

Fan Night exciting despite power outage

Despite power problems in the southern Willamette Valley for much of the day, due to a local aviation accident, it would be fully restored just in time so that all of the racing would be completed at Cottage Grove Speedway on Saturday, Aug. 6. The night was the annual Fan Appreciation Night where during intermission all of the race cars in the pits were brought out onto the front stretch for fans to interact with all the drivers. Classes in action were the Late Models, Clark Printing Extreme Sprints, IMCA Modifieds, IMCA Sport Mods, and the Quality RV Repair Hornets. Several of the top Late Model chauffeurs in the Pacific Northwest would make their way to "The Grove". The event was sanctioned by the I-5 Super Late Model Series and a total of 23 entries were in attendance. Coos Bay's Mike George showed the way early in the feature. Shortly after a lap three restart, George would get passed for the top spot.

It was Brian Cronk making the move on lap five to get in front and lead the pack. Cronk, out of Portland, managed to pull away and create a very large gap

once the final caution occurred. He paced the field the rest of the way despite feeling a little bit of pressure late. It was Cronk's first win at CGS this year and his second triumph with the I-5 Late Models. Joey Tanner, also out of Portland and driving the Dave Walters machine, finished a close second followed by Kye Frick, from Sweet Home, in third. Bend's Darren Coffell would place fourth while Justin Duty, now living in Mulino, was fifth. In the Clark Printing Extreme Sprints, it would be a caution free main event.

Cooper Desbiens seized the initiative right off of the bat and didn't look back. The Sutherlin teenager cruised right along and did not feel any pressure whatsoever. That was until the last few laps when he was beginning to get caught. Despite a late race effort by the challengers, Desbiens was able maintain his lead to win his first race of the season in the Clark Printing Extreme Sprints. Dusty Redmond, of Roseburg, was the respectable runner-up while Cottage Grove's Kinzer Cox placed an impressive third. Ricky Ashley, out of Thurston, got fourth

with Harrisburg teenager Tyler Thompson in fifth. The IMCA Modified finale was an incredible race. Grey Ferrando had the race of his life. Ferrando got out in front on the opening start and was the car to beat for much of the feature. The Stayton native seemed to thwart the opposition until Jesse Williamson would bring an incredible amount of pressure.

Coming to the white flag Williamson, from Eugene, would edge out Ferrando, but Ferrando took the spot back out of turn two. When the two cars exited the fourth and final turn, it was Williamson collecting the win. Jesse Williamson now has three wins recorded at CGS in 2016. Ferrando got sideways on the front stretch and got together with Mark Wauge. Wauge, of Medford, would edge out Ferrando for second. Corbett's Colleen Winebarger was fourth, followed by Springfield's Steven Sturdevant.

In the IMCA Sport Mods Willy McFall of Shady Cove would show the way. McFall paced the field until lap four when Medford's Mike Medel made it around him. However,

Medel's tenure as the trailblazer was short lived when Jorddon Braaten passed him on lap five Braaten, of Central Point, remained in the lead the rest of the distance to score his sixth victory of the year. Eugene's Andrew Mathers was second while behind him in third was Mike Medel.

Shawn Hand, from Cottage Grove, crossed the wire in fourth and Winston's Buddy McHargue was an impressive fifth.

Last but not least were the Quality RV Repair Hornets. Bernie Bryant was quite fast in the main event early. Bryant, who is from Sutherlin, stayed in the coveted top spot until lap seven.

Westfir's Josh Corley was the one to make it around Bryant. Corley set a torrid pace and was in front the balance of the distance to make his fifth trip to the winner's circle. Cottage Grove native Chris Pierce was second, in the Marcel Forte owned entry, and Springfield's K.C. Scott managed to grab third. Joe Maricle, of Veneta, placed fourth and completing the top five was Roseburg's Rich Dickenson.

CG Speedway gears up for Historical Night to celebrate 60th anniversary

Hall of Fame to induct 18

BY SAM WRIGHT
For the Sentinel

This Saturday will mark the 14th annual Historical Night at Cottage Grove Speedway. The night will feature 360 Sprints, Late Models, IMCA Modifieds, IMCA SportMods and Quality RV Repair Hornets. While the racing will be an exciting event of its own, Historical Night also features the induction of a new Hall of Fame Class.

The first Historical Night took place in 2002, but the Hall of Fame (or what could be considered the "Wall of Fame") wasn't brought about until 2004, making the 2016 inductee class the 12th class at the Speedway.

"[Historical Night] started out as a way to celebrate the people that got the track going," Denny

Deatherage said. By the third year, Cottage Grove Speedway decided to add the Hall of Fame to honor the best participants from the track.

