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IN BRIEFEagles defeat
Lady Jays, 40-23

The Daily Astorian

JEWELL — The Crosshill Christian girls basketball team remained unbeaten (7-0) in Casco League play with a 40-23 win at Jewell Monday night.

The No. 16-ranked Falcons held a slim 17-14 lead at halftime, increased their advantage to 30-21 after three quarters, then finished strong in the fourth, outscoring Jewell 10-2 in the final period.

Emma Guillen scored eight points and Heidi Hollenbach added six for Jewell. Hollenbach and Lily Kaczynski had seven rebounds each, while Ashley Wammack had four steals.

The Lady Jays were coming off a 58-32 loss to Willamette Valley Christian, in which Haley Norman had nine points and seven steals, Guillen had eight rebounds and five points, and Hollenbach finished with nine points.

Crosshill beats
Jewell, 57-28

The Daily Astorian

JEWELL — Andrew DeJager scored 15 points and Luke Cotter added 13, helping Crosshill Christian to a 57-28 win at Jewell Monday in a Casco League boys basketball game.

Carson Littlepage had 11 points and Ben Stahly grabbed 10 rebounds for Jewell, which was within 27-14 at halftime, before a 21-7 run by Crosshill in the third quarter.

The Jays were coming off losses last week at Willamette Valley Christian (68-23) and C.S. Lewis (53-38).

Jewell returns to action tonight at Livingstone Adventist, the first of five straight road games for the Jays, who begin makeup games missed over the last two weeks.

Gulls swim at
Tillamook

The Daily Astorian

TILLAMOOK — The Seaside and Tillamook swim teams split a Cowapa League dual meet, held Thursday at the Tillamook County YMCA.

Seaside scored an 87-42 win on the boys' side, while the Tillamook girls defeated the Lady Gulls, 129-18.

The Seaside boys opened with a win in the 200-yard medley relay, as Brad Rzewnicki, James Kennedy, Will Garvin and Luke Liljenwall teamed up for a 2:01.48, well ahead of Tillamook's 2:36.72.

The same four also won the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:45.53.

Rzewnicki went on to win the 200-yard freestyle (2:08.46); Liljenwall took the 50-yard freestyle (24.97) and 100-yard freestyle (55.84); Wes Corliss won the 100-yard backstroke (1:22.83); and Nick Konya captured the 100-yard breaststroke (1:22.83).

The Gulls finished by winning the 400-yard freestyle relay in 4:35.46.

Tillamook won every event on the girls' side, as the Lady Gulls were missing numerous swimmers because of injuries and illness.

Defending champ,
Olympian in race

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Two-time defending champion Shannon Rowbury and Olympian Clayton Murphy will run in the Wanamaker Mile at next month's Millrose Games.

New York Road Runners said Tuesday they'll compete Feb. 11 at The Armory in the 110th running of the event.

Rowbury is the American record-holder in the 1,500 meters and 5,000. She won the 2015 Wanamaker Mile title in 4 minutes, 24.31 seconds, and defended her title last year in 4:24.39.

SUPER BOWL WILL PIT
BRADY'S PATRIOTS
VS. RYAN'S FALCONS

AP Photo/Matt Slocum

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady celebrates with wide receiver Julian Edelman after throwing a touchdown pass during the second half of the AFC championship NFL game.



Curtis Compton/Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Atlanta Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan tosses a touchdown pass to Mohamed Sanu during the first quarter in the NFL NFC championship game against the Green Bay Packers.

New England seeking fifth trophy, Atlanta going for first

By HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

A season that began with Tom Brady serving a four-game suspension will end with him in the Super Bowl, where his New England Patriots will take on Matt Ryan and the Atlanta Falcons.

While much of the attention between now and the NFL championship game on Feb. 5 in Houston will be focused on Brady vs. Ryan, the truly key matchup could be Atlanta's score-at-will offense, which produced the most points during the regular season, against the unheralded defense of New England, which allowed the fewest.

And these two teams are playing their best football at the most important time.

AFC champion New England (16-2) has won nine consecutive games — and hasn't even trailed since Nov. 27. NFC champion Atlanta (13-5) has won its past six in a row,

UP NEXT: SUPER BOWL

• New England Patriots (14-2)
at Atlanta Falcons (11-5), in Houston
• Feb. 5, 3:30 p.m. TV: FOX

scoring at least 33 points in each.

"We'll enjoy this," Ryan said after earning his first Super Bowl trip in his ninth season, "but we've got some work to do."

Brady and coach Bill Belichick will be seeking their — and the Patriots' — fifth Lombardi Trophy, and second in three years. This will be the franchise's league-record ninth appearance in the Super Bowl, including titles in the 2002, 2004, 2005 and 2015 editions.

"This team showed a lot of mental toughness over the course of the year," Brady said.

The Falcons have never won the Super Bowl. This will be Atlanta's second trip to the big game; it lost to Denver in 1999.

The club's never had a quarterback quite as good as Ryan, though.

