SOCCER *from B1*

had to be stopped by the Elmira goalie, but neither were able to add to the score.

Just past the mid-way point of the second half, the ball went out on Elmira which gave Cameron an opportunity for a throw-in. He quickly found Gonzalez, who was able to shoot the ball past the Elmira goalie for the score making it 4-0 Lions.

Five minutes later Rea was able to score his fourth goal of the night helping close the door for the Lions as they earned the big 5-0 win.

"I know that the games we should be winning, we're winning," said coach Vern Stewart. "They didn't test us very much, but the shape we had in the back of our defense wasn't what it should have been at times. And that is something we will talk about at practice."

Despite the big win, Coach Stewart wasn't very celebratory as he talked about how the team still has things to work on.

Goalie Kishen, on the other hand, was pleased with his positive performance as well as his teammates'.

"I like to watch what our guys are doing. Jayden (Cameron) and Aldo (Rea) – their chemistry is really beautiful," he said. "I just hang out in the goal and sing songs to myself in my head then once the ball is in our half of the field, I flip the switch and get in the zone."

Cottage Grove only has a few conference games left before the playoffs are underway. The Lions will have their last two games at home on Oct. 18 against Marshfield and Oct. 20 against Siuslaw.

CW GIRLS *from B1*

"We had this conversation yesterday in practice about when we get behind, we just kind of think, 'Oh, well, we're going to lose.' And that's not always the case," said Head Coach Anna Baltrusch. "So it was kind of funny that we lost the first two sets and then came back, and won after our talk in practice."

Pleasant Hill jumped out to a lead in the first set and never looked back. The Billies had a 20-12 lead in the first set looking to close it out, but Creswell went on a 4-0 run cutting into the Pleasant Hill lead.

The Bulldogs came within four as the score was 23-19 and sophomore Kimberlee Kelsey would serve an ace making the lead only three for P. Hill at 23-20.

The Billies were able to get the serve back, but with P. Hill having set point, Bailey Hutchison would make a great serve for the ace, closing out the first set for Pleasant Hill 25-20.

The second set would stay very close as both teams could not separate from each other until the final points in the set. The score was dead even at 18-18 after Creswell battled back from a couple of self-inflicted mistakes to tie the score again.

Pleasant Hill would get two points off of serving aces from Kloee Harris and Claire Crawford, making the Billie lead 23-20. The Bulldogs would continue to claw back in as they were able to score back-to-back points making the lead only one for Pleasant Hill.

The Bulldogs came back but fell just short as they had a ball go out and the Billies would serve another ace to close out set number two 25-22.

"After the second set I told them to just relax, play as a team and talk to each other," said Baltrusch. "It felt like we were tight and tense."

In the third set, Creswell would spring into a new life as they were the ones jumping out to a big lead. Kendyl Whitson would play her part in growing the lead as her serves would make the score 16-7 in favor of the Bulldogs. Creswell would coast the rest of the way in the third set as they earned a 25-14 third set win.

The fourth set played very similar to the second set as neither team could separate much from the other and the score was locked at 8-8.

The energy was starting to shift toward the Bulldogs as they were able to gain a small 13-11 lead over Pleasant Hill.

In the middle of the Creswell run, the Pleasant Hill student section started to chant "She's a traitor!" toward an opposing Creswell player after she had transferred out of Pleasant Hill.

The Creswell team would have their teammates back as they continued to push their lead after another ace from Kendyl Whitson making the Bulldog lead 16-12 forcing the Billies to take a timeout.

The visiting Creswell parents and students would start to make their presence felt as Kelsey would serve an ace as the Bulldogs had full momentum on their side at 20-14. A Pleasant Hill mistake and a big hit by Emme Whitson would put the set firmly in control of the Bulldogs at 24-16.

Creswell started to get tense as they could feel a fifth set looming and an opportunity to earn a huge comeback victory.

The Billies however would not bow out easily as they put serious pressure back on Creswell by responding with a big run. Cheyenne Green and Jasmine Valencia would be responsible for a four-point lead making the Creswell lead only two at 24-22. Coach Baltrusch would call a timeout telling her team they only needed one more point.

The Pleasant Hill student section chants earlier in the set were directed toward Creswell sophomore Kyla Ellis who went to Pleasant Hill for her freshman year to play basketball with her then senior sister. After Kyla's sister graduated, she transferred back to Creswell. Ellis would score the last point needed to close out the fourth set for the Bulldogs, setting up the first to 15 in the fifth set.

