



Football camp showcases promising young players as summer weight training begins

Scrimmages against other schools give head coach Gary Roberts some insight on who will be stepping up with the departure of 13 seniors

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Lions' football team has been working hard in recent weeks during its spring training as they gear up for its summer weight-training program. With the absence of star athletes such as Kory Parent or Blake Sentman, head coach Gary Roberts has seen other athletes step up in recent scrimmages.

On June 18, the team had several scrimmages against teams such as Creswell, Junction City, Siuslaw and even Willamette, a team that competes on a 6A level. At the 4A competition level, Lions fans would expect their team to struggle against such competition; however, Roberts says that the team performed well despite several starters being banged up.

"We really rotated everyone and tried to get kids a lot of reps," Roberts said. While the team doesn't lose focus on success as a whole, it was a time for individual players to show coaches and teammates their in-

dividual potential and playmaking abilities.

Players such as Hayden Glenn had top-level performances at wide receiver and defensive back, along with Evan Britton. Glenn will be a junior come fall season and Britton will be a senior, replacing the highly valued Michael Tharpe, who graduated a few weeks ago.

While it seems incoming senior Sentman should hold his position at starting quarterback, Roberts has found a prospect to step into Sentman's position in case of injury or in future seasons. Juice Clauffin, an incoming junior, had strong reps in the scrimmages and impressed Roberts.

Roberts says it's a bit too early to gauge how the team will perform come the 2016 season, but that doesn't mean the team isn't being evaluated.

"If I had to answer now, I'd say we're above where we were last year," he said. Which is a solid sign of upward mobility. After reaching the state championship in 2013, the team fell

into a slump in the 2014 season and then rebounded to a solid 4-5 last season.

With the loss of seniors such as Tharpe, Brynden Howell, Reily Boyce and Payton Presley, it will be up to Parent, Sentman and Co. to fill the shoes of over a dozen graduated seniors.

But with the departure of many seniors comes the entrance of new seniors. The Lions' junior class held a lot of weapons, not just Parent and Sentman. Running back Zane Levings was a workhorse in the 2015 season and proved useful on the inside running attack, which in turn would open up the passing game for Sentman and Parent to capitalize on. With Levings coming back for his final year, the senior should be stronger and faster, which is why the team will begin its weight training program this week. The training will consist of both indoor and outdoor training, battling the heat as summer temperatures climb higher.



Courtesy photo

Kory Parent and Zane Levings will be two offensive players expected to make an impact on the team, but recent scrimmages have shown that other younger players are able to help fill the hole left by over a dozen seniors departing from last year's team.

Swimmers qualify for Roseburg invitational as CG swimming kicks off in July

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove swimming will be kicking off several summer events this July. For starters, a casual elementary triathlon will be hosted at the Warren H. Daugherty pool on July 9. Children 12 and under will swim laps in the pool, cycle around the parking lot and run sprints. The distance of each event var-

ies depending on age group.

"It's a really fun event for the kids," Tyson Pilling, coach of the CGHS swim team and manager of the pool, said. After the friendly competition for the kids, however, swimmers from Cottage Grove will head south to race in a more competitive environment.

Several high school swimmers have qualified to compete in a high-level swim meet in

mid-July. The Roseburg Invitational will feature club and high school teams, along with younger age groups racing as well. Compared to the average high school meet, the invitational will be a much larger event, with more competitors and races throughout the day.

"A normal high school meet is around 21 events, but this one will have around 70. The competition will be much higher for

some of the swimmers," Pilling said. From the Aqua Lions, Ian Dukes and Tori Raade will be competing and looking to lower a lot of their times on different races. Dukes, a freshman in the 2015-2016 season, qualified for the state tournament, and Raade, also a state qualifier, will look to improve on already strong performances in her races.

"I think we'll really see some time drops," Pilling said. The

coach is also eager to see how an incoming freshman will perform. Nadia Witt will follow her brother John and sister Rose into swimming and has a promising future with the Aqua Lions. The July 15 meet will be the first test this summer for Cottage Grove swimmers, as Cottage Grove didn't participate in a meet at North Eugene over the weekend.

