

Burnard throws no-hitter No. 5 for Knappa

By GARY HENLEY
The Daily Astorian

No-hitters are no big deal for the Knappa Loggers. Not when you play in the Northwest League, and you throw one every week.

The Loggers had thrown four no-hitters coming into Friday's 11-0, 10-0 doubleheader baseball sweep over Nestucca; they tossed another in Game 2, and they'll likely throw several more before the season's over.

It was Tyson Burnard's turn Friday. After Chase Rusinovich tossed a one-hitter in Game 1, Burnard struck out 10 and walked one in the second game, for Knappa's fifth no-hitter of the season.

The games were played at Astoria's CMH Field.

"We're thankful to Astoria and to Howard (Rub) for opening up that facility for us," said Knappa coach Jeff Miller, whose team has yet to be challenged in league play. "We probably could have made it through two games on our own field, but this is real nice to have."

The Loggers are 12-0 in league, with all 12 games lasting just five innings because of the 10-run mercy rule. Knappa (averaging 17 runs per game, to less than one for their opponent) has outscored the rest of the NWL 204-9. Friday's 11-0 and 10-0 wins were by far Knappa's closest league games of the season.

Both pitchers threw just 64 pitches.

"We've just had very efficient pitching," Miller said. "We've had very low pitch counts in most of our games. We have one of the deepest defensive teams we've ever had, but they're just not getting a lot of chances when the pitching has been so efficient."

With Rusinovich, Burnard and Dale Takalo (and Andy Miller working his way back into the rotation), the Loggers will have Class 2A's deepest pitching staff entering the state playoffs, less than a month away.

In Friday's first game, Rusinovich struck out 11 batters, while Knappa built a 9-0 lead after two innings.

Justin Dragoo was 2-for-2 with a double and drove in two runs, as did Andy Miller.

Nate Truax belted a home run with three RBIs in Game 2, while Burnard, Jason Miller and Noah Kinney both had two hits. Kinney had a double and scored three runs, while Dragoo had a triple.

Burnard walked a batter in the fourth inning, for Nestucca's only baserunner.

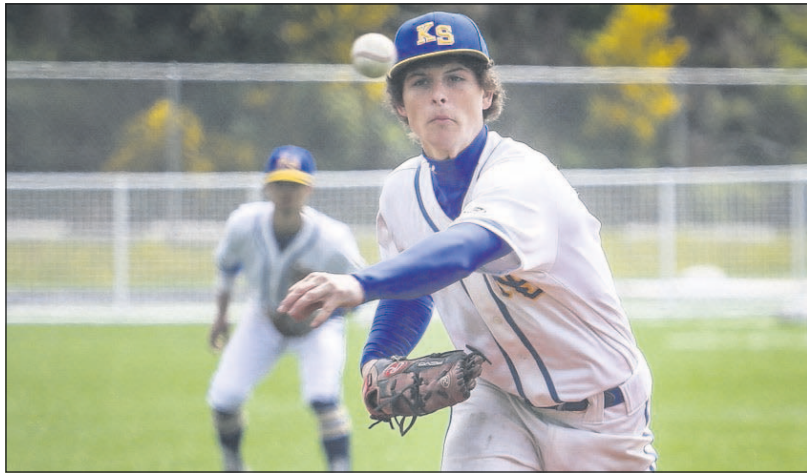
Knappa's no-hitters and blowout wins should continue this week against Vernonia, a team that lost two games Friday to Faith Bible — the same Faith Bible team that Knappa outscored 64-5 two weeks earlier.

After their three-game series with Vernonia, Knappa plays three with Gaston and finishes with Portland Lutheran.

"We finish with the three strongest teams in the league," coach Miller said. "All three are capable of beating us."



Knappa's Noah Kinney, No. 17, slides into home to score in the second inning of Game 1 of the doubleheader against Nestucca Friday at CMH Field in Astoria.



Knappa's Chase Rusinovich, No. 10, pitches in the first inning of the baseball game against Nestucca.



Knappa's Nathan Truax, No. 19, connects for a hit in the second inning of Game 1 of the doubleheader against Nestucca.



Knappa's Tyson Burnard, No. 1, pitches in the first inning of Game 2 of the doubleheader against Nestucca Friday at CMH Field.

Warrenton 7, Catlin Gabel 0

PORTLAND — Warrenton pitcher Joe Little tossed a no-hitter in a 7-0 shutout at Catlin Gabel Friday, in Lewis & Clark League baseball.

Little struck out 11 batters and walked three in seven innings, and helped his cause with three hits and three RBIs at the plate.

Justice Watson added two doubles for the Warriors, who scored four runs in the second inning for a quick 5-0 lead.

Little threw 100 pitches, and needed two big catches in right field from teammate Kory Thomas to keep the no-hitter.

The Warriors host a first-place showdown with Clatskanie Tuesday.

SOFTBALL Seaside 13, Warrenton 2

Seaside jumped out to an early lead and held on for a 13-2 win over Warrenton Friday in nonleague softball action at Broadway Field.

The Gulls built an 11-0 lead through three innings.

A bases-loaded walk to Allison Bussert, another walk to Shelby Miller, a home run by Bryre Babbitt and a two-

run error in the first inning gave the Gulls their first runs.

Bryre Babbitt added a run-scoring triple, and an RBI single by Brianna Babbitt highlighted the second inning. Bryre Babbitt had five RBIs on a home run and a triple.

