

## SPORTS

**CONTACT US**  
**Gary Henley** | Sports Reporter  
 ghenley@dailyastorian.com

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# Titans outlast Lady Fishermen in OT

By **GARY HENLEY**  
*The Daily Astorian*

The Astoria Lady Fishermen are not backing down from the big non-league competition, as they prepare for the upcoming Cowapa League season.

Astoria was outsize and outnumbered against the visiting Union Titans of Camas, Wash., but the big Washington school was lucky to leave with a win, in Astoria's first game of the new year Tuesday night at the Brick House.

The Titans connected on some long-range 3-pointers late in the game, as Union rallied in regulation play, then won in overtime, 54-47.

Union freshman Alexis Raymore scored 10 points off the bench in the fourth quarter and overtime, while the Lady Fishermen lost a couple key

players to fouls in the final three minutes of regulation, then simply ran out of steam in the overtime session.

"That was the best second half we've played all year," said Astoria coach Mike Jacobson, whose team rallied from a large first half deficit. "But going into the overtime, we talked about having to keep the intensity up, and we didn't. We just let up. We got back into it, and the kids were playing hard and doing some good things, but we just had too many turnovers in the overtime, and that killed us."

Union is a Washington 4A school, equivalent to a 6A Oregon school.

Astoria trailed 15-4 midway through the first quarter, but the Titans quickly ran into foul trouble, and finished the first period with eight team fouls.

Alexis Wallace and Sam Hemsley combined to make six straight free

throws, helping Astoria rally to within 15-12, before Union scored a couple of baskets off turnovers late in the first half for a 23-16 halftime lead.

But as they have all season, the Lady Fish picked up the intensity in the second half, as Wallace scored on a layup to spark a 9-2 run to start the third quarter.

A 3-pointer from Wallace followed by a Titan turnover and a score for Astoria's Brooklynn Hankwitz pulled the Fishermen into a 25-25 tie.

Four more points for Wallace over the next five minutes, and Astoria had its first lead at 31-29 in the opening seconds of the fourth quarter.

And a wild fourth period featured three ties and five lead changes, highlighted by a three-point play from Hankwitz at the 5:50 mark that gave the Lady Fish a 34-33 lead; and two free throws from Wallace had Astoria

in front with its largest lead at 38-34 with 2:52 left, before Union answered with a short jumper by Marina Morningstar and a 3-point bomb from 6-foot-3 junior Courtney Cranston that gave the Titans a 39-38 lead with 2:05 remaining.

Hemsley responded with a trey of her own to give Astoria a 41-39 advantage at the 1:50 mark, and Rylee DeMander scored on a drive to make it 43-39 with 1:22 left.

But Raymore scored her first points of the night on a clutch 3-pointer with 1:06 remaining, and the Titans added a free throw with 20 seconds left for a 43-43 tie.

Union had a final shot in regulation that missed, and the teams headed to overtime.

Astoria had to play the final period without Hankwitz and Gracie Cummings, who both fouled out in the final

2:55 of regulation.

And that didn't help the Fishermen, who found themselves trailing 48-43 with two minutes left in the OT, following another 3-pointer from Raymore.

The sparkplug freshman guard also made four straight free throws in the final 59 seconds, while Astoria finished the overtime just 2-of-9 from the field, with four turnovers.

Wallace led all scorers with 19 points, while Hemsley, Hankwitz and Anna Gimre scored seven apiece for Astoria. Cranston had 14 for Union.

"They're a good team," Jacobson said of the Titans. "They were big, and they only outrebounded us by six for the game.

"I was happy with our effort until we got to the overtime. Overall it was a good game. We just have to learn from it."

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Warriors fall to first-place Eagles

*The Daily Astorian*

PORTLAND — Last place almost knocked off first place Tuesday night, in a Lewis & Clark League boys basketball game.

No. 8-ranked Catlin Gabel — undefeated in league play — was hosting Warrenton, and the Warriors almost scored the upset of the night in 3A basketball, before the Eagles were able to close out a 46-40 win.

"We cut it to two late, but that's as close as we got," said Warrenton coach Nate McBride. "We struggled from the field a little, and just couldn't make up the difference."

The Warriors finished 6-of-25 from the 3-point line, where they have struggled of late.

On the other hand, they held Catlin Gabel's Jacob Adler to just four points.

"He's been all-league the last two years, and he's averaging over 20 points a game the last three years," McBride said. "But Tyler (Whitaker) shut him down tonight, and that was big."

Christian Holt scored 17 points to lead the Warriors, with Whitaker adding 13.

### Takalo scores 27 in Knappa win

*The Daily Astorian*

KNAPPA — Dale Takalo scored 24 of his 27 points in the first half, and the Knappa Loggers cruised to another easy win over Neah-Kah-Nie Tuesday, 69-36, in Northwest League boys basketball action.

