



Girls' soccer maintaining dominance and success as 4A power

After five straight wins, there seems to be no stopping these Lions on the soccer field

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The girls' soccer team continues to be on a roll, grabbing its fifth win in a row since the team's last loss in North Bend on Sept. 14. The first game of this past week took place at home against Sisters, a team that Head Coach Vern Stewart says the Lions have been unable to top in the four years he's been coaching the soccer program.

The Lions ended their losing streak against Sisters in a 5-2 offensive blowout on Tuesday, Sept. 29. The high scoring was mainly due to star forward Josie Mootz, who had a hat trick

that night. Mootz, a senior, also leads the team in overall scoring. She was also accompanied by another top scorer, Kia Hemmenway. Another goal came from Hudson Weybright, who Stewart says plays the position of defensive mid. Weybright scored the second goal of the game to put her team ahead.

"With our communication and our speed, we were great at holding the middle of the field," Stewart said. "It's great that we also get a wide variety of scorers; we don't want to be one-sided because other teams could catch on to that."

On Thursday, Oct. 1, the Lions traveled to Elmira to face

the Falcons in what would be a much tougher game. The Falcons eventually succumbed to the Lions' offensive pressure and gave up a goal in the second half, allowing the Lions to take the game 3-2. Cottage Grove saw two goals from Jasmin Lopez and one goal from, yet again, Mootz.

The two goals that were scored against Cottage Grove both came from Elmira set plays, something Stewart says the team will work on defending throughout this week.

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Athlete of the Week: Josie Mootz

Mootz scored a hat trick against Sisters and leads the Lions in overall scoring.

Volleyball bounces back after loss, looks to improve

After losing to a tough Sisters team, the Lions overcame Elmira to regain momentum

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Lions' volleyball team hosted Sisters this past week on Tuesday, Sept. 29 and struggled against a quality Outlaw squad. Sisters swept Cottage Grove, 3-0. However, Head Coach Jason Corwin wasn't very disappointed in how the Lions played.

"Sisters is very good, they're very well coached," Corwin said. He maintains that the Lions moved very well and fought back in the second set, but unfortunately suffered an injury to Cassidy Herbert.

"Cassidy is a good player, and that definitely hurt us," Corwin stated, "but we never stopped playing and we never stopped fighting, so I'm proud of our team for that."

Cottage Grove then bounced back on Thursday, Oct. 1 against



Senior Abigail Ladd sets up to serve against Sisters during the Lions' hard loss on Sept. 29.

Elmira, who they beat 3-1.

Abigail Ladd stood out with 14 kills and 14 digs during Thursday's game, along with Kalea Borelli, who recorded 22 digs, and Allyssa Ganchequi with 10 kills, 19 digs and seven aces.

"We played some good Volleyball," Corwin said, "We're getting really good at serving, but there's definitely still some things we need to work on."

On Saturday the Lions struggled in the Junction City tournament, but Corwin has identified

what needs to be fixed.

"We need to find some consistency, we need to work on being the same all the time," Corwin explained. "We can't let the situation dictate how we serve, and we also need to work on our passing."

Corwin said that their setters are improving and doing a good job, but accuracy will need to improve to set up for better spikes.

The volleyball squad will host Sutherlin High School on Thursday, Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Cross Country sees great improvement after Oxford Classic



BY JIM SETTELMAYER
For the Sentinel

The Lions' cross country team traveled to Bend on Friday, Oct. 2 to compete in the Oxford Classic at Drake Park. Thirteen of the 30 Lion Cross Country runners that ran the course finished in season and/or lifetime best times.

These runners include Mitchell Johnson (27:21), Ryan Barger (20:23), Connor Howard (21:04), Chelsea Armstrong (28:02), Abigail Bunce (27:47), Savannah Davis (27:35), Tesslyn Foster-Grant (32:17), Kate Johns (27:36), Aramie Nydam (27:58), Abril Leal-Coronel (23:06) and Jeremy Hall (23:13). Leal-Coronel recently joined the team, and her time of 23:06 leads the Lions' girls' squad.

The top finisher for the boys continues to be freshman Konrad Raum, who finished with a time of 18:34 in this effort.

The fast times were a good introduction to a series of flatter courses to end the season. Harriers seek more personal bests next, running a Grants Pass course on Wednesday, Oct. 7, and then at the George Fox Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 10.



Photo by Sam Wright

Blake Sentman hands the ball to running back Zane Levings during Friday's game against Sweet home.

Lions unable to top Sweet Home, still put up numbers

The Lions fall to 2-3 after Friday's match up, but against such a tough team, it's not so discouraging

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

It was a difficult night for the Lions football team on Friday, Oct. 2, as they lost to the Sweet Home Huskies 42-35. However, the struggles that the team faced did not extinguish the fire that was lit within the heart and soul of the team.

"Our kids played hard, effort

wasn't an issue, but execution was," Head Coach Gary Roberts said. "In games against good teams, the team that plays hard and executes better usually wins."

It was a night of sloppy errors where Cottage Grove turned the ball over four times and Sweet Home only coughed it up once. Junior quarterback Blake Sentman threw three interceptions,

something Roberts attributes to outstanding defensive play by the Huskies, and wrong routes ran by Lion receivers.

"One interception, they [Sweet Home] had a kid who made an amazing play," Roberts said, "the other two were where we had wide receivers running incorrect routes, and we threw to a bad spot of the field."

To lose by only a touchdown

in a game that saw 4 lost turnovers by the Lions proves the tenacity this varsity squad has, and the intensity the coaches have been trying to instill in their players all season. The Lions were only able to run three plays the entire third quarter and 10 plays in the fourth, yet still managed to maintain a one score deficit by the end.

Along with the intercep-

tions, Sentman completed 11 of 18 passes for 126 yards and a touchdown; he also scored on the ground as well.

Hybrid receiver and running back Brynden Howell ran the ball 10 times for 97 yards and two touchdowns.

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