



Lions find themselves in pursuit of passion after loss

Head Coach Gary Roberts said he didn't see the type of passion he would normally like to see during their game against Del Norte, which, along with a few offensive and defensive errors, resulted in their 33-21 loss at Autzen Stadium

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel



Receivers Taylor Hollowell, Brynden Howell, and Korey Parent line up in their trips left formation at Autzen Stadium.

Photo by Sam Wright

The Lion's football team had the opportunity to play at the University of Oregon's Autzen Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 12. Their opponent traveled all the way from Del Norte, Calif. to battle in the scorching sun. The Lions ended the game with a frustrating loss with a final score of 33-21. They looked to improve their record after a loss to Marshfield the week before, but couldn't manage to hold off the Del Norte Warriors, who ran away with the game in the second half.

The Lions seemed wary from the start, losing possession because of a fumble on the very first play. However, there was newfound life in the team for a while, as they scored the opening touchdown, and went into the half leading 18-14. Del Norte did not control the game until later in the second half, but the Lions only managed to score three points in the entire second half. The lead was exchanged between the two teams four times during the whole of the game, but it would be the Warriors who held onto theirs.

Head Coach Gary Roberts

said that the team didn't play with the passion and enthusiasm they needed to pull off a victory.

"Our seniors need to step up and be more vocal," Roberts said. "When the coaches are the biggest cheerleaders on the field, that's not a good sign." Roberts continued that he still isn't getting the type of leadership from the older players that he would like.

Passion and leadership aside,

when it came down to game play, there were offensive struggles that Roberts also pointed out.

Blake Sentman started at quarterback this game, as opposed to Korey Parent, who started against Marshfield last week. Sentman threw two interceptions, one of which ended in a return for a touchdown.

"He did a lot of running around on pass plays; we needed to help him out a bit more,"

Roberts said. There were also several bad snaps thrown to his feet, which either resulted in a fumble or put Sentman under too much pressure before being able to throw the ball.

However, he rushed for a touchdown and threw for two. In the second quarter, down 12-14, Sentman threw a short pass directly toward the sideline to his receiver Brynden Howell, who made several defensive backs miss and bolted down the

sideline for a 77-yard touchdown pass, the longest play of the game.

Roberts has named Sentman the official starting QB over Parent, but that's not to say Parent isn't as potent of an asset as anyone on the roster.

"Korey is probably our best player overall," Roberts said. "He was effective at receiver and did well for us at safety." Roberts acknowledged that Parent had over 100 yards receiv-

ing.

The Lions will spend this week searching for new life against what Roberts describes as a tough Henley team. But addressing the lack of passion can be a harder fix than it would seem. "As coaches we can make changes, but if the kids aren't passionate about playing, we can't force that on to them," he said. "Those who seem the most passionate about playing will start."

Boys' soccer beats North Eugene after slow start

Slow starts and lethargic players have plagued the Lion's soccer team, but Cottage Grove still manage to pull out a victory after a dominating performance in North Eugene

BY SAM WRIGHT
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Lucas Ward throws the ball in to Kaiden Ramsey against North Eugene on Friday.

Photo By Sam Wright

second half, but unfortunately he couldn't find the back of the net.

Head Coach Brian Fish was happy with the way the team ended up playing, but yet again this week, he was concerned with the slow start.

"We passed well, and I saw some better shooting today," Fish said. "We just need to start

off with more energy." From a spectator's perspective, the sluggishness initially seemed understandable due to the intensity of the sun, but Coach Fish said this has been an issue every week. When asked how he plans to fix the problem, he sighed and joked: "beat them over the head with a stick? We're not entirely sure yet."

Whatever the case, the boys will have to work hard to find their energy during practice before hosting Sutherlin on Thursday, Sept. 17.

SEE GIRLS SOCCER, PG. 3B



Athlete of the Week



Brynden Howell adds to Lions' highlight reel with 77 yard TD catch

Trailing 12-14 in the second quarter, Brynden Howell caught a 1 yard pass from quarterback Blake Sentman. With quick feet, Howell stunned the Del Norte secondary and ran 76 yards down the sideline to give his team the lead going into halftime.



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