

## Calendar

### Oct. 30

- 1A playoff: ND VB vs. McKenzie, TBD.
- 1A playoff play-in: EHS VB @ Central Christian, 5:45 p.m.

### Oct. 31

- CG cross country Sky-Em League Championships @ LCC (first race starts @ 12 p.m.).

### Nov. 1

- League crossover playoff: ND FB vs. Siletz Valley, 7 p.m.
- Non-league: Yoncalla FB vs. Mohawk, 7 p.m.
- Non-league: Elkton FB vs. Waldport, TBD.

## CG limps into shot at state playoffs

By NICK SNYDER  
 NSNYDER@CGSENTINEL.COM

The 2019 season for the Cottage Grove volleyball team didn't quite end as smoothly as they would have liked.

Beset by injuries over the final few weeks of the season, the Lions (10-11 overall, 6-4 league) dropped their final two games, leaving them in a precarious playoff position.

In their first game of the week, on Tues., Oct. 22, Cottage Grove had a chance to secure a top-two Sky-Em finish - and an automatic playoff bid - with a win over Marist in the final regular season contest. Alas, the Lions couldn't get the win against their rivals to the north, losing 3-1 (23-25, 25-23, 27-25, 25-23)

See **LIONS 2B**



PHOTO BY NED HICKSON/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

**Matty Ladd (10) and Gracie Arnold's (7) contributions against Marshfield weren't quite enough to secure an automatic playoff spot.**

## Lions on prowl as they await OSAA playoffs

By NICK SNYDER  
 NSNYDER@CGSENTINEL.COM

The Cottage Grove boys' soccer team would've liked more than a split of their two games last week, but in the end it didn't really matter.

In their final regular season game of the year on Thurs., Oct. 24 the Lions (8-5 overall, 5-3 league) had the tall task of taking on the Marist Spartans (12-0-1, 8-0) in Eugene, ultimately falling to the number-two team in the state 4-0.

No matter, as two days prior on Tues., Oct. 22 Cottage Grove successfully secured an automatic state playoff berth by exacting revenge on a Junction City team that got the better of the Lions in their first matchup over a month ago. It was a hard-fought, defensive battle that ended in a narrow 1-0 victory for the hometown Lions on senior night.

Having set their destiny with a win earlier in the week, head coach Vern Stewart went into the Marist game with a particular message for his squad, a message where winning or losing fell by the wayside to make way for something more important.

"I talked about the journey and how often you only concentrate on the destination and you shortchange yourself by not enjoying the journey itself," Stewart said.

Despite both games against the Spartans finishing with the same 0-4 result for the Lions, Stewart wanted his team to focus on the process, the moment to moment flow of the game, rather than just the final outcome. Stewart, an avid fisherman, saw a metaphor in his own life.

"I used the analogy of going out on my boat as I get older," Stewart said. "I love the ocean, I love fishing, I love my boat. I'll go out and I'll be taking my time to see the sunrise, watch the whales and all that kind of stuff. You'll have other boats whizzing by to get to that fishing spot, but I take my time to get there. So it's really not the destination."

In any case, even with a loss to Marist, the Lions locked up their next destination - an OSAA state playoff berth - in the season's penultimate game. They were led by team co-captain Evan Snauer who, according to Stewart, played the best game he's ever seen out of his junior midfielder.

"And that's quite a thing to say because he's played a lot of good games. He just cut out any penetration that Junction City

See **SOCCER 2B**

## Tigers best Lions in battle of the beatens



NICK SNYDER/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL



**Junior Joey Spink returned at quarterback on Fri., Oct. 25 against Junction City (1-7 overall, 1-3 league), leading the Lions (0-8, 0-4) with senior wide receiver Jacob Dunn in the team's most tightly contested game of the year. Dunn took an end-around 53 yards for a touchdown in the first half (pictured bottom left) and Spink found paydirt himself on a quarterback sneak (pictured top) to make the game 17-16 Tigers just before halftime. However, Junction City would score three more times to the Lions' one, sealing a 36-22 victory over Cottage Grove to earn their first win of the season. Spink (bottom right) got more work in the passing game than in any prior contests and will look to build on his experience for his 2020 senior season.**

## LMS XC finish on high note

*Success in final two meets of the season capped by district meet sweep*

By BEN DEATHERAGE  
 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR

The Lincoln Middle School cross country team flexed their muscle the last two weeks in their final pair of meets.

On Oct. 16 the Tigers traveled to Independence, just outside of Salem, for the Mid-Willamette Valley meet. In boys action, Carter Bengston was the lone top-ten finisher, finishing sixth out of a field of 82.

On the girls side of things, Gracee Dizick-Kaleese posted a sixth-place result, Addison Voelkel crossed the line eighth and Bella

Keating finished just behind her teammate in ninth. The girls' field was comprised of 72 total runners.

All things came to a head on Oct. 23 at Fern Ridge's Richardson Park for the Willamette Valley Youth League Cross Country District Championships.

The boys took care of business with Carter Bengston and Max Ellis finishing first and second while Jace Meyer was a strong seventh. The girls also had three runners among the top ten, led by Gracee Dizick-Kaleese in second, Addison Voelkel in fifth and Bella Keating in eighth.

Once all team scores were totaled, both teams were at the top of the podium. It is the first time that both teams have won the District Championship meet in the same season.

## Athlete of the Week



*This week's athlete of the week is Cottage Grove starting running back Daetrayl Berry. In a difficult, tumultuous season for the Lions, Berry was a cornerstone, starting every game of the season in the backfield.*



Though held without a touchdown, Berry's play against JC created chances for Joey Spink and Jacob Dunn.  
 PHOTO BY NICK SNYDER/CG SENTINEL

See **ODFW 3B**

## ODFW REGIONAL FISHING REPORT

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

### ARTWORK AND WINE BENEFIT OREGON'S FISH AND WILDLIFE

ODFW's annual fish and wildlife art show is Saturday, Nov. 2, 1 - 4 p.m. at Duck Pond Cellars, 23145 Hwy 99W, Dundee where the winery will release its new Conservation Cuvee Pinot noir.

**EARLY SEASON DUCK HUNTING**  
 Warm sunny weather and bluebird skies can create challenging conditions for early season duck hunters. (And we're not talking about sunburn.) Adjusting your tactics to these conditions will help you bag more ducks.

### 10 TIPS FOR CATCHING COHO

Coho returns have been looking good in many rivers, including Willamette Valley rivers such as the Clackamas, Sandy and North Fork Santiam. Coho can be the bank angler's best chance at landing a salmon.

### BEST BETS FOR WEEKEND FISHING

The fall season has trout biting, salmon fishing picking up in some areas, steelhead fishing getting good in eastern Oregon and even warmwater fish are still biting. Here are just a few suggestions for the weekend:

- This will be your last weekend of the season to fish for cutthroat trout in coastal rivers and streams before they close Oct. 31.

- Campbell, Cottonwood Meadows and Deadhorse lakes are good choices for some great fall trout fishing.

- Best bet in the Klamath Basin is to target brook trout in the upper areas of the Sprague, Williamson or Sycan rivers.

- Recent rains have pushed fall Chinook from the north and mid-coast estuaries into the rivers. As a result, there are fish throughout many of the rivers.

- Umatilla River coho made a strong push this past week with over 750 adults returning to Three Mile Dam.

- Steelhead are spread out in the lower Deschutes as far upriver as South Junction.

- Steelhead are starting to move into the John Day River.

- Expo pond has some surprisingly large bass with decent bank fishing opportunities this time of year as vegetation dies back.

- Reinhardt Park Pond has also been seeing some good fishing for warmwater species, and for recently stocked trout.