

Elkton eviscerates Myrtle Point



Jayden Woody races to the end zone for a score.

By Zach Silva
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Over 150 yards of rushing. Nearly 300 all-purpose yards. Five touchdowns.

And that was just in the first quarter for Elkton.

The Elks rolled over Myrtle Point last Friday 74-8 – with all their scoring coming in the first half – in their home opener that saw the team dominant from the start.

The Elks struck 14 seconds into the game when Austin Luzier returned the opening kick for 75 yards and a touchdown.

“I was going to do it for my friend’s mom because she told me, she said, ‘Next

one’s for me,’ and I was like, alright, alright, alright,” said Luzier. “And then I just looked for a hole and I just ran through it. And I got good blocking, too.”

Luzier’s production was just getting started on the day as he came away with an interception on the opening Myrtle Point drive and on offense finished the game five-for-five passing for 114 yards and three touchdowns.

Elkton’s first-half production was staggering as the team ran 20 offensive plays that led to nine touchdowns from five players: Trentyn Halstead (3), Jayden Woody (2), Spencer Moore (2), Jase Billman (1), Trysten Woody (1).

The game became a celebration of offense best on display when four touchdowns were scored in 1:02 of play stretching from the end of the first quarter to the beginning of the second. It started with a Jayden Woody 22-yard reception. After a Myrtle Point turnover, Halstead secured a 16-yard reception. Next came the Bobcats lone-touchdown via a 91-yard kick return from Tyler Huerta that was promptly followed by a 45-yard run from Halstead.

Elkton’s head coach Bill Shaw, saw the production from his team as a testament to their ability to execute. “It’s good to see us be in the right place at the right time. They may have made it a little too easy for us to get those results but kudos for the kids on the execution and doing the things we do best at a high level,” said Shaw. “It stands out when the other team’s level doesn’t match yours. You can’t help but make the scoreboard go crazy.”

Heading to the half with 504 all-purpose yards, Shaw’s next goal was to stop his own team. He had attempted to slow the offense

in the first half which resulted in second-string running back Trysten Woody breaking off a 45-yard run.

“But you don’t want to answer to the OSAA because things got all out of whack. And their coach thanked me at the end for what we did so I think we left that on a pretty good spot,” said Shaw.

In the second half, the Elks leaned on Oliver Beatie and Lance Corvinus at running back who are both listed on the team’s roster as offensive linemen.

Outscoring their first two opponents 140-8, Shaw’s goal is to make sure the team stays focused so they are prepared for when the level of competition inevitably goes up.

“I’ve warned my kids that we can’t afford to ever come out flat. We got to start the game with no mercy and play like we’re playing for a championship,” said Shaw.

This Saturday the Elks will be on the road at Days Creek (2-0). Last season the Elks beat the Wolves 66-6 but this year Days Creek has started out hot winning their first two games 48-0 and 46-0.

NCA honors CG cheer

By Zach Silva
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The Cottage Grove cheer team now has three All-Americans.

During the first weekend of September, two instructors from the National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) came to Cottage Grove to host a camp at the high school for the team. In addition to team-bonding events, the squad worked on routines, stunts and jumps in preparation for the upcoming school year.

The instructors also doled out the prestigious honor of All-American to Cottage Grove’s Angelica Manuntag, Kyleigh Joseph and Zoey Bray.

“The instructors have very strict guidelines that they have to follow. And then they pull out their computer and put it into a national database that compares them to the other cheerleaders that tryout and they get chosen based on that,” said head coach Melissa Hatling. “So it’s not like, you have pretty hair, it’s really skill-based. That was pretty cool that those kids got that opportunity.”

With the accolade, the All-Americans get the chance to participate in events such as the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade and college football’s Citrus Bowl with the caveat that they would have to pay for said trips.

“They do have to pay for it all themselves and it is expensive, but even just being honored. I know the three that

got it were just shocked,” said Hatling.

In the build-up to the award, members of the team are nominated based on specific skills. Manuntag was nominated for jumps, Joseph for stunting and Bray for motions. After the conclusion of camp, those nominated then perform a routine in addition to jumps and tumbling.

“So they said, Angelica and then Zoey and then the last person they said was me. I was like really shocked because I did not think I would make the actual team,” said Joseph. “Because they were talking about like everyone in America has to hit that number to be on the team. I was like I don’t know if I can do that. That was just really exciting and like wow.”

She was certainly not the only one filled with emotion.

“It’s stressful because you don’t know the material very well. You just learned it. It was stressful for me,” said the sophomore Bray. “I saw my video and I didn’t really see anything where I was like, oh, I could have done that better. I think that I put the best I could have out on the mat. I was proud of myself.”

While the members who were named All-Stars would certainly like to go to the events, the financial realities may not see this dream into fruition. But that’s not stopping them from enjoying the moment.

“It’s enough to just know that I made the team,” said Bray.

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7:00 p.m. Girls Soccer vs. Phoenix

9/14
7:00 p.m. Football vs. Stayton

9/15
10:00 a.m. Cross Country @ Schwarz Park
2:00 p.m. Boys Soccer @ Astoria
2:00 p.m. Girls Soccer vs. Astoria

9/18
4:15 p.m. Boys Soccer @ Banks
6:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. Marshfield

NORTH DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL

9/13
6:00 p.m. Volleyball @ Elkton

9/14
3:30 p.m. Volleyball @ Alsea
5:00 p.m. Volleyball vs. Country Christian (@ Alsea)
7:00 p.m. Football @ Hosanna Christian

9/15
3:30 p.m. Volleyball @ Crosshill Christian

9/18
6:00 p.m. Volleyball vs. Days Creek

YONCALLA HIGH SCHOOL

9/13
6:00 p.m. Volleyball vs. Days Creek

9/14
7:00 p.m. Football vs. Camas Valley

9/15
2:00 p.m. Volleyball vs. Camas Valley

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9/13
6:00 p.m. Volleyball vs. Days Creek

9/14
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9/15
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