

SPORTS

CONTACT US
Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
 ghenley@dailyastorian.com

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Valiants dominate all-league selections

The Daily Astorian

If this season's Cowapa All-League volleyball team is any indication, this year's league champion will be just as tough next year.

In addition to winning the league championship, the Valley Catholic Valiants had the Player of the Year (Kayla Robbins) and the Coach of the Year (Becky Kemper). Robbins and six of her teammates were named to the Cowapa's all-league team, released last

week, and Robbins was the only senior in the group.

Valley Catholic all-league selections included two juniors, three sophomores and a freshman.

Astoria junior Julia Norris was selected first team, and was joined on the all-league team by junior Hailey O'Brien and sophomore Halle Helmersen, both honorable mention.

Senior Morgan Blodgett was the lone Seaside player on the first team, while senior teammates

Anna Huddleston and Tori Tomlin were selected honorable mention.

Cowapa All-League

Player of the Year: Kayla Robbins, Valley Catholic

Coach of the Year: Becky Kemper, Valley Catholic

First Team

Kayla Robbins, Sr., Valley Catholic

Bella Albert, Sr., Banks

Lindsey Beck, Jr., Banks

Morgan Blodgett, Sr., Seaside

Isabel Hurliman, Sr., Tillamook

Haylee Jackson, Jr., Banks

Makinley Johnson, Sr., Tillamook

Maddie Klopcic, So., Valley Catholic

Allie Merz, Jr., Valley Catholic

Julia Norris, Jr., Astoria

Abby Rewers, So., Valley Catholic

Zoey Van Vleet, Jr., Valley Catholic

Sage Veek-Petersen, So., Tillamook

Honorable Mention

Halle Helmersen, So., Astoria

Kinley Hoag, Jr., Banks

Anna Huddleston, Sr., Seaside

Nessa Hurliman, So., Tillamook

Gretchen Kibbe, So., Valley Catholic

Kylee King, Fr., Valley Catholic

Hailey O'Brien, Jr., Astoria

Shea Prulhiere, Sr., Tillamook

Halle Vandomelen, Jr., Banks

Tori Tomlin, Sr., Seaside



Hailey O'Brien was one of three Astoria players to earn all-league honors.

The Daily Astorian

Rowdy parade fetes champion Red Sox team

Associated Press

BOSTON — Confetti cannons boomed and huge crowds of fans cheered wildly on Wednesday as the Boston Red Sox rumbled through downtown aboard duck boats to mark the team's fourth World Series championship in the past 15 years.

One of the team's championship trophies and team manager Alex Cora were hit by flying cans of beer that Boston fans have made a practice of offering their sports heroes during recent victory parades. Neither was seriously injured and it didn't take any varnish off the shining celebration.

The rolling rally set off from venerable Fenway Park and wound its way through major city streets lined by fans numbering in the hundreds of thousands, some who arrived before dawn.

Bits of red, white and blue paper rained down as team officials, players, and their families waved from the amphibious, World War II-era vehicles. Some autographed balls and drank beers tossed to them from the jubilant throng.

Many in the sea of Red Sox jerseys and ball caps took advantage of the fact that the parade coincided with Halloween.

Young children dressed up as comic book and Disney characters, 20-somethings from the city's numerous colleges sported full-body panda and dinosaur outfits, and fans took selfies with a doppelganger of pro wrestler Hulk Hogan roaming the crowd.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

TODAY

Football — 2B crossover game: Ilwaco at Napavine

FRIDAY

Football — 4A state playoff: Cascade at Seaside, 7 p.m.; 2A state playoffs: Glide vs. Knappa, at CMH Field, 7 p.m.; Warrenton at Sheridan, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Boys soccer — North Marion at Seaside, 5 p.m.



Portland Timbers midfielder Diego Valeri (8) celebrates after scoring a goal against FC Dallas during Wednesday's playoff match in Frisco, Texas.

Valeri scores twice in 2-1 win to give Timbers knockout win

Associated Press

DALLAS — Diego Valeri scored two goals, the second with Portland a man down, and the Timbers beat FC Dallas 2-1 in a MLS knockout game Wednesday night.

The fifth-seeded Timbers advanced to a two-game Western Conference semifinal against Sporting Kansas City or the Seattle Sounders, depending on the outcome of Thursday's LAFC-Real Salt Lake match.

Valeri's first goal came in the 23rd minute on a free kick that he put inside the left post from 26 yards out.

In the 57th, Larrys Mabiala took down Dominique Badji as the last defender near the penalty box. The free kick was blocked but Portland was down

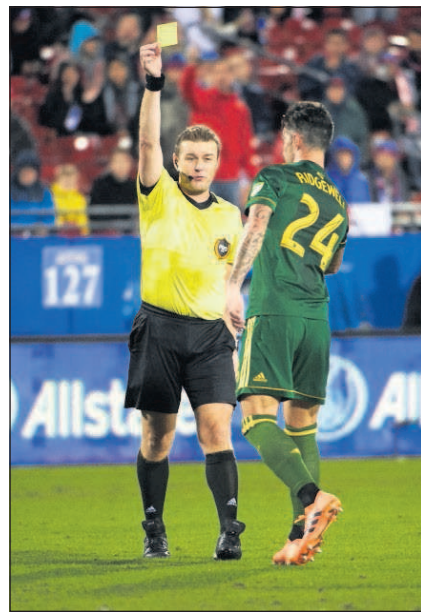
to 10 men.

