

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Panthers down Cascade to remain undefeated

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central's boys soccer team found itself in a battle against Cascade on Thursday evening with the Panthers eventually earning a 1-0 victory.

The Panthers came into the match undefeated and scoring three or more goals their last three matches.

"What's worked well for us early on is our passing," coach Joe Orozco said. "We've been creating spaces and moving to spaces without the ball."

Cascade largely eliminated those spaces.

"Cascade is a pretty tough team and didn't give us that space," Orozco said. "We pretty much had to play their game."

Forced out of their comfort zone, the Panthers adjusted — and it showed.

"The game wasn't our best performance," junior Eduardo Gonzalez said. "But it gives us a starting point on what we have to work on."

Central had numerous scoring opportunities throughout the second half — and a goal from junior Javier Puente proved to be the game-winner.

"We learned if your game plan isn't working, if you play with your heart and your mind, you can still win," Orozco said.



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Central's boys soccer team defeated Cascade 1-0 on Thursday.

The Panthers also defeated North Marion 5-0 on Sept. 12. Brandon Lopez scored a hat trick, and Sebastian Diaz and David Avila also scored.

"We know each other's strengths," Gonzalez said. "We know where we can put the ball to each other and where we can't. We know what we can do comfortable and what we have trouble with."

Gonzalez, despite playing on defense, is also a threat on the attack. He recorded an assist against North Marion and is as valuable on offense as he is on defense, Orozco said.

"He's impressed us very much," Orozco said. "He can create a spark. I've told him before if you have the room to move up, go ahead. He's a very versatile player and can go up

and down the field with precision."

Along with Lopez, Evan Hoover, Avila and more, the Panthers have an attack that can score from all sides of the field with goals from a number of different players.

Central (5-0 overall) plays at La Salle on Thursday at 7 p.m.

While the Panthers have racked up wins during nonleague play, a Mid-Willamette Conference title is their next goal.

"The guys are more mature," Orozco said. "They don't panic so much when they hear the name Woodburn."

Unlike previous years, Orozco said Central is eager to take on the league's best.

"If we put it together, we'll be ready for anybody in our conference."



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Omar Ceja reacts to a call from the referee on Thursday.

CENTRAL ROUNDUP

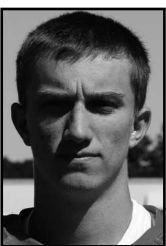
Football team closes out nonleague play with win

Itemizer-Observer staff report

INDEPENDENCE — Kicker Santana Reyna had never played football before this fall — let alone kick.

Yet, Reyna found himself with a chance to give Central's football team the lead in the fourth quarter against Glencoe on Friday night. Reyna came through, kicking an extra point that helped give the Panthers a 7-6 victory.

"He came out for football the first time," coach Shane Hedrick said. "Here he is at the end of the game and he kicked. You think, 'holy smokes, the game is on the line.' He kicks an extra point



Mendazona

trailed 6-0 in the fourth quarter before quarterback Peter Mendazona hit Isaiah Abraham for a touchdown. Reyna's kick proved to be the difference in a tightly contested matchup.

"Glencoe is a much-improved team over a year ago," Hedrick said. "They

right through and then pins Glencoe down at their 5-yard line on the kickoff."

The Panthers trailed 6-0 in the fourth quarter before quarterback Peter Mendazona hit Isaiah Abraham for a touchdown. Reyna's kick proved to be the difference in a tightly contested matchup.

"Glencoe is a much-improved team over a year ago," Hedrick said. "They

have a lot of tools and are incredibly well-coached. We are still finding our identity on offense. We were close on a lot of things and were one technique away or one position away from being successful. The kids battled all the way through."

Marcos Cedillo and Nikolai Wolfe each had eight tackles on defense.

"Several kids made plays that were instrumental in this win," Hedrick said.

Central plays at South Albany Friday at 7 p.m. to open Mid-Willamette Conference play.

"South Albany is a team that plays everybody tough,"

Hedrick said. "They're not going to lay down for anybody. They've got some kids who can cause you a lot of headaches, and this is our first road trip of the year. That in and of itself is going to be a challenge going into hostile territory. We are going to continue finding where we are offensively. We have some questions we want to answer and find out where our strong points are."

Notes: MVP: Isaiah Abraham. Offensive Player of the Game: Peter Mendazona. Defensive Player of the Game: Jesse Cable. Special Teams Player of the Game: Santana Reyna.

GIRLS SOCCER FALLS TO CASCADE: Central's girls soccer team lost to Cascade 3-0 on Thursday. The Panthers played Madison Tuesday after press time. Central concludes its nonleague season at Milwaukie Thursday at 7 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL WINS TWO OF THREE AT DALLAS TOURNAMENT: Central's volleyball team won two of three matches at Dallas' volleyball tournament on Saturday.

The Panthers lost to Philomath 25-14, 25-23 before beating Astoria 25-13, 25-19 and Blanchet Catholic 25-22, 25-17 en route to advancing to the championship match. Full results were not available.

The Panthers lost a pair of

league matches earlier in the week. Central fell to Crescent Valley 25-22, 25-23, 25-11 on Sept. 12 and Lebanon 24-26, 25-22, 25-21, 25-18 on Thursday.