Jetta Ideue got the win in the circle, allowing six hits with five strikeouts and two walks.

Knappa 22, Portland Christian 1

PORTLAND — Stacey Aho pitched a five-inning two-hitter with seven strikeouts, and went 4-for-4 at the plate to help Knappa defeat winless Portland Christian, 22-1, in a nonleague game Friday.

Aho had two doubles and a triple, while teammate Kaitlyn Truax was 4-for-5 with a double.

Seaside boys third at Crook County golf invite

The Daily Astorian

PRINEVILLE — Seaside went up against the big schools and other state title contenders Friday, and left with a top three finish.

The Gulls showed that they are still the state favorites at the 4A level, as they fired a 320 team score to take third overall in the 11-team Crook County Invitational, held at Meadow Lakes Golf Course.

Bend — the defending 5A state champion — won the team championship with a 306 team score, followed by Pendleton (313) and Seaside. The rest of the competitive field included Mountain View (329), Hermiston (333), Ridgeview (352), Crook County (356), Molalla (428), Redmond (435) and incomplete teams from La Pine and Sisters.

Seaside had four players in the top 17, joining Bend as the only teams to accomplish that feat. Sam Hinton finished third overall with a 74. Teammate Aaron Richardson was

14th (81), followed by Shane Fritter (16th, 82), Trenten Meyer (17th, 83) and Kevin LaCoste (26th, 88).

"This was a great tournament for us to see where we stack up against some of the better teams in the state," said Seaside coach Jim Poetsch. "Bend won the 5A title last year and will be in the thick of things again this year. Pendleton and Hermiston finished sixth and seventh last year and returned all of their players. Ridgeview finished third in 4A last year before moving up to 5A this year. To compete in a field of this caliber and finish third should give us a boost as we head into the postseason."

Hinton "played very well today and showed he can compete with the best players in the state," Poetsch said. "Aaron Richardson played with the runner-up at 5A state last year and was even with him through 17 holes before eventually finishing a stroke behind. We have brought some very good teams to this

tournament and this is the best we have ever finished."

Hinton said, "Today was an improvement for us. We had five pretty good scores on a rather difficult track. We played ball with some of the big-time schools and held our own quite well. This is the type of momentum we needed coming into the final part of this season."

Fritter added, "I was proud of how my team handled a course that we were not real familiar with, and held our own against the powerhouse teams from Bend, Pendleton and Hermiston."

TRACK

Hageman wins four events
BANKS — Track teams from the North Coast continue to score victories in big meets — and it's all going to result in big points in the upcoming postseason track meets.

At the Banks Invitational Saturday, the Astoria girls showed that they are quickly becoming a definite challenger at the Class 4A level, as the

Lady Fishermen won 10 of the 17 events on the girls' side in the 12-team invite.

Freshman Darian Hageman continued her dominant pace, winning four events: the high jump (clearing a personal best 5 feet, 1 1/4 inch), long jump (16-3), triple jump (35-6) and pole vault (9-0).

Sophomore teammate Natalie Cummings swept the sprints, taking the 100 meters (12.87 seconds) and 200 meters (26.29); freshman Kaylee Mitchell captured the 800 meters in 2:16.51; Kaisa Johnson placed second in the

1,500 meters (5:15.66); and the Lady Fish ran 52.49 to win the 400-meter relay.

More victories for Halie Korff in the throwing events, as the junior tossed the shot put 38 feet, 1 inch (personal best); and also took first in the discus (season-best 112-4) and second in the javelin (125-7, PR).

On the boys' side, Astoria senior Nick Ketcham was second in the shot put (46-11); and sophomore Lucas Caruana placed third in both the 400 meters (54.69) and 800 meters (2:09.03).

Warrenton's Chris Ocana won the javelin (158-0) as well as the high jump (5-10); teammate Tyler Whitaker was second in the triple jump (37-11) and third in the 100 meters (12.11).

Seaside competed in the large-school Centennial Invitational Saturday.

Senior Danielle Willyard was second out of 45 competitors in the triple jump, soaring to a personal best 36 feet, 2 inches.

Hageman and Willyard are ranked 1-2 in the state at the 4A level in the triple jump.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Girls Golf — Seaside at Banks, 1:30 p.m.

Boys Golf — Seaside Invitational, 10 a.m.

Softball — Astoria at Tillamook (2), 4 p.m.

TUESDAY

Baseball — Banks at Astoria, 5 p.m.; Scappoose at Seaside, 5 p.m.; Clatskanie at Warrenton, 4:30 p.m.; Knappa at Vernonia, 4:30 p.m.

Softball — Scappoose at Astoria, 5 p.m.; Clatskanie at Warrenton, 4:30 p.m.; Knappa at Vernonia, 4:30 p.m.

Track — Naselle Invitational, TBA
Girls Golf — Astoria at Banks, 1:40 p.m.

Boys Golf — Seaside at Tillamook, 11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Baseball — Astoria at Banks, 5 p.m.; Seaside at Scappoose, 5 p.m.
Softball — Valley Catholic at Seaside, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY

Track — Warrenton/Knappa at SW Christian, 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball — Astoria at Scappoose, 5 p.m.; Seaside at Valley Catholic, 5 p.m.; Vernonia at Knappa (2), 3 p.m.

Softball — Seaside at Astoria (2), 4 p.m.; Vernonia at Knappa (2), 3 p.m.

SATURDAY

Track — Dick Baker Invitational (at Gladstone HS), 10 a.m.