soccer Club in Beaverton, OR., to prepare for the season. Both of the team's goalkeepers, Seth Miller and Oscar Robles-Nunez, hadn't played the position until high school, Mangum said. He said both stuck to keeping after trying it in practice and have shown promise.

Mangum took over the program 12 days before the pandemic cancelled what he said could have been a deep playoff run with a large and talented group of seniors. He said not fielding a JV team and COVID-19 precautions mean some players won't travel with the team this year. Those players, who Mangum said would have been high quality JV players, have opted to continue practicing and attending home games, which he said reflects their commitment.



Above: senior Jacob Lockman shoots a volley in practice at CHS on March 26. Lockman is the only CHS boys soccer player entering this season with varsity experience. At right, junior Oscar Robles-Nunez saves a shot.



Walker Sacon photos



Hannah Ziegenhagen runs in a recent meet.

The Dalles girls, Hood River boys win four-way races in Redmond

Hannah Ziegenhagen's first-place finish led The Dalles girls to a team win Wednesday at a four-school cross country meet in Redmond.

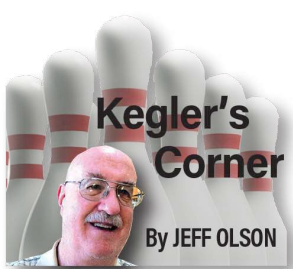
Ziegenhagen covered the 5,000-meter course at West Canyon Rim City Park in 21 minutes, 36 seconds. The Dalles scored 18 team points and host Redmond was second with 39. Hood River and Ridgeview did not field complete scoring teams (of five runners) for the spring break meet. It was Ziegenhagen's second successive win this season.

Hood River's Mieka McKnight and Charis Bronson were second and third, followed by Emily Johnson and Caitie Wring of The Dalles. McKnight's time of 22:21 was a season best, and Bronson's 22:32 was a personal best.

The Hood River boys were led by Elliot Hawley's third-place finish en route to a 31-38 win against The Dalles. Ridgeview was third with 59 points and Redmond did not field a complete team. Hawley finished in 17:05, but the key to the team win were the finishes of Thomas Ziegler, who was fourth in a personal best 18:12, and the pack of William Bunch, Joshua Humann and Geoffrey Shoaf. They were seventh through ninth within a 15-second span; Humann and Shoaf ran season-best times of

19:23 and 19:26. Juan Diego Contreras was second overall to lead The Dalles. Contreras, Hawley and Finn Anspach of Ridgeview were a minute clear of the rest of the pack. Anspach pulled out the win in 16:56, six seconds faster than Contreras. Nick Caracciolo and Leo Lemann were fifth and sixth for the Riverhawks. Anspach won his second race in as many weeks, having outkicked Hawley March 17 over a 3,000-meter course in Hood River. Anspach, Contreras, Hawley and Alex Carne of Crook County have the fastest times in district thus far, with Carne leading the way with a 15:38 effort on his home course in Prineville on March 17.

One more week of dual meets will be held March 31; Hood River hosts Crook County and The Dalles hosts Redmond. The IMC district meet is April 7 at Sorois Park in The Dalles starting at 3 p.m. Through last week, based on recorded times, the Hood River girls and The Dalles boys are favored to win the district team titles. Hood River's girls are 30 points better than the next best teams, based on a hypothetical meet. One point separates The Dalles and Crook County for second place. The Dalles and Hood River are the top-ranked boys teams; each has won a race against the other this season.



Kegler's Corner

By JEFF OLSON

Take 10 takes Mixed

Last week, team Take Ten won the abbreviated Tuesday Nite Mixed bowling league at Hood River's Orchard Lanes. The top four teams earned spots in the season-ending three-game total pins league championship roll off. Those teams were Team Nishi, Take Ten, defending champs Who Gives A Split and Are you Splitting Me. Got to give them credit, those are some creative team names!

The outcome was not close, as Take Ten won by 125 pins, mainly due to smooth Ken Espersen, who flat out obliterated the sticks to the tune of a huge scratch 750 series that included big-time 269 and 266 games. Granted, Ken has been the hottest bowler in town, but a series of that magnitude is special and hard to beat. Teammate Carl Casey also chipped in a nice 610 series that was capped by a nifty big finishing 244 in his last game of the match.

