Fishermen win slugfest with Indians, 14-7

By GARY HENLEY The Daily Astorian

After two straight losses in league play, the Astoria Fishermen were back to looking like the Astoria Fishermen Wednesday night at Aiken Field.

Astoria hammered out some timely base hits and scored a season-high 14 runs, in a 14-7 Cowapa League baseball win over Scappoose.

The much-needed victory pulls the Fishermen into a third place tie with the Indians in the league standings at 6-5, with four games remaining.

"Absolutely, it was huge," said Astoria coach Dave Gasser. "Because there's a big difference between finishing third and fourth in our league (for hosting Regional play-in games).

"It was good to do it at home, and in a game that mattered," he said. "And this one really mattered."

A three-run homer by Samboy Tuimato in the bottom of the first inning gave Astoria an early 3-0 lead, but the Fishermen bats fell silent, as Scappoose starter Gus Nelson held Astoria scoreless over the next two innings.

In the meantime, the Indians rallied with four runs in the top of the second and two in the third for a 6-3 lead.

It could have been worse, but Scappoose left the bases loaded to end both the third and fourth innings, as the Indians stranded 11 base runners for the game.

The Fishermen left 10 runners on base of their own, but Astoria certainly took care of business in the bottom of the fourth - which could ultimately serve as a turning point in their season. Cade O'Brien opened the inning with

a single to left, stole second, and scored moments later on a sharp double to right-center field by Carter Wallace.

And the Fish weren't close to being

Fridtjof Fremstad's single to right



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian Samboy Tuimato makes contact with a pitch in a March game against RA

'We finally opened the clogged drain on our offense."

Dave Gasser Astoria coach

scored Wallace, Kyle Strange had a fourth straight base hit, Tuimato walked, and Fremstad scored on a grounder by Olaf Englund.

Strange scored on a double steal, crossing the plate before Englund was tagged out, giving Astoria a 7-6 lead.

We finally opened the clogged drain on our offense," Gasser said. "All of a sudden we just starting swinging the bats, and the hits started dropping in. And they were all opposite field. It's been a while since we've hit the ball like that.

"That's been our problem," he said. "When we face a good pitcher, we just don't hit the ball, over and over and over. We were able to do it off their ace (Nelson), and it was nice to do it at home. Scappoose had beaten us four straight here."

Gasser made a few changes to the batting order — nothing big, but enough to shake things up and make a difference.

You've heard of 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it?' It was sort of the inverse for us," he said. "Things just weren't working the way we usually do things, so we just moved a few people around, took batting practice without a ball ... and just did some things differently, because our usual routine wasn't working."

The Indians did their part in helping - three Scappoose pitchers combined to walk nine batters and hit six more.

"I've never seen so many hit batters in game," said Gasser, whose own pitchers hit six Scappoose batters, for a combined 12 hit batters.

"And it wasn't a beanball game — I want to go on record with that," he said. "We have a lot of respect for each other, and it wouldn't come to that. Guys were just getting hit."

The Fishermen continued their offensive onslaught in the fifth, as Jasyn Gohl drew a leadoff walk (Astoria leadoff batters reached base in each of the first five innings), Jared Lucore was hit by a pitch, O'Brien walked ... and Fremstad drove them all in with a double to deep left field.

Astoria tacked on four more runs on two bases-loaded walks, a balk and an error.

Wallace picked up the win on the mound, after relieving Jackson Arnsdorf in the third inning.

'Carter came in and threw a whale of a game," Gasser said. "He was flat out throwing. And when we can hit like we did, and pitch like that ... we can be a tough team to beat."

Astoria's work isn't over. The Fishermen play at second-place Valley Catholic Friday, followed by a home game with Tillamook and two road games (at Seaside, at Banks) to finish the league season.



Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian Astoria senior Bronson Holthusen won the javelin competition Wednesday at Scappoose, with a toss of

Astoria sweeps throwing events

The Daily Astorian

152 feet, 5 inches.

SCAPPOOSE — The Astoria track team closed out the regular season Wednesday, in a Cowapa League dual meet at Scappoose.

The Astoria girls won 11 of the 17 events, highlighted by three victories for junior thrower Skadi Freyr (discus, 114 feet, 2 inches; javelin, 120-0; and the shot put,

39-1), with teammate Halie Korff second in all three events.

On the boys' side, the Fishermen won 10 of 17 events, with another sweep in the throws — sophomore Tim Barnett in the discus (130-7) and shot put (45-5 1/2); and senior Bronson Holthusen in the javelin (152-5).

Team scores were not available.

SCOREBOARD

FRIDAY

Baseball — Astoria at Valley Catholic, 5 p.m.; Seaside at Tillamook, 5 p.m.; Warrenton at Portland Christian (2), 3:30 p.m.; Faith Bible at Knappa (2), 3 p.m.

Softball — Astoria at Seaside (2), 5 p.m.; Warrenton at Portland Christian (2), 3:30 p.m.; St. Paul at Knappa, 4:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

Astoria 14, Scappoose 7 Scappoose 042 000 1-7 4 3 300 470 x-14 8 0

Nelson, Woods (5), Parsons (6) and Gill; Arnsdorf, Wallace (3) and Helmersen. W:

Wallace. L: Woods. RBI: Scp, Holmason 4, Gross, Wack; Ast, Fremstad 4, Tuimato 3, Wallace, Englund 2, Lucore. 2B: Scp, Holmason; Ast, Wallace, Fremstad. HR: Scp, Holmason; Ast, Tuimato. HBP: Scp, Parsons 2, Witt 2, Mizee 2; Ast, Helmersen 2, Arnsdorf, Lucore, Tuimato, Englund. LOB: Scappoose 11, Astoria 10.

Valley Catholic 3, Seaside 2 020 000 0-2 V.Catholic 000 300 x-3 5 5

Bassett and Landwehr; Desmond, Cape (5) and Pruitt. W: Desmond. L: Bassett. RBI: Sea, Lewis, Thompson; VC, Pruitt 2. 3B: VC, Pruitt. HBP: Sea, Walsh; VC, Nakamura 2, Hyland, Pruitt. LOB: Seaside 7, Valley Catholic 7.

Loggers chop down Royals in 9-7 win

The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — Paris Vanderburg tossed a five-hitter with three strikeouts and four walks Wednesday, leading Knappa to a 9-7 win over Portland Christian in a nonleague softball game.

Laicee Hendrickson led the Lady Loggers by going 2-for-3 with a triple and three RBIs. and teammate Jaden Miethe was 2-for-5.

Knappa hosts St. Paul in another nonleague contest Friday.

Valiants edge Gulls, 3-2

The Daily Astorian

BEAVERTON — Seaside scored two runs in the second inning and Valley Catholic scored three in the fourth Wednesday night and that accounted for all of the scoring in a 3-2 victory for the Valiants in a Cowapa League baseball game in Beaverton.

Valley Catholic pitch-

ers Will Desmond and Ethan Cape gave up just one hit (to Seaside's Payton Westerholm), with nine strikeouts and six walks, helping the No. 3-ranked Valiants improve to 9-2 in league play, while the Gulls fall to 1-10.

Jacob Bassett went the distance on the mound for Seaside, allowing just five hits with eight strikeouts and three walks.

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