

Ukiah/Long Creek varsity soccer team shows strength in unity

League includes Irrigon, Four Rivers, Riverside, Umatilla and Nyssa

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Ukiah/Long Creek soccer team is stepping up from junior varsity to varsity this season with 12 players, including seven juniors.

All but three of the 12 players are new to the sport.

The 1A Mountain Lions are led by Amos Studtmann who is in his fourth year as head coach with three years as junior varsity coach — this is his first year leading a varsity team.

Studtmann said his team's overarching positive quality this season is unity.

The coach has two captains helping bring the team together, Thomas Kreamier, a junior, this season's only returning player, and Aaron Garinger, a junior, who played his freshman year.

Ukiah/Long Creek's first game of the season, a 10-1 loss to Four Rivers of Ontario Sept. 9, was a learning experience.

"Thomas played excellent defense, leading with both action and communication to help the younger players get into position," Studtmann said. "Aaron played solid midfield, good defense and really outworked himself, pushing himself beyond his conditioning level."

Garinger was injured in the game but hopes to be back on the field soon.

The coach said they were short-handed for Friday's game, an 8-2 loss to the 3A Irrigon Knights.

Although it was a loss, Studtmann said the team is improving with each game.

Five of the team members are foreign exchange students — two from Spain, and the others from Thailand, Korea and Germany.

At least two have experience



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Nolan Garinger, left, and Elias Galan charge after the ball in soccer practice Sept. 11 at the Long Creek field.

UKIAH/LONG CREEK SOCCER SCHEDULE

- Sept. 19: @ Nyssa, 5 p.m. (MT)
- Oct. 1: @ Riverside, 4:15 p.m.
- Oct. 12: @ Four Rivers, noon (MT)
- Oct. 15: vs. Umatilla in Long Creek, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 17: vs. Nyssa in Long Creek, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 25: @ Irrigon, 4 p.m.
- Oct. 29: @ Umatilla, 4 p.m.

playing the sport in their home countries, including Linus Beck and Philip Lee.

Kreamier said the exchange students are playing well.

"They have potential and the ability to grow," he said.

He said their first match was a good experience because everyone got to see what it's like to be in a game.

"I think we put in as much effort as the coach wanted," he said.

Garinger said he's impressed with his team.

"We do super well for all the team being new to soccer," he said. "Working as a team is super important. We did better against teams we faced last year, because the team cohesion was so great — and we had way more experienced players last year."

Garinger added he's hav-

ing fun, and there has been no fighting this season among the players.

He said this will be his last year playing soccer, because he's put in the work to graduate early upon completing his junior year.

"I think that we'll grow together as a team superbly," he said.

Ukiah/Long Creek is facing five other teams in the 3A/2A/1A Special District 6: Irrigon, Four Rivers, Riverside, Umatilla and Nyssa.

Studtmann said he's not familiar with most of their opponents but said they can expect Riverside to be tough.

"Riverside is coming off a very successful season," he said. "I always expect them to play well."

The coach said, although Lee and Beck are new to the sport, "they're willing to work hard, and they're not worried about the risk of failure."

"We have better team spirit this year," Studtmann said. "They're positive and help each other out."

He said, for the first time, he'll have more than half the team returning next season.

"My goal is to help them enjoy the sport to get them coming back and build the fundamental skills that will be necessary for them to be successful in the future," Studtmann said.

Hunters asked to return wings from forest grouse, mountain quail

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is asking successful forest grouse and mountain quail hunters to return a wing and a tail from each bird they harvest.

Collection barrels (often bright blue with yellow signs) will be placed at major road junctions or highways in popular hunting areas and at some ODFW offices and popular rural markets, according to a press release.

To find specific barrel locations see the map online, or call the ODFW office closest to your hunt.

To submit wings and tails:

- Clip the right wing close to the bird's body. Submit the left wing if the right wing is damaged (i.e., worn or missing feathers).

- Remove all tail and rump feathers by skinning out the lower 2-3 inches of the back of the bird and clipping off the tail.

- Place wing and tail together in provided paper bag, and write the date of kill and general location where indicated. Please do not use plastic bags, as they speed decomposition and make the wings and tails hard to use.

- Put the wing bags inside the collection barrel or drop them off at the nearest ODFW office. ODFW will also send additional bags and postage-paid return envelopes to those who call 503-947-6301.

