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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Warrenton netters score playoff win

The Daily Astorian

PORTLAND — Landree Miethe delivered 20 kills with 15 digs, to help the Warrenton volleyball team score a four-game victory at Catlin Gabel Thursday, in a loser-out Lewis & Clark League playoff match.

With the win (26-24, 19-25, 25-17, 25-18), the sixth-place Warriors move on to face second-place Portland Christian at 6 p.m. Monday, for a spot in the state tournament.

Warrenton had a big night at the service line to key the win, with Claire Bussert leading the way with an 18-for-18 effort. Miethe was 14-for-14 and Sierra Lyons 13-of-14.

Bussert added 36 assists and Asia Lambert sparked the defense with 24 digs.



TODAY Football - Astoria at Scappoose, 7 p.m.; Seaside at Banks, 7 p.m.; Warrenton at Clatskanie, 7 p.m.; Knappa at Vernonia, 7 p.m.; Ocosta at Ilwaco, 7 p.m. Volleyball - NWL Playoff: Faith Bible vs. Knappa, at Vernonia HS, 3 p.m. SATURDAY Volleyball — 4A Regional Play-in: Seaside at Estacada, Noon.

Rodgers pushes Packers past Bears

By GENARO C. ARMAS AP Sports Writer

GREEN BAY, Wis. -



Photos by Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian Kristen Travers of Astoria prepares to kick the ball in a game against Banks on Thursday at CMH Field in Astoria.

LADY FISH'WIN'A **1-1 TIE WITH BANKS**

By GARY HENLEY The Daily Astorian

At the end of the game, the big scoreboard at CMH Field read, "Guest 1, Home 1."

But it sure didn't feel like a 1-1 tie for the Astoria girls soccer team, which was hosting Banks in a Cowapa League Senior Night game at the Fish Bowl.

With five straight losses to Banks, felt like the biggest win in years tor the Lady Fishermen soccer program. Astoria's last "non-loss" to the Braves was Oct. 18, 2012, when the Fishermen beat Banks 3-1. Jenna Rudolph's 25-yard free kick following a foul on the Braves in the final two minutes of regulation was Astoria's lone goal of the game Thursday — a game in which the Lady Fishermen actually dominated in possession time. "It's a great group of kids," said Astoria coach Tim Fastabend, whose eight seniors were honored before the game. "It's a big 'win' for them. We've been a little snakebit on offense. We have moved the ball well all year, we just have trouble finishing and putting it in the back of the net. 'But we got a lot of minutes for a lot of seniors tonight, and they all played well," he said. "Our midfielders, Anna Gimre, Daniela Garcia and Rachel Simmons on the side, all did a great job of feeding the ball to Jenna.'



Cubs beat Dodgers 8-4, head home with **3-2 lead**

By BETH HARRIS AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — One win away. Two chances at home. Seven decades of waiting.

The Chicago Cubs closed in on their first World Series trip since 1945 by beating the Los Ångeles Dodgers 8-4 on Thursday in Game 5 of their National League playoff. Jon Lester pitched seven sharp



innings, Addison Russell hit a tiebreaking homer and the Cubs grabbed a 3-2 lead in the NL Championship

On deck, a pair of opportunities to wrap up that elusive pennant at Wrigley Field.

"The city of Chicago has got to be buzzing," manager Joe Maddon said. "We're not going to run away from anything. It's within our reach right now."

The Cubs' first opportunity to clinch comes Saturday night in Game 6, when Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw faces major league ERA leader Kyle Hendricks.

'That's a game we expect to win," Los Angeles manager Dave Roberts said.

Of course, the Cubs were in the same favorable position 13 years ago - heading home to Wrigley with a 3-2 lead in the NLCS.

But even with ace pitchers Mark Prior and Kerry Wood starting the final two games, Chicago collapsed against the Marlins in one of its most excruciating failures

More than a decade later, the franchise is still chasing its first World Series championship since 1908

"We've heard the history," center fielder Dexter Fowler said, "but at the same time we're trying to make history." Budding star Javier Baez was in the middle of everything for the Cubs, a common theme this October. The second baseman made a sensational defensive play when the game was still close in the seventh, and his three-run double capped a five-run eighth that made it 8-1. After busting out of his postseason slump Wednesday, Russell hit a two-run homer for the second straight game. This one was a sixth-inning drive off losing pitcher Joe Blanton that gave Chicago a 3-1 lead. "Just rounding the bases, it was pretty exciting," Russell said. "Pumped up, not only for myself but for the team and that little cushion that Jonny had to go forward from that." Baez had three of Chicago's 13 hits, matching the team's total in Game 4, when the Cubs snapped a 21-inning scoreless streak and won 10-2.

– Davante Adams woke up Thursday not knowing if he would be cleared to play after spending a few days in the NFL's concussion protocol.

