sports with Mike Oths

The Fifth Quarter

A few odds and ends from around the football world... To all those football fans who second-guessed the Raiders two weeks ago for not kicking a field goal on first down in overtime: did you happen to catch the Detroit-Philadelphia game this week? Detroit's Ed Murray missed a 21 yarder in OT which eventually cost the Lions a win. I still say that you don't kick until third down.

There have been some interesting comments coming from the two Oregon football teams. The Ducks win for the first time since September and the players are all of a sudden talking "bowl game." Interesting, to say the least. Meanwhile, the Beavers continue to utter amazing things. Angelo DiLulo (OSU defensive lineman) is quoted as saying that the Beavs have a much better defense than Oregon; at the same tims, Joe Avezzano blamed the officials for the second week in a row. Teams that kick field goals with 8:00 to to in the fourth quarter, down by thirteen points, have no room to criticize officiating. The serious question is whether such a field goal is strategic, or is it a face-saving attempt to avoid the shut-out and concede the win? Joe only knows.

The NFL continues to be an unpredictable proposition. A look at the NFC East shows a 4-weay tie for the lead, with only Philly untied. Meanwhile, injuries have crippled the Raiders and Chargers, while Denver has surged to the top. Anybody who doubted the first-year showing of Dan Marino (like me) would have to concede that he is something special. Granted, playing for the Dolphins has its advantages, but he men from Miami owe much of success to their young QB. In the long run, Marino's poor senior year at Pitt may have been the best thing that ever happened to him. It lowered him in the draft (sixth among quarterbacks drafted) but it gave him a chance to blossom early. His numbers speak for themselves.

This week's battle for the Pac-10 championship should be worth watching. To my way of thinking, Washington is a better team, but the USC Trojans have been an opportunistic bunch, and the game is being played in LA. I have to go with the Huskies, however. The failures of the two previous years should work in their favor. USC just doesn't throw the ball well enough to make a big dent in that fearsome Husky defense. I think Tem Meamber should be the player of the year in the Pac-10. This has, Washington State not withstanding, been a defensive year in the conference.

It looks like Doug Flutie, the brilliant Boston College QB, will finally break the skein of running backs winning the Heisman Trophy. (The last non running back was Auburn QB Pat Sullivan in 1971.) Flutie has been fortunate, however. The betting here is that without injuries to running backs Bo Jackson, Napoleon McCallum and Keith Byars, that the BC whiz would've been denied.

Finally, the big question shaping up is whether BYU would deserve to be voted No. 1 if they go 12-0 and are the only team to do so. I say no. The Cougars are locked in to the Holiday Bowl, where they won't get a chance to play a top-flight team. I think that the WAC Conference, for its own good, ought to get together with the folks from the Holiday Bowl, and release BYU from a mandatory appearance in the San Diego-based game. Believe me, a BYU appearance and possible victory in, say, the Orange Bowl, with the national title at stake, would do more for the image and prestige of both the Holiday Bowl and the WAC, than would a meaningless win in a secondary bowl game.

CRYSTAL (?) BALL

Hello football fans. Last week we told you that we would prove that you needn't know anything about football to be an expert. The proof, dear fans, is in the pudding. Last week's guests, Tom Krause and Merle Cowett, claimed to know nothing about football. Believe me, they don't. So what do they do? Only a CB single week record of 13-14, missing only the Raiders game. Do you think there's a lesson to be learned here? Anyway, this week's expert also claims to be a football novice. Otto Burden, the Morrow County Public Works Director will try his hand. Otto will try to "engineer" his way through the minefield that has become the NFL prediction business. Meanwhile, back to our experts, who have been smoked for the second week in a row. Of the regular guys, Dave led the way with 11-14, regaining his prior form. Craig bagged 10-14, while Mike and Brent collared 9-14. Dale slipped a bit, correctly picking 7-14. For the season, the panel stands like this:

Brent 78-34
David 77-35
Craig 76-36
Dale 72-40
Mike 67-45

GAME	Mike Oths	Brent Engers	Craig Kitching	Dale Holland	David Sykes	Guest
BUFFALO @ NEW ENGLAND	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	BUF
CHICAGO @ LA RAMS	LAR	CHI	LAR	CHI	CHI	LAR
INDIANAPOLIS @ NY JETS	NYJ	NYJ	NYJ	NYJ	NYJ	IND
DALLAS @ ST. LOUIS	DAL	STL	STL	STL	STL	DAL
DENVER @ SAN DIEGO	SD	DEN	DEN	SD	DEN	DEN
DETROIT @ WASHINGTON	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS
HOUSTON @ KANSAS CITY	HOU	KC	KC	KC	KC	KC
MINNESOTA @ GREEN BAY	MIN	GrB	GrB	GrB	MIN	GrB
NEW ORLEANS @ ATLANTA	ATL	NO	NO	ATL	ATL	NO
NY GIANTS @ TAMPA BAY	NYG	NYG	NYG	TB	NYG	TB
PHILADEPHIA @ MIAMI	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA
PITTSBURGH @ CINCINNATI	CIN	CIN	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT
SAN FRANCISCO @ CLEVELAND	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF	SF
LA RAIDERS @ SEATTLE	LAR	SEA	SEA	SEA	SEA	SEA