This year's class is comprised of 18 inductees. But the inductees are not all racers. Some are dedicated pit crew members and others are former officials. The amount of inductees is significantly larger this year because this Historical Night will be celebrating the 60th anniversary for the Speedway itself.

"We'll have old articles, photos and trophies on display," Deatherage said. With all the history of the speedway being celebrated in one evening, Historical Night should be one of, if not the biggest event of the year quarter-mile oval track.



Athletes of the Week: Cottage Grove Jr. Golfers

Last Wednesday, the Cottage Grove Junior Golf team finished their six-week summer program by playing a five-hole and three-hole junior/adult golf competition at Middlefield Golf Course. The program hosted children between ages eight and 14. The winners are:

Five-hole Chapman format tournament

1. Tristan and Brian Kane, 24;
2. Kaden and Jason Erickson, 25;
3. Cassidy Poetzl and Kevin Lucke, 27;
4. Alexis Christie and Dave Erickson, 28;
5. Kaylee McHugill and Mark Cooley, 30;
6. Carson and Tracey Kane, 31;
7. Caleb and Todd Boxberger, 33;
8. Kelvin and Kelly Johnson, 34;
9. Eryn Lawrence and Jason Phillips, 35;
10. Kellen and Jamie Cranmer, 38;
11. Melissa and Maralee Johnson, 41.

Three-hole Chapman format tournament

1. Frank Garcia and Jerry Avery, 12 (Card Playoff);
2. Carson and Larry Young, 12;
3. Draton and Ryan Young, 13 (Card Playoff);
4. Brock Cranmer and Lawrence Burns, 13;
5. Kadance Crownover and Joelie Saunders, 17.

Bohemia Sunrisers Kiwanis of Cottage Grove, Hidden Valley Golf Course and Middle Field Golf Course sponsored the junior golf program.



Photo courtesy of Philip Jones, junior golf program director
Kids and adults competed with and against each other at the final tournaments of the summer golf program last week.

Introducing the North Douglas High School Warriors

With readership expanding into Drain, North Douglas athletic scores and updates will be covered in the Sentinel sports section at the start of the fall season, while Cottage Grove will maintain receiving full coverage of its sports

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Leading up to and throughout the school year, it won't just be Lions featured in the sports section. As our readership expands into Drain and North Douglas County, the paper will begin to feature the North Douglas High School Warriors and the school's athletic achievements each season.

North Douglas is a small 1A school, small enough that the school will only have enough athletes to fill a football and volleyball roster for this fall season. The cross-country runners merge with Yoncalla.

"We tried to put together a

wrestling team this fall, but there simply wasn't enough people to keep the program going," said Athletic Director and head football coach JJ Mast. There may not be a soccer team or a cross-country team, but North Douglas does have a strong football team for 1A schools and a solid volleyball team.

The football team has gone from having to play eight-man games to a full 11-man starting line up on both sides of the ball. Last year, the Warriors went 7-2 in Skyline League play but fell short in the first round of the playoffs to finish with a 7-3 record. It was the third straight year that Mast and his team have reached the playoffs.

The warriors operate out of a wing formation for the most part, but adopt some of the spread offense the Lions use as well.

"We definitely don't run the spread as well as Cottage Grove, but it's been effective at times," Mast said. The warriors are bringing back 11 seniors this year, which Mast says is a "luxury" to have. The team only graduated one senior the year before: Austin Gordon, a running back and linebacker for the Warriors. Among the returning seniors, Riley Swafford will help lead his team at the quarterback position next to an effective tight end by the name of Jayce Ellis, who will also be a

defensive end on the other side of the ball. The Warriors will also see the return of Walker and Storm Woolley as linemen playing both ways. Brent Taylor will possibly fill the shoes of Gordon, although the new roster isn't finalized yet.

With so many returning seniors, Mast hopes that the Warriors will get past the first round of the playoffs this year.

"We came really close to winning our conference championship game last year, so I expect we'll be better and go a bit further this year," Mast said.

The volleyball team is headed by coach Anne Campbell and won the Skyline league with ease after going 13-0 in league

play. In total, the team went 24-7 and finished in second in the 1A state rankings.

In the team's roster of 13, four graduated and six will be returning as seniors. One of the biggest returning assets will be Jhana Lane, entering her senior year at six feet, two inches tall. She will definitely be needed after the loss of Lauren Davidge and Dani Baker, two 5'11" graduates.

With the introduction of North Douglas athletics to the Sentinel, Lions fans should rest assured that Cottage Grove High School athletics will not be pushed aside. There will be plenty of action to read about once the fall season starts.



The North Douglas Mascot.

541-942-7561



www.cottagegrovespeedway.com

Join us August 13th

HISTORICAL NIGHT

360 Sprints, Late Models, IMCA Modifieds, IMCA SportMods, and Quality RV Repair Hornets