"Last week, we struggled getting started," coach Claudine Mendazona said. "Thursday, we rebounded, but lost a tough match against Lebanon."

Krista Omlid led the Panthers with 21 kills. Annika Riddell had three blocks and Meagan Mendazona and Sydney Nash combined for 36 assists. Elizabeth Chavez recorded 36 digs.

Central (5-4 overall, 1-3 MWC) played Dallas Tuesday after press time. The Panthers host Corvallis Thursday at 6 p.m. before playing at Woodburn Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Falls City: Mountaineers travel to Lowell on Friday



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

A quartet of Falls City defenders attempt to bring down a Siletz Valley runner during the Mountaineers' 58-0 victory on Friday night.

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The offensive line paved the way for a potent rushing attack, led by Austin Burgess and Noah Sickles.

"If Austin gets into space, he can turn it on," Cook said. "He's got pretty good speed. Noah has gotten substantially faster. We're not burners by any means, but we've got some kids who are good athletes. Evidently we were blocking well because, my gosh, there were places to run."

On defense, Reid Simmons and Jeremy Labrado each had an interception. The Mountaineers stuffed Siletz Valley's offense.

"I'm not sure they would have had positive yards in the first half if we didn't give them all those yards through penalties," Cook said.

Aside from penalties, it was a dominating victory — one that players hope fuels them forward.

"Our offensive line really executed well tonight," Sick-

les said. "They opened up holes for the running backs. We came out more excited and with more energy. (This win) gives us a lot more confidence."

A season-opening loss to Dufur, the defending 1A state champions, showed the Mountaineers how far they need to improve before the end of the season — but Friday's victory gave a taste of what it can do if everything is clicking.

"I feel like we're a lot more passionate this year," Sickles said. "We saw what we were able to do last year, and we know we have to take it to another level if we want to keep going."

The Mountaineers may have the key to reaching that new level.

Falls City was scheduled to get a major addition this week — Jesse Sickles.

The senior missed the first two games, but gives the Mountaineers a key addition that can — and will — play

multiple positions.

"He'll play outside linebacker on defense," Cook said. "Jesse will come in on offense and play some quarterback and running back, and maybe even some tight end. (Quarterback) Jeremy Labrado kind of makes things go, but Jesse can throw the ball well. If we can give him enough time, that's a pretty good weapon to have with Austin and Jeremy in space. We're hoping to be multifaceted, spread the ball around and be balanced. That's not typical of what I've done in the past."

Falls City plays at Lowell Friday at 7 p.m.

Lowell presents a difficult challenge because of their size, Cook said, but he also believes the pieces are starting to fall into place for the Mountaineers to thrive.

"If we get mentally tough, we'll be able to hang with the big boys," Cook said.

Perrydale

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Perrydale has won in straight sets in all but two of its matches. While that level of dominance has led to some relatively easy victories, Dickey said the Pirates will focus on conditioning so they are ready once they get into a challenging match.

"We haven't gone to five sets yet," Dickey said. "That's when conditioning will come into play."

Perrydale's win streak was snapped on Saturday. The Pirates lost to North Douglas 21-25, 25-8, 25-23, 25-13 on Saturday before beating Trinity Lutheran 25-5, 25-7, 25-19.

"North Douglas is a very good team," Dickey said.



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very well at times, but could not sustain it. But a loss always helps us to work harder to be better the next time we compete."

The Pirates travel to Falls City Tuesday at 6 p.m.

"It's really been a team effort," Dickey said. "I'm excited for them. I want this for them to have that experience and have a chance to go deep at state."

"They have good offense, which forced us to get out of our system. Perrydale played

PERRYDALE FOOTBALL

Pirates drop league-opener 69-26

Itemizer-Observer staff report

PERRYDALE — Perrydale's football team dropped its league-opener, falling to Arlington 69-26 on Friday.

Running back Cooper Butler had 14 carries for 166 yards. Randall Canfield rushed 11 times for 123

yards and a touchdown.

Quarterback David Domes threw for 110 yards and a touchdown. Josh Crawford had three catches for 48 yards and returned a kick 74 yards for a touchdown.

On defense, Butler led

the Pirates with 14 tackles. JJ Avila recorded 11 tackles and Domes had six tackles and an interception.

"We are learning that it's a four-quarter game," coach Steve Mabry said. "Our youth has shown up over the past few weeks with a lack of

focus at times, with turnovers, and not making plays when they are available. I like the effort the kids have given, we just need to keep progressing forward."

The Pirates (1-2 overall, 0-1 Special District 4) plays at McKenzie Friday at 7 p.m.

Super Senior bowling league results

First place team: Shakey Pins and Go For It tied at 6 wins and 2 losses.

Scratch game men: Dennis Fritz — 235

Scratch game women: Jo Harwood — 211

Scratch series men: Dennis Fritz — 585

Scratch series women: Jo

Harwood — 487

Handicap game men: Rich Robertson and Terry Casper — 256

Handicap game women:

Eloise Nelson — 260

Handicap series men: Mel Smith — 737

Handicap series women: Debbie Cates — 685