Weekend Roundup: OV, Castleton blank opponents

09-14-2021, Rutland Herald, by Adam Aucoin

FITCHBURG, Mass. — The Castleton University football team's defense has yet to give up points in the 2021 season. The Spartans blew past Fitchburg State 35-0 on the road Saturday.

The Spartans allowed just 86 yards of total offense to

Castleton opened up the scoring just three minutes into the first frame. Senior quarterback Jacob McCarthy connected down the sideline with junior Saijon McIntosh for a 13-yard score.

Lucas Morse scampered five yards to the end zone to double the lead for the Spartans. Kicker Noah Crossman was 2-for-2 on extra points for the 14-0 after one quarter.

CU's lone score of the second quarter came on an 8-yard TD from McCarthy to Evan Keegan.

In the third quarter the visitors extended the lead to 35-0, McCarthy would throw a pair of touchdowns. He found wide receiver Anthony Martinez and McIntosh for the scores. McCarthy threw for 249 yards.

Jordan Wright and Mark Howland had fumble recoveries for Castleton.

The Spartans (2-0) host Norwich University on Saturday at 3 p.m.

H.S. FOOTBALL

OV 40, Poultney 0

BRANDON — Otter Valley came out a bit sloppy in the first half, but turned it around in a big way to beat rival Poultney 40-0 Saturday at Markowski Field.

The score was 12-0 at the half, before the Otters went on to dominate after the break.

"We played good clean football in the second half. We're young, but we'll keep getting better and better," said Otters coach Kipp Denis.

Otter Valley (2-0) is at Oxbow next Saturday. Poultney is at Missisquoi the same day.

In other high school action, Windsor beat Oxbow 57-6, Rice beat Mount Abraham 32-0, Fairfax/Lamoille beat Missisquoi 41-14 and Mount Mansfield beat Spaulding 34-15.

BOYS SOCCER

CVU 5, Rutland 1

ESSEX JCT. — The early season has been a gauntlet of tough northern Vermont opponents for Rutland and CVU was next in line. The Redhawks grabbed a 5-1 win in the second and final day of action at Jay Brady Kickoff Classic.

Rutland got its lone goal late in the second half when Patrick Cooley was fouled in the box. Brock Quillan took the penalty kick and scored.

CVU was led by Holden Batchelder, who scored four times.

The Ravens (0-3) host South Burlington on Tuesday at Alumni Field.

Middlebury 4, MAU 1

BENNINGTON — The Middlebury boys soccer team bested Mount Anthony 4-1 Saturday afternoon at Spinelli Field.

The Tigers are at Mount Mansfield on Wednesday,

GIRLS SOCCER

Fair Haven 4, Hartford 3

WHITE RIVER JCT. — Coming into the season, Fair Haven coach Teri Perry looked at Hartford as the measuring stick among southern teams in Division II.

The Slaters beat the measuring stick 4-3 Saturday afternoon.

Perry's daughter Maddy Perry scored the game-winner with 45 seconds to play on an unselfish pass from Brittney Love.

Elizabeth Love scored the opening goal of the first half, before Hartford responded. Brittney Love scored two goals before the half to make it 3-1.

The Hurricanes battled back before Perry netted the winner.

Coach Perry was extra impressed with the effort of Elizabeth Love and Lily Briggs in the midfield.

Fair Haven (3-0) is at Middlebury on Wednesday.

Poultney 4, TV 1

WILMINGTON — There's a new aura about the Poultney girls soccer team. Things are different now. The kids are winners and Saturday they stretched their record to 3-0 with a 4-1 win over Twin Valley.

The Blue Devils got goals from four different players — Courtney Ezzo, Kaydyn L'Esperance, Kaitlyn DeBonis and Hannah Webster.

The Devils will try for win No. 4 on Tuesday night under the lights at Arlington.

GM 9, Mill River 0

CHESTER — Green Mountain bounced back in a big way from its loss to Fair Haven to beat Mill River 9-0 Saturday afternoon.

Kim Cummings had four goals and Riley Paul had two, Grace Wright, Grace Tyrrell and Maya Farrar all had one. It was Wright's first varsity goal.

The Chieftains (2-2) host Windsor on Tuesday.

MSJ 5, Long Trail 3

DORSET — The Mount St. Joseph girls soccer team improved to 2-0, beating Long Trail 5-3 Saturday afternoon.

Lauren Costales and Brooke Bishop had two goals apiece for the Mounties, while Emma Blodorn had one.

MSJ (2-0) hosts Mill River on Friday.

Springfield 3, L& G 2

(Double overtime)

SPRINGFIELD — Ari Cioffi's second goal of the game was game-winner as Springfield bested Leland & Gray 3-2 in double overtime Saturday afternoon at Gurney Field.

The game went into halftime scoreless and MacKenzie Bushey put the Cosmos ahead three minutes into the second half.

Laila Buskey added to the advantage with a goal with 29:05 to play, before the Rebels scored on a penalty kick and added another with less than 10 minutes in regulation.

After a scoreless first overtime, Cioffi ended it in the second extra period.

Springfield (1-1) is at Hartford on Thursday.

