

SPORTS

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Lady Fish top Tigers in seven

The Daily Astorian

It was an anti-climactic victory, but a win's a win for the Astoria Lady Fishermen. Especially when it's your first of the season.

Astoria scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning Tuesday night, in a 7-6 win over Yamhill-Carlton in a non-league softball game at CMH Field.

After a long rain delay, then giving up three runs in the top of the seventh and falling behind 6-5, Astoria scored twice in the bottom of the seventh without even swinging a bat.

Yamhill-Carlton's pitcher ran into

some serious control problems in Astoria's last at-bat.

Caitlyn Hougham drew a leadoff walk, which was followed by a four-pitch walk to Abi Danen. Both runners advanced on a passed ball.

McKailyn Rogers reached on an error to load the bases, and on Lockhart's first pitch to Lexi Lyngstad, she hit Lyngstad in the foot to force in the tying run.

On her very next pitch to Hailey O'Brien, Lockhart also hit O'Brien, forcing in Danen with the game-winner.

Freshman pitcher Julia Norris got the complete-game victory for Astoria,

which grabbed a quick 2-0 lead in the first inning on a walk to Hailey Ranta and a double to center by Hougham, with both runners scoring on an infield single by Danen.

The Tigers took their first lead with three runs in the top of the third, before the Lady Fish answered with three in the bottom of the fifth.

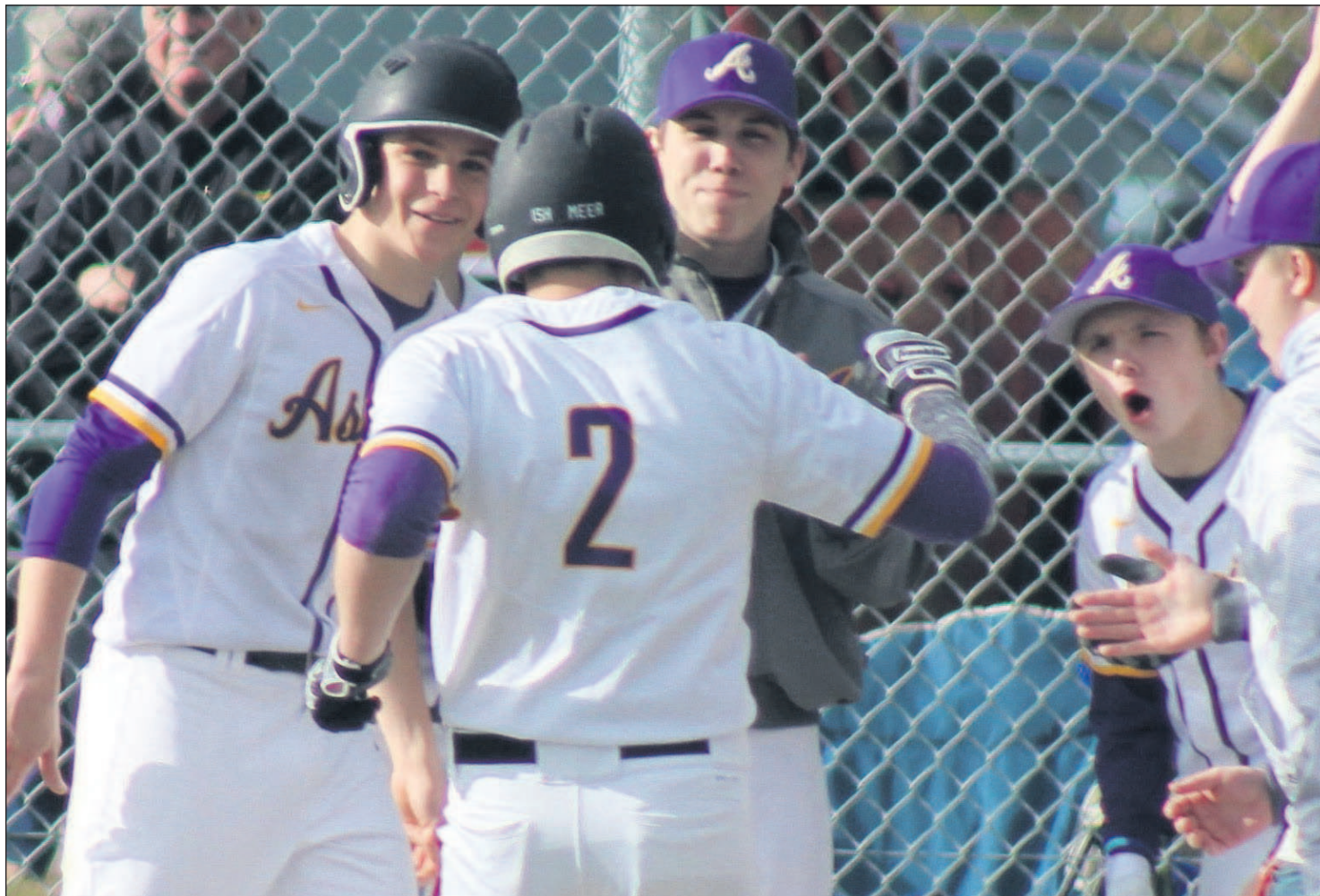
On a leadoff bunt by Ranta, the junior raced all the way to third on an infield error by the Tigers. She scored on a single to left by Hougham.

