

Lady Gulls move on to Sweet 16

The Daily Astorian

CLATSKANIE — The stakes were high for the Seaside girls basketball team Tuesday night, in a Cowapa League tie-breaker vs. Valley Catholic at Clatskanie.

With a win, the Gulls would bypass the Regional Play-in round and host a first-round state playoff game March 4; a Seaside loss would send the Gulls on the road for a Regional Play-in round game.

And a win is just what the No. 6-ranked Gulls came away with, as they cruised past the Valiants 53-43.

Seaside had no problem in overcoming a 20-14 deficit in the second quarter, as Sydney Villegas scored six points in the period and Whitney Westerholm dropped in a 3-pointer to help the Gulls take a 28-24 halftime lead.



Paige Ideue also had a pair of 3-pointers in the first half, and scored on a layup to cap a quick 6-0 run to start the second half.

Maddi Utti and Westerholm added 3-pointers, and a three-point play by Villegas basically put the game away, 43-27.

Valley Catholic's Molly Danielson topped all scorers with 22 points, but Seaside answered with a well-balanced scoring attack, three players finishing in double figures.

Utti led the Gulls with 14 points to go with eight rebounds, and Westerholm celebrated her birthday with 11 points and four assists. Villegas finished with a double-double, 11 points and 10 boards.



ABOVE: Seaside players, including Whitney Westerholm, center, celebrate after their 53-43 win against Valley Catholic at Clatskanie High School Tuesday. BELOW RIGHT: Lady Gull Maddi Utti, No. 25, drives to the hoop during the second quarter of the game against Valley Catholic.



Whitney Westerholm, No. 24, dribbles by Valley Catholic's Petra Flemmer, No. 34, in the fourth quarter.



SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

Girls Basketball — Toutle Lake vs. Ilwaco, 6 p.m.; WF West HS, Chehalis.

SATURDAY

Boys Basketball — Knappa at Western Mennonite, 5 p.m.; Shorewood Christian vs. Naselle, 2 p.m., at Renton HS

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Seaside 53, Valley Catholic 43

SEA (53): Maddi Utti 14, Villegas 11, Westerholm 11, P.Ideue 8, West 4, J.Ideue 3, Trott 2.

VC (43): Molly Danielson 22, Mannen 6, Flemmer 5, Beyer 3, Nguyen 3, Kawaguchi 2.

Seaside 11 17 17 8—53
Valley Catholic 12 12 7 12—43



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