

Lions shut out Sutherlin despite 'average' play

Coach Gary Roberts didn't see total domination on both sides of the ball as the score might have suggested

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Despite several offensive miscues, the Lions were able to run the Sutherlin Bulldogs out of Cottage Grove with a dominating 44-0 victory on Friday, Oct. 16. With such a shutout, it's hard to believe that the Lions weren't performing at their highest potential, but according to Head Coach Gary Roberts, Cottage Grove's play on Friday was described as "average."

"We didn't really dominate on either side of the ball, and we benefited from some of their injuries," Roberts said. "The game just kind of had a weird, ho-hum feeling to it."

Roberts referred to a few dropped passes on offense that

"bogged us down at times." During the shutout, quarterback Blake Sentman completed only eight of 16 passes for 170 yards and one touchdown. But hybrid player Kory Parent who also took over the quarterback position for a series, who also faced a few bad-luck drops.

"The coaches wanted to give the kid a look at some quick-change potential adversity," Roberts said. Parent executed his plays well, helping his team move the ball down field on the series, which eventually ended due to some dropped passes. Parent unfortunately complete zero passes out of three attempts.

The other side of the Lions' offensive spectrum saw a great amount of production. Cottage

Grove ran the ball 44 times for a bold 305 yards overall. A total of 10 different Lions managed to carry the ball (mostly due to them being able to put in second and third-stringers), but the leading rushers were once again star wide receiver Brynden Howell and running back Zane Levings. Howell carried the ball 10 times for 73 yards, and Levings had a similar game of 11 carries for 64 yards and a touchdown. Sentman was once again able to show off his legs with five rushes for 39 yards and two touchdowns.

A new rusher emerged from the sideline this week, too. Reily Boyce, a senior who is listed as a wide receiver and linebacker, had four carries for 32 yards as well as a touchdown.

"[It was] great to get Reily Boyce involved with the offense," Roberts said. "He gave us a nice little spark for a series." Boyce has been hurt for most of the year, and his play time has consequentially been limited.

This week was the Lions' most impressive defensive performance. Last week, 28 points was the least that the Lions had allowed. Needless to say, the 0 points allowed this week has topped that and won't be topped again this season.

"Our defense did a good job of buckling down when we needed to," Roberts said. "We probably gave up too many rushing yards."

Leave it to the Cottage Grove Lions to have the most perfect defensive statistic (zero points

scored on) and still look for ways to improve.

Friday's win qualified the Lions for the play-in round, as their power ranking is high enough.

However, should Cottage Grove defeat the Junction City Tigers, the Lions will be tied for second in the Sky-Em league and will therefore have a coin flip to determine the play-in seeding (which subsequently will determine if the Lions get a home game or not).

"Junction city is really solid. They have good backs and a solid line," Roberts noted.

The Lions will host the Tigers this Friday at 7 p.m.



Athlete of the Week

Reily Boyce returns to boost the Lions' offense

The senior wide receiver and linebacker carried the ball four times for 32 yards and a touchdown, and Head Coach Gary Roberts said he "lit a spark" in the offense for a series that really helped the team.

Cross Country continues to set personal bests

The Lions' cross country team has seen numerous personal bests three weeks in a row

BY JIM SETTELMAYER
For the Sentinel

The Lion runners keep getting personal records. Thirteen more were set in Wednesday's meet at the Country Fair Cross Country meet last Wednesday including Ryan Barger (19:18), Alex Clifton (21:37), Max Gause (21:30), Jeremy Hall (20:51), Connor Howard (18:40), Kevin Manuntag (32:34), Konnor Owens (22:26), Jayden Tucker (21:54), Abigail Bunce (26:33), Lilly Burleson (28:07), Savannah Davis (25:18), Abril Leal-Cornel (21:58) and Sandy Locke (31:14). The flat, entertaining course weaves through the trails and shops that house the summer event the run is named after that hordes of people flock to a couple miles north of Elmira.

As far as getting ready for the

district meet, the team is doing everything right. As an added bonus to the fast times, nagging injuries and dings seem to be healed enough so all but two of the harriers that have been out of action in the last couple of weeks or longer are expected to participate today (Wednesday, Oct. 21) at LCC in the Sky-Em Championship meet. If all 32 compete, it will be the largest group from Cottage Grove to participate in the season-ending classic in the last eight years. Abril (currently with the 10th best time in the district) and Konrad Raum (with the 7th best time) are the two lions with the best chance of placing in the top five of their races to extend their season to the OSAA Cross Country Championships to be held on Halloween at LCC.



Kale'a Galbreath, Tyra Gordon and Allie Harris pace themselves during their race.

Girls' Soccer in the hunt to take Sky-Em pending Sisters match

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Lions' soccer team is nearing the end of its race to take the Sky Em league's top seeding with two more victories this past week against Junction City and Sweet Home.

Cottage Grove hosted the Junction City Tigers on Tuesday, Oct. 13, and shut them out with a dominating 4-0 victory.

It's the second time this year that the girls' soccer team has beaten the Tigers (winning 2-1 at Junction City earlier in the season) after a previous decade of being unable to top them. The four goals came from senior Melissa McCasline, who scored twice, accompanied by Kia Hemenway and Jasmin Lopez with one goal each.

"We did really well with our movement and with finishing," Head Coach Vern Stewart said. A lot of the Lions' problems have come from not being

able to close a match, or not being able to play strongly for the entirety of a match.

"It's good to see us play well and play our game for the entire match," Stewart added.

After defeating Junction City, Cottage Grove moved up to No. 8 in the power rankings.

On Thursday, the team traveled to Sweet Home where the girls put on another dominating performance, defeating the Huskies 7-2. The high scoring game saw goals from players who are less common to show up on the scoreboard. Junior Hudson Weybright had one goal, along with senior Brooke Fisher. Then, of course, top scorers Josie Mootz and Hemenway had two goals apiece, topped off with another high scorer, McCasline.

"This was a game we came in expecting to be able to take care of business, and we did," Stewart said.

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Kia Hemenway strides toward the goal as her teammates watch on.



Cassidy Herbert jumps to put the ball over the net.

Volleyball downs Junction City before Sweet Home loss

The Lions lost to Sweet Home 3-0 on Thursday, but not before they were able to take down Junction City 3-0 on Tuesday.

Boys' Soccer defeats Sweet Home after Junction City loss

The boys' soccer team hopes to find success in this week's match ups against Sisters and Elmira after suffering a loss to the Junction City Tigers and nabbing a win against Sweet Home on Thursday at home.

The Lions will then look to their play-in match up on Halloween.



Senior Jadon Snauer chases down a Sweet Home player to take the ball away.