Ellis continued to assert herself as she had a big block at the net helping Creswell get out to the early 4-1 lead in the fifth set. Emme Whitson had two big hits on the outside to extend the lead even more for the Bulldogs at 8-1.

Pleasant Hill did not have an answer for the early barrage of points scored by Creswell and after Lizabelle Osborn slammed a point for Creswell, it seemed again that the Bulldogs had all the momentum.

Creswell held the lead at 14-5 needing only one more point to secure a comeback victory, but the Billies held tough and would score five points in a row making the lead only four for Creswell at 14-10.

Kendyl Whitson would not let the game get any closer as she ended the contest with a big hit from her hit in the middle, securing a 15-10 fifth set win for Creswell and a comeback 3-2 victory.

"I have a lot of really young kids and sometimes I never know what's coming out every day. I don't know if I get the super awesome team or the team that's a little reluctant, or the team that looks like they haven't played in a while. I just don't know until they show up," said Baltrusch. "I think it's good for them to experience being behind and coming back to know what it feels like to do that and come back and win."

The road for the playoffs does not get any easier for the Bulldogs as they welcome Harrisburg for senior night on Oct. 14. Following back to back games against conference rival Santiam Christian on Oct. 16 and Oct. 19.

Stat leaders on the night for Creswell:

Emme Whitson
22 kills, and 24 digs
Kyla Ellis 9 kills and 2 aces

Kimmy Kelsey
45 assists, 5 kills, 3 aces
Lizabelle Osborn 7 kills

Samairah Quinones 16 digs
Kendyl Whitson
23 digs, 2 aces, 7 kills

Sports QUIZ

by Ryan A. Berenz

1. What Atlanta Braves outfielder won consecutive National League MVP honors in 1982-83?
2. What pro golfer turned TV analyst mistakenly left a check for $40,000 — his prize for winning the 1975 Pleasant Valley Classic — behind in a bar?
3. Former Philadelphia Flyers head coach Dave Hakstol was named as the first head coach in the history of what NHL franchise?
4. The Pittsburgh Steelers' Franco Harris caught the famous "Immaculate Reception" in the 1972 AFC divisional playoff game, but who was quarterback Terry Bradshaw's intended receiver?
5. What WNBA franchise, one of the league's original eight teams, folded after the 2006 season?
6. What conservative pundit was hired by ESPN as an NFL commentator in 2003 and resigned four weeks later after making controversial remarks about Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb?
7. What athletic footwear and apparel company's name is derived from a Latin phrase meaning "sound mind in a sound body"?

Answers

1. Dale Murphy.
2. Roger Maltbie.
3. The Seattle Kraken.
4. John "Frenchy" Fuqua.
5. The Charlotte Sting.
6. Rush Limbaugh.
7. ASICS (*anima sana in corpore sano*).

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XC *from B1*

Carter Parsons (18:58) and Jace Meyer (19:13) finished first and third in the JV race helping Cottage Grove beat Philomath with a score of 40 to 47.

"It was pretty fun for those guys to experience that success together," said Knutson. "It was fun to see them get some recognition for all the hard work they had been putting in."

Junior Jayden Owens took fifth in the boys varsity race, running a season best of 16:55. Carter Bengston had a personal best over the weekend with a 17:17 as he finished ninth and teammate Ethan Peterson rounded out the top 10 with a season best at 17:20.

Rafael Fields almost shaved a whole minute off of his best time with a 18:48. Brayden Russell (19:09) and Andrew Wiley (19:22) both finished with personal bests. Brennen Murphy finished his day with a time of 19:18.

"I hope it gives them a little bit of confidence going forward," said Knutson.

On the girls side, Cottage Grove finished square in the middle as they were seventh out of 14 teams. Bella Keating finished with a personal best 21:50. While Piper Youngmyr (23:22), Cora McClean (23:58), Evie Smith (24:26), and Kajsa Merz (24:46) all finished in the top 66.

"The girls group has been working really hard and its been fun since they have actually had a full team," said Knutson. "The girls have yet to run a race with all five of our scorers are healthy and full go. So with that being said they've still managed to place pretty well and we have yet to see that perfect race from the girls," Knuston added. "Which is encouraging because that means we still have plenty of room for improvement."

Cottage Grove will travel next to Sisters as they will partake in the Clash in the Cascades on Thursday Oct. 14.

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