FIELD HOCKEY

Bellows Falls 8, Rutland 0

Field hockey power Bellows Falls flexed its muscles with an 8-0 win against Rutland Saturday afternoon.

Hartford 7, Fair Haven 0

FAIR HAVEN — The Fair Haven field hockey team ran into a tough Hartford club and lost 7-0 on Saturday afternoon at home.

Six different girls scored for the Hurricanes in the win.

Fair Haven (1-2) hosts Springfield on Wednesday.

CROSS COUNTRY

Geisler takes 4th

RANDOLPH — The Rutland cross country team competed in the Randolph Invitational on Saturday.

The boys finished fifth out of 16 teams and the girls finished seventh out of 13 teams.

Senior Brady Geisler took fourth in the boys race in 16 minutes, 30 seconds. St. Johnsbury's Evan Thornton-Sherman won the race.

Four other Rutland boys finished in the top 50 with Owen Dube-Johnson in 14th, Sam Kay in 33rd, Karver Butler in 40th and Lane Shelton in 44th.

The top Raven finisher in the girls race was freshman Erin Geisler, who finished 22nd in 21:50. Teammate Helen Culpo was nine seconds behind in 26th. Evangeline Taylor was the Rutland runner in the top 50 in 30th.

Mill River's Annika Heintz finished eighth in the girls race in 20:50.

MEN'S SOCCER

Union 4, Castleton 2

CASTLETON — Union College outscored Castleton by two in the first half on Saturday and that was the difference in a 4-2 loss for the Spartans.

Jacob Henderson and Adolphe Alfani scored for Castleton and Luca Richo had two of Union's four goals.

The Spartans (1-2) host Norwich on Tuesday.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

CU 6, Morrisville 1

CASTLETON — The Castleton University women's soccer team's offense was humming in a 6-1 win against Morrisville State on Saturday at Dave Wolk Stadium.

All seven of the game's goals were scored in the first half.

Brytney Moore and Mount Anthony alumna Kaiden Gauthier led Castleton with two goals apiece, while Jamie Barrett and Rylee Nichols both scored once.

Morrisville got on the board first with a Ashley Tette goal, but that was all it could muster.

Alex Benfatti and Green Mountain product Alex Hutchins split time in goal for the Spartans and combined for three saves.

On Sunday, CU fell to perennial Division III championship contender Williams 2-0.

Bryant 2, UVM 1

MANCHESTER — The University of Vermont women's soccer team fell to Bryant 2-1 on Sunday with Montpelier's Cricket Basa scoring Vermont's goal.

"We enjoyed the opportunity to play at historic Applejack Stadium today on a beautiful surface and great soccer environment," UVM head coach Kristi Huizenga said.

The Catamounts open America East Conference play on Sept. 19 at Binghamton.

COLLEGE GOLF

Ojala 16th

MIDDLEBURY — The Castleton University men's golf team moved four spots up the leaderboard to finish in 18th place as a team at the Duke Nelson Invitational on Sunday, finishing the two-day tournament with a team score of 645 — one stroke behind 17th-place Bates and one stroke ahead of 19th-place Clarkson.

Nicholas Ojala finished tied for 16th overall on the weekend, shooting an even-par score of 71 on Sunday.

The next best Spartan was Matt Redmond, who carded a Sunday 78 (+7) to shoot 161 at the two-day event.

COLLEGE FIELD HOCKEY

Castleton 2, FSU 1

FRAMINGHAM, Mass. — Two goals in the second quarter were the difference as the Castleton University field hockey team beat Framingham State University on Saturday.

Emily Harris and Madelyn Cote did the honors of finding the cage for the Spartans.

Jordyn O'Boyle had FSU's lone goal in the fourth quarter.

Castleton goalie Maddi Leduc made eight saves.

The Spartans (2-2) host RPI on Tuesday.

COLLEGE XC

Cardinal Classic

PLATTSBURGH, N.Y. — The Castleton men's cross country team was third of three teams in the Cardinal Classic on Saturday.

Wayne Alexander was the top Spartan finisher in the 6-kilometer race, finishing in 22 minutes, 42.3 seconds. Teammate Owen Burnham finished 12th.

In the women's 5k race, Castleton's Eden Goldstein was the top Spartan finisher in eighth in 22:21.6. Teammate Amber Cuthbert was a spot behind in ninth.

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Castleton 3, Nichols 0

CASTLETON — The Castleton University women's volleyball team won its third match in a row on Saturday afternoon, sweeping Nichols at Glenbrook Gym by a final score of 3-0.

Castleton's winning streak is its longest since the 2017 season as the Spartans push their record to 3-2 on the year following the 27-25, 25-21, 25-19 victory.

Lizzie Goodrich racked up 13 kills and five block assists for Castleton in addition to one solo block. Hailey Martinovich tallied seven kills and 12 digs in the victory with an ace to her line as well. Bre MacDuff added four kills to her 23 assists and eight digs,

COLLEGE RUGBY

CU wins pair

HENNICKER, N.H. — The Castleton women's rugby team kicked off their season in dominant fashion, cruising to consecutive 17-0 victories to earn the 2-0 decision over the Pilgrims Sunday afternoon.

Castleton hosts Manhattanville College Sunday.