Cards shot down at Arlington

photo by Wayne Harris

Sandy Wright (10) makes play against Arlington

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

The Ione Cardinal volleyball team fell 12-15, 11-15 to the Arlington Honkers on Friday, Oct. 26. Ione had a shot at going to the district tournament, but had to beat Arlington to do so.

In the first game, Ione went up early12-0. However, the Honkers came back quickly and won 12-15.

Again, the Cards lost a big lead as they were ahead early, 8-2, but lost 11-15.

"The big lead in the first game set us up for a big mental lapse, which we never recovered from," replied coach Jocelyn Jones.

Ione dropped to 5-4 in the Big Sky Conference and 9-8 overall.

Cardinals end season with loss to Falcons

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

Ione's volleyball team ended their season at home with a 9-15, 10-15 loss against the Wheeler Co. Falcons, on November 2. Ione ended the season at 5-5 in the Big Sky Conference and 9-9 overall.

Michelle Beeson served for seven points in the first game and Kim McCabe served for seven in the second game. "We didn't play as well as we hoped to for our last game. Mentally, we finished the season the week before," said coach Jocelyn Jones.

Cards swoop Grizzlies

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

The Ione volleyball team defeated the Helix Grizzlies on Tuesday, Oct. 23, by scores of 15-10, 15-8.

Ione executed their offense very well and it was the best match of the season for the Cardinals. "Everybody played very well. We were very consistent," stated coach Jocelyn Jones.

Athletes to receive awards at fall sports dessert

By TRAVIS HYATT

Fall sports awards will be presented at a dessert to be held at the Heppner High School cafeteria on Tuesday, November 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

All Mustangs athletes who participated in football and volleyball will be recognized and special awards will be presented by their respective coaches.

Athletes are asked to bring a dessert. The Heppner Booster Club will provide ice cream, punch and coffee.

A special meeting of the Heppner Booster Club will be held following the presentation of awards. The booster club is seeking membership of parents, friends and relatives of students at H.H.S. as well as ideas for activities the organization might pursue during the school year.

BMCC names area coordinator

Blue Mountain Community College has announced that Marie Lane has been named the new South Morrow County area coordinator.

A graduate of Heppner High School, Mrs. Lane is a third-generation resident of Morrow County. She attended the University of Orefon for two years as an English major.

The new area coordinator will be in charge of arranging the college classes taught in her area. A fan of continuing education classes herself, Mrs. Lane has taken "dozens of classes from the college over the years." Her interests have run from German to typing to aquatic fitness.

The college is "an important resource for the communities it serves," she noted. "I like to see a community make use of the college," she added.

Mrs. Lane's work experience in the area has included time as the secretary and finally, acting director of the Tri-County Health Services Commission. She also served as an assitant to the pharmacist at Murray's Pharmacy.

Her husband, Marvin, is employed by Columbia Basin Electric. The couple has two children, ages 5 and 2.

Area residents are encouraged to contact the new coordinator at the college number in Heppner, 676-5039.

Mrs. Lane encourages callers to give her tips on what new classes they would like to see offered or what classes they remember from the past that they would like to have offered again.

"I am open to trying new things," she noted, continuing, "I welcome input from the community."

As well as the addition of Mrs. Lane, the college will also have a new center for college information at Swanson Insurance Agency in Ione. Nancy Brownfield, former BMCC area coordinator and now with that firm, will have a brochure rack of college catalogs, schedules and brochures for the public.

INSULATE WATER METERS NOW....

Insulate your water meter for the winter months. You may use gunny sacks, insulation, old rags in a plastic bag, etc. Please do not use sawdust or bark. If you have had frozen pipes in the past, it is advisable to let a faucet run at a fast drip during extremely cold weather. Any damages resulting from frozen water meters that have not been insulated will be repaired at the owners' expense. You will be billed a minimum until the meters are read again in mid March. Thank you.

Earl Papineau
City foreman

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