The Loggers built a 39-20 half-time lead, as Knappa's defense harassed the Pirates all night and finished with 18 steals.

Colton Weirup and Eli Takalo added nine points apiece, while Jason Miller tossed in four points with eight rebounds, five assists and five steals.

Max Halverson had 17 points to lead Neah-Kah-Nie.

It was the first of four games in five days for Knappa, which returns to action today at Vernonia.

### Logger girls steal one from Pirates

*The Daily Astorian*

KNAPPA — The Knappa Lady Loggers spent the night taking the ball away from Neah-Kah-Nie, and converting their steals into points in a 40-23 win over the Pirates.

Kaitlyn Landwehr had 17 points, nine rebounds and four steals to lead Knappa to the Northwest League girls basketball win, helping the first-place Loggers improve to 3-0 in league play.

Devin Vandergriff added seven points and two steals for Knappa, which led 32-22 after three quarters, then outscored the Pirates 8-1 in the final period.

Paris Vanderburg chipped in six points, and Madelynn Weaver added five points and five steals for the Loggers.



AP Photo/Scott Eklund

**Seattle Seahawks defensive end Cliff Avril has experienced the lows of an 0-16 season in Detroit and the highs of a Super Bowl title in Seattle. Coming off the best regular season of his career, Avril's past and present clash this week with the Seahawks hosting the Lions in the NFC playoffs.**

## Seahawks' Avril to face former team Saturday

By **TIM BOOTH**  
*Associated Press*

RENTON, Wash. — At this point, enough time has passed and enough turnover has taken place that most of the players Cliff Avril knew in Detroit have moved on.

That part of Avril's career seems a lifetime ago. Back when he was on the other end of the spectrum from what he's experienced in Seattle, going to the playoffs in each of his four seasons since landing with the Seahawks.

"A lot of guys are spoiled here," Avril said. "A lot of these guys have been every year they've been in the league. You may take it for granted from time to time. But I've been at the very bottom where you have no chance. You're probably packed up and gone home already at this point. So I definitely appreciate it for sure."

Avril's past and present will clash this week when the Seahawks host the Lions in the wildcard round of the NFC playoffs. It's another chapter in a career during which Avril has experienced the lowest of lows — a 0-16 season as a rookie in 2008 with the Lions — and the ultimate success of winning a Super Bowl title in his first

### UP NEXT: SEAHAWKS

- Detroit Lions (9-7) at Seattle Seahawks (10-5-1)
- Saturday, 5:15 p.m. TV: NBC

year after signing with the Seahawks in 2013.

This meeting with his former team comes after the best regular season of Avril's career. He finished with a career-best 11 ½ sacks, tied for sixth best in the NFL. He was selected for the Pro Bowl for the first time. He also discovered his philanthropic side.

It's been a year of growth for Avril that now gets connected to his past.

"Detroit was a cool city to be in. I have nothing but love for the people of Detroit," Avril said Tuesday. "But football-wise we were just never able to win anything. But I had a great (defensive) line coach and I attribute a lot of the stuff I'm doing to him, helping me get the foundation of being able to rush and understanding how to rush."

Since arriving in Seattle, Avril has steadily seen his play time, production and impact increase. During the 2015 season, Avril set a career high with 47 tackles in the regular season. This season it was the increase in sacks, teaming with

Michael Bennett and Frank Clark as the Seahawks tied with Denver for the third-best pass rush in the NFL with 42 sacks.

"I wish I had his speed," Bennett said. "He's super-fast. I wish I could do the things he could do around the edge and that's pretty cool."

The philanthropic part of Avril's career season came with the decision to build a house in Haiti for every sack he made in the wake of Hurricane Matthew, which blew through the island country in the early fall. Avril, whose family is of Haitian decent, had previously given back by helping to rebuild an elementary school through his charity. He added the housing project — roughly \$6,000 to \$6,500 per house — after being contacted by Baltimore's Elvis Dumervil, another player with Haitian heritage.

"They're mostly built and made to be able to be shelter for a hurricane, and earthquakes as well," Avril said. "The process of building it actually is local workers and basically kind of stimulates the economy a little bit as well, by doing it that way. ... It's a pretty cool little process. I can't wait to go out there next offseason to see the progression."

## Little tosses in 19, Warriors beat Catlin

*The Daily Astorian*

PORTLAND — The Warrenton girls basketball team has already equaled last year's win total in league play, following a 60-38 win for the Lady Warriors, Tuesday night at Catlin Gabel.

Just 2-14 in the Lewis & Clark League last season, Warrenton improved to 2-2 this year with its victory over the Eagles.



Tyla Little

offensive effort of the season, while the defense blocked seven shots.

