

SPORTS

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Astoria girls shoot season best on the links

The Daily Astorian

BANKS — After one round of the Special District 1 girls golf Regional Championships, Oregon Episcopal leads the team standings over Valley Catholic, with Astoria a distant fourth.

The Aardvarks carded a 397 team score Monday at Quail Valley Golf Course in Banks, where 12 schools are competing for the Regional title.

The final round takes place today at Forest Hills Golf in Cornelius.

Morgan Hall of Scappoose is atop the leaderboard with an 85, a one-stroke lead over Anni Li of Oregon Episcopal.

Team-wise, Valley Catholic is 23 strokes off the pace with a 420, followed by Crook County (437), Astoria (446) and Gladstone (521). The top three teams advance to the state tournament.

The Lady Fishermen had a good day on the course, firing a season-best team score, following personal best days for three of their five golfers.

Samantha Hemsley shot 48s on the front and back nine for a first round 96, her personal best. Jenna Travers carded a 107, and was followed by Kristen Travers with a career-best 120, Sadie Wooldridge (123) and Sarah Lertora (personal best 133).

Five schools are competing with incomplete teams, including Seaside.

Caroline Kotson led the Lady Gulls Monday with a 111, followed by Madeline Brown (141) and Caitlin Hillman (155).

Braves defeat Gulls, 10-0

The Daily Astorian

BANKS — Banks was holding a slim 3-0 lead after three innings Monday, before the Braves erupted for seven in the bottom of the fourth, on their way to a 10-0 win over Seaside in Cowapa League baseball action.

Braves pitchers Thomas Cook and Justin Bral teamed up on the three-hit shutout, striking out three with two walks.

Brent Walsh, Payton Westerholm and Isaias Jantes had the only hits for the Gulls, who return to action today vs. Astoria at Tapiola Park.

Bral had three hits and Hayden Vandehey scored three runs for the Braves.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Baseball — Seaside at Astoria, 5 p.m.; Warrenton at Catlin Gabel, 4 p.m.; Knappa at Vernonia, 4:30 p.m.

Softball — Astoria at Valley Catholic, 5 p.m.; Seaside at Tillamook, 4:30 p.m.

Girls Golf — Regionals, at Quail Valley, 11 a.m.

Boys Golf — Regionals, at Quail Valley, TBA

SOFTBALL

Warriors 6, Cougars 1

Warrenton 310 110 0-6 12 0
 Portland AA 000 100 0-1 3 6

WP: Niqui Blodgett (7 K's, 1 walk). LP: Tori Johnson (6 K's, 0 walks). RBI: War, Blodgett, Duncan, Bussert; PA, K.Blank. 2B: War, Little; PA, E.Blank. LOB: Warrenton 8, Portland Adventist 2. DP: Portland Adventist.

