

Loggers heat up the house, cage Tigers 62-60

By GARY HENLEY
The Daily Astorian

The temperature outside was a little chilly, but it was plenty warm inside the Brick House Wednesday night.

It seems like Clatskanie vs. Knappa — in any sport — always seems to heat things up.

And in a knock-down, drag-out contest, Knappa beat the Tigers — again — 62-60 to win the boys' championship game of the Vince Dulcich Tournament.

Knappa's Tyson Burnard went coast-to-coast with eight seconds left in regulation, and banked in a runner with 1.4 seconds on the clock to give the Loggers the win.

"It's a good team, good battle ... it was the same game we had last time with them (a 57-52 Knappa win)," said Knappa coach Chris Spencer. "It was basically a continuation of the last game. If we played 10 times, all 10 games would be the same way. They're a darn good basketball team."

While Knappa will likely run away with the Northwest League title, "I think Clatskanie is going to win their league," Spencer said. "I give them a lot of credit. And hopefully this sets us up for going into our league."

Clatskanie held an early 11-2 lead, before Knappa's Justin Dragoo almost singlehandedly brought the Loggers back.

With help from a 3-pointer by Burnard, Dragoo scored 10 of Knappa's next 13 points, which pulled the Loggers into a 15-15 tie.

"Justin held down the fort as well as anybody tonight, especially in the first half," Spencer said. "That little run he had by himself at the end of the first quarter probably kept us in the ballgame."

Knappa's two seniors combined for 15 of the Loggers' 21 points in the second quarter, with a pair of late free throws by Chase Rusinovich helping Knappa to a 34-30 halftime lead.

Knappa would spend much of the night at the foul line, where the Loggers were 17-of-29, to Clatskanie's 12-of-13.

The Tigers were whistled for 22 fouls, including back-to-back technical fouls midway through the second quarter.

Still, Tiger senior German George scored seven of his team-high 17 points in the third, and Clatskanie managed to take the lead twice in the fourth — 53-52, and 60-59 on a 3-pointer by Andrew Norgren with 1:28 left.

Both teams missed opportunities in the final minute of play — the Loggers missed two free throws with 37 seconds left, and the Tigers had two crucial turnovers in the last eight seconds.

In between the turnovers, Burnard drove the length of the floor for the game-winner, with 1.4 showing on the clock.

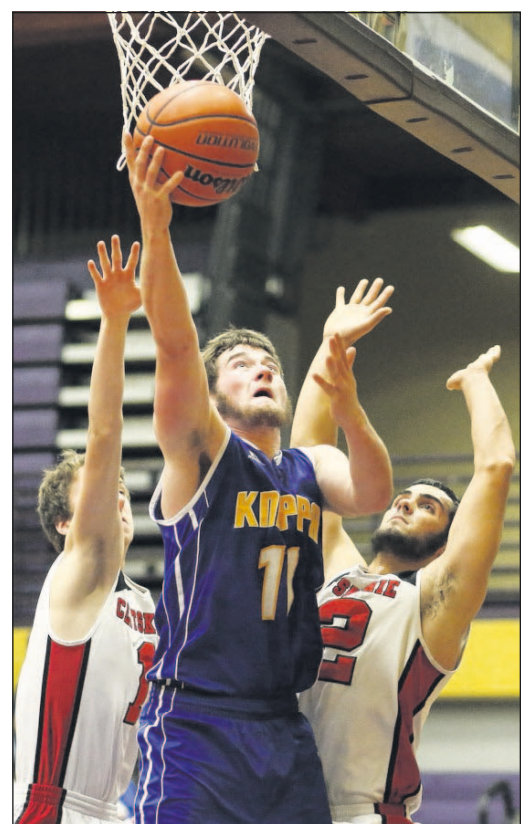
"We had a couple options off of it," Spencer said. "(The Tigers) decided to pick him up, full court with three guys. He ran right by all three and got a nice look at it, and Justin was right there to clean up if we needed."

Burnard finished with 25 points, followed by Dragoo with 21 and Rusinovich with eight points off the bench.

"Our guys kind of wanted to play Astoria, but (the Tigers) spoiled that last night," Spencer said. "We kind of wanted to be the 'Kings of the River,' because we've beaten Rainier, Naselle, Ilwaco, Warrenton and Clatskanie. We wanted a shot at Astoria, too. But this was awesome. A fun game."



Knappa's Justin Dragoo, No. 11, fights for a rebound against several Clatskanie players during the second half of the Vince Dulcich Basketball Tournament championship game at Astoria High



Knappa's Justin Dragoo shoots during the second half of the championship game.



