

SPORTS

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

FOLLOW US
 facebook.com/
DailyAstorianSports

Lady Gulls take care of business

Seaside girls lock in quarterfinals spot at state tourney after win at Molalla

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — The Seaside girls basketball team is now a perfect 4-0 in the Sweet 16, over the past four years.

As a result, the Lady Gulls will make their fourth-straight appearance in the state tournament, for another run at the elusive state title.

The Gulls locked up their spot in the quarterfinals with a 38-31 win at Molalla Saturday, as Seaside senior Maddi Utti overcame a first-half injury to score 20 points in the victory.

Seaside will open the state tournament Thursday against Cascade, in a 3:15 p.m. tip-off at Forest Grove High School (game time was originally 1:30 p.m.).

The winner of Thursday's game will face either Sutherlin or Mazama in the semifinals.



Jeff Ter Har/For the Daily Astorian

Seaside's Emy Kiser, Gretchen Hoekstre and Maddi Utti play tight defense on Molalla. Seaside is now 4-0 in the Sweet 16 over the past four years.

Coming back

Seaside had to overcome a small first-half deficit to beat the Indians.

Back-to-back scores by Sierra Cox and Alicia Schultz had Molalla in front 13-4 early in the second quarter, but the Gulls rallied back with baskets by Utti and Sydney Villegas and trailed just 20-16 at halftime.

One of the leading candidates for Class 4A state Player of the Year, Utti scored the first seven points of the second half, and a layup by Villegas gave the Gulls a 25-20 advantage.

Molalla answered with a six-point run of its own and led 26-25 going into the final quarter.

But with one of the toughest

MORE PHOTOS

Jeff Ter Har has more photos on Page 9A and online at <http://bit.ly/2muc0So>

defenses in the state at the 4A level, the Gulls held the Indians to just five points over the final eight minutes.

And Seaside put it away early in the period with back-to-back 3-pointers from Bryre Babbitt and Emy Kiser, for an insurmountable 31-26 lead.

The Gulls made five-of-13 free throws in the final minutes to secure the win.

Only three schools have qualified for the last four state tournaments at the 4A level (Mazama, Seaside and Sutherlin), and all three will be in the same half of the bracket to start the tournament.

While it's the fourth consecutive appearance in the state tournament for the Gulls, Seaside will be looking to snap another streak once it gets there.

Since defeating Henley in a first round game in 2013-14, the Gulls have lost six straight tournament games, going two-and-out the last two seasons.

Ilwaco girls team take fifth in state tourney

The Daily Astorian

SPOKANE, Wash. — The Ilwaco girls basketball team came up short of a state title over the weekend, but still celebrated a fifth-place finish in the WIAA 2B state tournament in Spokane.

Ilwaco suffered a 44-20 upset loss to Davenport in Friday's semifinals, then fell short in Saturday's third-place game, as Wahkiakum scored a 78-57 win over the Lady Fishermen.

Ilwaco finishes 23-6 overall, and 6-3 in the post-season.

In the playoffs, the Fishermen went 2-0 against Adna and 2-0 against Raymond, but Saturday's loss was Ilwaco's second post-season loss to Wahkiakum, which defeated Ilwaco Feb. 14 in the district playoffs, 59-50.

The Fishermen had also not placed in a state tournament since they took third in 1995 (defeating Lynden Christian in the third-place game at the 1A level). It took Ilwaco just three years at the 2B level to place at state.

Ilwaco held Davenport scoreless through the first four minutes and led 5-0, but then were outscored 40-10 during an offensive slump that lasted through the middle of the fourth quarter. Ilwaco hit just 1-of-16 3-pointers and 8-of-42 shots overall.

Davenport hit only 12-of-42 shots against a strong Ilwaco defense, but out-rebounded the Fishermen 47-29 and outscored them 16-3 from the free throw line.

Sydney Zeigler drained four of her six 3-point attempts in a 15-point performance. Sydney Abbot added 14 points. She shot 3-of-19 but attacked the basket and hit 8-of-9 free throws.

Madeline Jacobson blocked four shots for Ilwaco.

SCOREBOARD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Seaside 68, Cascade 49

CAS (49): Tyler Walker 15, Shane Schnepf 8, Damian Ball 8, Joseph Iovino 7, Treyden Harris 5, Daniel Suelzle 3, Kolton Morlan 2, Michael Rosenau 1.

SEA (68): Attikin Babb 16, Jackson Januik 14, Payton Westerholm 12, Chase Januik 8, Duncan Thompson 7, Hunter Thompson 5, Otto Hoekstre 3, Ryan Hague 2, Beau Johnson 1, Rafi Sibony.

Cascade 6 18 13 12—49
Seaside 15 14 23 16—68

Field Goals: Cascade 13-37; Seaside 22-58. **3-Point Goals:** Cascade 5-12; Seaside 5-24. **Free throws:** Cascade 18-29; Seaside 13-18. **Fouls:** Cascade 23, Seaside 23. **Turnovers:** Cascade 21, Seaside 11.

Class 3A State Tournament

State Championship

Dayton 64, De La Salle 55
3rd Place
 Harrisburg 55, Cascade Chr. 45
4th Place
 Salem Academy 62, Amity 61

Class 2A State Tournament

State Championship

Santiam 57, Stanfield 54
3rd Place
 Western M. 60, Life Chr. 48
4th Place
 Columbia Chr. 69, Vernonia 55

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Seaside 38, Molalla 31

SEA (38): Maddi Utti 20, Sydney Villegas 6, Emy Kiser 6, Bryre Babbitt 5, Jetta Ideue 1.

MOL (31): Sierra Cox 13, Alicia Schultz 9, Makenzie Sheppard 4, Audrey Rieskamp 3, Maddy Lisac 2.

Seaside 3 13 9 13—38
Molalla 7 13 6 5—31

Class 3A State Tournament

State Championship

Blanchet Catholic 36, Dayton 34
3rd Place
 Salem Academy 36, Coquille 17
4th Place
 Portland Adventist 52, Nyssa 43

Class 2A State Tournament

State Championship

Monroe 52, Western M. 40
3rd Place
 Kennedy 39, Imbler 30
4th Place
 East Linn Chr. 43, Regis 38



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Seaside Seagulls' Payton Westerholm drives to the basket as Seaside faces off against Cascade in Round 1 of the 4A State Championship on Friday in Seaside. Their win over Cascade was Seaside's 19th consecutive victory at home, going back to their previous season.

Gulls shoot past Cougs



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Seaside Seagulls' Chase Januik goes up for a shot as Seaside faces off against Cascade in Round 1 of the 4A State Championship on Friday.

By **GARY HENLEY**
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — "Normal" teams usually don't play well following long layoffs. The Seaside Gulls, however, are not your average team.

Long layoffs have very little effect on the Seaside boys basketball team — in fact, the Gulls usually get better between games.

They struggled at times Friday night in a first-round game of the state playoffs, but for the third time this season, Seaside overcame a

long period with no games ... and romped their way to another win, 68-49, over Cascade.

It was Seaside's 19th consecutive victory at home, going back to last season.

The latest win at the Gulls' Nest secured Seaside's annual trip to the state tournament, where the Gulls will open against Gladstone in a Thursday quarterfinal game (1:30 p.m.) at Pacific University.

See SEASIDE, Page 9A



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Seaside players huddle during a timeout as Seaside faces off against Cascade in Round 1 of the 4A State Championship on Friday in Seaside.