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CIVIL WAR



Ted S. Warren/AP Photo
Oregon State quarterback Jake Luton.



Chris Pietsch/AP Photo
Oregon quarterback Justin Herbert.

Much has changed for the Beavers and the Ducks over 4 years

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

Four years ago, Oregon State pulled off a 34-24 victory over Oregon in the Civil War, snapping an eight-game losing streak in the series. It was also the Beavers’ last win in the rivalry game.

So much has changed since then for both programs.

In the days following the game, Oregon dismissed coach Mark Helfrich after a disappointing 4-8 season. The Ducks hired Willie Taggart, who lasted a year on the job before bolting for Florida State. That made way for current coach Mario Cristobal.

Oregon State’s coach in 2016 was Gary Andersen, who was in his second season. The Beavers also ended the year 4-8 but at least won the statewide bragging rights that go with a Civil War victory.

A year later, Andersen resigned midseason and the Beavers won just one game. Former quarterback Jonathan Smith took over the next year.

Even though they’re 20-point underdogs this season, the Beavers (5-6, 4-4) have plenty of motivation going into the 123rd Civil War game. They’re just a win away from bowl eligibility and Saturday’s game at Autzen Stadium in Eugene marks the team’s last chance to reach the postseason for the first time since 2013.

“There’s been a lot of work and progress this year to get to this point where we’re still playing for the postseason,” Smith said. “So really proud of the effort of our players and coaches through this thing. It’s always a big game, but that’s not going to change our preparation leading up to it.”

Fourteenth-ranked Oregon (9-2, 7-1, No. 14 CFP) already has clinched the Pac-12 North for a spot in the league championship, but its chances of reaching the College Football Playoff this season were thwarted by a loss at Arizona State last weekend.

“It should be incredibly intense, it should be incredibly physical, and I don’t think either side would want it any other way,” Cristobal said. “That’s what we all want toward the end of November, last game of the season, the Civil War. It’s going to be a great afternoon.”

While the Ducks were only slight favorites in that 2016 game, and it was in Corvallis, it sure felt like an upset for the fans at Reser Stadium, who rushed the field and hoisted Ryan Nall, who ran for 155

UP NEXT: CIVIL WAR
• Oregon State Beavers (5-6) at No. 14 Oregon Ducks (9-2)
• Saturday, 1 p.m. **TV:** PACN

yards and four touchdowns in the victory.

Justin Herbert started in that game as a true freshman and threw for 180 yards and a touchdown. Saturday’s game will be his final one at Autzen.

Some other notable upsets and near-upsets in Civil War history:

The fly sweep

The Beavers snapped a 10-game winning streak for the home team in the 2007 Civil War when freshman James Rodgers scored on a fly sweep for a 38-31 double-overtime victory at Autzen. On Oregon’s chance to answer, the Beavers stopped Jonathan Stewart on fourth-and-1 from the 16.

The interception

The visiting Beavers stunned the Eugene crowd in 1953 when Oregon quarterback Barney Holland’s pass bounced off the hands of George Shaw — the first pick of the 1955 NFL draft by the Baltimore Colts — and was intercepted by Oregon State’s Tommy Little. He returned it 30 yards for the only touchdown in a 7-0 victory.

Finishing big

In his first year with the Beavers, coach Jerry Pettibone led Oregon State to a victory after 10 straight losses to start the 1991 season. Ian Shields, playing with a broken big toe, scored on a 6-yard bootleg for the go-ahead touchdown. Oregon State won 14-3, the Beavers’ first victory in Eugene in 18 years.

Harrington tears

In 2000, the No. 8 Beavers denied the fifth-ranked Ducks a trip to Pasadena with a 23-13 victory in the War for the Roses. Oregon quarterback Joey Harrington uncharacteristically threw five interceptions and afterward cried in the arms of his father. Smith was Oregon State’s quarterback. The Beavers, who won a program-record 11 games that season, went on to play in the Fiesta Bowl and finished the year ranked No. 4 in the country. The Ducks went to the Holiday Bowl.

