



Photos by Jeff Ter Har/For The Daily Astorian  
**Matt Lebourdais, right, tries to stuff a kill attempt in the Men's Open Championship Saturday in the Seaside Beach Volleyball Tournament.**

## Volleyballers hit Seaside sands

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — With Regatta activities taking place in the northern part of the county, south Clatsop County was hosting the 34th annual Seaside Beach Volleyball Tournament.

The annual gathering took place on the sands of Seaside Friday, Saturday and Sunday, near the Turnaround.

Last year's tournament had 143 courts and drew over 1,400 total teams (doubles, quads and six's), after a turnout of 1,363 teams on 120 courts in 2013.

Divisions ranged from parent-and-child to Masters 55+, along with Men, Women and Co-ed Open Divisions that featured current and retired Associated of Volleyball Professional ranked players.

Local teams always have a large presence (Astoria's Noelle Lund and Danielle Moyer finished in the top 16 Saturday (out of 43 teams) in the Women's BB doubles division), while the tournament draws players from around the state, the Pacific Northwest, and usually a number of competitors from Canada.

The team of Ramsey-Hinkley won the Women's Open Championship Saturday, followed by a victory for Matt Lebourdais and Jonny Wiskar in the Men's Open title match.



**ABOVE: The doubles team of Matt Lebourdais, left, and Jonny Wiskar celebrate following the final point in the Men's Open title match. LEFT: A member of the Casey-Cassey team tries to save a ball in Saturday's championship match.**

## Vikings top Steelers 14-3 in Hall of Fame game

By WILL GRAVES  
 AP Sports Writer

CANTON, Ohio — Teddy Bridgewater didn't want to talk about the completions. Last the Minnesota quarterback checked, getting the ball where it needs to go is the main part of his job.

It's that one miss, however, that will stick with the reigning Rookie of the Year.

Bridgewater's only series in a 14-3 victory over Pittsburgh in the Hall of Fame game Sunday ended up with the Vikings getting stuffed on fourth down after Bridgewater failed to complete a simple flip to Mike Wallace on third down that would have given Minnesota first-and-goal.

"It's one of those deals where it's good to stay within the system," Bridgewater said. "If I hit Mike, we avoid fourth down."

Maybe Bridgewater is being picky after going 5 of 6 for 44 yards during his cameo, but with an extra preseason game this summer, the Vikings and their emerging leader have plenty of time to work on it.

Backup quarterback Mike Kafka threw a touchdown pass and running back Joe Banyard ran for another score long after Bridgewater exited as the Vikings improved to 5-0 in



Tom E. Puskar/AP Photo

**Former NFL player Jerome Bettis waves a Terrible Towel at the conclusion of his speech during inductions at the Pro Football Hall of Fame Saturday in Canton, Ohio.**

exhibitions under second-year coach Mike Zimmer.

"Wish I was 5-0 in the regular season," he said, laughing.

Both teams have a month before things start to count for real, giving the annual exhibition opener an even more pedestrian feel.

Hall of Famer Jerome Bettis waved a "Terrible Towel" during pregame introductions, with the decidedly pro-Pittsburgh crowd roaring its approval, the only moment of

true star power on a night the bold-faced names still in uniform didn't break a sweat if they even bothered to suit up at all.

Minnesota running back Adrian Peterson's return from a lengthy suspension will have to wait at least one more week, if not decidedly longer. He hung out on the sideline while the backups did the heavy lifting.

Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger stuck to attire

more appropriate for the gym. All-Pro running back Le'Veon Bell and All-Pro wide receiver Antonio Brown put together a full dress rehearsal, even going through warm-ups then spent four quarters as spectators, the only exercise the notoriously hard-working Brown enjoyed coming while he absentmindedly worked the exercise bike.

Bridgewater deftly guided the Vikings on a 10-play, 51-yard drive in the first quarter, hitting tight end Kyle Rudolph for a pair of 11-yard gains. Rather than attempt a short field goal on fourth-and-1 from the 10, Zimmer opted to go for it only to see Jerick McKinnon stopped for no gain by nose tackle Steve McLendon, one of the handful of Pittsburgh regulars to actually take the field.