The guy nicknamed "Matty Ice" went 27 for 38 for 392 yards, four touchdowns and zero interceptions, while adding a rushing TD, to boot, leading Atlanta past Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers 44-21 on Sunday in the NFC championship game.

"We did exactly what we've been doing all year and it feels really good," Ryan said after becoming the first quarterback in NFL history to throw for at least three TDs in four consecutive postseason games. "We'll be ready to go. That's for sure."

Later Sunday, the 39-year-old Brady tied Hall of Famer Joe Montana's record with a ninth three-TD postseason game, helping the Patriots beat Ben Roethlisberger 36-17 for the AFC championship.

Odds makers didn't even wait for the second game to end before making New England a 3-point favorite over Atlanta in the Super Bowl.

Kerr calls some players'
All-Star votes a 'mockery'Nearly 300 players
made it onto ballotBy TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

MIAMI — Golden State coach Steve Kerr wishes players had taken their voting for the NBA All-Star Game more seriously, calling it a "mockery" after nearly 300 players in the league wound up on at least one ballot.

Players had a say in deciding starters for next month's game in New Orleans, with their selections accounting for 25 percent of someone's total score in the balloting. Fan and media votes were also part of the process of selecting starters, and NBA coaches vote this week for the reserves to be revealed on Thursday.

"I am very disappointed in the players," Kerr, who will coach the Western Conference in the game, said before the Warriors lost 105-102 at Miami on Monday night. "They've asked for a vote and a lot of them just made a mockery of it. I don't know what the point is."

Nearly 100 players got only one vote from either themselves or an NBA peer in the All-Star balloting, including Mo Williams — who hasn't played a single second this season. The NBA said a total of 324 players participated in the voting process.

Kerr was asked why he would use the word "mockery."

"I saw the list," Kerr said. "I saw all the guys who got votes. ... There



AP Photo/Phelan M. Ebenhack

Golden State Warriors head coach Steve Kerr called the voting for the All-Star Game a "mockery."

were 50 guys on there who had no business getting votes. Although a lot of people wrote in their buddies in the presidential vote as well. So maybe that's just their own way of making a statement. I think if you're going to give the players a vote, I think they should take it seriously."

In past years, starters have been picked entirely by fan vote. This year, those whose All-Star hopes now hinge on the coaches' vote include Dwyane Wade, Zaza Pachulia, Joel Embiid, two-time All-Star MVP Russell Westbrook and perennial All-Star pick Carmelo Anthony. Wade, Pachulia and Embiid would have started under the old formula.

Kerr said the change to the way

starters are picked this year didn't affect the way he made his votes for reserves. He sent his vote in Sunday.

"Didn't alter anything," said Kerr, whose spot as the West coach was clinched when Houston lost to Milwaukee on Monday.

Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said he called a staff meeting to get input on the ballot he'll send to the league.

"How is Russell Westbrook not in the starting lineup?" Spoelstra asked. "I know how it's important to players and especially guys that are giving their heart and soul and emotions into the game and should be rewarded for it. I do have to admit, in some years past, I would just give it to my assistants. Not anymore."

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Boys Basketball — Tillamook at Astoria, 6 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 6 p.m.; Warrenton at Portland Adventist, 8 p.m.; Knappa at Neah-Kah-Nie, 8 p.m.; Jewell at Livingstone Adventist, 5:30 p.m.; Ilwaco at Life Christian, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball — Tillamook at Astoria, 7:30 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 7:30 p.m.; Warrenton at Portland Adventist, 6 p.m.; Knappa at Neah-Kah-Nie, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Livingstone Adventist, 7:15 p.m.; Ilwaco at Life Christian, 7 p.m.

Wrestling — Knappa League Meet, TBA

WEDNESDAY

Girls Basketball — Jewell at Falls City, 5:30 p.m.

Boys Basketball — Jewell at Falls City, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

Girls Basketball — Vernonia at Knappa, 6 p.m.

Boys Basketball — Vernonia at Knappa, 8 p.m.

Swimming — Valley Catholic at Seaside, 4 p.m.

Wrestling — Warrenton at League 4-Way, Sheridan, 5 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Crosshill 57, Jewell 28

CC (57): Andrew DeJager 15, Cotter 13, Bennett 8, Isa Rodriguez 5, Dallum 4, Haskell 3, Vanderhoof 3, Harris 2, Ism.Rodriguez 2, Poliakov 2.

JWL (28): Carson Littlepage 11, R.Kane 7, Hinson 4, Meehan 2, Stahly 2, Culp, Lilley 2, Godwin, N.Kane, Lyon.

Crosshill 16 11 21 9—57
Jewell 5 9 7 7—28

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Crosshill 40, Jewell 23

CC (40): Sarah Stoddard 13, A.Bartel 6, Foster 7, E.Schanz 7, H.Schanz 5, M.Bartel 2.

JWL (23): Emma Guillen 8, Hollenbach 6, G.Morales 5, Wammack 2, Norman 2, Littlepage, N.Morales, Gonzales, Olvera, DeWees, Kaczynski, Shaw, Murray.

Crosshill 8 9 13 10—40
Jewell 6 8 7 2—23