Beavers denied

In 2008, the Beavers were looking at their first Rose Bowl in 44 years with a victory in the final game when the Ducks romped to a 65-38 win in Corvallis. The next year the game was dubbed the “War of the Roses” because the winner was guaranteed a Rose Bowl berth. Oregon won 37-33.



Jeff Ter Har
Andrew Teubner (4) delivers a stiff-arm to a Tillamook tackler. Teubner was one of three Seaside running backs on the Cowapa all-League team.

ASTORIA, SEASIDE PLAYERS EARN ALL-LEAGUE HONORS

The Astorian

The Banks Braves are set to defend their 4A football state championship this weekend, when they face La Grande at Hermiston High School Saturday at 6 p.m.

Banks won its second straight Cowapa League title with a 5-0 league record, and recently swept the league’s Player of the Year awards.

Senior Jarred Evans was named Offensive Player of the Year and senior Bryson Cook was selected as the Defensive Player of the Year.

Banks coach Cole Linehan shared the league’s Coach of the Year award with Seaside’s Aaron Tanabe, who led the Gulls to a 4-1 league record, 4-5 overall.

Seaside lost in the opening round of the state playoffs, even with three all-league running backs on the roster.

Juniors Aedyn Cook and Andrew Teubner earned first team all-league honors, while senior Jake Black was named honorable mention.

Seaside had three linebackers on the first team: senior Levi Card, along with Teubner and sophomore Lawson Talamantez. The six-team Cowapa had 15 linebackers on the all-league team.

Seniors Luke Nelson and David Toyooka were selected as first team defensive linemen and Gulls’ senior Brayden Johnson was selected as an honorable mention defensive back.

Four Astoria seniors earned all-league honors. Receiver Tristan Boyle

and linebacker Ebin Hillard were first team selections, while running back Ryan Stutznegger and defensive lineman Skylar Smith were named honorable mention.

THE COMPLETE COWAPA ALL-LEAGUE FOOTBALL TEAM

Offensive Player of the Year: Jarred Evans, Banks

Defensive Player of the Year: Bryson Cook, Banks

Coaches of the Year: Cole Linehan, Banks;
Aaron Tanabe, Seaside

Offense

WR: Jarred Evans, Sr., Banks
WR: Jacob Slifka, Sr., Banks
WR: Kaleb Boomer, Sr., Tillamook
WR: Tristan Boyle, Sr., Astoria
C: Andrew Nichols, Sr., Banks
C: Nathan Lulay, Jr., Valley Catholic
G: William Droessler, Jr., Valley Catholic
G: David Toyooka, Sr., Seaside
G: Brady Laccino, Jr., Molalla
T: Walker Copley, Sr., Banks
T: Perry Reeder, Sr., Tillamook
TE: Kellen Shelley, Sr., Tillamook
TE: Will French, Jr., Valley Catholic
RB: Damian Pingo, Sr., Molalla
RB: Afanasy Kutsev, Sr., Molalla
RB: Martial Stegemeir, Sr., Banks
RB: William Eberhart, Sr., Valley Catholic
RB: Andrew Teubner, Jr., Seaside
RB: Aedyn Cook, Jr., Seaside
QB: Daniel Pruitt, Sr., Valley Catholic
QB: Tanner Shook, Sr., Banks

K: Jacob Slifka, Sr., Banks

Defense

DL: David Toyooka, Sr., Seaside
DL: Luke Nelson, Sr., Seaside
DL: Risdon White, Sr., Banks
DL: Aiden Johnson, So., Tillamook
LB: Levi Card, Sr., Seaside
LB: Andrew Teubner, Jr., Seaside
LB: Lawson Talamantez, So., Seaside
LB: Alex Werner, Sr., Tillamook
LB: Miquel Neimi, Jr., Tillamook
LB: Bryson Cook, Sr., Banks
LB: James Baglai, Sr., Valley Catholic
LB: Damian Pingo, Sr., Molalla
LB: Jacob Nix, Sr., Molalla
LB: Ebin Hillard, Sr., Astoria
DB: Afanasy Kutsev, Sr., Molalla
DB: Gabe Streblow, Sr., Banks
DB: Jarred Evans, Sr., Banks
DB: Jacob Slifka, Sr., Banks
P: Kaleb Boomer, Sr., Tillamook

