

Lions take third in tournament, enter top 10

Cottage Grove also beat Santiam Christian on the first game of the New Year



Photo Courtesy of Gary Ordway

Hunter Gipson drives toward the basket against Douglas in the Les Schwab tournament.

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

As 2015 was nearing its end, Cottage Grove High School hosted the Les Schwab Holiday Tournament Dec. 28 and 29. The Lions first faced the North Marion Huskies, where they lost a close battle, 55-52. Cottage Grove had hoped to

get another shot at the Blanchet Catholic Cavaliers, but the Lions' loss and the Cavs' win in the first round gave the Lions no chance of a rematch. Instead, the Lions were set to take on the Douglas Trojans for third place in the tournament, where they won 62-45 in a decisive victory.

In fact, the score itself doesn't do the Lions' dominance jus-

tice. By the end of the third quarter, Cottage Grove was up 53-27; Douglas was outscored in the first quarter, 17-3. It was a short-lived rally by the Trojans that brought Douglas to 45 points, but by then, Head Coach Donn Pollard had already taken his foot off the gas pedal.

The starters had a combined 100 minutes of playtime, but

the bench had an impressive 54 minutes combined.

It was trouble from the start for Douglas. The Trojans were 35 percent from the field and 47 percent from the free-throw line. But the most significant statistic from Douglas was that 35 out of

Please see BOYS' BALL, Page 2B

Girls' basketball in trouble, loses four in a row

Kevin Yoss is struggling to find answers during his first year as head coach

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

It has been a tough season so far for the girls' varsity basketball team. After getting their first win on Dec. 18, the Lions have lost four in a row and are now 1-8 on the season. After a loss at Blanchet, Cottage Grove hoped to get revenge on the Cavaliers at the Les Schwab Holiday Tournament but fell

short in both of their games and then again against Santiam Christian.

The team's tournament started off with a loss to Douglas, where the Lions fell 60-44 on Dec. 28. The team was 16 of 51 on field goals (31 percent), but they managed 61 percent on free throws. The Trojans dominated the rebound game with 49 rebounds total to the Lions' 35; Cottage Grove also had 26

turnovers.

Senior Melissa Thielman was the top scorer with 12 points, and other contributions came from Hannah Arnold (eight points), Taylor Harsh (eight points), Delia Nichols-Ferguson (seven points), Dan Caro (five points) and Hannah Albrecht (four points). Albrecht also led the team with seven rebounds.

Unlike the boys' team, the loss gave the girls the opportu-

nity of a rematch against Blanchet Catholic, but they fell short of any type of revenge, losing 64-43. In this game, the Lions made 28 percent of field goals and 51 percent of free throws. This time, it was Ellie Brown and Harsh that were the leading scorers with nine points apiece. Sophomore Keara Murphy made her presence felt in the

Please see GIRLS' BALL, Page 2B



Athlete of the Week

Hopkins' double double-double earns him double the awards



While it may be arguable about who had the best performance last week, it is undeniable that senior Chance Hopkins is this week's Athlete of the Week. The Lion racked up a double-double (on rebounds and points) during both of Cottage Grove's wins against Douglas and Santiam Christian.

Important correction from last week



Last week on the front page of the sports section, a picture of the CGHS JV girls soccer team was mistakenly printed instead of the varsity team. Sports Editor Sam Wright would like to take this opportunity to apologize to all athletes, parents and community members for the mistake. In light of the mistake, the varsity team picture is published in this issue on page 3B.

Village Green Resort's tailgate a success, Duck game not so much

Locals were ready for a great game, but Oregon was stunned by TCU in triple OT after being up 31-0

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

At the beginning of the football season, the Village Green Resort began hosting its own tailgate for Duck games. The lounge at the resort had always been a popular place for people to watch the game, but this was an entirely different function. Depending on the weather, the tailgate is hosted either outside or in the map room. This past Saturday, as the weather has been far too chilly, it was obvious where to set up shop. The map room was fitted with a large projector screen, a portable bar and over a dozen tables for guests to enjoy food, drinks and Oregon football.

It was an idea brought about by the Village Green's general manager, Jake Aura. According to bartender and server Dartagnan Mitchell, Aura introduced the idea shortly before the season started, and it's been a success every week.

"It's a lot of fun, we always get a good crowd," Mitchell said.

This week, the tailgate saw a variety of customers, from first-timers to consistent and dedicated fans and customers.

In between the extremities were Tim and Lorie McNaly. The McNalys have been to the Village Green a lot, as their son works there as a bartender. Tim wasn't a Duck fan until he reached his 30s, where he spent



Photo by Sam Wright

From left to right: James and Sherri Raade, Sandy Woodward and Lori and Jay Tullar consistently attend the Village Green's tailgate party every Ducks game.

a lot of time watching Duck football as he recovered from an accident in the hospital.

The new-comers this week were James Harrelson and Rodney Chamberlain. Harrelson says that he has been to this tailgate once before, but it was the first time for Chamberlain.

"The last time I was here the game was on the PAC 12 Network, which I don't get on cable, so this was a good back-

up," Harrelson said. Many people don't want to pay the absurd cable prices that it would cost to have the PAC 12 Network, which makes the tailgate a smart business decision.

On the other side of the spectrum was a table five friends all gathered at the front of the tables eagerly awaiting the game to start. The dedicated fans included Jay and Lori Tullar, Sandy Woodward and Sherri

and James Raade. The group of friends says that they have been to this tailgate every week this year, and during the years before, they would watch in the lounge room. Jay Tullar is a frequent season ticket holder and tries to make it to every game he can. If not, however, Tullar says that he thoroughly enjoys the atmosphere at the Village Green. The Tullars have been fans for quite sometime, especially since

their daughter attended UO just over a decade ago.

Due to the Ducks' loss, the tailgate didn't close on as high a note as anyone would have liked.

It was history in the making, as the Ducks watched their 31-0 lead at halftime slowly diminish and turn into a 47-41 triple overtime loss at the Alamo Bowl on Saturday. It was considered one of the greatest comebacks in

bowl history, and all of Duck nation is screaming "how and why."

With just under five minutes left in the first half, Oregon was already up 28-0, and it looked like the game was going to be a blowout. But quarterback Vernon Adams Jr. kept the ball on an option run and did a rather amateur move by lowering his head.

Please see DUCKS, Page 3B