

## SPORTS

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

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Daily Astorian/File Photo

Seaside senior Maddi Utti capped her regular season with another Cowapa League MVP award, as well as the league's Defensive Player of the Year. Seaside had four on the all-league lists and Astoria had three players.

## Utti earns another MVP

The Daily Astorian

Cowapa League girls basketball co-champions Banks and Seaside shared top honors with the announcement of the all-league team, as voted on by the league's coaches.

While Banks had all five starters selected all-league, Seaside senior Maddi Utti was named the league's Most Valuable Player, as well as the Defensive Player of the Year.

She was joined on the first team by senior Sydney Villegas and junior Bryre Babbitt, while junior Jetta Ideue was selected honorable mention.

Seaside's Mike Hawes joined Brandon Begley of Banks as the co-Coaches of the Year.

Astoria had three players named all-league, with senior Alexis Wallace (first team), senior Rylee DeMander (honorable mention) and sophomore Sam Hemsley (honorable mention).

See the complete list in Scoreboard.



Daily Astorian/File Photo

Seaside's Sydney Villegas attempts to block a shot by Jetta Ideue. Villegas was named all-league first team, while Ideue earned honorable mention.



Brad Mosher/For The Daily Astorian

Seaside's Bryre Babbitt looks for an opening against the Banks defense. She was named all-league first team.

## Littell earns 'Play it Forward' award

The Daily Astorian

PORTLAND — The Oregon Sports Awards announced last week the "Play It Forward" award recipients for the fall award cycle, sponsored by Nike and Providence Health & Services.

And the list includes one Astoria High School senior, Keldon Littell.

Play It Forward award recipients will be invited to attend the 65th Oregon Sports Awards June 18, when one student-athlete will be selected to receive the \$2,500 scholarship.

The ceremony will be held in the Stanford Theater at the Nike



Keldon Littell

World Headquarters in Beaverton.

To be eligible for the Play It Forward award, the student-athlete must:

- Be an Oregon high school or college/university student who is a member of a varsity athletic team at their school;

- Demonstrate a sustained volunteer commitment with an organization or program that gets kids active through sport or physical activity;

- Demonstrate initiative and drive, by going beyond expected school responsibilities;

- Be in good academic standing with their school.

Littell volunteers with Astoria Parks and Recreation, the Astoria Armory, and area youth sports.

As a youth football coach, fourth-grade basketball coach and youth baseball coach, Littell "enjoys being able to watch kids grow both mentally and physically," an opportunity he finds incredibly humbling.

Littell has signed a letter-of-intent to play football at Western Oregon University. Upon graduating college, Littell hopes to return to Astoria to pursue his passion for coaching in his hometown.

In addition to Littell, the other Fall 2016 Play It Forward award athletes include: Gabrielle Barin, (Treasure Valley Community College volleyball and tennis); Jacinta Vandenberg (University of Oregon women's basketball); and Riley Howard (Milwaukie High School baseball).

All awardees for the 2016-17 school year — 12 in total, representing two high school and two colleges each per season — will become eligible for the Play It Forward Athlete of the Year award.

## Kansas moves to No. 1 in AP poll, Villanova 2nd

By DAVE SKRETTA  
 Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Kansas could have rested easy after clinching a share of its 13th straight Big 12 title.

Instead, the Jayhawks hit the road to beat Texas on Saturday, clinching the outright championship with two games left in the regular season. And when top-ranked Gonzaga and sec-

ond-ranked Villanova dropped games last week, it meant the Jayhawks ascended to the top of The Associated Press poll.

So much for taking it easy. The Jayhawks (26-3) moved up two places to the top spot, receiving 58 first-place votes Monday from the 65-member national media panel. They spent five weeks at No. 1 last season, including the final three polls, but became the sixth No. 1 this season

by moving to the top spot for the first time.

"It feels pretty great," Kansas freshman Josh Jackson said, "but like our coaches told us, we don't feel like we've done anything we weren't supposed to do."

