



Submitted Photo

NC United's Claire Albright, left, battles for possession of the ball.

North Coast United nets 1-0 win

The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The North Coast United Soccer Club Ladies secured their first win Saturday, a 1-0 victory over Clackamas United SC, in a match cut short by weather.

In the cold, wet and windy conditions, Clackamas United could not equalize the unassisted goal of Sophia Marsh in the 28th minute.

There were few shots on goal by either team, as NCU keeper Megan Postlewait only had to make one save.

NCU attackers Marsh, Rachel Simmons and McKenzie Ramsey had standout performances, while the defense was anchored by Claire Albright, Elle Espelien and Hayley Kelley.

Both North Coast United teams play Saturday on the road. NCU boys play a tough Crossfire team at Lakeridge High School (1 p.m.), while the girls have a rematch with Westside Timbers (3:30 p.m.) at Snyder Park in Sherwood.

For more information about North Coast United SC, contact by email ncunitedsc@gmail.com.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Girls Basketball — Valley Catholic at Astoria, 6 p.m.; Tillamook at Seaside, 6 p.m.

Boys Basketball — Valley Catholic at Astoria, 7:45 p.m.; Tillamook at Seaside, 7:45 p.m.; Knappa at Nestucca, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Swimming — OSAA State Meet, Mt. Hood CC, TBA

Wrestling — District 1/4A Regionals, Crook County, 10 a.m.

SATURDAY

Boys Basketball — Life Christian or City Christian vs. Knappa, TBA,

at Dayton HS

Swimming — OSAA State Meet, Mt. Hood CC, TBA

Wrestling — District 1/4A Regionals, Crook County, 10 a.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

City Christian 35, Knappa 18

KNA (18): Paris Vanderburg 10, Landwehr 4, Miethe 2, Inman 2, Vandergriff, Truax, Strain.

CC (35): McKayla Belefski 10, Jennifer Rodriguez 10, Dickinson 8, Matfey 4, Lasater 3.

Knappa 4 6 26-18
City Christian 4 8 617-35

Lions beat Loggers, 35-18, ending season

The Daily Astorian

PORTLAND — The points were hard to come by for both teams Wednesday night at City Christian, in a Northwest League girls basketball playoff.

City Christian scored nearly half its points in the fourth quarter for a 35-18 win over Knappa, ending the Loggers' season.

The Lions held a 12-10 lead at halftime and 18-12 after

three quarters, before outscoring Knappa 17-6 in the final period.

McKayla Belefski and Jennifer Rodriguez scored 10 points apiece for City Christian, while Paris Vanderburg

led Knappa with 10 points, to go with five rebounds and two steals.

Kaitlyn Landwehr had six rebounds and four points before fouling out in the fourth quarter, along with Devin Vandergriff.

Rising to the occasion: Daytona's overhaul ready for debut

By MARK LONG
AP Sports Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — The project was such a massive undertaking that architects had to account for the curvature of the Earth.

It included 31 million pounds of steel, 101,000 new seats, 40 escalators, 17 elevators and stretched nearly a mile. It took 2 1/2 years to complete and even had its own nickname: Daytona Rising.

It was a mammoth, \$400 million makeover to NASCAR's most famous track, a ground-up restoration that turned some old, rickety grandstands into the world's finest motorsports stadium.

The Daytona International Speedway renovation is complete and ready for its official debut — at the season-opening Daytona 500 on Sunday.

"We want people to be blown away when they come to this property," track president Joie Chitwood III said. "You think about the history and the heritage, the legends of our sport made their name here, and now this property really matches that."

Daytona Rising has turned heads and left visitors in awe since its completion last month. It boasts vibrant colors, grandiose displays and unique exhibits — and that's just outside the stadium walls.

Inside, the finished product is home to more than 100,000 square feet of fan engagement space.

"It's like a football stadium, but taken to the next level and magnified 20 times," former Daytona 500 champion Jamie McMurray said.

Daytona Rising was designed to meet the ever-increasing demand to improve the fan experience. Twenty-year-old stadiums are considered outdated. Burgers, hot dogs, pretzels and beer are



Wilfredo Lee/AP Photo

Regan Smith in the No. 7 car heads back to the garage during practice for the NASCAR Daytona 500 auto race at Daytona International Speedway, Wednesday, in Daytona Beach, Fla.

no longer enough at sporting events.

High-definition televisions have made it even tougher to convince people to get off their couches and pay for expensive tickets.

International Speedway Corp., NASCAR's sister company that owns a dozen tracks including Daytona, took all of those factors into account when it started planning the redesign.

"It doesn't make sense in this day and age to sell a subpar experience. And if you sell a subpar experience, you would expect the fan to not come back," Chitwood said.

'It's like a football stadium, but taken to the next level and magnified 20 times.'

