

SPORTS

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No. 8 Gulls win again



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Alyssia Gonzales prepares to spike the ball for the Seaside Seagulls during Tuesday's match against Gladstone.

Seaside recovers from Game 1 loss

By GARY HENLEY
 The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — The Seaside Gulls overcame a loss in the first set Tuesday night with three inspired victories in Game 2, 3 and 4 on their way to a win over Gladstone, 19-25, 25-16, 25-13, 25-13, in nonleague volleyball action at the Gulls' Nest.

Seaside cleaned up a few errors and problems from the service line in the first two games, and cruised from there as the No. 8-ranked Gulls improved to 4-1 overall.

Seaside had a combined 11 missed serves in Games 1 and 2, but just three missed serves in the final two games.

Alyssia Gonzales, Anna Huddleston and Jetta Ideue served up aces in Game 3, and Tori Tomlin highlighted Game 4 with three straight ace serves to help the Gulls pull away.

Meanwhile, the struggles continue for Gladstone, which may be part of the Cowapa League beginning in the 2018-19 school year.

The Gladiators drop to 0-4, with their first three losses coming by way of three-game sweeps.

Still, Gladstone came out strong in the first game, as senior Elli Philo had a stuff block, a kill and an ace serve to give the Glads an early 11-7 lead.

Seaside rallied briefly, but Gladstone opened up a 20-13 advantage on its way to the Game 1 victory.

The Gulls trailed 7-2 in the second game, but Gonzales caught fire from the line, serving Seaside into a 9-9 tie.

Seaside's Nikki Mercado had a stuff block on a hit by Philo for a 10-9 lead, and the Gulls never trailed again.

Consecutive kills by Mercado, Ideue, Tomlin and Gonzales highlighted the Game 2 win, coupled with a pair of aces from Maddie Jensen, a tap for a kill by Emy Kiser, and Huddleston set Gonzales for a kill at game point.

Games 3 and 4 were not even close, as Seaside's offense found a rhythm, and their



Tori Tomlin, center, drives the ball past the Gladstone defenders for the Seaside Seagulls on Tuesday.

hitters found open spaces on the floor.

Ideue and Tomlin had off-speed kills for points, the left-handed Gonzales delivered a cross-court kill, and Ideue had a pair of aces as Seaside built an eventual 24-11 lead.

It was more of the same in Game 4, in which the Gulls built an 11-2 lead after three straight service aces from Tomlin.

Gladstone rallied to within 13-9, but Seaside bumped the lead right back to 23-10, capped by an ace serve from Huddleston.

Fittingly, Ideue drilled the final serve into the top of the net, but the ball crawled over for a service ace and match point.

Through two weeks, four of the top eight ranked teams in Class 4A are from the Cowapa League.

Cougs down Warriors

PORTLAND — Portland Adventist and Warrenton opened league play in Lewis & Clark League volleyball Tuesday night, with

the Cougars topping the visiting Warriors in four games, 25-18, 25-16, 24-26, 25-23.

"The first two games we started off really slow," said Warrenton coach Staci Mieth. "We were having trouble with our serve-serve and let them get a couple of big runs at the wrong time."

Additionally, she said, "our offense was very tentative. In (Game 3) we played more how I expect them to play. Confident, running the offense and keeping the ball in play. We were able to pull that one out."

Behind the serving of Michelle Arney, the Warriors built an eight-point lead in Game 4, but Portland Adventist chipped away at the deficit and eventually took a 22-19 lead.

The Warriors rallied one last time and tied the game at 23-23, before the Cougars scored the next two points to win the game and match.

Warrenton's Claire Bussert, Morgan Blodgett and Elly Blodgett combined for six blocks.

Astros end no-hit bid by Mariners with HR

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Cameron Maybin homered with one out in the seventh inning to break up the Seattle Mariners' attempt at a combined no-hitter against the Houston Astros.

Maybin's homer was his eighth of the season and it came off reliever Emilio Pagan. The two-run shot gave the Astros a 3-1 lead, which became the final score.

Seattle starter Ariel Miranda tossed six hitless innings but threw 112 pitches. He was replaced by James Pazos to start the seventh. Pazos opened the inning getting Carlos Beltran to fly out on the first pitch. Brian McCann walked and Pazos was replaced by Pagan to face Maybin.

Miranda had five strikeouts, but he struggled with his command and issued six walks. Three of those walks came in the third inning and led to Houston's first run. Miranda walked the bases loaded with one out, and Alex Bregman's sacrifice fly scored Beltran.