Knappa's Tyson Burnard, No. 21, drives to the basket during the Vince Dulcich Basketball Tournament championship game.



The Knappa High School boys basketball team stands with the trophy after winning the Vince Dulcich Basketball Tournament.

JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

Astoria 49, Rainier 25

Astoria won the boys' consolation final Wednesday afternoon, as the Fishermen cruised past Rainier, 49-25.

Derek Jarrett and Kyle Strange scored 12 points apiece for the Fishermen, who built a 31-13 halftime lead and bounced back from a loss to Clatskanie the night before.

"It was sort of a 'get-right' game for us," said Astoria coach Kevin Goins. "It was a chance for us to get back on track, and I was happy with how we played. We're playing a little short-handed, but some of the other guys are stepping up and we're making strides. We moved the ball well, and defensively we did a much better job."

Girls

Astoria 60, Warrenton 26
Astoria closed out the tournament with a victory, as the Lady

Fishermen won a girls' consolation Wednesday, 60-26 over Warrenton.

Astoria jumped out to a 23-4 lead after one quarter, and was never threatened.

Chloe Hunt scored 16 points with 11 rebounds and three steals; freshman Kaylee Mitchell had 15 points, 10 rebounds, nine steals and three assists; and sophomore Alexis Wallace added nine points and six boards for Astoria.

The Fishermen pulled down 41 rebounds, including 27 offensive boards. Astoria had 20 steals.

Rainier 41, Knappa 24

Rainier jumped out to a 20-3 halftime lead, on its way to a 41-24 win over Knappa in the fifth-place girls game of the Dulcich Tournament.

Rainier's Dominique Pedersen scored 10 points and freshman

teammate Desirae Hansen added nine.

Shailei Wright led the Lady Loggers with eight points, to go with seven steals, six rebounds, three blocks and three assists.

Stacey Aho had six points, with five points and eight rebounds from Kaitlyn Landwehr.

Knappa switched opponents with Clatskanie, which was scheduled to play Rainier for fifth. The Tigers defeated the Seaside JV's, 44-18.

Sisters Tournament Girls

Henley 49, Seaside 39

SISTERS — Two teams that could meet up in a much bigger tournament later this season met Wednesday afternoon in the championship game of the Sisters Tournament.

And almost a year after losing to Seaside in a first round game of the state tournament, the Henley Hornets gained a little revenge on Seaside, with a 49-39 win over the Gulls.

The Gulls outscored Henley 11-3 in the second quarter, but still trailed 18-17 at halftime.

Haylee Dundas scored the first four points of the second half to give the Gulls a 21-17 lead, before Henley went on a 12-6 run to close the third period.

While Dundas and Maddi Uti did most of the damage for Seaside — combining for 35 of the Gulls' 39 points — Henley senior Heidi Mueller scored 22 for the Hornets.

Mueller scored on an offensive rebound, then moments later knocked down a 3-pointer to give

Henley a 37-29 advantage midway through the fourth quarter.

Uti came right back with five straight points, bringing Seaside to within 39-34, but the Hornets made 4-of-4 free throws in the final 38 seconds to close out the win.

"We didn't play as good as defense as we had, and stopped rebounding," said Seaside coach Wally Hamer. "Against Henley you can't do that. I was very proud of our girls as they worked extremely hard and stayed mentally tough. We had lots of good looks throughout the game — the ball just wouldn't go in for us."

Boys

Banks 46, Seaside 31

The Seaside boys basketball team traveled halfway across the state ... to play two teams in their own league, on the final two days of the Sisters Tournament.

After a loss to Scappoose Tuesday, the Gulls fell short again Wednesday, as Banks rallied for a 46-31 win over Seaside for third place in the tournament.

Seaside held an early 11-5 lead following a Zach Marston score, but the Braves fought back with a 3-pointer by Dalton Renne and two scores by Jake Evans for a 17-16 halftime lead.

Banks extended the lead to 32-25 after three quarters, then put the game away in the fourth with 3-point shots by David Schorn and Devyn Renne, as the Braves closed the game with a 9-0 run.

In the tournament championship game, Scappoose defeated Sisters, 37-34.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

HIGH SCHOOLS

Vince Dulcich Tournament

Boys Championship

Knappa 62, Clatskanie 60

KNA (62): Tyson Burnard 25, Dragoo 21, Rusinovich 8, A. Miller 5, Severson 3, J. Miller, Takalo, Weirup, Rubus, Goodman.

CLA (60):

German George 17, Starkel 15, Puzey 12, McKay 8, Norgren 7, Haas 1.

