

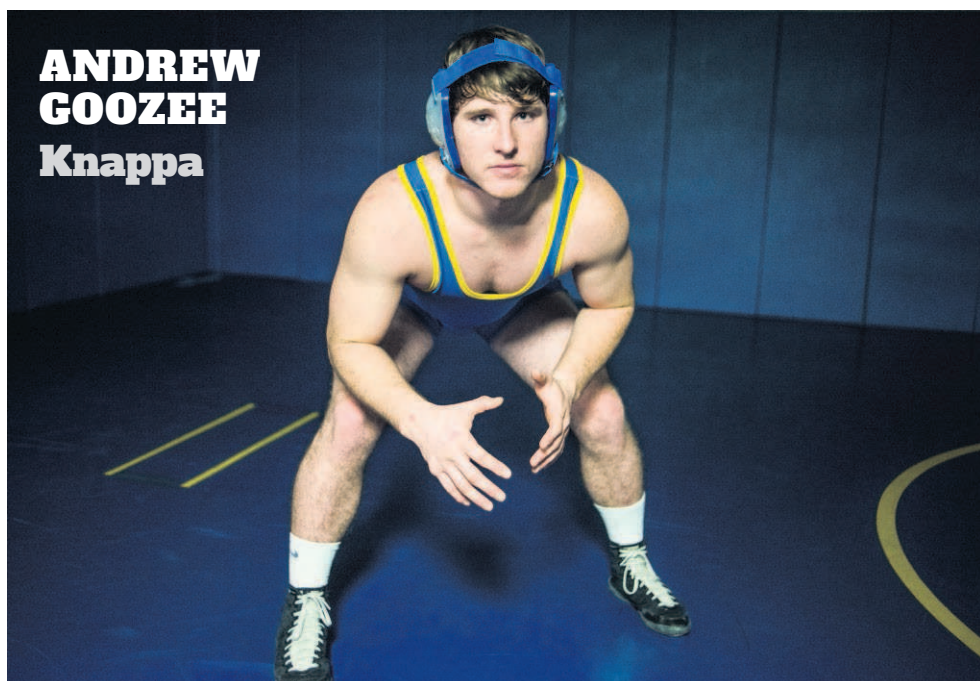
SPORTS

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Athletes of the Week

FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 25



ANDREW GOOZEE
Knappa



TYLA LITTLE
Warrenton

Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

The senior wrestler for the Loggers improved to 13-0 on the season, and won the "Outstanding Wrestler Award" for the upper weights at the recent Clatskanie Winter Classic, Dec. 29.

Goozee was 3-0 on his way to the championship at 195 pounds, where he has wrestled this season after advancing to state last year at 182.

Goozee and the rest of the Loggers compete Friday and Saturday in Seaside's Pac Rim Invitational. Goozee will be looking for his second straight individual title at the Pac Rim.

No. 1 on the roster is also Warrenton's No. 1 leading scorer. The junior guard — the only junior among three team captains — led the way with 18 points in a 44-24 win at Knappa Dec. 30.

"Tyla was solid," said Warrior coach Robert Hoepfl. "That was the fifth game in a row where she's scored 17, 18 points. And she's scoring all different ways — inside, outside, at the free throw line ... she's giving us a good effort offensively every night."

Little pumped in another 19 points in Tuesday's win at Catlin Gabel.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

No. 15 Oregon routs Huskies

Associated Press

SEATTLE — With every open look, every shot Tyler Dorsey dropped through the basket, the grin got a little bit bigger and a little more noticeable.

Dorsey had every reason to smile after his performance for No. 15 Oregon in its Pac-12 road opener.

"It was just one of those nights where the basket just feels wide and everything felt like it was going to go in and it did tonight," Dorsey said.

Dorsey made eight 3-pointers and finished with 28 points, and Oregon overcame foul trouble to pull away in the second half for an 83-61 win over Washington on Wednesday night.

Playing in an opponent's gym for only the second time this season, the Ducks shook off foul problems for its two leading scorers — Dillon Brooks and Chris Boucher — to easily take care of the Huskies. Oregon (14-2, 3-0 Pac-12) was 14 of 26 on 3-pointers, led by Dorsey going 8 of 12.

The sophomore set a career high with his eight 3s, the most for an Oregon player since Tajuan Porter set the school record with 10 in 2006 against Portland State. Dorsey finished one point off his career high of 29 set earlier this season against Savannah State.

Brooks, averaging 14.8 points per game, had only eight.

Washington St. beats Oregon St.

SPOKANE, Wash. — Washington State won its second Pacific 12 game of the season on Wednesday, doubling last year's total, and Josh Hawkinson says the Cougars are not done.

"We're 2-0, so what?" Hawkinson said. "We've still got 15 or 16 conference games to go."

Hawkinson, who scored 20 points and grabbed 11 rebounds for his 49th career double-double, said this year's team is different. "There's a lot more optimism," Hawkinson said, after Washington State beat Oregon State 75-62 in the Spokane Arena.

This is WSU's first 2-0 start in league since the 2007-08 season.

Iroegbu added 15 points for Washington State (9-5, 2-0 Pacific 12), which won its fourth straight game. Malachi Flynn added 13 big points, 11 in the closing minutes when the game was decided.

Kendal Manuel had a career-high 20 points for Oregon State (4-12, 0-3), which had won six straight games over Washington State. Manuel hit six 3-pointers.

Curry, Durant lead Warriors past Trail Blazers 125-117

By JANIE MCCAULEY
 Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Stephen Curry marvels at Kevin Durant's efficiency: 30 points on 16 shots in his latest outing.

