

SPORTS

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Lady Loggers rally for win

The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — After scoring just 16 points in the entire first half, the Knappa Lady Loggers scored 18 in the fourth quarter Saturday afternoon on their way to a 45-37 win over Nestucca.

The Bobcats held a 24-16 lead at halftime and a 32-27 edge after three quarters, but all the Loggers had to do was apply a little defensive pressure in the fourth quarter of the Northwest League girls basketball game.

Knappa came up with 21 steals for the game, most of them in the final period, when the Loggers outscored Nestucca 18-5.

Knappa's Kaitlyn Landwehr did most of the damage, scoring 18 points to go with eight steals, 15 rebounds and five assists.

Logger teammate Devin Vandergriff had nine of her 14 points in the fourth quarter, while Madelynn Weaver had six steals and Aiko Miller grabbed six rebounds.

The Lady Loggers are right back in the league title race, improving to 5-3 in league, behind Faith Bible (6-0) and Vernonia (6-1).

Loggers crush Nestucca, 62-21

The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — The Knappa boys basketball team overcame a slow start (Loggers only led 29-10 at halftime), then poured it on in the second half Saturday afternoon in a 62-21 win over Nestucca in a Northwest League contest at Knappa.

Eight players made the scoring column for the Loggers, who improved to 7-0 in league play, 10-2 overall.

Colton Weirup led the way with 11 points, followed by Joe Ramvick and Dale Takalo with 10 points apiece.

Ramvick, Timber Engblom and Kaleb Miller combined to score 27 points off the bench, outscoring the entire Nestucca team. Defensively, the Loggers came up with 21 steals.

The Loggers have won their last three league games by a combined 209-75 (a 44.6-points per game margin of victory).

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

Boys Basketball — Astoria at Valley Catholic, 6 p.m.; Seaside at Scappoose, 6 p.m.; Warrenton at Rainier, 7:45 p.m.; Knappa at Life Christian, 7 p.m.; Jewell at Willamette Valley Christian, 7:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball — Astoria at Valley Catholic, 7:45 p.m.; Seaside at Scappoose, 7:45 p.m.; Warrenton at Rainier, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Willamette Valley Christian, 6 p.m.; Willapa Valley at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Wrestling — Knappa at League Meet, Vernonia, TBA

BOYS BASKETBALL

Knappa 62, Nestucca 21

NES (31): Andrew Morgan 7, Strober 5, Richwine 5, Darrington 2.

KNA (62): Colton Weirup 11, Ramvick 10, D.Takalo 10, Engblom 9, K.Miller 8, Rubus 6, Vanderburg 6, J.Miller 2, Goodman, Geisler, Eltagonde, Hunt.

Nestucca 5 5 2 9—21
 Knappa 14 15 16 17—62

Seaside 78, Knappa 54

SEA (78): Jackson Januik 20, Westerholm 15, C.Januik 14, H.Thompson 12, D.Thompson 7, Babb 6, Hoekstre 4, Sibony.

KNA (54): Dale Takalo 16, Weirup 13, Engblom 9, E.Takalo 8, J.Miller 6, Rubus 2, Goodman, Geisler, K.Miller.

Seaside 19 19 18 22—78
 Knappa 16 14 12 12—54

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Knappa 45, Nestucca 37

NES (37): Olivia Leslie 16, Jackson 10, Logan 3, Chatelain 2, Johnson 2, Ozuna-Pena 2, Kirkpatrick 2.

KNA (45): Kaitlyn Landwehr 18, Vandergriff 14, Inman 7, Vanderburg 5, Miller 1, Weaver, Strain.

Nestucca 13 11 8 5—37
 Knappa 4 12 11 18—45

'SEASIDE'S THE NO. 1 4A TEAM FOR A REASON, BUT I THOUGHT WE PLAYED PRETTY GOOD.'