The Warriors' Tyla Little poured in 19 points to lead all scorers, followed

by Katelynn Blodgett with nine, and Rachel Dyer and Landree Mielthe with eight points apiece.

"The starters played real solid defense, and along with Tyla we executed real well and ran everything we wanted to offensively," Hoepfl said. "Rachel Dyer hit a couple big shots for us, and (Fernanda) Alvarez and Sagi Diego combined for another 10 to 15 rebounds."

The Warriors made six 3-pointers.

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SCHEDULE

#### TODAY

**Girls Basketball** — Knappa at Vernonia, 6 p.m.  
**Boys Basketball** — Knappa at Vernonia, 7:45 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

**Girls Basketball** — Newport at Seaside, 6 p.m.; Warrenton at OES, 7:30 p.m.; Perrydale at Jewell, 5:30 p.m.; NW Christian at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.  
**Boys Basketball** — Newport at Seaside, 7:45 p.m.; Warrenton at OES, 6 p.m.; Perrydale at Jewell, 7 p.m.; NW Christian at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.  
**Swimming** — Tillamook at Astoria, 4 p.m.; Gladstone at Seaside, 4 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

**Girls Basketball** — Astoria at Corbett, 7 p.m.; Knappa at Faith Bible, 6 p.m.; Ilwaco at South Bend, 7 p.m.  
**Boys Basketball** — Corbett at Astoria, 7 p.m.; Knappa at Faith Bible, 8 p.m.  
**Wrestling** — Seaside Pac Rim Invitational, 4 p.m.

#### SATURDAY

**Girls Basketball** — Riverdale at Warrenton, 5:30 p.m.; Knappa at Regis, 4 p.m.  
**Boys Basketball** — Riverdale at Warrenton, 4 p.m.; Knappa at Regis, 5:45 p.m.; South Bend at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.  
**Swimming** — Seaside at The Dalles Invitational, 10 a.m.  
**Wrestling** — Seaside Pac Rim Invitational, 10 a.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### Union 54, Astoria 47

**UNI (54):** Courtney Cranston 14, Raymore 10, Barney 9, Takayoshi 8, Lewis 7, Gladkov 2.

**AST (47):** Alexis Wallace 19, Hemsley 7, Hankwitz 7, Gimre 7, Cummings 3, Dalton 2, DeMander 2, Rogers, Burnett, O'Brien.

**Union 15 8 6 14 11—54**  
**Astoria 10 6 13 14 4—47**

**Field goals:** Union 20-52; Astoria 13-37. **3-Point goals:** Union 4-13 (Raymore 2, Lewis, Cranston); Astoria 2-12 (Hemsley, Wallace). **Free throws:** Union 10-16; Astoria 11-17. **Fouls:** Union 21, Astoria 18. **Turnovers:** Union 23, Astoria 28.

#### Warrenton 60, Catlin Gabel 38

**WAR (60):** Tyla Little 19, K.Blodgett 9, Dyer 8, Mielthe 8, Bussert 6, Alvarez 6, Morrill 2, Diego 2, M.Blodgett, Heyen.

**CG (38):** Sophie Adler 15, McGautha 13, Stevens 6, Sneed 2, Mahmud 2.

**Warrenton 13 16 15 16—60**  
**Catlin Gabel 11 4 13 10—38**

#### Knappa 40, Neah-Kah-Nie 23

**NKN (23):** Maddie Lambert 16, Clifford 2, Ramirez 2, Longmire 2, Woodward 1.

**KNA (40):** Kaitlyn Landwehr 17, Vandergriff 7, Vanderburg 6, Weaver 5, Miller 3, Inman 2, Carlson, Taggart, Tischer, Strain.

**Neah-Kah-Nie 5 9 8 1—23**  
**Knappa 11 11 10 8—40**

### BOYS BASKETBALL

#### Catlin Gabel 46, Warrenton 40

**WAR (40):** Christian Holt 17, Whitaker 13, Knight 8, Fisher 2, Fowler, Kapua, Jackson, Alcobendas.

**CG (46):** Jake Girard 14, Agapiev 9, Williamson 6, Hoffman 5, Adler 4, Dean 4, Park 2, Nallakrishnan 2.

**Warrenton 8 4 14 14—40**  
**Catlin Gabel 12 7 17 10—46**

#### Knappa 69, Neah-Kah-Nie 36

**NKN (36):** Leading scorer: Max Halverson 17.

**KNA (69):** Dale Takalo 27, Weirup 9, E.Takalo 9, Rubus 6, J.Miller 4, Engblom 4, K.Miller 4, Geisler 2, Eltagonde 2, Ramwick 1, Vanderburg 1.

**Neah-Kah-Nie 13 7 6 10—36**  
**Knappa 24 15 14 16—69**