

FOOTBALL *from B1*



Erick Giffen finds an opening against Newport for one of his three touchdowns on Friday.

second half on the right foot. Tanner Stottlemire, who scored in the first half, ran for a 48-yard score on the first drive of the second half and followed that up with a pick six. After the team's third successful two-point attempt, Newport had made it a one-possession game. With the Cubs back in the game, the Lions were not helping

themselves as they were called for eight second-half penalties. "Seemed like everything was against us the second half. I mean, we put together a good first half and I think the second half was alright but I don't know. Obviously football is a game of no excuses so I can't say anything but the refing and a lot of the talking on the field

that was happening, I feel kind of went Newport's way but I mean, we came out on top," said Giffen. Down a score and facing a fourth and nine in the closing minutes of the game, the Cubs elected to punt but a Cottage Grove running into the kicker made it fourth and manageable for the home team. They

extended their drive and were marching downfield and made it to the Cottage Grove 36 yardline before a Nelson's interception sealed the victory for the Lions.

"In the playoffs you talk about survive and advance. We survived, we advanced. I talked to the guys about how proud I was that they kept fighting through a lot of adversity when it looked like adversity may get the best of us," said Roberts. "That's a rough, physical football game that could have easily gone south on us and our kids just kept scrapping and clawing and I'm really proud of them."

With the win, Cottage Grove will now face Gladstone on the road on Friday at 7 p.m. The Gladiators are ranked number two in the state and are on a five-game winning streak. The teams faced each other last season in the quarterfinals where the Lions won 27-10.

"They have quite a few guys back from last year's team," said Roberts. "They gave us probably the best football game that anybody did last year. And so we're going to have to be ready to get after it."

CROSS COUNTRY *from B1*



Talley cruises to a first place finish at Lane Community College last week.

Nyburg, who ran a 17-second personal best on the day, will not be running at the state meet.

"We knew that were a lot of competitors at that and the goal was to be in the mix with the people with three and four if you could do that. And she started out really well at that and you know, I don't like to make excuses because she hasn't been feeling well," said Cottage Grove head coach Jim Settelmeyer. "And in a distance race when you see a very positive, hard-working person fade where she wouldn't normally fade, you know, it won't happen on a normal race to Anna. And you know, she just wasn't 100 percent."

Early in the race Nyburg was

positioned in third place before dropping to fifth place in the final mile. Cook caught up with her and was able to take the lead in the final 200 meters of the race.

"It's disappointing as a racer and she can file that one away but as a sophomore, I think she'll be back," said Settelmeyer.

The Lions finished fourth out of the five teams with 98 points. Eternity Reimche (18th place, 21:01), Kenzie Parsons (27th, 22:39), Kajsa Merz (29th, 22:48), Emma Gilbert-Spires (33rd, 24:18) all scored for Cottage Grove. Marist took first as a team with 35 points while Cottage Grove was second with 45.

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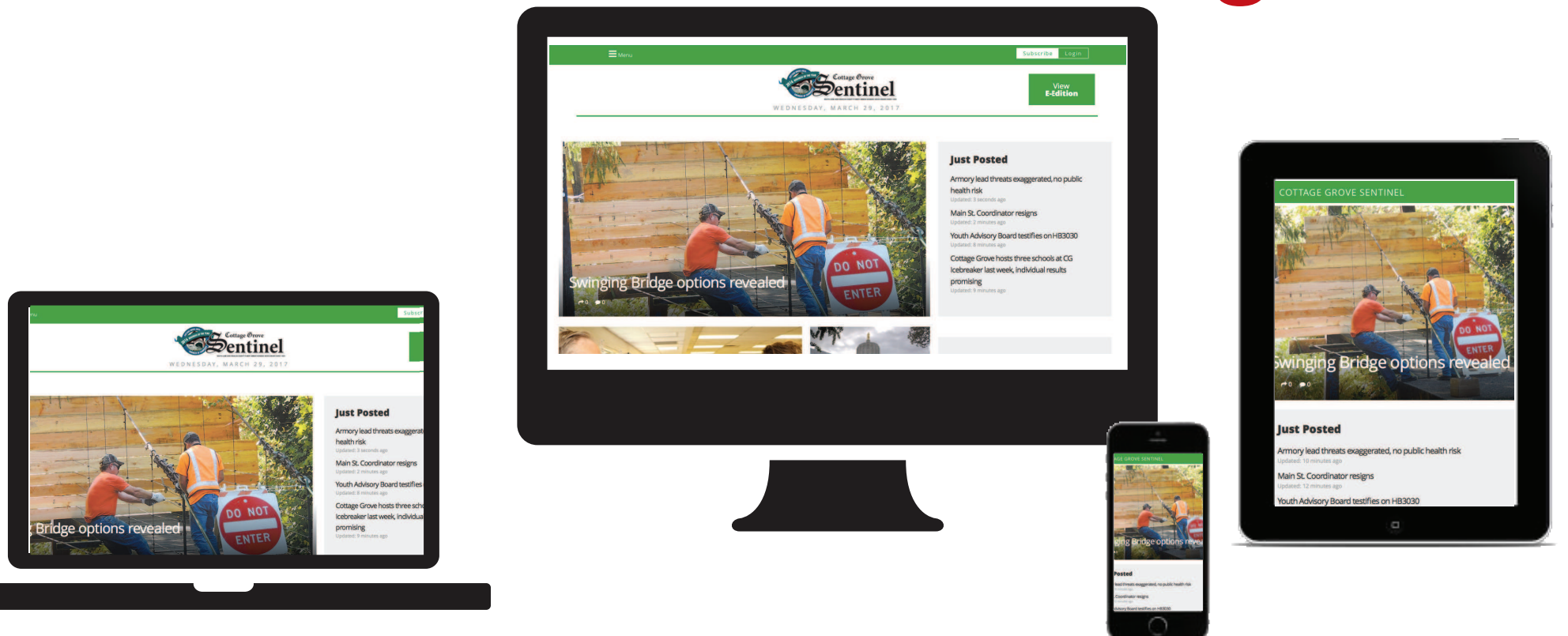
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