

WARRIORS *from B1*

would have walked away feeling pretty good because they went up early and we shut them down,” said Central Linn’s Campbell. But instead, it was another sixth inning that saw North Douglas finish the game.

Freshman Megan Cutsforth’s line drive to right scored sophomore Morgan MacDonald. Senior Joanna Alcantar stole home on a passed ball pitched to Black. With Cutsforth on third, Black had a full count and after two hits to the wall earlier in the game, she was ready for this at-bat. The pitch was delivered and Black sent the ball over the left field wall for a walk-off homerun to end the game.

“All I know is it felt good coming off the bat,” Black said of her third homerun of the season.

“Riley putting that one over, the walk-off which was amazing. A senior, a great leader and to have her do that was just wonderful. Just picked the whole team up,” said Rice. “She kept bouncing them off the fence and I thought, she’s really going to get a hold of one of these in a minute. And she hits so well.”

With the wins, North Douglas moved up to third in the state-rankings heading into the final week of the season. To finish the regular season off the team has ninth ranked Oakland (16-3, 12-2) at home on Wednesday and a double-header on the road at Mohawk (8-9, 7-7) on Friday.

“We’ve got three games left and as long as we win two of the three, we’re guaranteed league championship. Knock on wood. Did I say that out loud? I just jinxed us,” said Rice with a laugh. “I think we’re really coming together right now and at the perfect time of the year, going into the playoffs. I feel good about it.”

Cottage Grove competes at Ciochetti, head to districts

By Zach Silva
zsilva@cgsentinel.com

Competing in the last meet before Sky-Em Districts, Cottage Grove hosted the annual Wally Ciochetti Invitational last Friday.

Under the bright lights at the night meet, it was Cottage Grove junior Jimmy Talley who shined for the Lions on the track. It was Talley taking second in the 3,000 meters Friday night as Newport’s Leo Johns, who holds the fastest time in 4A this season, won the event. While Johns holds the fastest time, Talley is now second in 4A this season.

In the field events, Cottage Grove got first place finishes from junior Mitchell Krokus and sophomore Matty Ladd. Krokus, who has the second longest jump in 4A this season, won the triple-jump competition at

42-05.50. Ladd took first in high jump at 5-2 which is tied for the fifth-best mark in 4A. Freshman Gracie Arnold was third in the high jump competition with a clearance of five feet.

Ladd also took fifth in the 100 and seventh in triple jump. Junior teammate Payton Cameron finished eighth in triple jump.

Other top-eight finishers for Cottage Grove include: Arnold at fourth in javelin, senior Riley Hutchins sixth in javelin, sophomore Anna Nyburg fourth place in the 800, senior Paesen Timm sixth place in the 1500, senior Drake English fifth in high jump, freshman Isaac Stere seventh in high jump, junior Fernando Soto-Cruz seventh in the 400, sophomore Drew Chapman seventh in the 3000, sophomore Adelle Kent seventh in pole vault and sophomore

Evan Snauer seventh in javelin.

On Friday and Saturday the Lions will compete at the Sky-Em district meet at Marist High School.

Heading into the pivotal meet, Talley has the top time in the 3000 while Krokus sits at the top of the league in triple jump and second in long jump. In high jump, English, Stere and senior Erick Giffen are all ranked in the top-three in high jump.

For the Cottage Grove girls, the team has a handful of competitors who are looking to punch their ticket to the state meet. Arnold and Ladd have the top marks in high jump while Arnold also has the farthest javelin throw of the season. Riley Hutchins is currently third in javelin.

Heading into the meet, Raina Herzog (shot put),



Cottage Grove’s Fernando Soto-Cruz finishes first in his heat at Friday’s meet. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CG SENTINEL

Avery Hutchins (high jump), Adelle Kent (pole vault) and Payton Cameron (triple jump) all sit in fourth place.

The Lions have been named coed district champions for the past three seasons.

Bandey, Mayden, Smith, McHargue and Ashley
Fan Appreciation Night Winners Speedway

By Ben Deatherage
Cottage Grove Speedway

Cottage Grove Speedway returned to racing on Saturday, May 4th, for the third race of 2019. The event just happened to be the ultra-popular Fan Appreciation Night, where during intermission all the cars in the pit area come out on the track and drivers gave autographs. Classes on the bill included the Todd’s Auto Body Sprint Cars, Mohawk Metal IMCA Modifieds, Late Models, IMCA Sport Mods, and Hornets.

The Todd’s Auto Body

Sprints were in action for the first time in 2019. Cottage Grove’s Ian Bandey picked up a major win in his young career, his first at CGS. Defending track champion Shane Forte, of Junction City, was the runner-up with Ricky Ashley, from Thurston, in third. Harrisburg teenager Tyler Thompson placed fourth over fifth finishing Orion Redmond, out of Roseburg. Forte was fastest in time trials while winning in the heat races were Forte, McKenzie Bridge youngster A.J. Harbaugh, and Sutherlin veteran Vern Scevers.

In Mohawk Metal IMCA Modified competition defending track champion Jake Mayden returned to victory lane. The Springfield chauffeur became the third different winner in as many races in the classification. Cot-

tage Grove’s Evan Britton posted an impressive second while fellow CG driver Tyler Smith was third. The rest of the top five was made up of Kevin Williamson, from Coburg, in fourth and Springfield’s Aaron Sheelar, in fifth. Sheelar was the fastest driver in qualifying while heat race wins went to Britton and Sheelar.

The Late Models made their 2019 debut with a great car count. Sweet Home pilot Brian Smith managed to take the checked flag first to claim victory over the rest of the field. Eugene’s Ed Peters was a respectable second while Trent Elliott, of La Pine, was third. Mike Peters, from Cottage Grove, ended his evening in fourth over fifth place driver Craig Hanson, out of Albany. Elliott managed to get quick time during qualifying

while Elliott and Smith were the two heat race victors.

The IMCA Sport Mods would make another appearance at the ¼-mile clay oval. Winston driver Buddy McHargue bested the field to become the third different winner in as many races so far this year. Roseburg regular David Schmidt posted a second-place effort while Jayson Nelson, of Springfield, was behind him in third. The balance of the top five consisted of Cottage Grove’s Matt Brown, in fourth, over Shawn Hand, from Springfield, in fifth. Hand laid down the best time in time trials while in heat race action McHargue and Brandon Fox accumulated the wins.

Lastly in the Hornets, Jasper’s Eric Ashley parked the Randy Kuhl owned entry in the winner’s cir-

cle for his first win of the new campaign. His father, Gene Ashley also running for Randy Kuhl, was second with Veneta’s Josh Linville placing third. Eugene driver Brad Moffett posted a fourth-place result over fellow Eugene ace Joel Hazen, who was fourth. Linville was the fastest driver in qualifications with heat race victories going to Springfield’s K.C. Scott and Eric Ashley.

Cottage Grove Speedway will return for two nights of racing next weekend. Things will kick off with Kage Karts on Friday, May 10, for its second race of 2019. On Friday for Karts, the Pit Gates open at 3 p.m. and the Pit Meeting (with Hot Laps/Racing to follow) at 6 p.m.. General admission is free, Pit Passes \$10, and car/driver entry \$35. On Saturday the Pit Gates open at 1 p.m., front gates 3:30, and time trials at 5:30 with racing beginning at 6:00. Tickets are \$13 for adults, \$10 for seniors/juniors/military, \$5 for youths (6-12), and children (5 & under) are free. CGS offers a Family Pass (two adults and up to four youths) for \$35. VIP Skybox Seating is \$25, and Pit Passes are \$30.

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