

Marshfield gets revenge on CGHS

Marshfield football beats Cottage Grove in title game rematch

By Zach Silva

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While it was the same teams on the field from the 2017 State Championship, it was a different result in 2018 league-play. The reigning state champion Cottage Grove travelled to Marshfield last Friday where they were defeated 31-10.

After an Erick Giffen 41-yard kick, the Lions went into the locker room down 17-3. It looked like the Pirates were going to score again but fumbled deep in Cottage Grove territory. The Lions forced five turnovers on the day.

Capitalizing on a turnover, quarterback Dylan Graves found Giffen for a 65-yard touchdown to cut the lead to seven. Graves finished the game 20-of-41 for 178 yards. Giffen had 13 catches for 148 yards.

Marshfield was able to answer the call coming up with a pair of touchdowns in the fourth quarter. The Marshfield offense finished with over 400 yards on the day including 273 rushing yards from Josiah Niblett on 21 carries. The Lions rushed for 18 yards on the day.

This Friday the Lions will take on Marist on the road.

RedHawks down Lions

South Albany water polo defeats Cottage Grove

By Zach Silva

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In a battle of two teams looking to jumpstart their season, it was the coed South Albany water polo team fighting their way to an 11-2 victory over the boys' Cottage Grove team on Thursday at Warren H. Daugherty Aquatics Center. With a balanced offensive attack that saw four players score for the away team and a defense that plagued the Lions throughout, the Redhawks (1-5) were able to trouble the Lions (1-4).

"Best game we've had all year," said South Albany head coach Scott Jackson. "They did a nice job of spreading it out around all the players so that everybody got access to the ball. Everybody had access to playing time and that's what we really want to focus on is spreading that ball around and giving people an opportunity."

South Albany set the tone early with a goal from Jordan Martinez coming in the first 20 seconds of play. Martinez finished the game with four goals. On the defensive side, Chiara Roskelley was making things difficult for the Lions with her defensive pressure. After forcing a steal, Roskelley found Nathaniel Young on the counterattack for a goal forcing Cottage Grove to call a timeout. The Redhawks led 4-0 after the first quarter.

"The biggest thing we're trying to do is not get tunnel vision. Pay attention to what's going on. Much rather be back early protecting the cage instead of giving up so

WATER POLO see B3

Lions take wind out of Pirates sails



Setter Lauren Witty delivers a pass to Matty Ladd for a kill last week against Marshfield.

PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Cottage Grove starts league play with wins

By Zach Silva

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Cottage Grove volleyball coach Kendra Anderson had a message for her number-one ranked team after winning the first set on Tuesday night at home.

"I know that (Marshfield is) a fighting team and I know that they are scrappy. My hope is that we can continue putting the pressure on and take the wind out of their sails," she said.

The Lions (10-2) were able to do just that as they defeated the seventh ranked Pirates (12-2) in straight sets 25-20, 25-16, 25-20 in their first league game of the season.

The two teams are familiar with one another. Cottage Grove defeated Marshfield in the first round of last season's playoffs and again beat them this year in a pre-season jamboree. With both teams returning

most of their starters from last year's teams, there were familiar faces on both sides of the net.

The familiarity, and as Anderson noted, experience, guided the Lions to success. Reilly Kelly led the team with 18 kills to go along with nine digs and five aces while Cassidy Herbert had 15 kills, 14 digs and three aces.

In the first set, the game stayed within two points – aside from a brief Marshfield four-point lead – all the way up until the teams were tied at 19. Then it was Cottage Grove surging ahead at the end of the set to go on a 6-1 run to close the set and show that their strength comes from the entire team on the floor. In that stretch, the team was aided by two Kelly kills, a kill from Herbert, two Cottage Grove blocks and a serve from Isabelle Hirst that Marshfield was unable to return.

Throughout the second set the Lions were able to keep their foot on the gas as they put together a wire-to-wire victory in the second set. The Pirates were

able to close the gap to 15-14 before a 10-2 rally from the home side to finish the set. Along the way, it was Kelly's serves that continued to cause problems for Marshfield.

"We talked about in our pre-game, we talked about watching film and we talked about where should we serve, where are the targets, where can we put them out of system," said Anderson. "Because we wanted to make sure we kept the ball away from (first-team All-State player McKayla Myrand). Just keep the ball away from her. That was kind of our game plan."

In the third set it was more of the same as Cottage Grove stormed out to a 20-11 start. This time for the Lions their production was coming from setter Lauren Witty who was finding her open teammates.

"There middles were starting to cheat to our pins so cutting it short to our middle works great," said Witty. "We just knew that we needed to play our own game. We knew where we want-

ed to hit, who we wanted to hit to, who we wanted to avoid. And it was just really important that we execute that plan and we did."

Witty finished the day with 40 assists.

With the rest of league-play ahead, the Lions remain focused on improving.

"We're just going to look at each opponent and prepare for each opponent. Play hard and

play with passion and continue getting better. That's our goal," said Anderson. "Continue each practice to get better so that we are continuing moving and nobody catches us."

Last Thursday the Lions defeated Elmira in straight sets at home. Over the weekend at the Sisters Invitational, Cottage Grove fell to fourth ranked Valley Catholic.



Cassidy Herbert sends a spike past a pair of Marshfield blockers.

PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Elks battle back for win over Warriors



Elkton's Mason Cox breaks up a North Douglas pass on fourth down in the final minutes of the game.

PHOTO BY BECKY GERRARD

Low-scoring game sees Elkton fourth quarter comeback

By Zach Silva

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Averaging 55 and 62 points per game respectively, it looked like the matchup between seventh-ranked North Douglas and third-ranked Elkton was going to be an offensive explosion. But last Friday in Drain – on North Douglas' homecoming – it was a defensive showcase as Elkton clawed to a 16-12 comeback victory to spoil the evening for the home team. It is the lowest combined points scored in a 1A game this season.

"And there was nothing pretty. That was just a battle. That's

just a good ol' fashioned smash-mouth, hit 'em in the face and get hit back football game," said Elkton head coach Bill Shaw. "That was fun stuff. I mean that makes me think back to back in the day. There were pads poppin."

The low-scoring affair featured a first half that saw the Warriors (2-2) up 6-0 behind a Caleb Parks 55-yard score. An early third quarter touchdown from a nine-yard Killian Bond run but the Warriors up 12-0. Facing their first deficit of the season, the Elks (4-0) were able to, for the first time all game, put together a drive.

"[In the first half] we shot ourselves in the foot. We fumbled the ball a couple of times, we turned it over on downs in

our own end.... We're so used to things rolling our way that (quarterback) Austin (Luzier) is trying to dream up ways to make something magical happen and we blow a punt," said Shaw. "We just do some goofy stuff that keeps us in the wrong end of the field for the whole time. And I told them at half-time, '24 minutes left, we only gave up six. I've seen you guys score 70 points in a half, I'm not worried about that.'"

Starting on their own 30, the Elks were able to put together a methodical third quarter drive that ended with Luzier finding Mason Cox for a 20-yard touchdown followed by a successful two-point try to cut their deficit to 12-8.

FOOTBALL see B3

Athletes of the Week



This week's athletes of the week come from Lauraine's ATA Martial Arts in Cottage Grove. Earlier this month students travelled to the Regional Championships where they brought home a host of awards. For a full-list of awards, see B2.



Members of the local ATA Martial Arts group competed at regionals.

PHOTO C/O LAURINE'S ATA MARTIAL ARTS