Honorable Mention

Offense

RB: Jake Black, Sr., Seaside
RB: Ryan Stutznegger, Sr., Astoria
RB: Brauly Mendez, Sr., Tillamook
QB: Chad Werner, Sr., Tillamook

Defense

DL: Skylar Smith, Sr., Astoria
LB: Jackson Walker, Jr., Banks
LB: Jamar Flippen, So., Banks
LB: Logan Howerton, Jr., Valley Catholic
LB: Dylan Wynn, Sr., Molalla
LB: Bo Edwards, Sr., Molalla
DB: Brayden Johnson, Sr., Seaside
DB: Quintin Metcalfe, Sr., Tillamook
DB: William Schulties, Sr., Valley Catholic

Trio of coaches guide Naselle football

By PATRICK WEBB
For The Astorian

NASELLE — While head coach Jeff Eaton has been the face and voice of Comets football for as long as anyone can remember, two others play an important role in the teams’ preparation.

Pete Riley coaches the offense and Matt Scrabeck is in charge of special teams.

The trio, colleagues at the Naselle Youth Camp, have steered Naselle as it has switched leagues more than once and transitioned from the traditional format to eight-man football, as one of the smallest schools in Washington.

“Matt and Pete do a lot,” Eaton said, a distinctive figure on the sidelines oblivious to the cold in a faded navy and gold “Army of 8” T-shirt he’s been wearing since the Comets transitioned to eight-man football in 2014.

Riley’s skillful quarterback, Ethan Lindstrom, has speedy receiving options, including junior Jimmy Strange and sophomore Joey Strange.



Patrick Webb

When Naselle coaches speak, players listen. Matt Scrabeck instructs his special teams squad during an early season game. Scrabeck and Pete Riley have served as long-time assistants to head coach Jeff Eaton.

This season Lindstrom has connected especially well with fellow senior Fa’aoso Tutu’u. The 5-11, 195-pound running back came home from this summer’s WIAA 1B state track meet with the third-place medal for 100 meters (11.96) plus a fourth-place relay medal.

Against Quilcene in the quarterfinal, he and Lindstrom accounted for almost all of the Comets’ points with three touchdowns each, plus some two-point conversions.

Junior Warren Wirkkala

crossed into the end zone on a 32-yard passing play, too. He is also the backup quarterback, often taking over from Lindstrom to gain experience in the prior 10 games once victory was just-about assured.

Trust is evident among the three coaches.

“We run things by each other, and unless I see something I feel that will really contribute, I let Pete do the offense. He has done it now for a few years,” Eaton said.

“Matt does the special teams and they were huge for us Friday. It’s one third

of the game, so we need to do well at that. We work on that every day — and they have contributed all year.”

In the first quarter of the quarterfinal game, Joey Strange — who is 5-7 and weighs 130 pounds, the second-smallest on the roster — blocked a punt. This set up an immediate Comet touchdown from two yards out.

The recovery of onside kicks proved crucial for possession early in the game when the Comets built up a lead, and during the hotly contested fourth when junior Daniel Holt proved to have quick reactions, creating the opportunity for Lindstrom and Tutu’u to made yardage and burn off the clock.

The smoothness of the coaches’ contribution is evident. Chris Dorman, home stadium announcer, commends the results.

“Naselle’s eight-man football program has improved every year since its’ inception; this year is no different,” he said. “They are athletic at almost every position, in every facet of the game.”