KD finds plenty of things in the MVP's game to praise, too. And when these two get clicking together, the Golden State Warriors are oh so good.

It just took a while Wednesday night.

Curry had 35 points with five 3-pointers, Durant added three more blocked shots and the Warriors held off the Portland Trail Blazers 125-117.

"It's pretty special, I didn't realize it at first," Curry said of KD's ability to light up a stat line on minimal shot attempts. "He's a super-efficient player and he takes pride in that."

Zaza Pachulia scored 13 points to hit double figures in consecutive games for the first time this season, just his fourth time reaching double digits for Golden State. He also matched his career high with three blocks in the Warriors' ninth straight home win.

CJ McCollum scored 35 points to lead a Portland team still without Damian Lillard, and the Trail Blazers certainly had to feel better about hanging tough in this one after their forgettable 45-point defeat here 2 1/2 weeks earlier.

Curry shot 12 for 25 on a night Splash Brother Klay Thompson struggled to find his stroke from long range, going 1 of 7 and scoring 14 points.

Coming off a triple-double, Draymond Green had 11 assists, nine points, seven rebounds, three steals and a late block with five fouls.

Durant was dominant on both ends, especially during one spectacular sequence late in the first.

He made a pretty driving lay-in and converted a three-point play at the 2:50 mark, blocked two shots in succession moments later — one against McCollum then on Noah Vonleh's putback try. KD drained a 3-pointer



AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez

Portland Trail Blazers' Maurice Harkless, right, defends on Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry Wednesday in Oakland, Calif.

UP NEXT: BLAZERS

- Los Angeles Lakers (13-25) at Portland Trail Blazers (15-22)
- Today, 7:30 p.m. TV: TNT

the next time down, and he also had a four-point play in the final minute of the first half.

"He's been amazing, and it's not just rim protection," said Green, who challenged Durant "to fly around" on defense.

McCollum made three of his first six 3s then missed four of five in the

second half, when he shot 3 for 12.

"I just missed some shots. It happens," he said. "I had a lot of good looks from 3 that I didn't make and I missed a couple layups. Credit to them, they did a good job defensively."

Four Golden State starters hit 3-pointers among the Warriors' first four baskets before the game was even three minutes old.

The Warriors' five straight wins against the Trail Blazers mark their first five-game winning streak versus Portland since winning seven in a row from Feb. 20, 2005 to Nov. 3, 2006.

Knappa wins Logger showdown

The Daily Astorian

VERNONIA — The Knappa Loggers just put themselves into the driver's seat of Northwest League boys basketball, as they knocked off the defending state champions on their home floor Wednesday night.

Dale Takalo scored 29 points (15 in the first quarter), Timber Engblom scored 10 off the bench, and Knappa pounded out a not-as-close-as-it-looked 61-53 win at Vernonia.

"We beat the defending state champions on the road, 12 of our 13

guys saw action ... we're deep, the guys are buying into the team concept ... we're really excited to get the win," said Knappa coach Chris Spencer.

Once again Takalo led the offense, scoring 23 of his 29 in the first half, while James Miller provided the defense, playing a solid game on Vernonia point guard Clay Sullivan, who finished with 20 points.

In addition, "Eli Takalo came off the bench and buried two big three's in the second quarter, and that pretty much put us up for good," Spen-

cer said. "Timber Engblom also did a solid job off the bench. We made 16-of-27 free throws, but didn't hit a few in the fourth quarter, which made the game a little closer than it should have been."

Knappa had just six turnovers for the game, and had things well in hand by halftime, leading 40-28.

Miller finished with six rebounds, six assists and four steals for Knappa (7-1 overall), which hosts Faith Bible (1-6) Friday. The game was originally scheduled to be played at Faith Bible.

Vernonia tops Knappa girls in 1st-place game

The Daily Astorian

VERNONIA — Wednesday Logger Showdown was also a battle for first place in the Northwest League girls basketball standings, as Vernonia hosted Knappa.

And the Loggers of Vernonia pulled into a first-place tie in the league standings with the Loggers of Knappa, as Payton Wolf scored 20 points to lead Vernonia to a 59-36 victory over Knappa.

Vernonia (3-1 in league) opened up a quick 11-4 lead, but Knappa (3-1) was still within 15-10 at the end of the first quarter, and trailed 27-17 at halftime.

"Vernonia is beatable," said Knappa coach Marie Green. "We just shot ourselves in the foot too many times. I'm looking forward to when we play them at home two weeks from now."

Wolf was 4-for-6 from the 3-point line, off-setting some good shooting from Knappa's Devin Vandergriff and Madelynn Weaver early in the game.

Vandergriff led Knappa with 13 points, followed by Weaver with 11 points and four rebounds.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

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.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Knappa 61, Vernonia 53

KNA (61): Dale Takalo 29, Engblom 10, J. Miller 7, E. Takalo 6, Weirup 5, Goodman 2, Ramvick 2, Rubus 2, K. Miller.

VER (53): Clay Sullivan 20, McCallum 17, Clark 6, Adams 6, Elliott 4.

Knappa 19 21 11 10-63

Vernonia 16 12 13 12-51

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Vernonia 59, Knappa 36

KNA (36): Devin Vandergriff 13, Weaver 11, Inman 5, Vanderburg 4, Landwehr 3, Miller, Strain.

VER (59): Payton Wolf 20, M. Ely 15, Bustamante 9, Harral 8, Everett 3, L. Ely 2, Barklow 2.

Knappa 10 7 6 13-36

Vernonia 15 12 13 19-59