

# Gulls sweep Valiants on player's birthday

The Daily Astorian

BEAVERTON — The Seaside Lady Gulls are back to looking like the two-time defending league champions, as they scored a big victory Thursday night at Valley Catholic, 48-46, on a late score by the birthday girl.

Seaside had to overcome a big second quarter by the Valiants, who outscored the Gulls 25-10 to take a 32-25 halftime lead. Valley's Molly Danielson scored 15 of her game-high 18 points in the second period.

Seaside rallied with three 3-pointers (two by Whitney Westerholm, one from Jesse Trott) to cut Valley's lead to 37-36 after three quarters.

Back-to-back hoops by Trott and Westerholm gave the Gulls a 40-37 advantage early in the fourth, and Seaside's lead would reach 44-39 on consecutive layups by Maddi Utti and Sydney Villegas.

The Valiants rallied to tie the game 46-46 on a trey from Noelle Mannen, with 1:15 left.

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SCHEDULE

**TODAY**  
**Girls Basketball** — Scappoose at Astoria, 6 p.m.; Warrenton at Clatskanie, 6 p.m.; St. John Bosco at Jewell, 5:30 p.m.  
**Boys Basketball** — Scappoose at Astoria, 7:45 p.m.; Warrenton at Clatskanie, 7:45 p.m.; St. John Bosco at Jewell, 7 p.m.  
**Swimming** — District 1/4A, at Astoria AC, 1 p.m.  
**SATURDAY**  
**Swimming** — District 1/4A, at

Astoria AC, 11:30 a.m.  
**Wrestling** — District 1/4A at Scappoose, 10 a.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

**Seaside 48, Valley Catholic 46 SEA (48):** Paige Ideue 15, Westerholm 8, Utti 6, Villegas 6, Trott 5, J.Ideue 4, Smart 2, Hoekstre 2, West.  
**VC (46):** Molly Danielson 18, Beyer 8, Mannen 7, Flemmer 5, Nguyen 4, Duyck 4.  
**Seaside 15 10 1112—48**

V. Catholic 7 25 59—46

### BOYS BASKETBALL

**Seaside 53, Valley Catholic 48 SEA (53):** Jaxson Smith 18, Eagon 10, Januik 10, Marston 8, Thompson 5, Babb 2.  
**VC (48):** Joey Braun 9, Shankar Krishnakumar 9, Robbins 8, Plambeck 6, Jones 5, Hardy 3, Haggerty 3, Welsh 2, Katin 2, Parthasarathy 1.  
**Seaside 17 14 1012—53**  
**V. Catholic 13 13 148—48**

The Gulls ran a little time off the clock, and finished with a layup by Paige Ideue, who marked her birthday with the game-winning points at the 24-second mark.

Seaside forced a miss in the closing seconds, and left with the victory.

Ideue led Seaside with 15 points (13 in the first half), while Westerholm had eight, with Utti and Villegas chipping in six points apiece.

Seaside (5-3 in league play)

has games remaining vs. Astoria (3-4) and Tillamook (1-6), while the Valiants (6-2) play Banks (7-0) and Astoria.

### Boys Basketball Gulls 53, Valiants 48

BEAVERTON — The Seaside boys gained a little payback Thursday night at Valley Catholic, where the Gulls defeated the Valiants 53-48 in a Cowapa League contest.

The Gulls had three players in double figures and managed

to hold off a late rally by the Valiants, as Seaside avenged a 51-46 loss to Valley in the first meeting Jan. 26 at Seaside.

Jaxson Smith tossed in a game-high 18 points, 10 in the first half, while Jackson Januik and Austin Eagon scored 10 points apiece for Seaside.

The Gulls (6-2 in league) are now the top-ranked team at the Class 4A level, and pull to within a half-game of Astoria (6-1) in the Cowapa League standings. The Fishermen host



Daily Astorian/File Photo

Seaside's Paige Ideue, No. 5, passes to Annuka Brown during a basketball game at Seaside High School in December.

Scappoose tonight, before playing at Seaside Tuesday.

Three-pointers by Hunter Thompson and Smith gave Seaside an early 13-6 lead, and the Gulls pushed the advantage to 27-19 midway through the second quarter.

Colin Haggerty and Andrew Plambeck connected on 3-pointers in the third period for the Valiants, who

cut Seaside's lead to 37-36.