Jamie McMurray
former Daytona 500 champion

"When you look at what it takes for a customer to come to Daytona — airfare, hotel, gas — they're making a big investment. I think we have a property now that justifies that investment. I think you can make a case we probably weren't making a good case for that investment in years past."

The centerpieces of the redesign are the injectors, five fan entrances that showcase sponsors and include more than 20,000 square feet of educational and entertainment space. The injectors also include bigger and more bathroom locations and countless dining choices. Throw in more than 1,200 televisions,

Beavers prep for Civil War rematch

By JESSE SOWA
Corvallis Gazette-Times

CORVALLIS (AP) — Oregon State is looking for a repeat of its Pac-12 Conference men's basketball opener, when the Beavers controlled the game against Oregon from nearly start to finish in a 70-57 home win back on Jan. 3 at Gill Coliseum.

On the offensive end, OSU didn't have to lean heavily on senior guard Gary Payton II, as has been the case several times this season.

The Beavers had five players in double figures, the only time they've done it in Pac-12 play. They also won the boards (37-32), something that's been accomplished just twice since then.

"It's real tough for people to guard us when we get everybody involved," Payton said. "When Drew (Eubanks) is playing well early. We get Drew going off to a good start. You know, Tres (Tinkle), Stevie (Thompson), guys coming off the bench. I just try to get everybody involved, and I think I did that game early. Later on I just put the stamp on it."

The Beavers (15-9, 6-7) will try to make it two straight against their rivals for the first time since 2010 when they travel to Eugene to play the No. 16 Ducks (20-6, 9-4) at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Payton was third on the team in scoring the first time with 12 points, behind Tinkle (19) and Olaf Schaftenaar (13). Schaftenaar added a career-high and team-best eight rebounds. Five players had five boards or more.

The Beavers did it on

defense as well, as Oregon's 35.8 percent from the floor was OSU's best result and OU's worst in Pac-12 play.

The multiple contributions also stood out to OSU coach Wayne Tinkle.

"I think Olaf and Langston (Morris-Walker; 12 points, six rebounds) were huge for us in the first half. Tres and Gary were big in the second half. Stevie and Derrick (Bruce) gave us some good moments as well, and Drew as well. That was a really good collective effort. We didn't just have two guys scoring the bulk of our points."

Team leaders

Payton sees similarities between his individual game and that of Oregon sophomore forward Dillon Brooks.

Payton leads the Beavers in points, rebounds, assists and steals. The 6-foot-7 Brooks leads the Ducks in scoring and is second on the team in the other categories.

"Dillon's kind of like me, he just does everything, do everything big," Payton said. "He handles the ball, he can shoot it and he can drive and he gets his team involved. Me and him are kind of like the same, he just plays in the post."

Brooks has scored 20 or more points in 11 games this season, six times in conference play. Payton has seven such games, five in conference.

Rivalry brings fire and focus

Coach Tinkle wants his players to be fired up about playing such a meaningful game. But he's also trying to keep them focused on getting better and preparing for a worthy opponent.

because of the way we always worked, we always do things looking in our rear-view mirror, worried about what everybody else is doing and we try to do things better — only we had no benchmarks," said Keith Dahl, general manager for motorsports and asset management for Toyota Motor Sales, USA.

Chevrolet filled its space mostly with cars, even bringing in a refurbished 1970 Camaro and a 1971 Corvette. But since seeing Toyota's injector, the American automaker decided to add a surprise addition that will be unveiled Thursday.

The center injector remains without a sponsor. Some believe Daytona will give naming rights to NASCAR's next primary sponsor, which will replace Sprint at the end of this season. Chitwood insisted that's not the case.

Nonetheless, Daytona's transformation is sure to trickle down to other tracks. Lesa France Kennedy, CEO and vice chairperson of the ISC's board of directors, said recently that Richmond International Raceway and Phoenix International Raceway would be next to get overhauled.

It's doubtful those tracks would get the same redevelopment that Daytona did — the kind that needed to take into account the Earth's curve — but given how everyone has responded to Daytona's improvements, there's no telling where it ends.

"After 50 years, Daytona deserved this re-imagining," Chitwood said. "We all want to have the brightest and the shiniest, with all the bells and whistles. Now, when fans drive down International Speedway Boulevard, I want them to catch their breath and say, 'I get why people are all worked up about Daytona and what this place means.'"

and fans can leave their seats without missing any on-track action.

Toyota got in first and appears to have spent the most money on its displays, which include an off-road ride-along experience, its entire lineup of current models and even a replica of the nose of the Space Shuttle Endeavor that a Toyota Tundra pulled across a California overpass in 2012.

It has race cars hanging from the ceiling, interactive video games, personal stories about key employees and even a free Ferris wheel out front.

"We started developing long before anybody else, and