Biologists use the wings and tails to collect information on species, age, hatch date, recruitment and sex ratios of the birds. They use this information to get a clearer picture of grouse and quail populations that will help determine hunting seasons. Since wing collections started in 1980, hunters have submitted more than 30,000 grouse wings.

Wing analysis is only one of several surveys ODFW uses to monitor forest grouse and mountain quail populations in Oregon. The wing data complements other information gathered in production and harvest surveys.

The season for forest grouse is Sept. 1 through Jan. 31 statewide. There is no open season for spruce grouse.

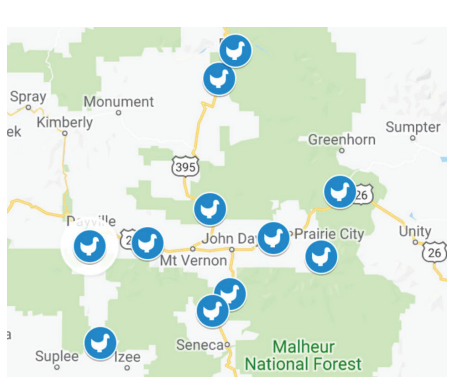
Mountain quail seasons vary across the state:

- Western Oregon, Hood River and Wasco counties: Sept. 1 to Jan. 31, 2020.
- Grant, Crook, Wheeler, Gilliam, Klamath, Umatilla, Morrow and Wallowa counties: Oct. 5 to Jan. 31, 2020.
- Remaining Eastern Oregon counties: no open season.



Contributed photo

Collection barrels for forest grouse and mountain quail wings and tails will be placed near popular hunting areas.



Contributed image

Collection barrels for a wing and the tail from forest grouse and mountain quail will be placed at the following locations.



Contributed photo/Pat Matthews ODFW

Ruffed grouse are named for a series of black iridescent feathers on the sides of the neck called the ruff, which is erected by males to form a ring around the neck during courtship displays.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Grant Union cross country team competes in Catherine Creek Scamper 'mudbath'

Runners on the Grant County cross country teams didn't let the Catherine Creek Scamper's obstacles — such as a 15-foot-plus mud bog — prevent them from making a splash in the competition.

Because five varsity girls runners missed the event, all high school girls were at the junior varsity level.

Senior Rylee Browning placed third, and freshman Amelia Hall came in fifth with the team finishing fifth overall.

"Generally, this is a slower race because of the obstacles and the extensive single lane path in the mountains (that) makes it difficult to pass," said Grant Union head coach Sonna Smith.

Standouts who bettered their times from last week included freshman Brady Dole running with the varsity boys, sophomores Gavin Lopez and Cole Ashley running junior varsity and senior Tiler Voigt who ran junior varsity.

"The team is looking forward to The Footrace to Valhalla, as it always provides fast times," Smith said.

Varsity races start at 1:45 p.m. Friday at Umatilla High School.

Prospector spikers unify for improved Day Two at tourney

The Grant Union Prospector volleyball team had a busy couple of days competing at the East-West Volleyball Classic at Powder Valley High School Friday and Saturday in North Powder.

Friday's games didn't go Grant Union's way with losses to Powder Valley (25-18, 25-15), Wallowa (25-22, 25-15) and Damascus Christian (25-23, 17-25, 15-9).

However the Prospectors rallied on Day Two, with wins over Imbler (25-21, 25-15) and Country Christian (25-19, 25-22).

"Saturday was a much better day for us," said Grant Union head coach Ali Abrego. "We walked away with three wins from tough teams."

She said sophomores Paige Gerry and Grace Taylor, junior Abby Lusco and seniors Taylor Allen and Kaytlyn Wells gave remarkable performances at the tournament.

"They all played well together and helped our team with crucial points of the game," Abrego said. "A highlight was beating Joseph on Saturday 18-16 in the third set of our third match from the day — sixth match of the weekend. The girls really had to be mentally tough for that one."

Grant Union faced the Prairie City Panthers on the road Tuesday, past press time. The Prospectors travel to Heppner Thursday to face the Mustangs at 6:30 p.m. in what will be both teams' first league game of the season.

Grant Union football team drops road game to Monroe

Turnovers in the second half hampered the Grant Union Prospector football team Friday for a 27-14 road loss to the Monroe Dragons.

