



Fall Sports Wrapup

Goose Island a new way of life

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Sports Column: Lady Honkers Soar High Over Trojans

Marge Ansel
Advisor

Recently I had the pleasure of traveling to Shasta College to capture pictures of the WHS swimming team as they competed in the Masters Swimming Meet on Oct. 29.

After taking the group picture together Coach Parham immediately provided me with the information needed and the location of the swimmer schedule board with heat numbers. I read the board and figured out the "Heat" and "Lane" numbers I was ready for some serious picture taking.

Heat 8 – Freestyle: Kasey Foley, Lane 5. No problem, prepared with camera in hand standing at the opposite end of the pool facing the sun, he leaps off of the podium and begins his swim. I tried to take a few pictures but found myself watching him instead of taking pictures. Just as he finishes his race, I realized that I did not get many pictures.

The swimming heats rotated between girls and boys giving me time to regroup and prepare for the next up. Heat 10, Butterfly: Lane 5, Noah Parham! I knew my five year old camera was slow, but still able to take quality pictures of moving objects. I set my camera to continuous mode held down my shutter button hoping for the one picture a photographer dreams their whole life of capturing.

At the 15 minute break and award announcements, As I reviewed the pictures that I took of Noah, he reminded me of an eagle as it soars in the air, only he was soaring in the water. His powerful body in continual motion is proof of the hours in and out of the water training for this sport in which I know very little about.

Next Veronica, Freestyle: Lane 3: Preparing for her race, I stand facing the sun as she leaps into the water. Her swim takes less than a minute. Her mom says to another person, "This is her best time; it is under a minute!" The light bulb turned on. It was then that I realized that these swimmers are swimming against themselves and their competitors, but mostly themselves. There is no team of eleven to rely on, or a team of five, only "me, myself, and I". An appreciation for this sport began to grow inside me.

As I finished taking pictures of the swimmers, I realized that being a novice is sometimes a great thing. It brought on an appreciation for a sport that I knew very little about; the dedication and passion each of these five swimmers have in their sport; but most of all, I felt proud that this young team represented WHS in the finest of ways.

Good job swimming team, I'll be seeing you again next year.

In a hard-fought battle, the Varsity Lady Honkers prevailed over the Durham Trojans advancing the win-lose record to 8-0



Julene Pozzi, Photography Editor

Ally Brunner tips the volleyball over the net for a Honker point

Delainy Ward
Sports Editor

The Honker Varsity Volleyball team defeated the Durham Trojans in an intense matchup, 25-16, 25-23, 25-19, on the road October 28.

In the first game, the Trojans took the early lead, their first couple of points coming from kills. Willows quickly took the game back with blocks from Megan Hughes and Ally Brunner. Hughes added two serving aces, while Mary Feeney

kept the game in the Honkers favor with her two kills that landed deep in Trojan territory. Sam Brott followed up with two more kills ending the first game.

After a long volley in game 2, Brunner came on strong with a kill to set the stage for the Honkers. Willows was back into attack mode with Brunner and Erika Click blocking the Trojans Offense. The Trojans soon caught back up with a sequence of kills and aces. Hughes recharged the Honkers offense with a kill

to put the Honkers in winning position. The last point of the second game came on a Durham error.

Starting off the third game, the Honkers and Trojans fought hard, but Click and Colleen Tade both sent strategic kills down the middle followed by Brunner's kill to the far corner of the Durham Court. A tip over the net by Tade was the last touch by the Honkers, as the game ended in a Durham error.

The Honkers are now 29-6 overall and 8-0 in league.

Lady Honkers Clinch SVL Title

Delainy Ward
Sports Editor

The Lady Honker Volleyball team beat the Pierce Bears at home, November 1, 25-21, 25-22, 25-19, clinching the Sacramento Valley League title.

The Honkers started off late in the first game trailing 18-15, but retaliated with Ally Brunner starting the Honker comeback with three kills and three aces putting Willows one game up.

In the second game, Pierce took the lead in the beginning 21-18, the Lady Honkers once again rallied. Mary Feeney slammed three kills putting the Honkers back in the lead and Megan Hughes finished the game with a kill as the Honkers scored the final five points.

In the third game, Pierce tied the game up at 17-17, but Brunner made a kill and Hughes served an ace to give the Honkers a little bit more room to breathe. A Bears' error gave Willows the 21-18 lead and Brunner served two aces before Sam Brott went into the net. Brott came back with a kill before ending the match with an ace.

Brunner finished the match with 10 kills and six aces for the Honkers, while Feeney and Hughes added eight kills combined and Colleen Tade with five blocks and 30 assists.