But in the 71st, Jeremy Ebobisse dropped off a short pass to Valeri in the goal box amid a scattered Dallas defense and Valeri nudged the ball into the net for his team-leading 12th goal.

Dallas broke through in the 94th minute with Matt Hedges heading in a goal but couldn't come up with another despite a few additional chances in stoppage time.

Timbers keeper Jeff Attinella made five saves.

Portland came in with just four road wins this season, while fourth-seeded Dallas had been 10-2-5 at home. But Dallas also entered the postseason on a three-game losing streak, scoring just one goal in that span.



Portland Timbers defender Liam Ridgeway (24) receives a yellow card from referee Alan Kelly.

Despite big-name losses, Seahawks defense again among best

By TIM BOOTH
 Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — The players the Seattle Seahawks lost off their defense over the past year became synonymous with being considered among the best at their position and creating an elite unit that was tough to have success against.

UP NEXT: SEAHAWKS

• Los Angeles Chargers (5-2) at Seattle Seahawks (4-3)
 • Sunday, 1:05 p.m. TV: CBS

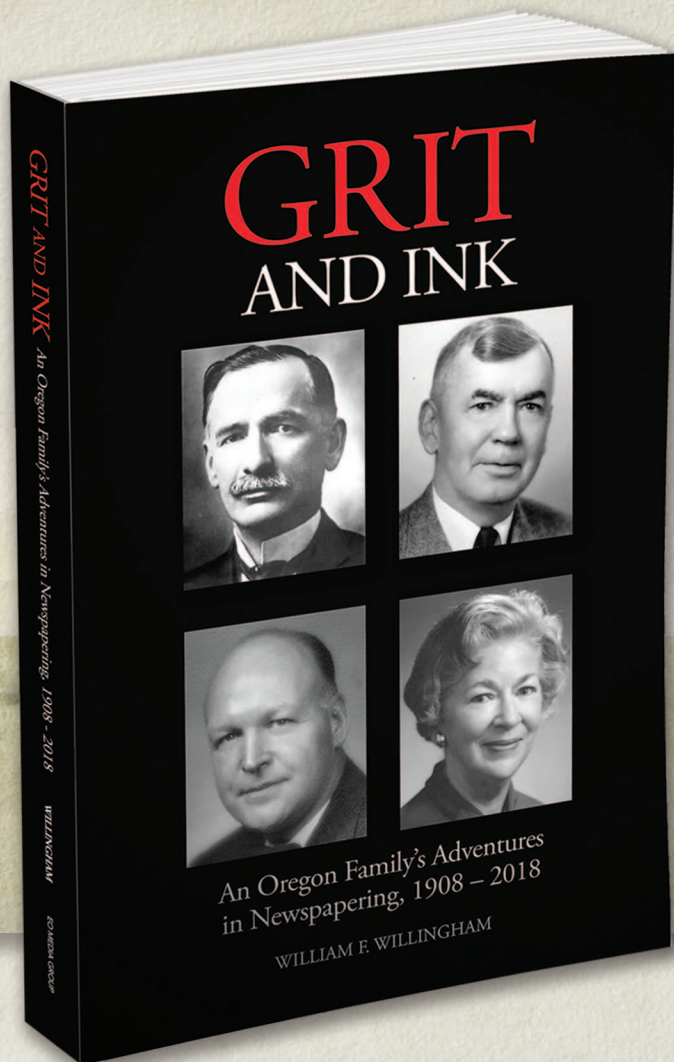
And yet, the current batch of Seahawks sit near the midseason point with a defense that statistically is back among the elite of the NFL.

"I'm not surprised at all. We knew coming into the season we had a great group of guys and we knew the outside was sleeping on the leadership we had in the building and the people that we had in the building. ... We knew that people didn't see that. They wouldn't see that," Seattle linebacker Bobby Wagner said.

"If you listened to us talk, we were very confident in what we were going to get accomplished and what we were going to be doing. What we are seeing is good, but I think there is a level where we can get better."

Heading into Week 9, the Seahawks have the No. 5 total defense (327.3 yards per game), No. 4 in pass defense (219.0) and No. 4 in points allowed per game (18.7). Those numbers include six games playing without starting linebacker K.J. Wright because of knee surgery and three games without Earl Thomas after he suffered a broken leg in the Week 4 win over Arizona.

Wagner was around before the overhaul started. So was defensive end Frank Clark and defensive tackle Jarran Reed. But the rest of Seattle's defense has been largely re-tooled over the past two seasons. And instead of Seattle taking a major step back, it has returned to being among the NFL's best in less than half a season.



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By William F. Willingham

Foreword by R. Gregory Nokes. Preface by Stephen A. Forrester

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