

SPORTS

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Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
 ghenley@dailyastorian.com

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Athletes of the Week

(FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 16-21)



**ELIZA
BANNISTER**
 Ilwaco



**JACK
ODNEAL**
 Ilwaco

Photos by Damian Mulinix/For The Daily Astorian

A 5-foot-9 junior guard for the No. 2-ranked Ilwaco girls basketball team, Bannister scored a career-high 26 points in a 63-32 win over Northwest Christian Jan. 16.

She followed that the next night with 12 points and nine steals in a 62-26 victory over Willapa Valley.

Ilwaco suffered a 51-43 loss to Raymond Jan. 21 (snapping a 32-game league win streak), but the Lady Fishermen are still atop the Pacific League standings and expected to make a strong run at the 2B state championship.

The senior wrestler was 8-0 in the recent "Dream Duals," held Jan. 21 at the Spokane (Wash.) Convention Center.

Ilwaco scored dual wins over Davenport, Mary Walker, Mead and Liberty, with a loss to Tonasket to finish second in the B division.

Competing at weights from 138 to 152, Odneal scored pins over Alex Diviney of Davenport (1:23); Matt Donahue of Mary Walker (time on Track-Wrestling.com was listed at 0:01); won a major decision (13-5) over Cade Arriens of Mead; a fall over Sam Nelson of Liberty (1:12); and defeated Zion Butler of Tonasket, 6-4.

Oodneal is currently 16-2 this year, with 11 pins. He is ranked second in the Washington 2B rankings at 138 pounds.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Astoria swimmers compete in swim dual three-way

The Daily Astorian

ST. HELENS — The Astoria swim teams traveled to St. Helens Tuesday to compete in a three-way Cowapa League dual hosted by Scappoose.

Valley Catholic also competed, but only brought four boys.

Astoria had many personal best swims, and won eight events. Thayne Covert won both the 200-yard individual medley (2 minutes, 31.69 seconds) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:53.28); Elias Simmons captured the 200-yard freestyle (2:13.27); and Aleks Matthews won the 100-yard breaststroke (1:18.55).

For the Astoria girls, Shannon Christie was a double-winner, taking first in the 50-yard freestyle (27.82) and the 100-yard backstroke (1:14.47); and Megan Schacher won the 100-yard butterfly (1:22.23).

The girls' 200-yard freestyle relay was Astoria's only win in the relays (2:08.22).

Team scores:

Girls: Scappoose 130, Valley Catholic 0; Astoria 125, Valley Catholic 0; Scappoose 86, Astoria 82.

Boys: Scappoose 242, Valley Catholic 46; Astoria 229, Valley Catholic 42; Scappoose 188, Astoria 148.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

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.

FRIDAY

Boys Basketball — Astoria at Banks, 6 p.m.; Seaside at Tillamook, 6 p.m.; Catlin Gabel at Warrenton, 8 p.m.; Jewell at Valor Christian, 6 p.m.; Ilwaco at North Beach, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball — Astoria at Banks, 7:45 p.m.; Seaside at Tillamook, 7:45 p.m.; Catlin Gabel at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; Jewell at SW Christian, 3 p.m.; Ilwaco at North Beach, 5:45 p.m.

Wrestling — Astoria/Banks at Seaside, 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Girls Basketball — Delphian at Knappa, TBA

Boys Basketball — Delphian at Knappa, 4 p.m.

Wrestling — Ilwaco Invitational, 10 a.m.



AP Photo/Steve Dykes

Portland Trail Blazers guard C.J. McCollum drives to the basket and scores on Los Angeles Lakers' Luol Deng, Larry Nance Jr. and Nick Young during the second half of an NBA Portland basketball game in Portland on Wednesday. McCollum and Damian Lillard had 24 points each. The Blazers won 105-98.

Lillard, McCollum lead Trail Blazers over Lakers

Associated Press

PORTLAND — The Trail Blazers' celebration of the 40th anniversary of their 1977 NBA championship ended appropriately — with a win.

Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum scored 24 points apiece and Portland beat the Los Angeles Lakers 105-98 on Wednesday night, with players from the championship team looking on.

It was Portland's 11th straight victory in regular-season games against the Lakers.

With two consecutive wins, the Blazers look to build some much-needed momentum. They host Memphis on Friday night before Golden State on Sunday.

"I think it's a great opportunity for us," Lillard said. "I just asked somebody in the locker room, 'When was the last time we won three games in a row?' We had to look at the schedule to see."