Congratulations to the champs, Ken Espersen, Carl Casey, Dawnell Espersen and Katherine Huerta. We wish to extend our deepest gratitude for everyone who bowled this fun league in these trying times. Thank you and please come back next season. We hope things will return to normal by then.

High scores have exploded of late. Just look at the league reports below. There are so many big numbers, let's shine some limelight on these tall totalers in a mythical team of the week like we used to do.

Team of the Week

Ken Espersen, 750
Bill Whetstine, 740
Mike Parke, 735
Jeff Miller, 729
Pat Olson, 717
3,671 total pins

Any way you cut it, a scratch 700 three game series is pretty darn good bowling. It's over a 233 average per game, so a series must contain at least 21 strikes, probably more. That is the hallmark of proficient talent; to collect that many strikes in an outing, you must be able to hit your target like a machine. You are not going to luck into a 700 series.

And, how about this, Josh Worth, who rolled a perfect 300 game a couple weeks ago, didn't make this stellar fivesome even though he posted a cool scratch 708 set last week. So, for Josh, let's give him the sixth man award, kind of like what pro basketball NBA does. He earned it! Obviously, there is some high-class competition going on at the lanes!

Let's talk about these six stars, are they really that good and how do they do it? First,

they are all members of the elite in Hood River bowling. Ken Espersen, who epitomizes the easy rolling just off the gutter down and in style that works so well on the oil pattern at Orchard Lanes, has had a fantastic season, finishing with his career best-ever 205 average. Lefty Mike Parke, another down and in guy, albeit who is on the other, pristine side of the lane, who we have affectionately nicknamed "the doomsday striking machine" because it seems like he rolls a strike every time, is now carrying a solid 206 average.

Jeff Miller is renowned in these parts as the best bowler period. No discussion necessary. Jeff's big booming roundhouse curve from deep left on the lane finds the 1-3 pocket so often it seems he should be a lot higher than the 220 average he currently carries. Bill Whetstine, the show me guy from Missouri who has been with us for only a couple of years, proves every time he laces up, he is one heck of a bowler. Bill, who is averaging 215, plays the lanes more directly

toward the pocket, mostly in the track area between the second and third arrows and uses lots of speed to keep his ball on that line. Then it hooks sharply into the sticks scattering them like tinker toys. And Pat Olson, Orchard Lanes proprietor, who is carrying a 216 average, hooks the ball a bit more so he plays the lanes a little deeper in the track area. By the way, Josh Worth, who plays the shot even deeper but more direct with lots of speed between the third and fourth arrows, is also having a career season, carrying a 212 average.

Need we say more — these guys are good!

League Reports

Monday night Industrial:
Patrick Olson: 277, 245, 237, 717, 683; Jeff Miller: 262, 671; Randy Nieto: 257, 651; Quinton Cox: 269; Mike Weaver: 258; Steve Byers: 257, 237; Carl Casey: 252

Tuesday Nite Mixed:

Ken Espersen: 269, 266, 750; Carl Casey: 244; Joey Sheirbon: 236; Patrick Olson: 236; Nancy Asai: 203

Wednesday afternoon senior Colts & Fillies:

Mike Parke: 252, 246, 237, 226, 201, 735, 612; Lynn Spellman: 212, 205, 203, 612; Bernie Keys: 246, 225, 201; Dave Baumsteiger: 222; Ed Busick: 215, 203; Tony Teschner: 212; Mick Sherrell: 204

Wednesday night Fraternal:

Bill Whetstine: 288, 246, 740; Jeff Miller: 269, 257, 239, 729, 698; Josh Worth: 235, 245, 708; Levi Phelps: 245, 237, 236, 699, 673; Patrick Olson: 266, 258, 243, 694; Stan Pratinicki: 259, 689; Bernie Keys: 234, 214, 210, 202, 623, 603; Mike Weaver: 287; Jeff Brittle: 237; Stuart Kawachi: 235

Thursday afternoon senior Lads & Lassies:

George Buck: 201, 200

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Dr. Cullen's
Student of the week
Abijah Patterson,
Student of the week
Abijah is new to the school and was an active participant in our Health 2 class each day. I was impressed with Abijah's commitment to his education and as a new student his willingness to participate in our CDL format.
Congratulations

Abijah Patterson, TDHS
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