

SPORTS

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Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
ghenley@dailyastorian.com


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Indians get past Gulls by a single stroke

The Daily Astorian

GEARHART — One stroke was all that separated the Seaside boys golf team from winning the Seaside Invitational, held Monday at Gearhart Golf Links. For the second year in a row, the team title came down to the final golfers. The Seagulls led the tournament by two strokes at the turn, and the team scoring was back and forth with Scappoose the rest of the way.

Seaside led after four golfers from each team were finished. Scappoose's Colton Bush needed a 99 for a tie, which would have given Seaside the win via a tiebreaker from the fifth player's scores.

When Bush came in with a 98, it was Seaside's turn to hope their fifth player could pull them back ahead. The Gulls' John Whittle came in with a career-low score of 92, but it wasn't enough as Scappoose narrowly escaped with a one-stroke victory.

Scappoose won with a team score of 345 to Seaside's 346. Molalla was third with a 362, followed by Ilwaco (364), Astoria (376), Tillamook (377), Cottage Grove (382), Kennedy (423), Taft (430) and Banks (447).

Individually, Ilwaco's Blake Kukula avenged last year's playoff loss for the title by shooting a 3-under-par 69, running away with medalist honors with a 12-stroke victory.

Seaside's Jackson Kunde won a tiebreaker to finish fourth with an 82. The Gulls finished with four players in the top 10 as Samson Sibony tied for seventh with Astoria's Kirk Fausett at 86. Mason Shamion and Connor Merrell each shot 89 to finish in a tie for ninth. John Whittle finished 15th out of 50 golfers with a 92.

"Losing by one is always hard," said Seaside coach Jim Poetsch. "But many great teams have been born out of tough losses. We may not have won a title a few years back had we not missed out on a trophy by three strokes the previous year, and our basketball team may not have been as good as it was this year had we not narrowly missed a title last year."

"Hopefully this will be the motivation we need to go from trying to compete with the top teams to beating the top teams," he said. "We got four kids into the 80s today and nearly all five of them. We've said all season it is not how you play in March; it is how you play in May. Heading into May, we are playing some pretty good golf."

The Gulls play in the State Preview meet at Trysting Tree today.

Lady Fish sweep the Valiants at CMH Field

The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Lady Fishermen — coming off an 18-3 nonleague softball loss to Estacada Saturday — returned to Cowapa League play with a doubleheader sweep over Valley Catholic Monday at CMH Field, 7-0 and 18-8. Astoria geared up for today's first-

place showdown at Banks with a productive day at the plate, where Hailey Ranta highlighted Game 1 with a home run over the fence in the first inning.

Hailey O'Brien — batting leadoff with Rylee DeMander currently out of the lineup — was 3-for-4, while Caitlyn Hougham was 2-for-2 with a dou-

ble and a triple, and Abi Danen had two hits, including a double.

McKailyn Rogers pitched a complete-game, allowing just three hits and three walks with five strikeouts. She also had a triple at the plate.

Julia Norris pitched all six innings of Game 2, allowing 10 hits with a walk and three strikeouts.

Danen was again 2-for-3 with a double; Norris had a double and a triple; Lexx Lyngstad added a triple and Jenna Barendse was 3-for-3.

Astoria improved to 4-2 in league, while Valley Catholic slips to 1-5.

The Lady Fishermen can pull into a first-place tie with a win over Banks (5-1) today.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Scott Plampin, on the mound for the Seaside Seagulls, delivers a pitch to an Astoria batter during a game Monday.

Astoria wins its 32nd straight Clatsop Clash

By GARY HENLEY

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — A moral victory for Seaside ... was just another win for Astoria Monday night at Broadway Field, where the Fishermen defeated the Gulls 4-0, in Cowapa League/Clatsop Clash baseball action.

For the record, it was Astoria's 32nd straight win over the Gulls, whose last victory over the Fishermen took place in Game 2 of a doubleheader on April 13, 2006 — when most of the current Astoria players were just starting grade school.

On the plus side for the Gulls, Astoria's four runs in Monday's game was the lowest run total for the Fishermen against Seaside since Astoria's 4-2 win over the Gulls (also on April 13, 2006, in Game 1 of the doubleheader that day).

Jackson Arnsdorf was all Astoria needed Monday, as the senior tossed a one-hit shut-out, with six strikeouts and two walks over seven innings.

Seaside starter Scotty Plampin worked a solid 3 2/3 innings, striking out five with one walk. Unfortunately for the Gulls, Seaside committed a few too many errors.

"You have to give credit to their kid (Plampin)," said Astoria coach Dave Gasser, "but it didn't look like us at the plate. It was our first Monday game, but you still have to play 'em. You still have to be ready."