The doctors gave him the go-ahead in the early afternoon.

By the time the night was over, the third-year receiver had the best game of his young career.

Adams had 13 catches for a career-high 132 yards and two scores, Aaron Rodgers threw for 326 yards and three touchdowns and the Green Bay Packers overpowered the Chicago Bears in the second half for a 26-10 victory.

"In a sense, a statement game. I'm ready to play. I felt good," Adams said about the significance of his milestone day.

Rodgers reached a milestone, too. He was 39 of 56, setting a franchise mark for completions in a game.

The Bears (1-6) are down to their third-string quarterback after Brian Hoyer, who was starting for the already injured Jay Cutler, left in the second quarter with a broken left arm. Matt Barkley was 6 of 15 for 81 yards and two interceptions in place of Hoyer.

"I don't think anybody's proud of what we've done so far," Chicago tight end Zach Miller said. "You can describe it in many ways. It's no fun."

Astoria spent the better part of the night possessing the ball, with two corner kicks and numerous throw-ins deep in the Braves' end of the field in the first half.

But Astoria had no shots on goal in the first 40 minutes. The Braves had less time with the ball, but took advantage of their few chances.

A close-range shot by Kim Jordan in the 9th minute was stopped by a div-

Sarah Lertora battles for the ball with Banks' Aspen Slifka on Thursday at CMH Field. The Lady Fish's last non-loss to Banks was in 2012.

ing save from Astoria goalkeeper Lexi Law, but in the 10th minute (10:08), Kassidy Selfaison managed to knock the ball in off a corner kick from teammate Marissa Dotson for the game's first goal.

The Lady Fishermen stepped up their play on both ends of the field in the second half.

More shots on goal for Astoria (six), and fewer for the Braves, who had just one shot on goal in the final 40 minutes.

Most of the time, it was Astoria's Claire Albright stopping a few runs, or Fishermen defenders teaming up to stop breakaways for Banks sophomore Aspen Slifka.

'Defensively, Claire stopped the ball a few times, and Sariah Dieffenbach played well alongside her," Fastabend said. "And Lexi (Law) made one great save in the first half that kept us in it."

Elsewhere, he said, "Sarah Lertora and Andrea Harris with her speed played well, and we did a good job of closing down on the outside wall passes.'

Meanwhile, Rudolph, Jasmin Mabry, Garcia and Sarah Lertora had attempted shots that were knocked down or missed, and a breakaway for Hannah McCarley with 5:40 left was saved by the Banks' keeper.

Finally, Rudolph had the last and best opportunity, a free kick from 25 yards out, in the middle of the field.

Rudolph set up the shot, took a little hug from McCarley, then drilled the ball into the lower left corner of the net for the game's tying goal with 1:10 left.

"(McCarley) probably just told her to put it in the net — something simple like that," Fastabend said. "And Jenna has a strong leg and placed it beautifully."

The Lady Fishermen are currently in fifth place with a 3-8-2 overall record, 2-5-2 in league play. Banks is 4-4-1 in league, 5-5-3 overall.

Astoria finishes the regular season Tuesday at Scappoose.

Lester allowed one run and five hits, improving to 2-0 in three playoff starts this year. He has given up two runs in 21 innings.

The left-hander struck out six and walked one in a slow-paced game that lasted 4 hours, 16 minutes.

Cardinals look to end home skid vs Seattle in NFC West



By BOB BAUM AP Sports Writer

GLENDALE, Ariz. Coach Bruce Arians has accomplished a lot in his three seasons with the Cardinals.

Beating Seattle in Arizona isn't one of them.

That 0-3 record at home against the Seahawks was a major topic as the Cardinals prepared for the Sunday night matchup of two teams that have dominated the NFC West in recent years.

Cornerback Patrick Peterson brought it up in the locker room moments after Arizona's 28-3 victory over the New York Jets on Monday night.

The Cardinals have won two of their past three at Seattle, but the Seahawks have dominated

the past three in Arizona by a combined score of 105-34.

Asked if there's a common thread through those losses, Arians was characteristically blunt.

"Yeah," he said. "They beat the (heck) out of us."

There were some mitigating circumstances. The Cardinals were down to Ryan Lindley in a 35-6 loss late in the 2014 season. And Arizona already had clinched the No. 2 playoff berth before a 36-6 loss to Seattle last season.

But another Seahawks victory this season would have a significant impact for both teams. Seattle would improve to 5-1, Arizona would drop to 3-4. A Cardinals win, on the other hand, would put Arizona just a half-game behind Seattle.

Seattle Seahawks free safety Earl Thomas (29) intercepts a pass intended for Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Julio Jones as middle linebacker Bobby Wagner (54) and cornerback Jeremy Lane, right, look on in the second half of an NFL football game, Oct. 16, in Seattle. The Seahawks beat the Falcons 26-24. AP Photo/Stephen Brashear