Grant Union head coach Jason Miller said it was the second half of the game that

made the difference, also adding one touchdown was called back on a "questionable call."

"The offensive line and defensive line both showed improvement," he said.

Grant Union has been denied wins in their first two nonleague games of the season by two highly ranked teams, giving the Prospectors an opportunity to gain valuable experience.

The Prospectors will travel to Summit High School in Bend to face the Lost River Raiders of Merrill at 5 p.m. Saturday in nonleague action.

Dayville/Monument netters lose close contest to South Wasco

The Dayville/Monument Tiger volleyball team's strong defense was not enough to hold the South Wasco Red-sides off from a 3-1 win Friday in Maupin.

Tiger head coach Treila Osborne said her team had strong net play against the Redsides, which won with scores of 25-15, 18-25, 25-22 and 25-20.

Coach Osborne said senior Miranda Cook provided some "amazing blocks," and senior Aubrey Bowlus and sophomore Aubrianna Osborne had great serves.

"Our entire team has learned so much this year, and we keep getting better, stronger, faster, as we practice communication and transitioning,"

coach Osborne said.

She added her team is looking forward to the weekend of competition, hosting Ukiah/Long Creek junior varsity at 5 p.m. Friday in Dayville and, on Saturday, facing Camas Valley at 2:30 p.m. and Central Christian at 4 p.m. at Central Christian High School in Redmond for nonleague games.

"The more we play, the more we learn and progress," Osborne said.

Dayville/Monument football warms up too late against South Wasco

The Dayville/Monument Tigers football team's stronger second half against the South Wasco Redsides was not enough Friday, and the Redsides claimed a 48-26 win on their turf in Maupin.

"We started the game out flat and couldn't get started," said Tiger head coach Kyle Hand, calling it a "game of halves."

"First half, we just did not show up to play, but we finished the game with a lot of momentum," he said.

Tiger Mark Thomas, a junior, had a kickoff return in the second quarter for a touchdown.

"That got us awake after digging a deep hole," Hand said. "At halftime, we made some changes in the offense and stepped up the defense.

South Wasco had a much harder time moving the ball in the second half of the game while we were finding offense through the air."

Tiger junior JT Hand had a long receiving touchdown from junior Donovan Schaffer early in the third. Then Tell Cox, a sophomore, had a short touchdown run, the coach said.

He added, defensively, Thomas had an interception, and junior DJ Howell and senior Wesley Adams had many tackles for loss with Howell forcing a couple of fumbles.

"We have three weeks of practice before our next game," coach Hand said. "We plan on working hard to improve our speed, strength and overall football skills."

The Tigers will host Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler for a non-league game at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4, in Monument.

Ukiah/Long Creek's soccer falls to Irrigon, short-handed

The 1A Ukiah/Long Creek soccer team was missing a couple key players in its 8-2 loss to the 3A Irrigon Knights Friday in Long Creek, which was the Mountain Lions' second game of the season.

ond game of the season.

"We still managed a better score than we had against Four Rivers," said head coach Amos Studtmann, noting that Four Rivers of Ontario had previously lost to Irrigon.

Ukiah/Long Creek fell to Four Rivers 10-1 in their Sept. 9 season opener.

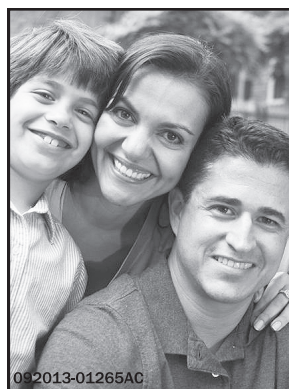
Out of the 12 on the Mountain Lion team, one is a returning player, three have previous experience and several are new to soccer, though quickly catching on to the sport.

"Defensively, we worked more together, and offensively, a couple of our kids got some passes going back and forth," he said, comparing Friday's game to their first.

Ukiah/Long Creek had a junior varsity team for three years and this year moved up to varsity. They're facing 1A-3A teams in Special District 6.

Studtmann said his team has been covering the fundamentals of soccer in practice and continuing that learning process in competition.

The Mountain Lions host the 3A Riverside Pirates at 4 p.m. Wednesday in Long Creek, then travel to 3A Nyssa on Thursday where they'll face the Bulldogs at 5 p.m. (MT).



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