

Warriors puzzled by Riddle

North Douglas gets one win against Irish in three-game series

By Zach Silva

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In a three-game series last week, it was the Riddle baseball team securing a pair of wins against North Douglas. In a series that saw the visiting team win each contest, it was Riddle (3-7, 2-1 Skyline) starting things out with a double-header win on the road last Wednesday against the Warriors (5-3, 1-2 Skyline).

"It was kind of an interesting double-header in the fact that we made a lot of great plays," said North Douglas head coach Jeff Davis. "There were a couple routine ones that we botched that cost us some runs. And right now we're not hitting ball as well as I think we will."

In the first game of the series, the Warriors fell 5-4 in extra-innings. With two out and two on in the bottom of the seventh inning, it looked like Tanner Parks' shot to center was going to be a walk-off winner but instead was caught by the center fielder for the final out of the inning.

"I think everybody thought when it left his bat that it was either going to get through to the fence or get down a little quicker," said Davis. "I don't know if the air was heavy or what it was, but it stayed up a long time. And you know, you get into extra innings and almost sudden death."

In the top of the eighth, Riddle capitalized on miscues – and an intentional walk – to load the bases with one out and score what turned into the game-winning run. Leading the way for Riddle throughout the first game was pitcher Drake Borschowa who gave up two hits and struck out 11 batters. While the Warriors finished with four hits on the day, the team was able to manufacture runs by getting on base and being smart on the base paths.

Brian Erickson got the start for North Douglas and was followed by appearances on the mound from Waylon Beckham, Wyatt Beckham and Colter Anderson. The pitching unit struck out five batters and gave up four hits.

In the second game of the day Riddle won 4-1 as pitcher Cameron McMichael pitched six innings and gave up four hits to the Warriors.

With Riddle's top pitchers both throwing over 100 pitches on Wednesday, it meant they were unavailable to pitch on Saturday due to the pitch count rule. This helped the Warriors score a 13-6 victory and avoid being swept.

"When you get to your three, four, five (pitchers) – and both of us pitched them – there are more pitches in the middle of the plate. There are more hit batsmen, a few more walks and more base run-

WARRIORS see B3

Lions leap into league competition



Cottage Grove junior Mitchell Krokus soars in the triple jump on Saturday at Marist High School. Krokus finished third in the competition along with a third place finish in long jump. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Cottage Grove is tested in pair of meets against Sky-Em opponents

By Zach Silva

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With the district meet just a month away, the Cottage Grove track and field team got a first-hand look at the competition in the Sky-Em league last week.

"As far as we're looking, it's a work in progress for this year," said first year CGHS track and field coach Gyna Walton. "We've got some work to do."

While the Lions have won both the boys district title and Sky-Em coed title for the past three seasons, the team championship run could be coming to an end this year. After the graduation of most state scorers from a year ago plus the addition of top track and field schools in Marist and Marshfield to the league, it would be a tall task for the Lions to get back to that success this year.

Saturday at a rainy Marist Track Classic, the Cottage Grove boys finished eighth out of 10 teams including half a point behind league-

foe Siuslaw. While 6A powerhouse Jesuit won the meet, the other notable Sky-Em finishes were Marist in fourth place and Marshfield in fifth. "Score-wise, we kind of learned that Marist is right above us so we know that Marshfield and Marist are going to be the ones we need to beat, pretty much," said Walton.

The top scorer for the Lions at the meet was junior Mitchell Krokus who finished with 13 individual points of the team's 33.5 points. Krokus was third in both long and triple jump, took eighth in the 100 and anchored the 4x100 team of Fernando Soto-Crus, Drake English and Rodas Rodas Martin to a fifth place finish.

Krokus currently has the top mark in the Sky-Em in triple jump, second best in long jump and third in the 100.

"His drive is just amazing. That kid is always working hard. He's one of, I'd say, the hardest working kids on our team," said Walton.

On the track, the Cottage Grove distance group scored points with junior Jimmy Talley finishing fourth in the 800. While fourth in the race,

the time of 2:03.82 vaulted Talley to third in the Sky-Em at that distance and fourth in 4A. Sophomore Drew Chapman finished eighth in an especially competitive 1500.

The Lions also picked up points in high jump where senior Erick Giffen finished third and Isaac Stere and Evan Snauer slotted in at seventh. Luke Johns finished seventh in pole vault.

For the Cottage Grove girls, the team finished in seventh place with 35 points. Jesuit claimed first while Marshfield, Marist and Siuslaw were third, fourth and fifth respectively.

One of the top finishers of the day for the Lions was senior Riley Hutchins who took second in javelin.

"She went in fourth or fifth and came out second. So that was kind of exciting," said Walton. "And she's my senior captain so that was kind of nice. Not a (personal record) for her but a season record." Freshman Gracie Arnold was seventh in the competition.

The other second-place finish was from sophomore Matty Ladd in the high jump with a height of four-foot-10. Arnold was fourth while Avery Hutchins was seventh in

the event. In the pole vault, Adelle Kent finished fourth.

On the track sophomore Annah Nyburg placed seventh in the 1500 while the 4x100 team of Piper Youngmayr, Katie Geisler, Payton Cameron and Ladd claimed sixth.

Earlier in the week, the Lions competed at Junction

City. While titled the Sky-Em League JV Meet, top athletes from both Cottage Grove and Junction City were sprinkled throughout the competition.

The Cottage Grove girls took first at the meet with 115 points. Leading the way was Ladd who finished first

LIONS see B2



Cottage Grove's 4x100 team completes the first exchange at last Saturday's meet. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Rain leaves mark on Cottage Grove season



Cottage Grove pitcher Tayah Escobar-Richardson pitches against Creswell last week before the game was cancelled.

Lions have played just one game since opening week of season

By Zach Silva

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For the Cottage Grove softball team, the biggest challenge of the season has just been getting on the field.

The Lions played three games in the first week of the season but since their third game on March 18 have played just one game. The team has played just four

games which, along with Klamath Union, is the fewest amount of games played in all of 4A. Three of their last four schedules games have been rained out.

The Lions now head into an especially competitive Sky-Em League. Currently, Marist, Junction City and Elmira are all ranked in the top-10 in 4A.

Last week, on Tuesday April 2, Cottage Grove hosted Creswell at home for three innings until the rain came and cancelled the game. The Lions scored a pair of runs

in the first but Creswell answered with eight runs in the next two innings before the game was called. The game was scheduled to be played again on Friday but was, yet again, cancelled.

Yesterday (Tuesday April 9 after *The Sentinel's* deadline), the Lions were scheduled to play on the road at Marshfield. In the next week Cottage Grove hosts a double-header against Elmira on Friday, has Sutherlin at home on Friday and travels to Siuslaw on Tuesday.

Athlete of the Week



This week's athlete of the week is Yoncalla's Shaunasi Hardy. Competing in javelin, Hardy took first at the Frank Good Preamble Classic with a throw of 113-00.50 feet. To read more about Hardy, Yoncalla track and all local sports, turn to B3.



Yoncalla senior Shaunasi Hardy throws javelin during practice before the start of the season.

PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL