

EXCITING from B1

quarter collapse that saw them give up a 10-point lead. With the game knotted at 57, it was Jake Gerrard who grabbed an offensive rebound and put up a runner in the lane before time expired to secure the win for the Warriors and clinch the two-seed in the league tournament.

7. Cottage Grove boys' basketball free throw extravaganza

Free throws may not be the most exciting part of a basketball game, but they were against Stayton in Cottage Grove's home opener this season. After shooting no free throws in the first half the Lions went on to shoot 33 in the second half and overtime as they clung to a 67-64 victory. It was just a wild finish to a game that saw Erick Giffen go six-of-15 from the free throw line (with all of them coming in the fourth or overtime) while shooting five-of-11 from three-point range in the win.

6. Cottage Grove girls' basketball defeat Junction City at home

In the first matchup of the season, the Lions slowed down the game and worked their way to a 44-33 victory. Every single possession felt like it was full of meaning and consequence as the Lions were able to break through and beat a top team in the state. This was not a game of jumpers but had the feeling of an old-school fight as every-

thing Cottage Grove did centered around their inside attack.

5. Cottage Grove football semifinal against Mazama

I would like to point out that the most exciting event of the entire year was absolutely the football team's journey to the state title. There is no question about that but as games go, there was never a last second play or anything dramatic because they were just too good. Even in the championship game it was never close. The team was just so dominant that the games lacked that nervous gut wrenching feeling of oh my gosh are they really going to be able to pull this off because, yes, of course they were going to be able to pull it off.

That being said, the semifinal game stands out because just over a minute into the game the Lions were down 8-0 and it felt, for a fleeting second, that this game had a chance to be close.

It was not. Promptly after that, Cottage Grove put up 41 straight points to show that, yes, they are the best team in the state.

4. Cottage Grove softball walk-off win

Two outs.  
Two strikes.  
Down a run.  
Bases loaded.  
Bottom of the seventh inning.  
It is a perfect recipe to be a hero and Cottage Grove's Chelsea Davis did just what she needed to do as her hit to right



PHOTOS BY BECKY GERRARD

Elkton's Hannah Maxwell grabs a rebound against Elkton in the most exciting game of the year.

field scored a pair of runs to give the Lions a hard-earned victory when it looked like Cottage Grove was out of the game.

3. ND Volleyball playoff victory over Griswold

Just thinking about this match fills me with some stress.

In the first set, the Warriors went down but rallied behind a 15-2 run to win 25-20. After winning the second set 25-14, it felt like they had figured it out and were headed to the quarter-finals.

Griswold then won the third set and clawed to a 27-25 fourth set win. In the fifth and final set the Warriors took a 10-4 and it

looked like they could breathe easy but then again it was Griswold coming back to tie everything up at 14-14 before the Warriors won 17-15.

Whew. Deep breaths.

2. Cottage Grove boys' soccer defeats Sisters

I have never seen a team as happy as Cottage Grove was after they beat Sisters. And they had every right to enjoy every moment. Sisters entered the game having not lost a game in league since 2011 but the Lions, at the very end, were able to change that.

Sisters was awarded two penalty kicks in the game including



PHOTOS BY CGHS PHOTOGRAPHY

Kyle Browning tracks down a header for Cottage Grove against Sisters last fall.

one with less than 10 minutes left to play that tied the game at 2-2. But in the final two minutes of play it was Kyle Browning, who was celebrating his birthday, scoring his second goal of the game to lock-in a 3-2 victory.

1. Elkton girls' basketball beats North Douglas at home

Number one. Of all the games, I attended this year, this was the pinnacle.

While it was not a beautiful game (57 combined turnovers!!!!) it made up for it else-

where. Coming into the game North Douglas was ranked in the top five and Elkton was 2-16 against them since the 2010-11 season. The gym at Elkton was packed to the brim with fans from both teams as they watched their teams stay within five points the whole game in a 33-30 slugfest.

This game had it all. It was loud, it was intense, it came down to the last minute. It felt as if it were straight from a movie and was just a thing of beauty.

# Gearing up for Whiskey Run Mountain Bike Festival

We are pleased to announce the Whiskey Run Mountain Bike Festival is taking place on Saturday, June 9th & celebrates the newest trails on the Southern Oregon Coast and will offer 3 guided ride options so there is something for everyone in the family to enjoy. We have options for kids & beginners as well as rides for the most experienced and fast riders.

The Whiskey Run Trails are a result of a vision of and partnership between numerous agencies including Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, Coos County Commissioners and County Foresters, Travel Oregon, and others. The efforts were meant to help make the Coos County Forest a recreation destination. Located in an active logging forest, visitors can see the successions of trees and harvesting in this coastal forest while enjoying sweeping views, tranquil streams, and fern covered forest floors. Located between the towns of Coos Bay and Bandon, these trails offer a great excuse to bring along your mountain bike on your Highway 101 road

trip!

The trails are a blend between flow and cross country style and are great for all levels of riders with open sight lines, easy climbs, and opportunities for the whole family to enjoy. You'll dip and wind through the forest

in this unique South Coast environment.

The event after party will be held directly after the rides on Saturday, June 9th at Bandon Brewing which has delicious local brews and great food! Riders will enjoy a beverage of their

choice and live music as well as some fun mini bike races and time to relax and enjoy! For more information, please visit our website at:www.BikeWhiskeyRun.com

## Bowlers of the week!



### Scratch League Champions - CG Speedway

Don Chaney, Jeremy Nelson, Jason Hyde, Lester Hankins



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