Knappa

13 21 16 12—62

Clatskanie

15 15 16 14—60

Astoria 49, Rainier 25

RAI (25): Caymon Rea 9, D. Rea 6, Verhoef 3, C. Tripp 3, J. Tripp 2.

AST (49):

Derek Jarrett 12, Kyle Strange 12, Fruht 8, C. Englund 7, Palek 3, Fremstad 3, Scroup 2, Keating 2, Arnsdorf, Loughran, Williams, Olsen.

Rainier

6 7 2 10—25

Astoria

19 12 5 13—49

Girls

Astoria 60, Warrenton 26

WAR (26): Landree Miethe 6, Sophia Thomas 6, Little 5, Morrill 4, Hanna 3, Schenbeck 2.

AST (60):

Chloe Hunt 16, Mitchell 15, Wallace 9, DeMander 7, Mickie

4, Abrahams 4, Marincovich 3, Israel 2.

Warrenton

4 12 2 8—26

Astoria

23 13 13 11—60

Rainier 41, Knappa 24

RAI (41): Dominique Pedersen 10, Hansen 9, Norman 4, Thurston 4, Taylor 4, Schimmel 4, Crape 3, Gorman 1, Saylor 1, Gibson 1.

KNA (24):

Shailei Wright 8, Aho 6, Landwehr 5, Little 3, Cameron 2, Jones, Vanderburg, Vandergriff, Rogers.

Rainier

15 5 14 7—41

Knappa

0 3 9 12—24

Sisters Tournament

Girls

Henley 49, Seaside 39

HEN (49): Heidi Mueller 22, Kochenderfer 9, Whisler 8, DeLonge 4, Mathis 2.

SEA (39):

Maddi Uti 22, Dundas 13, Villegas 2, Westerholm 2, Pilleue, Miller, Bussert, West.

Henley

15 3 12 19—49

Seaside

6 11 10 12—39

Boys

Banks 46, Seaside 31

Banks

5 12 15 14—46

Seaside

9 7 9 6—31

Boise State beats Arizona 38-30 in Fiesta Bowl

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — The Boise State Broncos are no longer just trick-play ponies.

They did score a touchdown on a Statue of Liberty play. This was the Fiesta Bowl, so of course they did.

But once the tricks were used up and the offensive fireworks dulled, Boise State had to grind out this Fiesta Bowl victory with its defense.

Donte Deayon returned an interception for a touchdown in third quarter and sack specialist Kamalei Correa had his biggest takedown of the season on the game's final play, lifting No. 21 Boise State to a 38-30 victory over No. 12 Arizona in the Fiesta Bowl on Wednesday.

"They hit us, we stiffened up and came up a winner," Boise State linebacker Tanner Vallejo said.

Boise State (12-2) lived up to its unpredictable reputation in the first quarter, pulling off the Statue of Liberty play while racing to a 21-0 lead in the opening 10 minutes.

Jay Ajayi scored two of his three

touchdowns in the first quarter — one on the trick play — and finished with 134 yards rushing. Grant Hedrick was perfect through his first 14 passes and threw for 304 yards and a touchdown. Thomas Sperbeck had 12 catches for 199 yards.

The bulk of those numbers came in the first half, though. Once the second rolled around, the Broncos bogged down, allowing Arizona to cut the lead to eight in the fourth quarter.

The Wildcats had a final chance, using their quick-strike offense to march down the field, but Correa sacked Anu Solomon at Boise State's 10-yard on the game's last play.

The Broncos charged onto the field after Correa's sack, celebrating a successful first season under coach Bryan Harsin with their third Fiesta Bowl victory.

Not bad for a team supposedly in transition.

"People think Boise State isn't a powerhouse program," said Broncos receiver Chaz Anderson, who had a

57-yard touchdown catch in the first quarter. "It feels good to be back to where we were in the past."

Arizona (10-4) was overrun by Oregon in the Pac-12 Championship and seemed to still have a hangover against the Broncos.

Once the Wildcats shook out of their daze, they shut down Boise State's high-powered offense and began chipping away at the lead.

The problem was that they needed to take bigger chunks.

Instead of scoring touchdowns, Arizona mostly dinked its way back, settling for three field goals after driving deep into Boise State's end.

Turnovers also hurt. Solomon threw for 335 yards and a touchdown, but had two interceptions that led to touchdowns for Boise State, including Deayon's pick six late in the third quarter.

"Everything wasn't going our way," the redshirt freshman said. "I was overthinking things and I just can't do that. I played like a freshman today."