BASEBALL

Astoria 2, Tillamook 0

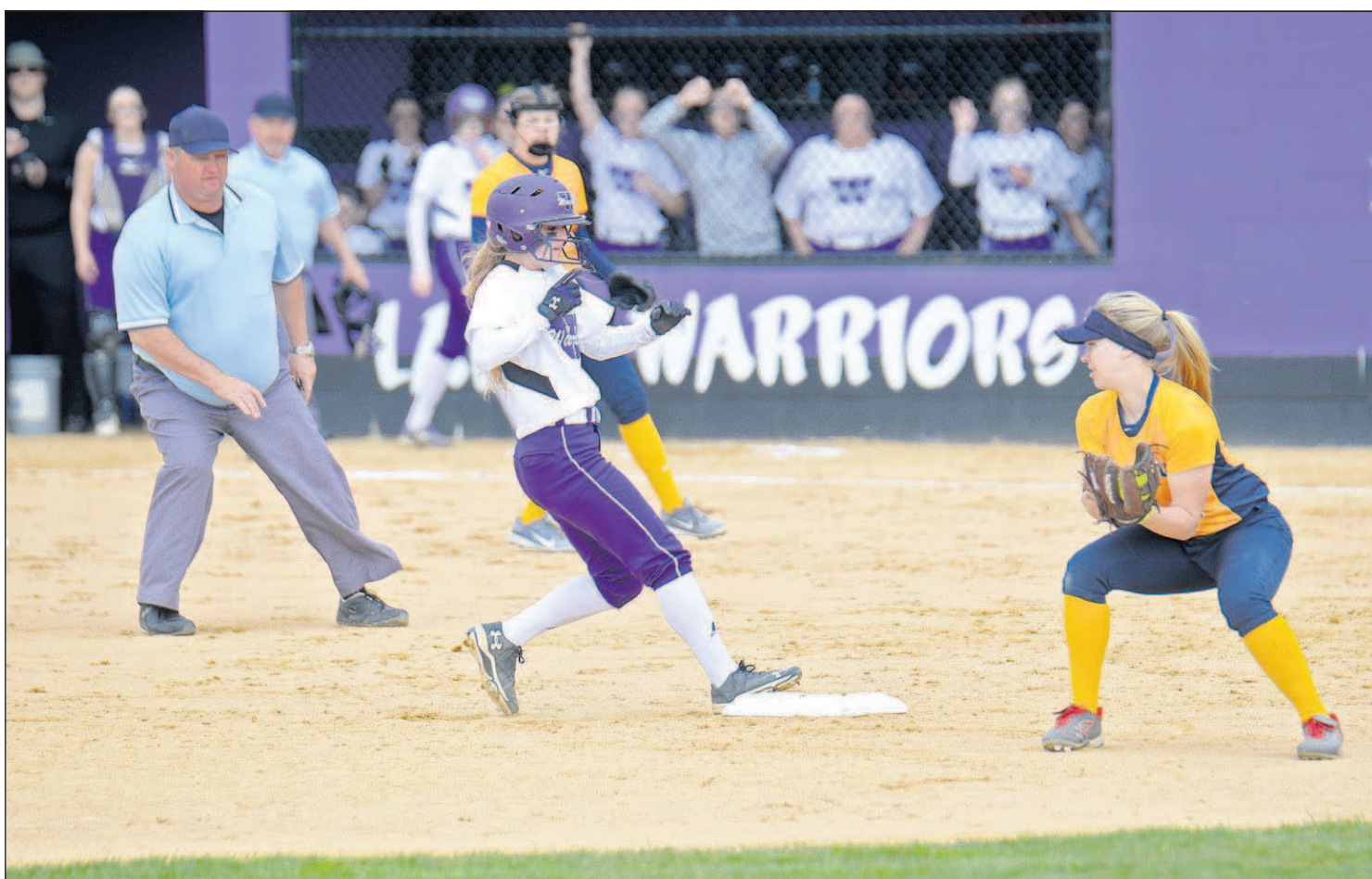
Astoria 000 001 1-2 6 0
 Tillamook 000 000 0-0 1 1

Arnsdorf, Fremstad (7) and Gohi; Harmon and Wagner. W: Arnsdorf. L: Harmon. S: Fremstad. RBI: Ast, Englund, Lyngstad. 2B: Ast, Lyngstad. HBP: Ast, Tuimato; Til, Wagner. LOB: Astoria 4, Tillamook 2.

Banks 10, Seaside 0

Seaside 000 00-0 3 0
 Banks 102 7x-10 12 0

Thompson, Westerholm (4) and Walsh; Cook, Bral (3) and Herb. W: Bral. L: Thompson. RBI: Banks, Applegate 2, Thiessen 2, Evans 2, Partain, Bunn, McGough. 2B: Banks, Applegate, Evans. 3B: Banks, Vandehey. HBP: Sea, Blanchard; Banks, Partain. LOB: Seaside 5, Banks 4.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Tyla Little reaches second for the Warrenton Warriors during a game Monday versus Portland Adventist Academy.

Lady Warriors one step closer to state

By GARY HENLEY
 The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — Other than a top-three finish in league play, the Warrenton Lady Warriors have not officially clinched anything, with two games still remaining on the regular season schedule.

But with their 6-1 win over Portland Adventist Monday, the Warriors just put a downpayment on second place in the Lewis & Clark League standings — along with a spot in the state playoffs, which Warrenton softball hasn't seen since 2013.

With two no-hitters over the last two weeks, Warrenton pitcher Niqui Blodgett is hitting her stride, while the Warriors bats are heating up.

It was all working in Monday's big league showdown with the Cougars, who split a doubleheader with the Warriors earlier in the season.

UP NEXT: LADY WARRIORS

- Warrenton Lady Warriors (8-6) at Clatskanie Lady Tigers (7-7)
- Friday, 3:30 p.m.

And Monday's contest was actually no contest, as Warrenton scored three runs in the top of the first inning (the Warriors were the visiting team) and never looked back.

Warrenton had 13 hits off Portland Adventist senior Tori Johnson, played errorless ball in the field, and Blodgett tossed a three-hitter for another complete-game win.

With the victory, the Warriors improve to 6-4 in league play, 1 1/2 games ahead of Clatskanie (4-5), which plays No. 1-ranked Rainier today.