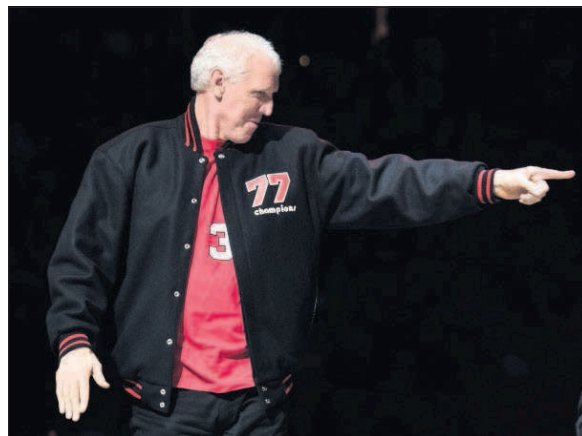
Los Angeles was led by Lou Williams with 31 points, including six 3-pointers. The Lakers were coming off a 122-73 loss at Dallas on Sunday, the most lopsided loss in franchise history.

Mason Plumlee had 19 points and 13 rebounds for the Blazers, who defeated the Celtics in Boston 127-123 in overtime on Saturday to snap a four-game losing streak.

Portland was without Ed Davis for the second straight game because of a left wrist injury, and also missed Maurice Harkless, who had a calf injury.

The Lakers didn't have D'Angelo Russell for the second straight game because of a sprained right knee and calf. He is expected to miss up to two weeks.

"We had a great opportunity tonight, we had momentum," Lakers coach Luke Walton said. "They did a good job of keeping their composure and making plays down the stretch. Ultimately, it just wasn't our night."



AP Photo/Steve Dykes

Former Portland Trail Blazer Bill Walton points at his teammates during a ceremony to celebrate the 1977 team's NBA championship at halftime Wednesday.

Honoring the past

Players from the 1977 championship team were feted with a banquet Tuesday night and a celebratory luncheon earlier Wednesday before a halftime ceremony for the fans. Blazers coach Terry Stotts wore a vintage plaid blazer in a nod to the late Jack Ramsay, coach of that team.

It was somewhat fitting that the Blazers were playing the Lakers because Walton is the son of Bill Walton, who was on that '77 team and included in the celebration. Luke Walton is named after '77 teammate Maurice Lucas, who was often greeted with cheers of "Luuuuke!"

"If he's out there in a Blazer jersey, I won't be upset," the younger Walton said about his dad's presence at the game. "But I would hope he's rooting for us. He should. I'm his son."

Logger boys crush Pirates

The Daily Astorian

ROCKAWAY BEACH — Every 30-point win brings the Knappa Loggers a little bit closer to their Northwest League championship.

Tuesday night in Rockaway Beach, it was a 74-44 victory over Neah-Kah-Nie, as junior Dale Takalo poured in 25 points and sophomore Timber Engblom added 14, to help the Loggers maintain their even more solid lead on first place in the NWL standings, at 9-0 (Vernonia topped second-place Life Christian Monday, 74-43).

"We didn't shoot well in the first half (5-for-21 on two-point attempts), but we had a nice third quarter," said Knappa coach Chris Spencer. "Ethan Rubus sparked us with eight straight points in the third, and he also had six rebounds."

"We didn't panic — our guys don't panic. We just ran our plays, executed, got them in a little foul trouble and we made our free throws (18-for-26)," he said.

Freshman Eli Takalo added 13 points and Rubus finished with 11 for Knappa, which hosts Vernonia today. Knappa has already posted a 61-53 win over the defending 2A state champions.

Mariners to retire Edgar Martinez's jersey number

Associated Press

SEATTLE — As Edgar Martinez's candidacy for the baseball Hall of Fame began gaining more traction, the Seattle Mariners ownership started discussions of whether it was time to consider giving Martinez the ultimate honor from the franchise.

When Martinez made a significant jump in the Hall of Fame voting this year, trending toward potential induction, it became an easy decision to decide it was time to retire Martinez's No. 11.

Seattle team President Kevin Mather announced Tuesday that Martinez's number will be retired on Aug. 12 as part of a weekend celebration. He will become just the second player in club history to have his number retired, joining Ken Griffey Jr., whose No. 24 was retired by the club last year after Griffey's Hall of Fame induction.

Even though Cooperstown is still just a possibility for Martinez, the club decided now was the right time.

UP NEXT: BLAZERS • Memphis Grizzlies (27-20) at Portland Trail Blazers (20-27) • Friday, 7 p.m. **TV:** CSNW