



Hope after rout

Joel Whetzel, Mountaineer Minute, Page 3C

Get ready!

Clint Ferguson, WV Outdoors, Page 4C



John
WALL

JOHN'S WALL

The architect of autumn

Right on Q this year, autumn arrived and performed its artistic impression of life and death, and oh, how beautiful it is.

The circle of life began with the bloom of spring, which ushered in the abundance of the summer harvest, and now it's time for the canvas of life to be wiped clean.

God is awesome though. He could have shaken the life abundant trees and shed them of their glory in an instant leaving them barren and dormant. He could have designed the grass and the plants to give way from their palettes of greens and bright colors and commanded them to wither and brown in an instant, but he didn't.

Instead, he chose to give us his idea of a firework show, and wow is it much better than ours.

Just a side note, I find it relevant that we as people have to go to a pre-determined location to enjoy the beauty of the things we have invented, but no matter where we stand in God's natural world, the beauty of his creation surrounds us.

Autumn is a season of exhilarating beauty, and West Virginia is a perfect place to witness all that God had intended it to be.

The first noticeable sign that cooler air is on its way are the rivers of fog that gently lay atop the streams and rivers each September morning, making sure not to venture too far away from the water.

And then the animals take note. The unmistakable activity of the nut gatherers goes into overdrive, as the casual forager becomes a modern day prepper preparing for winter's apocalypse.

Its moniker "almost heaven" is a label that West Virginia wears proudly for most of the year, displaying its unique beauty through the windy country roads, babbling creeks and snaky rivers that line its high mountain peaks.

But, we are never closer to heaven than in the fall when the amber leaves of the red maple and the bronze and yellows of the towering oaks, blossom into a 3D canvas lining the mountains and filling the valleys with divine beauty.

Perhaps my favorite fall scene is what I call, the autumn tunnel. Many back roads of Hampshire are sparsely traveled and wrapped by a thick canopy of trees and brush, and as branches cast the weakest of their dying leaves to the road below, the strongest ones hold for yet another day.

It is that awe inspiring moment when the road below and the sky

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JOHN WALL Review Staff

Jordan Grapes soars high in an effort to block a punt that never left the ground. Washingtons fake punt failed to find the end zone giving the ball back to Trojans.

Senior night a blast for Trojans

JOHN WALL Review Staff

SUNRISE SUMMIT — Senior night at Rannells field gave much reason to celebrate as the Trojan football team won for the 2nd week in a row with a victory over Washington, 38-19.

Pregame, the senior football players were recognized with the senior cheerleaders and band members in a line that stretch over 50 yards.

The Hampshire marching band awed the stadium in their new uniforms and entertained with perfection, and the cheerleaders led the fans in spirited verses and displayed their own athleticism high in the air.

On the gridiron, the Trojans display of offensive prowess overwhelmed the Patriots and the defense punished Washington and made them earn every yard.

The efficient Trojans needed only 37 plays to produce 271 yards of offense, and Richie Stanley and Valka Terziyski turned in 100 plus yard games.

Even more impressive than the offense was the Trojan defense, as it held Washington to 19 points on 86 offensive plays.

The Patriots opened the game with an onside kick. "They were trying to surprise us and possibly get a turnover and keep it out of our kick returners," Grace speculated.

The Patriots attempt did not fool the Trojans front line, however, and Hampshire quickly covered the ball on the 47 yard line.

However, it was not just good field position that sprang Stanley around the left side of the line for the Trojans quickest score of the season.

The handoff from Trojan quarterback Jordan Grapes and blocking from the Trojan line turned

the first play into a foot race between Stanley and the Patriots secondary which Stanley won with a touchdown only just 11 seconds into the game.

Not fazed by the Trojan touchdown, Washington received the Hampshire kickoff and put together a successful drive, attacking both on the ground and in the air to tie the game after a 17-yard pass by Patriot quarterback Chase MacCubbin to Jaquez Fields with 7:46 left in the first quarter.

In another effort to keep the ball out of the hands of Hampshire's kickoff return team of Stanley and Terziyski, the Patriots lined up for their 2nd kickoff of the game once again showing an onside kick formation.