A triple by Lyngstad moments later scored Hougham and Danen for a 5-3 lead.



Astoria freshman pitcher Julia Norris tossed a complete-game, seven-inning victory over Yamhill-Carlton Tuesday at CMH Field.

Gary Henley/
 The Daily Astorian



Astoria senior Fridtjof Fremstad is welcomed home by teammates following a two-run homer in Tuesday's win, in which Fremstad hit for the cycle in just four innings. Fremstad finished 4-for-4 with four RBIs. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com/sports

Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

Fremstad hits for cycle in 15-3 win

By **GARY HENLEY**
The Daily Astorian

The Astoria bats came alive Tuesday afternoon, in a 15-3 win over St. Helens at CMH Field.

The Fishermen (2-1 overall) collected 16 hits, which included five extra-base hits in just four at-bats. Senior Fridtjof Fremstad hit for the cycle and Jackson Arnsdorf threw a complete-game four-hitter, striking out six with two walks in five innings.

Astoria jumped all over the Class 5A Lions in the first inning.

Cade O'Brien beat out an infield single and Olaf Englund drew a walk, and both runners scored on a triple to deep right-center

field by Fremstad.

Kyle Strange reached on an error to score Fremstad, Trey Hageman was hit by a pitch, and the Lions committed the first of five errors on a bunt by Jasyn Gohl, allowing Strange to score.

Arnsdorf's ground-rule double to center scored Hageman and Gohl; Burke Matthews was hit by a pitch, and Arnsdorf sprinted home on a fielder's choice by Tristan Wallace, as the Fishermen lead reached 7-0, all before St. Helens recorded the first out.

Astoria tacked on three runs in the second, highlighted by a few more Lion errors, a wild pitch, and Matthews' single to center that scored Gohl.

St. Helens' Garrett Sukau had the Lions'

biggest hit of the day, a double with the bases loaded in the top of the third that scored all three runners.

But Fremstad still had the highlight of the inning, a two-run home run to deep left field for a 12-3 lead.

Fremstad finished hitting for the cycle in just the fourth inning.

In his final at-bat in the bottom of the fourth, Fremstad's would-be triple ended up as a ground-rule double.

The Fishermen scored three runs in the inning, and Arnsdorf was able to finish off the Lions in order in the top of the fifth for the mercy-rule win.

Fremstad finished 4-for-4 with four RBIs, and Strange was 3-for-4 and drove in two runs.

Loggers open season in Arizona tournament

The Daily Astorian

PHOENIX — The Knappa Loggers showed that they're just as dominant in Arizona as they are in Oregon, as they cruised to a 17-4 win over a team from Sitka, Alaska Tuesday afternoon, on their first day at a three-day baseball tournament in Phoenix.

Knappa scored 17 runs on 17 hits without an error, with junior Dale Takalo pitching four innings for the win.

Reuben Cruz pitched the fifth, and the junior also had a big day at the plate, going 3-for-4 with a triple.

Knappa catcher Kaleb Miller — an all-state catcher at the 3A level last year with Pleasant Hill — made his Logger debut a memorable one.

The junior was 4-for-5 at the plate, with five runs batted in, two triples, a double and three runs scored.

Knappa's other all-state catcher, Andrew Goozee, had a double, as did Logan Bartlett and Quentin Pinkstaff, while Mason Hoover had a triple and Jason Miller scored four runs. Freshman Eli Takalo was 2-for-3 in his high school debut.