Justin Verlander started for the Astros in his first game since being traded by Detroit.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Oregon Ducks head to coast to escape smoky air

EUGENE — The Oregon Ducks moved practice to the coast Tuesday to escape smoky air caused by wildfires across the state.

Players headed by bus to Siu-slaw Middle School in Florence, about 60 miles west of Eugene. The Ducks, coming off a 77-21 victory over Southern Utah last Saturday, host Nebraska this weekend.

The Lane Regional Air Protection Agency reported that air quality in Eugene was at "hazardous" levels.

Gonzaga adds transfer player from Spartans

SPOKANE, Wash. — Brandon Clarke, who led San Jose State in scoring last season, is transferring to Gonzaga.

Clarke will sit out next season and then have two years of eligibility remaining.

Clarke was named first team All-Mountain West Conference last season after scoring 17.3 points and averaging 8.7 rebounds per game for the Spartans.

He led the conference in shooting at 59.2 percent, and added 2.57 blocked shots per game.

— Associated Press

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Volleyball — Astoria at Cascade, 6 p.m.; Clatskanie at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; Delphian at Knappa, 5:30 p.m.

Girls Soccer — St. Helens at Astoria, 7:15 p.m.; Seaside at Corbett, 4:15 p.m.

Boys Soccer — Astoria at St. Helens, 7 p.m.; Corbett at Seaside, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY

Football — Gladstone at Astoria, 7 p.m.; Seaside at Clatskanie, 7 p.m.; Warrenton at Vernonia, 7 p.m.; Toledo at Knappa, 7 p.m.; Toledo (WA) at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.; Rainier Christian at Naselle, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Volleyball — Astoria at Cascade Tournament, TBA; Neah-Kah-Nie Tournament, 9 a.m.

Girls Soccer — Cottage Grove vs. Astoria, at Mac Hi, 4:15 p.m.

Cross Country — Tualatin Invitational, 8:30 a.m.; Logger Elk Run, Teevin Ranch, 10 a.m.

WNBA playoffs set to start

By DOUG FEINBERG
 Associated Press

NEW YORK — The WNBA playoffs start tonight with two single-elimination games in the first round.

Washington hosts Dallas, while Seattle visits Phoenix. There's definitely star power with Diana Taurasi, Brittney Griner, Sue Bird, Breanna Stewart, Elena Delle Donne and Skylar Diggins all participating in the opening round.

It's the second year the league has used this playoff format in which the top eight teams, regardless of conference, make the postseason. The top two teams, Minnesota and Los Ange-

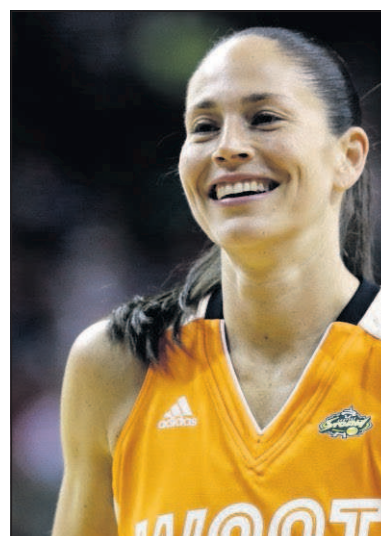
les, get byes until the semifinals. New York and Connecticut finished third and fourth, respectively, and wait for the winners of the opening round.

Here's a look at a few other play-off tidbits:

ON THE ROAD AGAIN: For the second straight year, Seattle is playing on the road. The eighth-seeded Storm also opened the playoffs last year in Atlanta and lost that game. It's been one long road trip for the Storm since the team hosted the All-Star Game in late July. They've played 10 of their final 14 contests on the road and have traveled nearly 23,000 miles during that stretch. While Phoenix is hosting the game, the Mercury won't be able

to play on their homecourt because of a Marvel Live concert in the building. The game will be played at Arizona State.

TOP OF THE HEAP: Taurasi and Bird both moved into first place on WNBA career lists this season. Taurasi took over the top spot in points scored and Bird in assists. The two starred together at UConn before joining the WNBA and also played overseas together in Russia and on the USA Basketball team, earning four Olympic gold medals. Taurasi said in August that it was special playing with Bird at the All-Star Game this year because she didn't know how many more times they'd both be on the court together.



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson

Seattle Storm's Sue Bird moved into first place on a WNBA career list this season.