The Trojans covered the ball again, and began their second drive of the game with great field position at the 40-yard line.

Terziyski looked as though he was on the way to Hampshire's 2nd touchdown on their second play of the game, but a tackle by the Patriots gave the Trojans a 1st down on the 23 yard line.

A series ending defensive stand by the Patriots brought in Hampshire kicker Evan Staley for a successful 45-yard field goal, giving the Trojans their 2nd lead of the game at 10-7. They would not relinquish it for the rest of the game.

Overwhelming pressure from the Trojan defense and a 10 yard penalty for holding by the Patriots gave the ball back to Hampshire on their own 43 yard line after a Patriots punt.

Only 3 plays later — and following 8 yards of offense by Terziyski — Grapes pitched to Stanley who was off to the races for the Trojans 2nd big play of the game and Stanley's 2nd touchdown. The Trojans led the game 17-7 after scoring on their first

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BRIAN CARSON

Richie Stanley and Tyler Andes assist injured Patriot to team prayer after the game.

Sportsmanship defines the Trojan spirit

JOHN WALL Review Staff

SUNRISE SUMMIT — Amongst all the hype of senior night and a very physical game against the Patriots, there was still time for Trojans to show the true sportsmanship of HHS which resonated throughout the Washington football organization back in Jefferson County.

Washington player Gavin MacCubbin was injured and Trojans Richie Stanley and Tyler Andes acted without hesitation and went to his aid to carry him, shoulder pad to shoulder pad, to his teammates.

"Gavin took a clean vicious hit late in the game," said Washington

football booster Brian Carson. "After getting checked out by our trainer, kids from Hampshire ran across the field so they could carry him over to join our team in post-game huddle... which included a combined team prayer by Hampshire."

It was, "One of the most sportsman like acts we have seen in a while," said Carson. "It was a very impressive, clean, old school football game. Prayers for speedy recovery for all the players!"

"These are great kids we have," said Coach Darren Grace. "They play hard and will turn around and do anything for you." □

Strong finish for girls, more strength to come

JOHN WALL Review Staff

ONA — As the region 2 AAA state champions, the Trojan girls got their shot at a state title last Saturday at Cabell Midland where, "they ran a terrific race," according to Coach Craig Nething.

The girls were seeded 5th place going into the state meet that proved to be accurate as the Trojans finished in 5th place behind 4 historically consistent programs, including 4 championships for University and 7 for Morgantown since 2002.

"The times were close among the top teams," said Coach Nething. "Overall, I am satisfied, the girls were ranked between 5th and 7th all season and predicted 5th on Saturday and that's where we finished."

The combined time of the top 5 teams, seven runners were within 5 minutes of first place.

The defending 2014 state champions from University came in 1st place with 47 points and a team combined time of 1:37:48.62.

The 2011-2013 champions from Morgantown finished in 2nd scoring 66 points and a combined time of 1:39:16.95.

Hurricane finished in 3rd with 88 points in a combined time of 1:40:37.90, followed by Cabell Midland in 4th with 127 points and a team time

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BILL LIPPS

Hannah Lipps moved up a step to 3rd in State from last year's 4th place finish.

Trojans punish Tigers in sectional round

Ericka Gordon breaks 1,000 kills as a Trojan.

JOHN WALL Review Staff

SUNRISE SUMMIT — The Trojans are marching on in the state volleyball playoffs.

Sectionals began Monday night at home for Hampshire, and they defeated Elkins easily 25-6, 25-4 and 25-7.

Elkins received the full onslaught of the Trojans hitters since the net remained uncontested with no blockers present from the Tigers.

"The goal was to stay focused on making good freeball passes and score off them every time," coach Megan Fuller said.

The Tigers were unprepared for the attacks of the mighty Trojans Monday night, even as Fuller sent in the bench and got everybody involved in the one sided game.

Scheduling up to the big sectional win, a busy 8 game weekend last week ended in mixed results for the girls as they hit to a 4-2-2 record to close out the regular season.

Starting off the week, Hampshire traveled to

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JOHN WALL Review Staff

Ericka Gordon smashes a kill at Keyser on senior night.