

CRESWELL FALL SPORTS

CRESWELL BOYS SOCCER
 2019-20 season record: 8-5-2 (6-4-2 league record) Final OSAA rank #24
 2020-21 season record: 2-5-3 (1-2-2 league record) Final OSAA rank N/A
 Head Coach: Brandi Whittenborn
2020 season recap/2021 season look ahead:
 Two years removed from a winning record and finishing third in the league, head coach Brandi Whittenborn is the leader of this very experienced group who has nine total seniors and only four underclassmen for the 2021-22 season. To end the 2019 season, the Bulldogs went 5-1-1 in their last seven games with a four-game win streak in the middle of that span. The Bulldogs lost four seniors from a season ago but coming into this season Creswell will have an opportunity to grab one of the top spots in the league as it should be wide open for the taking.

CRESWELL FOOTBALL
 2019-20 season record: 4-5 (3-2 league record) Final OSAA rank #19
 2020-21 season record: 3-3 (3-2 league record) Final OSAA rank N/A
 Head Coach: Scott Worsham
2020 season recap/2021 season look ahead:
 The Bulldogs football program joined a different league for football in 2018 going down to 2A after having only one win over two seasons in 2016 and 2017. But head coach Scott Worsham has this program going in the right direction after a shortened season due to COVID-19 Creswell went 3-3 in 2020 and are now hoping to take the next step. They bring back a great deal of experience returning nine starters on both sides of the ball. Creswell's defense was dominant at times in 2020 and over their three wins they only allowed 14 points per contest.
 "We're probably further along this year than we've ever been just because we have so many guys back, so many guys in our system," Worsham said in an interview with KEZI.
 After only scoring 13 points per game in 2020 returning captain and junior quarterback Conner Hanson will look to lead this offense to the next level with so many players returning and aim for a league title along with a state playoff spot.

CRESWELL GIRLS SOCCER
 2019-20 season record: 1-13 (1-7 league record) Final OSAA rank #31
 2020-21 season record: 1-6-2 (1-4-1 league record) Final OSAA rank N/A
 Head Coach: Dan Smathers
2020 season recap/2021 season look ahead:
 Similar to the boys' soccer program, the girls return a lot of experience with eight total seniors while also having eight underclassmen and no juniors. The Creswell girls lost five seniors from last year but the freshman on the team got really good minutes last year and will bring that valuable experience into the 2021-22 season. Head coach Dan Smathers is in his third year as the leader for the girl's program and will try to guide them to their first winning record since 2018.

CRESWELL VOLLEYBALL
 2019-20 season record: 21-9 (5-3 league) Final OSAA rank #3
 2020-21 season record: 7-6 (5-3 league) Final OSAA rank N/A
 Head Coach: Anna Baltrusch
2020 season recap/2021 season look ahead:
 Creswell volleyball is only two years removed from playing in the 3A state final game against Santiam Christian. Although the Bulldogs didn't come away with the title, they still had a very successful 2019 season. In the brief 2020 season, Creswell started out blazing hot losing only two total sets in their first six games. After starting out undefeated in the first six games they went on a tough streak of games losing six out of their last seven finishing the year 7-6. For 2021, the Bulldogs will return a vast majority of their team losing only two seniors from a year ago and seeing their younger players take a step up this season as they were ranked in the preseason top five for 3A volleyball. Creswell is primed to make another deep run in the state play-offs and they will face a familiar foe Santiam Christian twice this season Sept. 30 and Oct. 19.

Elkton outmanned against Powers

BY KENDRICK MURPHY
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Elkton squared off against Powers for the first time in the regular season since 2017. Powers had crushed their first opponent Prospect Charter 39-6 while Elkton had also won their first game against rival North Douglas, setting up an early match-up of the unbeaten teams.
 Going into the game, Elkton's starting quarterback Conner Anderson was not available, so sophomore Anthony Alimenti got the nod to start at quarterback for the Elks.
 The weather was perfect at game time with the sun shining and sizable crowds filled the stands to support both teams.
 Elkton got the ball to start the game and were forced to punt after their