CGS Wingless Series scores

A Feature: 1. 6A-Kyle Miller; 2. 23-Rob Lindsey; 3. 85-Ricky Ashley; 4. 50-Brad Rhodes; 5. 57X-Dusty Redmond; 6. 21-Mike Griffith; 7. 4D-Cooper Desbiens; 8. 24-Theo McCarty; 9. 8H-Lance Hallmark; 10. 8X-Otto Jorgenson; 11. 2J-Jonathan Jorgenson; 12. 38DD-Randy Dunlap; 13. 15R-Jake Gilman; 14. 57-Lindsay Barney; 15. 52-Tim Alberding; 16. 11X-Chris Batalgia; 17. 54-Johnny Butler
Dash: 1. 23-Rob Lindsey; 2. 52-Tim Alberding; 3. 4D-Cooper Desbiens; 4. 6A-Kyle Miller

Winebarger and Maricle score Fast Friday wins

Maricle's miracle win from behind earns him Athlete of the Week

BY BEN DEATHERAGE
For the Sentinel

Cottage Grove Speedway hosted its second \$5 Fast Friday of the 2016 season on Friday, June 24. Despite only two classes on the card, it would be a decent car count with nearly 30 IMCA Modifieds showing up. The other division in competition was the Quality RV Repair Hornets.

Brian Thompson of Sweet Home led the way early in the IMCA Modified feature. Thompson blazed the trail in the first handful of laps but was never able to get out to a large lead due to several cautions in the first six laps. Shortly after the sixth lap restart, Corbett's Collen Winebarger overtook Thompson.

Winebarger briefly lost the lead on lap 23, only for the yellow to come back out before the lap was completed. Winebarger stayed in front after the final restart and held on to win his second race at Cottage Grove in 2016.

Jacksonville's Mark Wauge was a close second place, followed by Curtis Towns from Cottage Grove in third. Cottage Grove's Braedon Hand got fourth and Eric Ashley of Jasper completed the top five.

Mark Wauge was fast time of the night and won the Dot's Trophy Shop Trophy Dash. Heat race winners were Springfield's Steven Sturdevant, Collen Winebarger and Albany native Craig Hanson.

The Quality RV Repair Hornets put on an entertaining main event. Marcel Forte paced the field for the majority of the distance. The Junction City driver built a decent size lead until a caution on lap 16 bunched the field up. On the ensuing restart, Joe Maricle, from Veneta, was able to track down Forte for the lead and made the pass on lap 18. Maricle would hold on at the line to win his fourth race of the season. Something to note is that earlier in the race, Maricle had to start dead last after getting involved in an incident on lap one.

Westfir chauffeur Josh Corley claimed second with K.C. Scott of Springfield placing in third. The balance of the top five would consist of Marcel Forte in fourth and Brad Moffett from Veneta.

Joe Maricle set fast time of the night and won the Dot's Trophy Shop Trophy Dash. Maricle and Josh Corley were the heat winners. It would also be a clean sweep of the evening's events for Maricle.



Athlete of the Week: Joe Maricle



Courtesy photo

After an incident on lap one, Joe Maricle came back from dead last to win the Hornets race on Friday.

Lions snag two wins at North Douglas, look to North Eugene tourney

The younger players of the Lions' baseball squad walked away with a winning record, the older varsity players now look to a North Eugene tournament that will feature 5A and 6A competition

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Over the weekend, Cottage Grove traveled to Drain to face two teams in a tournament at North Douglas High School. The tournament didn't feature the varsity squad, but saw some younger prospects perform at a decent level of competition.

The Lions lost a close 4-3 game against North Douglas but bounced back with two wins in a row against Glendale.

An incoming freshman, Ezra Senters, led the defense against Glendale, holding them to only three runs while the Lions' offense racked up five and ran away with a 5-3 victory. The second game against Glendale was similar in scoring differentials but featured a bit more offensive potency than the previous game. Jaden Lidick totaled three hits to help his team tally up 15 total runs over the tournament.

"I think Ezra pitched well through five innings," head coach Dan Geiszler said, noting the consistency in Senters' pitching. The younger players

came out 2-1 from the tournament, but still have a ways to go to be on the varsity team, a team that is now working on replacing some of the most talented players to take the field in a Lions uniform in years.

After a game against Junction City on Tuesday, the Lions now have a tournament in North Eugene this weekend. The tournament will feature mostly 5A and 6A schools where the Sky-Em champs will have their work cut out for them.

"We'll have to wait and find out how we match up," Geiszler said, noting that the competition will be thick, and it will be a difficult game without All Stars Payton Presley, Hunter Harris and Lucas Ward. But competition like this will be a good time to see which players will rise to the occasion without the star players.

"Talent-wise, filling the shoes of Hunter and Payton is tough," Geiszler said. The coach's words don't play down his current players as much as they praise the recently departed seniors. However, it's not just talent to watch out for, it's who can

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