Villanova (27-3) remained second and received two first-place votes, despite losing to Butler and beating Creighton last week. The win over the Bluejays allowed the reign-

ing national champions to clinch their fourth straight Big East regular-season championship.

UCLA (26-3) moved up from fifth to third and earned three first-place nods after its win over Arizona on Saturday. It was only the second time in 69 games the Wildcats have lost at the McKale Center.

Gonzaga (29-1) fell to No. 4 after losing its first game of the season, an upset by BYU at home on Saturday.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Sportsman's Banquet on tap this Saturday

The North Coast Ducks Unlimited 40th annual Sportsman's Banquet is Saturday at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds, 92937 Wal-luski Loop. The doors open at 5 p.m.

The event includes a Greening raffle, firearms, Ducks Unlimited merchandise, hand-carved decoys, hunting gear and more. Tickets are \$45 per person or \$70 per couple. Greening tickets are \$17 and younger are \$35. Sponsorships are also available at \$325 for a single sponsor, or \$350 for a couple.

For information, contact Bill Antilla at 503-791-7429, George Baker at 503-325-7960, Adrian McSwain at 503-338-9893 or Flint Carlson at 503-861-2789. Tickets are not available at the door, but can be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/2mw0t2U>.

## UConn still No. 1 in AP women's poll

Associated Press



AP Photo/Fred Beckham

Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma signals to his team during the first half of Connecticut's 91-48 victory over Memphis in an NCAA college basketball game in Storrs, Conn., Saturday.

NEW YORK — UConn remains the No. 1 team in The Associated Press women's basketball poll while the rest of the top five were shuffled Monday.

The Huskies improved their winning streak to 103 games, cruising to wins over Temple and Memphis. UConn closes out its regular season Monday at South Florida.

Baylor, Notre Dame, Maryland and South Carolina follow UConn. The Terrapins dropped two spots after losing to then-No. 12 Ohio State last week. The Buckeyes moved up to ninth.

Mississippi State fell to sixth after losing in overtime to Kentucky and getting routed by Tennessee. Oregon State climbed four spots to move into a tie for sixth. Florida State and Stanford round out the first 10 teams in the poll.

Kansas State re-entered the poll at No. 24 while Michigan dropped out.

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SCHEDULE

#### THURSDAY

**Girls Basketball** — Washington 2B State Tournament: TBA vs. Ilwaco (at Spokane), 3:45 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

**Boys Basketball** — 4A State Playoff: Cascade at Seaside, 7 p.m.

#### SATURDAY

**Girls Basketball** — 4A State Playoff: Seaside at Molalla, 7 p.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

**Cowapa All-League Player of the Year/Defensive Player of the Year:** Maddi Utti, Seaside  
**Coaches of the Year:** Mike Hawes, Seaside; Brandon Begley, Banks

#### First Team

Maddi Utti, Sr., Seaside  
 Bryre Babbitt, Jr., Seaside  
 Petra Flemmer, Sr., Valley C.  
 Karlie Gerlinger, Sr., Banks  
 Sydney Gregg, Jr., Banks  
 Anna Klein, Sr., Banks  
 Kaylie Kopra, Sr., Scappoose  
 Noelle Mannen, Jr., Valley C.  
 Katie Sherer, Sr., Tillamook  
 Aspen Sliifka, So., Banks  
 Sydney Villegas, Sr., Seaside  
 Alexis Wallace, Sr., Astoria

#### Honorable Mention

Lea Brodala, Jr., Scappoose  
 Rylee DeMander, Sr., Astoria  
 Sam Hemsley, So., Astoria  
 Jetta Ideue, Jr., Seaside  
 Kate Nguyen, Sr., Valley C.  
 Katie Ragsdale, Sr., Banks  
 Madi Reeves, So., Tillamook  
 Shaylan Smith, So., Scappoose  
 Lexie Zuercher, Sr., Tillamook