Valley Catholic even managed to take a 47-45 lead with five minutes left, on two free throws by Joey Braun.

But the Gulls answered with an 8-0 run, highlighted by baskets from Smith, Attikin Babb and Eagon.

Januik made two free throws on an intentional foul in the closing seconds.

# Hands-on: College agreed to lower vocational tuition

Continued from Page 1A

help many students stomach academics in order to experience more hands-on activities.

He spoke with hope about this winter term, for the first time in five years, the high school has restarted a dedicated class at MERTS, with 10 students learning basic automotive skills from college instructor Thad Nolan.

### Fix your own car

Monday in Nolan's class, high schoolers were learning the basics of changing tires.

"I went to the Area Vocational Center when I was in high school," Nolan said. "They had an electrical program, which I took."

Nolan's interest led him to a career as a mechanic, and eventually, as an adjunct instructor and now the director of the college's automotive program, where he said the college is trying to rebuild its high school presence.

"The first thing I talk to kids about is not getting tons of student loans," Nolan said, adding he also tries to impart how much money students can save by learning to fix their own vehicles.

Junior Jared LuCore thought he had a problem with his transmission, but Nolan mentioned it could be a U-joint, and had him bring it in to work on as part of class.

"If you're going to learn how to work on a car, work on your own," Nolan said, adding the college also gets cars from the community for students to work on.

### Starting early

While Nolan's is the first dedicated auto class at the college's vocational campus in several years, a small trickle of students have come on their own over the years as simultaneous enrollees in high school and college to learn workforce skills.

In Jesse Fulton's welding class, Astoria High School seniors Clay Englund and Bronson Holthusen have both been welding for years.

"People are going to want



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School seniors Bronson Holthusen, left, and Clay Englund learned to weld at Clatsop Community College's Marine and Environmental Research and Training Station.

these people working on their stuff. Not everyone's going to college," Englund said, ironically while in a college-credit welding course. "Honestly, this is my favorite part about school."

Holthusen and Englund, along with two other students from Astoria taking night classes, have helped weld parts onto the college's new mobile welding unit, a flatbed truck teaching students how to weld in the field with limited equipment, along with a time capsule for the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Both Fulton and Nolan talk about how rewarding and well-paid careers in auto and welding can be, even with just a certificate and some experience.

Kurt Donaldson, head of the college's fire science program, started as a 16-year-

old fire cadet. Taking a similar route is 16-year-old Justin Perdew, who has been traveling from Knappa High School for two years to take fire science courses and volunteers with Donaldson for the Knappa Fire District.

Perdew, mostly interested in battling forest fires, has been learning basics of firefighting and more specialized skills such as incident management, while providing support for the Knappa Fire District until he becomes an adult and gets to into his first firefight.

"This is just what I want



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School senior Kyle Meisner prepares to jack up a Ford Taurus in Thad Nolan's introductory automotive class at Clatsop Community College.

**'The first thing I talk to kids about is not getting tons of student loans.'**

Thad Nolan

instructor at Clatsop Community College

to do," Perdew said, adding he plans to take more college courses after graduation. "I want to fight fires."

### Always a need

The Area Vocational Center, a campus in Miles Crossing funded by the Northwest Regional Education Service District and offering automotive, welding and horticulture programs to high schoolers from across the county, closed in 2002-03 amid budget constraints. By the next academic year, the college had signed a memorandum to offer dedicated high school classes in automotive, welding and fire science.

The program was an immediate hit, with esti-

mates as high as 60 students a year from Astoria taking the program. Kristin Wilkin, the dean of workforce education and head of the college's vocational campus for more than six years, said at least 69 percent of students stayed throughout the entire academic year, while nearly a quarter went on to earn a certificate or degree from the college.

"There's always a need for it," Astoria Superintendent Craig Hoppes said. "It's just a matter of getting them

out there and paying for the tuition."

In the new agreement, Wilkin said, the college agreed to lower the tuition per credit from \$99 to \$49 for the program, along with creating a dedicated class. Hoppes said that while the district started small, it would like to at least double the number of high schoolers attending the college for career-technical training over the next few years.

"There's a hole left in our labor pool by kids not having those skills when they're getting out of high school," Hoppes said.

Wilkin said the college hopes in the future to add back more classes in welding, fire and maritime science for those students wanting career-technical skills. "We're very happy to have them."

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