With Roethlisberger given the night off and usual backup Bruce Gradkowski dealing with a sore arm, the Steelers gave third-stringer Jones an extensive look. The leading passer in Oklahoma history is trying to convince the team to keep three quarterbacks on the roster. While coach Mike Tomlin said early in camp Jones was on the "incline" he was going to reserve judgment until after seeing Jones face guys in different-color jerseys.

## Freeman hired as new Warrior coach

Hoepfl takes athletic director post for 2015

The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Travis Freeman is the new varsity football coach, and Robert Hoepfl has been hired as athletic director, as Warrenton High School athletics moves forward into another school year.

Freeman and Hoepfl replace Ian O'Brien, who departed Warrenton to become athletic director at Lakeridge High School.

O'Brien was both varsity football coach and A.D. at Warrenton, leaving principal Rod Heyen with a couple key spots to fill.

"There's kind of a snowball effect and a chain reaction," Heyen said. "It's been a real challenging summer for hiring, but we're real excited about some of the hires we've made."

Freeman, a seventh-grade social studies teacher at Astoria Middle School, played football at Whitworth College in Spokane, Wash., after graduating from Royal High School in Royal City, Wash.

He becomes just the third Warrenton football coach in the last 41 years.

John Mattila won 15 league championships and had a career record of 252 wins, 129 losses from 1974 to 2011, and O'Brien was 15-14 in his three years, 2012-14.

Freeman served as an assistant coach under O'Brien, while Heyen said two of Freeman's assistants will be Mike Larsen and Jake Mullins, who



Travis Freeman

were both assistants last season.

"We're real excited — Travis has been a great influence on our kids," Heyen said. "This is his first head coaching gig, but he has good football pedigree. He's been around the game and played a little bit."

Meanwhile, Hoepfl was new to the Warrenton district last year, "and is real excited about the position," Heyen said of Hoepfl, who is currently in Pennsylvania. "He was an assistant coach in several sports last year, so he has a taste of a little bit of everything. He has a good background, and he's great with kids."

Hoepfl teaches U.S. history and global studies at Warrenton High School, and last year served as an assistant coach in football, girls basketball and baseball.

He attended Junction City High School, where he played football, basketball and baseball. He caught two touchdown passes in a 20-0 state playoff win over Astoria in 2004.

Hoepfl received a bachelor's degree in history from Northwest Christian College in Eugene, where he played basketball for the Beacons.



John Lindsay/AP File

**New York Giants halfback Frank Gifford cocks his passing arm as he stands in front of photo mural of the Polo Grounds at the offices of the New York Giants in New York's Coliseum in 1962.**

## On football field, in the booth, Frank Gifford was a winner

By BARRY WILNER  
 AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK — An NFL championship with the New York Giants. An Emmy award as television's "outstanding sports personality." Induction in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Frank Gifford, as well known for being a buffer for fellow announcers Don Meredith and Howard Cosell on "Monday Night Football" as for his versatility as a player, died Sunday. He was 84.

In a statement released by NBC News, his family said Gifford died suddenly at his Connecticut home of natural causes. His wife, Kathie Lee Gifford, is a host for NBC's "Today."

"We rejoice in the extraordinary life he was privileged to live, and we feel grateful and blessed to have been loved by such an amazing human being," his family said in the statement. "We ask that our privacy be respected at this difficult time and we thank you for your prayers."

A running back, defensive back, wide receiver and special teams player in his career, Gifford was the NFL's MVP in 1956, when the Giants won the title. He went to the Pro Bowl at three positions and was the cen-

terpiece of a Giants offense that went to five NFL title games in the 1950s and '60s.

Beginning in 1971, he worked for ABC's "Monday Night Football," at first as a play-by-play announcer and then an analyst, winning his Emmy in 1976-77.

"Frank's talent and charisma on the field and on the air were important elements in the growth and popularity of the modern NFL," Commissioner Roger Goodell said.

Later in life, Gifford stayed in the spotlight through his marriage to Kathie Lee Gifford, who famously called him a "human love machine" and "lamb-chop" to her millions of viewers.

"He was a great friend to everyone in the league, a special adviser to NFL commissioners, and served NFL fans with enormous distinction for so many decades," Goodell added.

Gifford hosted "Wide World of Sports," covered several Olympics — his call of Franz Klammer's downhill gold medal run in 1976 is considered a broadcasting masterpiece — and announced 588 consecutive NFL games for ABC, not even taking time off after the death of his mother shortly before a broadcast in 1986.