



SPORTS

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Goose Island a new way of life

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Sports Column:

The Thrill of Victory, The Agony of Defeat

Marge Ansel
Advisor

An old saying keeps popping into my head when I think of sportsmanship; it goes something like this, "Winning is not everything; it's how you play the game."

In my eyes, I see good sportsmanship as when teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials treat each other with respect. High school students learn sportsmanship from the adults in their lives, especially from their coaches. It is well known that coaches build a bond that last a lifetime with their players, and it is through this bond that players will mimic the coaches sportsman like behavior.

For a player or coach sometimes displaying good sportsmanship isn't always easy, and it can be very hard when your team is losing by a score of 40-0 going into the third quarter of a football game. When the winning team comes out of the locker room, and the coach plays his first string players, the coach is showing their players that it is okay to totally demoralize their opponents players, coaches and fans by any means necessary. Is this what an unnamed school in Glenn County is teaching their students in the game of life?

How a coach leads his team is where sportsmanship is exemplified to the players, family members of the team and their community fans. When looking back three years ago at a Battle of the Axe game, it was Willows in the lead by a 28-0

score at halftime. When Willows took the field, the coach mixed the first string and second string players as not to run-up the score giving Orland several opportunities to score, and they did during the fourth quarter. The end of the game the score was 32-6. As I watched this year's Battle of the Axe, my thoughts were, "At what point is overkill?"

High school students who have coaches who care only about the win and need the self-esteem by running up their score to a demoralizing amount, having their players taunt the opposing teams fans and school administrators, pick up the message that it is okay to be ruthless, disheartening and uncaring in life. Coaches are teaching their players about how to act when faced with a challenge on and off of the field, and students who taunt others on or off the playing field are not likely to change their behavior when in the classroom or in social situations. Domination becomes the solution. The opposite is true for a student who is provided with an example, taught and practice good sportsmanship. They are more likely to carry compassion, respect, and appreciation of other people throughout their lives whether on or off the field.

The best coaches encourage their players to play fair, treat their opponents with respect, and to concentrate on helping their team while polishing their own skills. Remember, winning is not everything, but it's how you play the game.

Lady Honkers Take First at Red Bluff Tourney



Joleen Pozzi, Photography Editor

Senior, Coleen Tade, sets the ball over the net for Honker point.

Delainy Ward
Editor-In-Chief/
Sports Editor

The Lady Honkers Volleyball Team won the Silver Bracket Championship at the Red Bluff Invitational Volleyball Tournament Sept. 16-17.

The tournament opened on Friday, as the team faced larger schools including Enterprise High School, West Valley High School, and Corning High School. Going into their first game of the tournament, the Honkers lost to West Valley 25-16, 25-16.

Willows proved to be a tough match for Enterprise High but lost 25-19, 25-21 with Mary

Feeney leading the Honkers with nine kills and Megan Hughes with six digs.

The Honkers secured the third place in the pool by beating Corning 25-17, 25-7 with a well balanced and great example of teamwork to conquer the Cardinals. On the second day of the tournament, the Lady Honkers started the day off right, defeating Los Molinas High 25-17, 25-18 and beating Redding Christian High School in the first match 25-16, 27-26. Hughes had six kills, two blocks, and nine digs against the Redding Christian team.

The Honkers followed

up that win with a 25-15, 25-11 win against Fall River High School. They advanced to the championship game only after beating Durham 25-17, 21-25, 15-4. Sam Brott and Tade together had a total of eight and seven kills and Taylor Femino blocked two shots in the match.

In the championship game, the Honkers defeated Yreka in three sets 25-17, 26-27, 15-4. Willows held the net with 12 blocks, four by Hughes, three by Tade and three by Erika Click. The Honkers totaled 41 kills with Tade's 10 leading the way along with nine by Feeney and eight by Hughes.

Honkers Teach Wolves a Lesson

Mollie Ward
Staff Reporter

Willows Honkers played at Winters High School leaving the field with another win taking their winning record to 3-0 with the score of 48-29.

At the end of the game Willows tallied 182 yards and four touchdowns thrown by Justin Fortunato. Drake Matteson rushed

for 145 yards and scored one touchdown. Fortunato completed 9 of 18 passes connecting with Ryan Welsh, Casey Taylor, and Alex Alves.

Steven Johnson rushed for 32 yards on five carries and Ulises Esparza made the most of his carry when he scored from the one yard line.

On the defensive side of the ball, the honkers forced five turnovers including a 35-yard in-

terception for a touchdown. Briones lead the honkers with ten tackles and a recovered fumble. Matteson was also active on the defensive side bringing in one interception and five tackles. Alves had eight tackles and a fumble recovery and Taylor also with a fumble recovery.

Jacob Candelaria had nine sacks and Trevor Candelaria had one sack and five tackles.

Lady Honkers Tennis

Delainy Ward
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Sports Editor

The Lady Honkers Tennis team came out on top against a strong Wheatland Pirates tennis team, winning the match 5-4. The honkers are now 3-2 and 0-1 in the Sacramento Valley League.

Doubles partners, Kaylen Wilson and Kylie Gammon beat Wheatlands duo Alec Tiffany and Thea Kaiser to remain so far undefeated in all five matches so far this season.

In the singles' matches, Mackenzie Gomes pulled ahead against Kirsten McLaughlin winning the number six singles match 4-6, 6-1, and 6-1. Wilson won her number one singles match 6-2, 6-2 and Hadiya Khan won the number five singles match 6-1, 6-0.

Willows and Wheatland ended up in a tie with the singles match when doubles partners Makayla Chacon and Cindy Vang guaranteed the victory when they dominated there match 8-1, going undefeated 3-0 so far this season together.

Honkers Fly High Over the Redhawks

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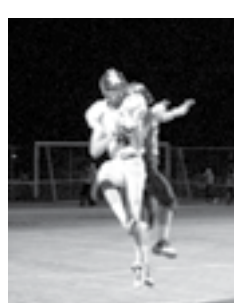
The WHS Honkers left the stadium content Friday, Aug. 26, as they gained a win over the Colusa Redhawks, 40-19.

The Honkers offense, led by senior running-back Drake Matteson, rolled up collectively 161 yards rushing. Matteson alone had 101 yards rushing with three touchdowns.

Matteson's first touchdown came in the first quarter with a one yard push over the goal line to give the Honkers an early lead with the score being 6-0 but was quickly answered back by the Redhawks. Colusa senior quarterback, Tyler Martin threw a 33-yard touchdown to Cyrus Yerxa.

With the game tied at 6-6 with 5:41 left in the half, Matteson ran in the ball from the 2-yard line being the second out of three of Matteson's touchdowns. The Honkers offense added three more touchdowns to the scoreboard before the end of the first half including Casey Taylor's 45-yard interception return, a 15-yard touchdown run by Matteson, and a 40-yard pass from Justin Fortunato connection with Alex Alves making the score 34-6 at halftime.

In the third quarter, the Honkers added another touchdown to the scoreboard with a 31-yard run by Steven Johnson making the score 40-6.



WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTERS

1st Wednesday of the Month
Willows High School - Library 7 P.M.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

The WHS Boosters support school groups, organizations and sports teams.

Contact: Adele Foley 934-9562

GO HONKERS!