first series on offense. Alex Mahmoud for Powers received the punt and returned the ball for a touchdown giving Powers a quick 7-0 lead. The Elks got the ball back and were able to get a first-down run by Nathan Rausch. A few plays later Elkton faced a long 4th down but were unable to convert.
 Powers got the ball back in favorable field possession and after two plays were able to score again with a 38 yard rush by Alex Mahmoud. The Elks were ready for an offensive strike. They fumbled their chance as it was recovered by Powers, who marched down the field again and faced a short 4th and goal for another score.
 After Powers recovered their own fumble, setting them back five yards, the Elkton defense stood

strong and stopped the Cruisers on 4th down to get the ball back. A massive scoring play for the Elks came at the hands of running back Nathan Rausch who ran the ball 85 yards for the touchdown making the score 13-6 Powers.
 Powers was able to score again quickly at the start of the second quarter pushing their lead to 19-6. Elkton moved the ball to the Powers 30 yard line but was stuffed on 4th down giving the ball back to Powers. Elkton's Nathan Rausch got a shoulder injury while on defense and did not return for the rest of the game.
 After two big plays by Powers, they found themselves in a good position for another score, and Elkton almost forced a turnover. Powers was able to hold onto the ball to score

again making the lead 26-6 at halftime.
 The second half got harder for the Elks as the first play of the second half Powers received a kickoff and took it over 50 yards for the score making it 32-6 Cruisers. The next two offensive series for Elkton resulted in a fumble recovered by Powers and not converting on 4th down. Powers continued to roll as the third quarter came to an end and Powers was firmly in control 45-6.
 The Elks tried to get a spark on offense in the fourth quarter with a fake punt but came up just short giving Powers the ball back.
 Henry Fandell was able to add one more score for Powers as they pushed their lead to 52-6. The Elks refused to quit and tried to get one more score on

the board before the final buzzer came. As Elkton wasn't able to score, a nice catch by Zane Harper ended the game on a positive note for Elkton as they were defeated 52-6.
 "We fought, we did the best we could with what we had, we put those guys in really tough situations. ... Let's learn from it and move forward and see what we can do to make adjustments and just stay positive," said Elkton Coach Jeremy Lockhart. "There were a lot of emotions

going on in that game because we were getting beat up, but those kids didn't quit. So that's something to hang your hat on and to keep them moving forward so I'm actually really proud of the way the guys acted and tried to perform."
 Although the game against Powers was a tough loss, Elkton will look to get back on the winning side as they will travel to Riddle on Sept. 17 and get their starting quarterback for Elkton Conner Anderson back for the game.

LIONS from B1

A pair of Arnold aces grew the lead to 19-4. Later, a Knight's serve into the net followed by back-to-back Lions aces iced the second set, 25-9.
 North Valley got the first point of the third set, their first lead of the match. A few minutes later, they led the set 6-5 until the Lions fired off six straight points led by Senters' serving yet again. The mini-run energized the CG crowd and forced a Knights timeout.
 "We have worked a lot on our serving and Izabell has been a great serving player since she's been in the program as a freshman," Ladd said. "Being a good serving team has been a part of our goal and

she's taken it to heart."
 Arnold would go on to shut the door emphatically. Midway through the set when she took over to serve again, she recorded several more aces. She'd go on to finish with nine on the day.
 Arnold wouldn't surrender serving duties until the match point when the Knights scored one last

time to end a magnificent serving display.
 The Lions would take the set 25-11 to clinch the 3-0 victory.
 "We had a great win when you look at the score, but we still could've done things better," Ladd said. "There's always room for improvement."
 With the win, CG is now 2-0 on the young season.

Just two days later, the Lions recorded another 3-0 victory over Klamath Falls to continue their undefeated start.
 They were in action once again on Wednesday, Sept. 15 at Hidden Valley high school at 6:30 p.m., past *The Sentinel's* press time.

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CGXC from B1

The boys' team had an impressive showing as all the boys finished in the top 40 and two finished in the top 11.
 Freshman Carter Bangson led the way for the Lions with a seventh-place finish and a time of 17:39 while Ethan Peterson finished behind him with a time of 18:04.
 Brennen Murphy gave everything he had in the last 100 meters to beat out two other runners and finished with a time of 19:49.
 Rafael Fields, Brayden Russell, Andrew Wiley all came in within 15 seconds of each other at the finish.
 The boys' team took fifth overall only one point behind Newport, who finished fourth.
 Next week, Cottage Grove will not have to travel far as they will race at Lane Community College to compete against more than 40 other teams.

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