



Lion's soccer beats Klamath Union, struggles with North Bend

The boys varsity soccer team handled Klamath Union, winning over the Pelican's 1-0 in the endowment game, but lost in a rather disappointing game to North Bend, 5-1

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Lion's boy's soccer team faced off against Klamath Union High School on Tuesday, Sept. 1 and then played North Bend on Thursday, Sept. 3. The team showed great enthusiasm and energy for the start of the season against Klamath Union. The game was only a friendly endowment game, but both teams came out on the field with maximum effort, and it was the Lions who emerged victorious with a 1-0 win.

At the start of the game, Klamath Union kept up offensive pressure, keeping the ball on the Lion's side of the field and taking a couple of wild shots at the goal, but the defense held steady.

The Lions struggled early until No. 8 Kaiden Ramsey broke out as the star of the game with the only goal. Ramsey took off after a long pass down the center, scored beating both Klamath defenders with ease late in



Photo by Sam Wright

Senior Zachary Snauer keeps the ball away from a Klamath Union defender. The Lions held their early 1-0 lead to victory on Tuesday.

the first half. From then on out, it was the Lions' game.

The Lions would have several more opportunities to score, but their shooting game wasn't as sharp as Head Coach Brian Fish would have liked.

"We're going to have to work on our shooting," Fish said. "We missed several great opportunities." Aside from the shooting game however, Fish was happy with the way the varsity team

played.

"We seem to be passing very well, we were able to move the ball," he said.

Sophomore No. 3 Kyle Conley showcased speed and precision and compliments Ramsey at the forward positions. On several occasions Conley was able to find himself open shots, but unfortunately he couldn't find the back of the net.

Two days later, the Lions

found themselves struggling to keep up with North Bend. The bulldogs took a 2-0 lead in the first half. The Lions soon found strength and scored a goal, decreasing their deficit to 2-1.

But the Lions lost their footing, and North Bend ran away with the game, leaving with a 5-1 victory over the Lions. Coach Fish acknowledged the power that is North Bend soccer and predicted that they'll be at

least a quarterfinal team. But his main focus was with the play of his own team.

"It was a disappointing game; it looked like we would be back in it after we scored," Fish said. "There were just a lot of mental breakdowns." Fish made the point of his team needing to work on communication, especially on defense.



Athlete of the Week



Varsity starter Kaiden Ramsey stood out with an impressive and strong performance in the endowment game against Klamath Union

Lions forward and star senior Kaiden Ramsey showcased great ball control and break-away speed while giving his team a 1-0 lead in the first half of the endowment game against Klamath Union. Ramsey kept putting pressure on the Pelican's defense, allowing the Lions to maintain control of the ball and limiting the amount of opportunities for Klamath Union to take shots. Ramsey is emerging as a strong leader for the Lions and will undoubtedly draw attention at every Lions game.

MARSHFIELD 41, CG 22



Photo courtesy of The World, Coos Bay

Kory Parent hands the ball off to running back Zane Levings in the Lions' season-opener.

Lions unable to top Marshfield in season-opener

Despite a second-half effort and temporary rally, Cottage Grove struggled Friday, losing to Marshfield, 41-22

BY SAM WRIGHT
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It was a tough night for the Lion's football team, which traveled to Coos Bay on Friday to take on Marshfield for its season-opener. The Lions started slow and found themselves in a hole early on in the game. Despite a rallying effort in the second half, the Lions succumbed to a 41-22 loss against the Pirates.

"We had a slow start and we were not very disciplined,"

Head Coach Gary Roberts said. "We were very timid and not as physical as we wanted to be."

On their opening drive, Marshfield scored in eight plays and in just over two minutes. From then, the Lions found themselves in a 21-0 deficit at halftime.

It was not a first-half performance the Lions are used to, and the energy of the varsity team seemed to dwindle, so Roberts made some changes.

Roberts switched his quarterback from Kory Parent to

Blake Sentman, who found his footing in the second half. Sentman would score two touchdowns, one on the ground and one through the air to senior receiver Brynden Howell. Cottage Grove was finally back in the game, making the score 21-15.

"It was the first game of the year, and we were trying to see what both guys can do," Roberts said. The switch does not necessarily determine who will be consistently starting at quarterback.

The temporary comeback was attributed to a far better attitude coming out of the locker room at halftime.

"In terms of effort, we came out in the second half looking much better; we were much more physical," Roberts explained.

Physicality will be a big factor in this week's practice for the Lions, as they take on Del Norte this week, a team that Roberts says looks fairly big and physical themselves. Roberts also said they will work

on cleaning up their mistakes and getting more aggressive on both sides of the ball.

As a Marshfield alumnus, this was Roberts' first time heading down to Marshfield as head coach of the Lions.

"It's always nice coming back and seeing everyone you grew up with," he said. "Everyone is really nice and welcoming over there."

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