Warrenton finishes the league season Friday with a doubleheader at Clatskanie, where

the Warriors only need to win one game to clinch second place in the standings. Warrenton (which defeated the Tigers 10-3 in the first meeting) would then host a league playoff May 19.

"It doesn't clinch (second), but if we hadn't won today, getting second place would have been pretty tough," said Warrenton coach Staci Miethe. "We would have had to sweep Friday, so we needed this one to stay in the hunt."

"My girls are pretty confident," she said. "We beat (Clatskanie) pretty soundly the last time. Their pitching isn't as strong as PAA's, and we hit the ball well today. So I think we'll be able to get some hits and score some runs. It will come down to keeping them off the bases."

Monday's game was Senior Day for the Warriors, who had just one senior.

See **LADY WARRIORS**, Page 11A

Warriors await challenge after cruising to 8-0 in NBA playoffs

By KAREEM COPELAND
 Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The Golden State Warriors are four wins from their third consecutive trip to the NBA Finals — and likely a third straight showdown with the Cleveland Cavaliers.

With four All-Stars, including two MVPs, it's not hard to see why.

The Warriors eliminated the Utah Jazz in a sweep Monday night and are 8-0 in the postseason for the first time in franchise history. The Cavaliers, coincidentally, also swept their first two opponents.

For Golden State, the games mostly haven't been close. Only one victory, Game 3 against the Portland Trail Blazers, was decided by fewer than 11 points, and the Warriors never trailed in three of the four games against Utah. The trio of Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant and Draymond Green has been consistently dominant, and Golden State's elite length and athleticism on defense have been stifling.

"We are mostly impressed with how we are playing our brand of basketball," Green said. "We really imposed our will on the other team. That's big. In the playoffs, you let a team get in a groove and it's hard to win games like that."

"We have imposed our will all eight games. That's important on the offensive and defensive end, and if you can do that, with the talent that we have, with the experience that we have, it will be tough to beat us."

In the Western Conference finals,



AP Photo/Rick Bowmer

Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, left, and JaVale McGee (1) share a laugh as they sit on the bench at the end of the second half during Game 4 of the NBA basketball second-round playoff series against the Utah Jazz Monday in Salt Lake City. The Warriors completed a second-round sweep of the Utah Jazz with a 121-95 victory.

Golden State will face the winner of the Spurs and Rockets, who are tied 2-2.

The Warriors are averaging a playoff-high 115.3 points per game, ahead of the Cavaliers' 114.5. Golden State is allowing 98.8 points in the postseason to lead all teams still alive and has a playoff-best 96.9 defensive rating.

The offense has come in waves. One second, it's Curry shining, then Durant or Green the next. All-Star Klay Thompson has been in a bit of a slump, but still scored 21 points in the 121-95 victory Monday night.

Even as games have gotten more physical, Golden State has stayed

strong on the ball and kept turnovers to a minimum, said interim coach Mike Brown. The Warriors' 11.5 turnovers per game lead all teams still playing, and Brown thinks combining that with their elite shooting and defense makes for a peerless combination.

"We feel like we have good shooters, good scorers and we would rather take a bad shot than us trying to make a hero play," Brown said. "And we have a tendency, at times, to try to make hero plays with the basketball because these guys all appreciate

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Astoria win low-scoring battle with Tillamook

The Daily Astorian

TILLAMOOK — Last-place Tillamook put up a fight against first-place Astoria Monday, but in the end, the Fishermen moved one win closer to clinching another Cowapa League baseball title, following a 2-0 victory at Tillamook Monday.

Astoria (11-2) hosts Seaside (3-10) today at Tapiola Park. A Fishermen win and a Banks loss vs. Valley Catholic Wednesday would wrap up the league's No. 1 spot to the state playoffs.

Astoria starter Jackson Arnsdorf and reliever Fridtjof Fremstad allowed just one hit with 15 strikeouts and one walk. But Tillamook pitcher Justin Harmon countered with a six-hitter, with four strikeouts and a walk, and the Cheesemakers (0-13) were locked in a scoreless tie after five innings.

In the sixth, Astoria's Cade O'Brien drew a leadoff walk, stole second and eventually scored on a grounder by Ole Englund.

Kyle Strange led off the seventh with a single, Samboy Tuimato was hit by a pitch, and both advanced on a bunt by Jasyyn Gohl.

A line drive single to center from Tyler Lyngstad scored Strange for the two-run lead.

That's all Fremstad would need, as he retired the Cheesemakers in order to pick up the save.