The Honkers win moved Willows to 30-6 overall and 9-0 in league. The Honkers' host sixth-seeded Gridley Nov. 15.

Three WHS Swimmers Receive PG&E Awards at Master's Swim Meet

Tater Parham
 Swimming Coach
 Press Release

Three of the five WHS swimmers attending the PG&E Master's Championship competition held at Shasta College on Saturday, Oct. 29 won awards in the First or Second All Section or the Second Team All Section. 1

Freshman, Molly Bateman was selected to receive the PG&E First Team All Section award, and senior, Kasey Foley and freshman, Veronica Foley, were awarded the Second Team All Section award.

The 2011 – 2012 WHS Swimming Team consisting of Bateman, Veronica Foley, freshman, Jazmin Hernandez and Noah Parham; and Kasey Foley

Coach Parham had two goals going into the year, and that was to have all five reach the Master's competition.

"Our goal this year was to get all five of the Honker swimmers to the Master's Meet. They did just that. I am so proud of them for this achievement. The next goal was to improve our final position and take more time off in their event. This team came through again," Coach Parham said.



Marge Ansel, 2011 The Honker

In Lane 5 Kasey Foley looks at the time clock showing his time after finishing the 50 Freestyle with a time of 23.3 seconds.

Their ending times and places are as follows: Bateman won 2nd Place in the 100 Butterfly. She was seeded 2nd with a time of 1:02.55 improving her time to 1:01.13. In the 100 Backstroke, Bateman, won 3rd Place improving her time to a 1:02.22 and was seeded 3rd with a time of 1:03.79. Bateman achieved two personal best times, scoring 33 points for the Willows Women's Team.

Kasey Foley finished 3rd Place in the 50 Freestyle with a time of 23.3. Foley was seeded second taking off 23.2

seconds. In the 100 Freestyle Foley came in 6th Place with a time of 52.34 and was seeded 7th with a time of 53.54 and came in. He scored 29 points for the Willows Men's Team.

Veronica Foley was seeded 6th in the 100 Butterfly and took 5th place by going from a 1:05.55 to a 1:04.53. Veronica then turned around and swam the 100 Freestyle shortly after the Butterfly, and went from 11th place at 1:01.53 to 7th place at 59.69, breaking the minute in this event for the first time. She scored 26 points for the Women's

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Hernandez was seeded 13th in her 100 Breaststroke with a time of 1:26.03 and came in 8th place by swimming it in 1:25.02,

which scored 11 points for the Women's Team and earned her a new personal best time.

Parham was seeded 9th in the 100 Butterfly with a time of 1:02.56 and improved his place to 8th with a time of 1:00.57. He was seeded 13th place in the 100 Breaststroke with a time of 1:13.67 and came in 14th place with a swim time of 1:13.79. Noah scored 14 points for the Men's Team.

These young swimmers are following in the footsteps of a Willows High Alumnus and great swimmer, Christa Prior, who has just qualified for the Olympic Trials this coming year in the 100 Backstroke. Christa achieved this mark at a meet at Stanford University.

"It was exciting to see these athletes perform at the Master's Swim Meet. I think this is awesome and hope to see more from Christa. I believe all the Willows Swimmers (past, present, and future) deserve our support and the opportunity to reach their goals of becoming the best, whether it is learning to swim or winning Olympic Gold. Good luck Christa, we are cheering for you, and to those still dreaming, we are cheering for you as well. Dream Big. Congratulations Honkers," Coach Parham said.

Honkers Beat Live Oak in Battle

Taylor Navarro
Reporter

In a back and forth battle, the WHS varsity football team defeated the Live Oak Lions on their own Lion territory, November 4th for the Honkers' last league game.

The game remained scoreless at the end of the first quarter.

During the second quarter, Justin Fortunato completed a 60 yard pass to Alex Alves for a Honker touchdown making the score 0-6. The score stayed the same until the beginning of third quarter.

Tony Montes, from Live Oak, took the ball all the way for a Lion touchdown, resulting in a score of Live Oak 7, and Willows 6.

A few minutes later with about 7 minutes to go in the third quarter, Drake Matteson ran a 60 yard touchdown, putting the Honkers in the lead again. Live Oak retaliated with another touchdown, put them back in the lead 14, 12.

With 8 minutes to go in the fourth quarter Live Oak attempted a rush for another touchdown, but there was a fumble on the play. Drake Matteson recovered, and made an 80 yard touchdown. Honkers left with a victory, with the final score of Live Oak 14 and Willows 18.

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 7 P.M.

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