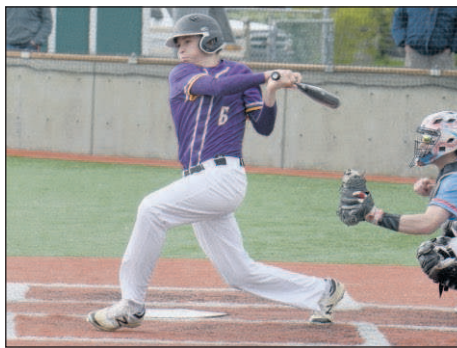
"Seaside's improved, and we didn't have a whole lot of good ABs (at-bats), but thankfully we did our customary defensive thing, and Army has been throwing real well," he said. "He was in the 70s today, so he's good to come back Friday (at Banks). Ole (Englund) will also be ready, and Tyler Lyngstad is getting the OK to start throwing."

Astoria scored one run in the first on a leadoff walk to Englund, followed by two



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Jason Gohl dives headfirst during a close play at the plate for the Astoria Fishermen during their game Monday against Seaside. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Olaf Englund takes a big cut and puts the ball in play for the Astoria Fishermen during a game Monday versus the Seaside Seagulls.

errors, and Englund scored on a first-and-third steal.

Astoria's Burke Matthews had a leadoff infield hit in the third inning, took second on a one-out single to center by Samboy Tuimato, then scored on the third of Seaside's five errors.

The Fishermen had three straight hits to score one run in the fourth — a double down the left field line by Jasyn Gohl, a single to right by Arnsdorf, and a bunt single by Cade O'Brien that scored Gohl.

After a scoreless fifth and sixth, Astoria tacked on a run in the seventh, when Kyle Strange reached on a fielder's choice, stole second, then scored on the Gulls' fifth error of the day.

Gohl had two of Astoria's eight hits, while the Fishermen stranded nine base runners.

The Fishermen and Gulls meet again Wednesday at Astoria, tentatively set for Aiken Field.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Warriors sweep the Trail Blazers

PORTLAND — The Warriors can breathe for a bit after a first-round series filled with drama.

With a sweep of the Portland Trail Blazers, Golden State now

awaits the conclusion of the series between the Utah Jazz and Los Angeles Clippers — currently tied at 2.

The Warriors will also await word on coach Steve Kerr's health — with the short break perhaps providing more clarity about when he can rejoin the team. Kerr missed the last two games after symptoms from his back surgery two years ago suddenly flared up.

The 51-year-old coach was in obvious discomfort just before the team left for the two games at Portland's Moda Center.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. to retire at end of 2017 season

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. abruptly announced his retirement at the end of the season today, a decision that will cost NASCAR its most popular driver as the series scrambles to rebuild its fan base.

Colorful, candid and talented, Earnhardt has been plagued by concussions the last several years and

he missed half of last season recovering from the latest head injury. It caused him to delay contract talks on an extension to drive the No. 88 Chevrolet, and the two-time Daytona 500 winner with deep family roots in auto racing appears ready to call it quits.

A third-generation racer, Earnhardt turns 43 in October, is newly married and has said he wants to start a family.

Earnhardt has become a vocal advocate for research of sports-related brain injuries.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Baseball — Clatskanie at Warrenton, 4 p.m.; Gaston vs. Knappa (at CMH Field), 6 p.m.

Softball — Astoria at Banks, 5 p.m.; Clatskanie at Warrenton, 4 p.m.; Gaston at Knappa, 4:30 p.m.; Life Christian at Ilwaco (2), 3 p.m.

Girls Golf — Seaside at Marshfield Invitational, 10 a.m.

BASEBALL

Astoria 4, Seaside 0

Astoria 101 100 1-4 8 0
Seaside 000 000 0-0 1 5

Arnsdorf and Gohl; Plampin, McFadden (4), Walsh (7) and Walsh, Landwehr (7). W: Arnsdorf. L: Plampin. RBI: Ast, O'Brien. 2B: Ast, Gohl; Sea, Blanchard. LOB: Astoria 9, Seaside 4.

BOYS GOLF

Seaside Invitational

Team: Scappoose 345, Seaside 346, Molalla 362, Ilwaco 364, Cottage Grove 372, Astoria 376, Tillamook 377, Kennedy 423, Taft 430, Banks 447.

Medalist: Blake Kukula, Ilwaco (69)

Seaside (346)

Jackson Kunde 40-42—82
Samson Sibony 42-44—86
Mason Shamion 45-44—89
Connor Merrell 42-47—89
John Whittle 44-48—92

Ilwaco (364)

Blake Kukula 34-35—69
Ethan Bannister 49-44—93
Aslyn Fisher 57-43—100
Brenden Chabot 49-53—102
Tenyson Ramsey 56-47—103

Astoria (376)

Kirk Fausett 44-42—86
Brian Wilder 45-49—94
Taylor Palmberg 46-50—96
Josh Olson 52-48—100
Dylan Altheide-Nielson 52-50—102