The Loggers return to action today against a team from Palisades, Colo.

Gulls' rally comes up short

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — A Seaside rally came up just short Tuesday at Broadway Field, where the Gulls hosted a nonleague baseball game with Estacada.

The Rangers built an early lead, but Seaside rallied with a six-run sixth inning.

In addition to a double earlier in the game, Dylan Meyer had a run-scoring single; Brent Walsh had a double and a two-run single in the sixth; and a fly ball by Otto Hoekstre that was aided by the wind down the right field line scored three runs for the Gulls.

Meyer had a leadoff single in the bottom of the seventh, but was left stranded as the Rangers were able to escape with the 8-7 win.

Seaside pitcher Gage McFadden provided solid middle-inning relief for the Gulls, who are scheduled to play at Corbett Thursday.

Estacada scored a sweep over Seaside Tuesday, as the Rangers defeated the Lady Gulls 17-4 in a nonleague softball game in Estacada.

Middleton has 26 and Bucks beat the Blazers 93-90

By **ANNE M. PETERSON**
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Khris Middleton scored 26 points, and the Milwaukee Bucks held off the Portland Trail Blazers for a 93-90 victory on Tuesday night.

Giannis Antetokounmpo added 22 points for the Bucks (35-35), who have won nine of 11 as they jostle for playoff position in the Eastern Conference. They are a half-game ahead of Miami for the seventh spot.

Portland (32-38) had won three in a row and eight of 10. It dropped to a full game back of idle Denver for the final postseason berth in the West.

US edges Japan 2-1, advances to WBC title game

By **GREG BEACHAM**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Luke Gregerson's final strike breezed past Nobuhiro Matsuda, and the rain-drenched American players celebrated on the field while a soaked crowd roared through the evening mist.

A daylong downpour couldn't dampen this resilient United States club or its fans, who will finally get to root for the home team in a World Baseball Classic championship game.

Brandon Crawford scored the tie-breaking run when Matsuda bobbled Adam Jones' grounder to third in the eighth inning, and the United States reached the WBC final for the first time by beating Japan 2-1 on Tuesday night at rainy Dodger Stadium.

Andrew McCutchen drove in an early run for the U.S., which will play Puerto Rico for the title Wednesday night. Puerto Rico edged the Netherlands 4-3 in 11 innings Monday.

"It means a heck of a lot," said McCutchen, the Pittsburgh Pirates slugger. "We've got a great group of guys on this team who have dedicated this time to be able to try and win some ballgames. Sacrifices had to be made, and there are no egos when that door opens. That's what's good about this team. Everybody is a superstar on this



AP Photo/Chris Carlson

United States' Buster Posey and Luke Gregerson celebrate after the United States defeated Japan, 2-1, in a semifinal in the World Baseball Classic in Los Angeles, Tuesday. United States will face Puerto Rico in the final.

team. There are no egos."

The World Baseball Classic final has been played in the United States in each of its four editions, but the home team had never been able to play America's pastime on what has become its biggest international stage. The U.S. only reached the semifinals once before, in 2009.

While manager Jim Leyland's current roster is missing Clayton Kershaw, Mike Trout and many other American superstars, the All-Star-laden group that decided to partici-

pate has won two straight elimination games to earn a chance for the U.S.' first crown.

"Coming into this event, I didn't really want to talk about the fact that the United States has never won it (and) they've never gone to the finals," Leyland said. "I didn't think that was a big deal. I wanted this, for the players, to be a memory. I've talked a lot about it. Make a memory. Hopefully it's a real good one, regardless of the results (Wednesday). I know it is for me. It's been an absolute honor."

UP NEXT: TRAIL BLAZERS

• New York Knicks (27-43)
 at Portland Trail Blazers (32-38)
 • Thursday, 7 p.m. TV: MSG, KGW

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Baseball — Palisades, Colo. vs. Knappa, TBA (at Phoenix, AZ)

THURSDAY

Baseball — Seaside at Corbett, 5 p.m.
Softball — Astoria at Mark Morris, 4 p.m.
Track — Warrenton at Ilwaco, 3:30 p.m.;
 NWL Relays, at Columbia Christian, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball — Astoria at Stayton, 4:30 p.m.;
 Cascade at Seaside, 4:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Baseball — Regis at Warrenton (2), 1 p.m.
Softball — Seaside at Warrenton (2), Noon