

Lions wrap week with wins

Cottage Grove baseball falls to Junction City, beats Elmira twice in start of league play

By Zach Silva
zsilva@cgsentinel.com

It was not how the Lions baseball team wanted to start off the Sky-Em season. A 12-1 loss at home last Tuesday marked the team's fourth loss in a row and had the team questioning the trajectory of the season before going on to beat Elmira twice in a double-header last Friday.

"We've just got to have the kids come out and compete and we had a lot of kids in the last week miss a lot of time with practices and games and that kind of sets the tone of where we're at right now," Geiszler said after Tuesday's loss. "I think there's a lot of kids who think it's just okay. And that it's not going to affect them or their teammates when they miss. And I think we're learning a bit about responsibility and accountability."

Against the Tigers (7-4) the Lions hung around in the first couple innings and in the third inning, four Cottage Grove batters were either hit by a pitch or walked but the team scored just one run in the inning. At the top of the fourth inning, Junction City then took off and scored six runs.

"You know, the game was out of hand but it was close until the fourth inning and if we have a big inning in the bottom of the third," said Geiszler before trailing off.

"And who knows how that changes things. There's always, especially in 4A baseball and baseball in general, there's always one or two moments that can totally change a game one way or the other. And that was one of them. And then the run-down play that was another big one, the overthrow at third."

With an out in the inning, the Lions had a Junction City runner in a pickle between third and home but an overthrow from home to third resulted in a run for the Tigers. This error was one of eight errors in the game that came from six different players. The team has also struggled running the bases this year which is out of the ordinary for Cottage Grove.

"Yeah, this is pretty uncharacteristic of our baseball team to run the bases like we have. Very uncharacteristic. Usually we've been such a good baserunning team and it's something we've prided ourselves on and worked on. Maybe it's because they're not on base very much and it's something different. I don't know," said Geiszler.

"But we'll keep working at it. And we'll work until the day they tell us we're done. So that's our mentality that they got to get better. I told them I'm not worried about who we play next. Doesn't even matter. We've just got to come and get better. Back to basics and get better."

CG Baseball continued on B3

Join for golf, stay for community



Members of the Cottage Grove Ladies' Club react to their shots during a round of golf last Wednesday at Middlefield Golf Course.

PHOTOS BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

The Middlefield Ladies' Club is about more than just golf

By Zach Silva
zsilva@cgsentinel.com

When I arrived at Middlefield Golf Course, I had no intention of being there for six hours. As someone who doesn't golf, it seems like an excessive amount of time to be somewhere and not participate in the sport. I was there to get a first-hand look at the always-exciting Ladies' Golf Club.

This group of over 20 women ranging from my mom's age to my grandma's age were just a delight to be around. Created in 1995 (the year I was born, which

was much to the chagrin of the golfers when I told them this fact) this group is centered on comradery and competition but what keeps it going is its cast of characters. From the Linda who helped start the club to the Linda who just joined the club, it is a group of women who are witty and supportive; retired and working; "old" and less "old" but are brought together each week from April to October to play the frustratingly enjoyable game they love.

Berta Rawie and her husband Buzz first learned about Cottage Grove, as many travelers do: via I-5. On one of their road trips in the early 90s from their home in Manhattan Beach, Calif. to the Seattle area to visit one of their daughters,

this blip on the map caught their eye. More accurately, the golf course caught their eye.

"Every time we came through here, my husband would see, 'Gee, that looks like a nice golf course' because it was just newly built and the trees weren't up so you could see both sides. So, I said, 'Well, let's check it out,'" said Berta.

What began as just checking out the golf course turned into packing up and leaving the city they had lived in for 30 years to move north just a few months later. The area, roughly in the middle of two of their daughters, became their new home. After getting settled into the area, Berta decided to join the golf club that was in its first year.

"I didn't realize it (was new), because I was new up here. And I only played nine

holes because I really wasn't a golfer and I was embarrassed," she said. Still shaky on the nuances of golf, she was quick on the uptake.