CHRIS SPENCER, KNAPPA COACH



Photos by Krissy Barendse-Goodman/For The Daily Astorian

Knappa's Dale Takalo goes up for a shot in Friday's game versus Seaside.

Seagulls secure victory in rare Clatsop matchup

Seaside, Knappa both have high hopes for 4A, 2A postseason

By GARY HENLEY
The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — With both schools having canceled or postponed their originally scheduled games, the Seaside and Knappa boys basketball teams decided to keep it "in county" Friday night, as the Gulls paid a rare visit to Knappa for a nonleague Clatsop Clash.

And in the matchup between the best team at the Class 4A level and one of the best at the 2A level, the Gulls got the best of the Loggers in a 78-54 Seaside victory.

Knappa is undefeated against 2A and 3A competition, but dropped to 0-2 against the 4A (Astoria knocked off Knappa Dec. 3, 54-47).

"Knappa has a pretty good ball team," said Seaside coach Bill Westerholm. "Dale Takalo is one of the better offensive players we'll see, they've got guards who can handle the ball really well, and they don't turn the ball over."

Meanwhile, it was one of the closest half-time margins of the season for the unbeaten (10-0) Gulls, who held a slim 38-30 lead at the break.

Basically, these were two teams with high hopes of playing in state championship games come March. And they gave the fans their money's worth.

First half fireworks saw both teams hot from the field, with four 3-pointers by the Gulls and three for Knappa.

Consecutive scores by Takalo, Colton Weirup (3-pointer) and Ethan Rubus gave the Loggers an early 9-6 lead, but Seaside answered with 3-pointers from Jackson Januik and Hunter Thompson, with a two-point bucket from Januik giving the Gulls a 14-9 lead.

Duncan Thompson's old-fashioned three-point play had Seaside in front, 19-12, before Knappa closed the first quarter with a 4-0 run.

Following a steal and score by Thompson, Takalo's 3-pointer had Knappa within 21-19.

Jackson Januik had 14 of his game-high 20 points in the first half, and had help in the first half from Payton Westerholm, who assisted Attikin Babb for two midway through the fourth quarter, then drained a 3-pointer with 1:30 left to give the Gulls an eight-point halftime lead.

And — as they do in every game — the Gulls gradually wore down the Loggers in the second half and pulled away.

A three-point play by Weirup had Knappa within 45-37, but scores by the Januik brothers, including a steal and layup for Jackson, pushed Seaside's lead to 51-37.

A long-range bomb by Hunter Thompson, followed by two free throws from Thompson,



Knappa's Colton Weirup drives to the hoop for a shot against Seaside's Chase Januik in Friday's Clatsop Clash.



Any game at Knappa is going to have players on the floor, as Seaside's Jackson Januik, center, finds out.

gave the Gulls a 56-40 advantage.

The Loggers had a few highlights of their own in the second half — a pair of 3-pointers from Eli Takalo and a three-point play by big brother Dale — but Seaside had a little too much depth down the stretch.

Westerholm banked in a pair of jump shots, and the Gulls were nearly flawless at the free throw line, building an eventual 24-point lead.

The 78 points was by far the most given up this season by the Loggers.

"Seaside's the No. 1 4A team for a reason, but I thought we played pretty good," said Knappa coach Chris Spencer. "They've got a lot of skilled players, and maybe we gave them a game they weren't expecting. We showed that we can play with anybody, and if not for a couple calls and a few misses, things

might have turned out differently."

Coach Westerholm, meanwhile, was anxious to see how his players played in the "Knappa Environment."

"I was really looking forward to seeing how our kids played out there," Westerholm said of Knappa, where he still has connections and relatives. "I told them before the game about all the history of that place, and I thought it was good for our kids to face a little adversity and play in a gym where the fans are right on you, yelling and screaming. I made sure we weren't looking past them."

"Knappa teams have always been tough and competitive, and they're not going to back down against anybody," he said. "Even going back to the old (Craig) Cokley days, they would take on bigger schools in the summer."