"But it was amazing because my husband played regularly and talked golf and we watched golf on TV. He talked rules so I was amazed how many rules I knew... and just golf courtesy: you don't stand in somebody's putting line, blah blah blah. You don't talk when someone is hitting a shot. So I really learned a lot just listening to him because he just really loved it," she said.

Both Berta and Buzz worked stints in the pro shop at the course they enjoyed to stay close to the golfing community while also getting free rounds of golf. As Buzz's eyesight started to go Berta painted Golf continued on B2

Runner injured during half-marathon

By Zach Silva
zsilva@cgsentinel.com

A runner was struck by a dead tree that was blown onto the Row River Trail during the Cottage Grove Half-Marathon as a high wind warning went into effect.

"Dead tree from reports as it exploded on the path and tossed her off the path," wrote event coordinator Mike Ripley in an email. "Broke her arm and she sustained some extra injuries that I can't go into without the family's permission and am waiting on a statement while she recovers in the hospital."

Ripley noted that as a coordinator of outdoor races this is not the first time an incident like this has happened.

"I put on mountain bike and trail running so this is not unique, just unique timing for sure to be around when a tree falls. I am glad it was not a live tree or limb...much heavier. Great support from a lifeguard and other runners until South Lane Fire and Rescue arrived," wrote Ripley.

"Next year's event is Saturday, September 14th, 2019 and we look forward to seeing her on the starting line."

Pair of races held in Cottage Grove

Runners flock to Row River Trail for half-marathon and 10K

By Zach Silva
zsilva@cgsentinel.com

For Julia Webb, it was a successful first time in Cottage Grove.

"It was great; gorgeous. I had never even been to Cottage Grove," said Webb, the first-place female finisher in the half-marathon.

Webb, married to Alan Webb the American record holder in the mile, was one of 305 runners from across Oregon – and from nine other states – that converged on the Row River Trail to compete in the third year of the half-marathon or 10k race.

"I think the Row River Trail provides value to the community and I think the Cottage Grove half provides that value for the region: come experience Cottage Grove," said event coordinator Mike Ripley.

For the half-marathon, the main event of the weekend that saw 205 runners finish, runners

boarded school buses that shuttled them to the start of the race at Dorena School. With 17 flaggers along the route pointing the way, the runners continue on the trail where they finish near Bohemia Park. Runners and walkers of varying ages and abilities took to the course for their first time at this distance for some and for others, like Webb, to train for something more.

"Yeah, I've got to do six more miles right now because I'm in marathon training. It doesn't stop," said Webb, a Beaverton resident who is training to run the Eugene Marathon, her first, at the end of the month.

"So I was hoping to run about six-minute pace. That was before I even saw any weather. And then when I saw there was going to be wind I was like okay maybe your goal time will be nothing of that sort so I just wanted to get a good strong, solid effort," she said. Webb finished in a time of 1:19:07.

On the men's side, the first-place finisher was Chris Funch of Springfield, who competes in Half-Ironman triathlons which consist of a 1.2- Races continued on B3

Athletes of the Week



This week's athletes of the week are Konrad Raum and Paesen Timm. After taking first and second in the 1500 at home on Thursday, the pair finished sixth and 11th respectively at the Jim Robinson Invitational on Saturday. With the times they recorded last week, Raum now has the fastest time in the 3000 in the 4A classification and the fifth fastest time in the 1500. Timm is third in the 3000 and sixth in the 1500 in 4A.



541-942-7561



2150 N. Douglas St – Cottage Grove

Join Us for

KART RACE - FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

April 13th • Event Classes

Pee Wee, 5HP Intermediate, 125cc, 250cc, Open Kage, Micros

FROGGY 44 HORNET CHALLENGE

SHOP LOCAL BUSINESS NIGHT

April 14th • Event Classes

360 Sprints, IMCA Modifieds, IMCA SportMods, Hornets