

CONTACT US

Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
ghenley@dailyastorian.com

Fishermen pound Valley Catholic Valiants, 28-7

The Daily Astorian

BEAVERTON — The Astoria Fishermen opened defense of their Cowapa League title with a win Friday night, a 28-7 second half run-away victory at Valley Catholic.

The surprise of the night came with the halftime score, as Valley Catholic held a 7-0 lead.

But the Valiants lost their best offensive player to an injury early in the third quarter, and the Valiants never recovered.

Astoria’s “bend-but-don’t-break” defense kept the Fishermen in the game in the first half, and the Valiants had no answer for Astoria’s Justin Villa in the second half.

A 5-foot-11, 155-pound junior, Villa returned two second half punts for touchdowns, helping the Fishermen to the easy win. It was Astoria’s sixth straight league win going back to last year. Meanwhile, Valley Catholic has never beaten the Fishermen since joining the Cowapa in 2014.

The Valiants moved the ball well

between the 20’s in the first half, but couldn’t put the ball in the end zone.

The Astoria offense was equally ineffective, and the Valiants eventually took advantage.

Sparked by a halfback pass from Trey Eberhart to Will French for 25 yards, Valley Catholic scored on a 13-yard pass from Daniel Pruitt to Jack Grasberger for the only score of the first half.

But it didn’t take long for the Fishermen to even the score in the third quarter.

Aided by a poor punt from the Valiants — with additional yardage on a Valley Catholic penalty — Astoria started its second drive at the Valiant 15.

It took three plays before Tyler Ranta scored on a 4-yard run to tie the score.

The Valiants lost their big offensive threat on their first drive of the third quarter, as Eberhart went down with a foot injury. And Valley Catholic was lost without its halfback, as the Valiants’ offense was unable to

move the ball the remainder of the night.

The Fishermen soon took advantage, and grabbed the lead on a special teams’ play, with Villa returning a punt 50 yards for a touchdown late in the third quarter.

And Villa put the game away just minutes later, sprinting 65 yards down the right sideline for another punt return early in the fourth quarter.

Astoria returns to action Friday at Seaside.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

Volleyball — Astoria at Scappoose, 7 p.m.; Seaside at Banks, 7 p.m.; Riverdale at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; City Christian at Knappa, 5:30 p.m.

Girls Soccer — Astoria at Tillamook, 7:15 p.m.; Seaside at Valley Catholic, 7 p.m.

Boys Soccer — Tillamook at Astoria, 7:15 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 7:15 p.m.

Cross Country — Warrenton Wreck Race, Fort Stevens, 4:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

Astoria 28, Valley Catholic 7

Astoria	0	0	14	14—28
Valley C.	0	7	0	0—7

Second Quarter

VC: Jack Grasberger 13 pass from Daniel Pruitt (kick good)

Third Quarter

Ast: Villa 50 punt return (Andrew Schauer-mann kick)

Fourth Quarter

Ast: Villa 65 punt return (Schauermann kick)

Ast: Tyler Ranta 32 run (Schauermann kick)

Scappoose 49, Seaside 14

Seaside	0	14	0	0—14
Scappoose	0	14	21	14—49

Second Quarter

Scp: Jimmy Jones 1 run (Benji Davidson kick)

Sea: Payton Westerholm 1 run (Gio Ramirez kick)

Sea: Alex Teubner 13 run (Ramirez kick) :23

Scp: Tevin Jeannis 65 run (Davidson kick) :08

Third Quarter

Scp: 7 run (Davidson kick)

Scp: 22 run (Davidson kick)

Scp: Jones 4 run (Davidson kick)

Fourth Quarter

Scp: Jerad Toman 9 run (Davidson kick)

Scp: Kawika Napaa 10 run (Davidson kick)

Seaside Statistics

Rushing: Teubner 21-136, Ramirez 4-19, Thompson 4-13, Black 5-12, Landwehr 2-10, Westerholm 6-(-1), Johnson 1-(-2). **Passing:** Westerholm 11-17-137-1. **Receiving:** Teubner 3-11, Thompson 2-27, Ramirez 2-22, Blanchard 1-37, Landwehr 1-15, Johnson 1-14, Card 1-11.

Warrenton 41, Nestucca 35

Warrenton	0	35	0	6—41
Nestucca	7	7	14	7—35

Warrenton Statistics

Rushing: Fischer 29-206, Morrow 7-21, Miller 2-20, Jackson 1-6. **Passing:** Morrow 6-13-137-2. **Receiving:** Miller 3-56, Jackson 2-58, Fischer 1-23.

Ilwaco 21, Toutle Lake 19

Ilwaco	7	0	7	7—21
Toutle Lake	6	0	0	13—19

First Quarter

Ilw: Brandon McMullen 5 run (Jorge Galvan kick)

TL: Asher VanHoof 10 run (kick failed)

Third Quarter

Ilw: McMullen 4 run (Galvan kick)

Fourth Quarter

TL: Van Hoof 1 run (pass failed)

Ilw: McMullen 9 run (Galvan kick)

TL: Van Hoof 1 run (Riley Kent kick)

Ilwaco Statistics

Rushing: McMullen16-113, Personius 5-17, Cox 1-11, Kaino 1-6, Duke 5-2. **Passing:** Personius 7-15-72-0. **Receiving:** Kaino 4-48, Jeb Sheldon 1-10, McMullen 1-9, Te.Ramsey 1-5.

Naselle 66, Oakville 8

Naselle	14	38	0	14—66
Oakville	0	0	0	8—8

N: Oggie Lopez 57 pass from Cole Dorman (run failed)

N: Josh Townsen 52 pass from Dorman (run good)

N: Jacob Eaton 2 pass from Dorman (run good)

N: Antonio Nolan 35 int. return (run good)

N: Townsen 22 pass from Dorman (run failed)

N: Nolan 5 int. return (run good)

N: Donny Edwards 37 pass from Dorman (run good)

N: Fa’aso Tutu’u 31 run (run failed)

N: Tutu’u 35 int. return (run good)

Naselle Comets score easy win at Oakville

The Daily Astorian

OAKVILLE, Wash. — Naselle built a 52-0 halftime lead on its way to a 66-8 win at Oakville Friday.

Six different players scored touchdowns for the Comets, who returned three interceptions for touchdowns.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Spectators watch as athletes navigate a water obstacle during the 3-Course Challenge at Camp Rilea on Saturday. Find more photos from the challenge online at DailyAstorian.com/sports

Over 2,100 runners finish the 3-Course Challenge

By GARY HENLEY
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — “Celebrating the sport of cross-country” is how Neil Branson always describes the 3-Course Challenge.

And they do it up big in the annual meet, which took place Saturday at Camp Rilea.

Seaside High School is the host for the event, one of the biggest youth cross-country meets on the West Coast.

This year, the meet featured 2,107 runners finishing, with 77 high schools, 22 middle schools and two running clubs showing up.

Branson has retired as the Seaside cross-country coach, but the longtime leader of the Gulls is still in charge of the 3-Course Challenge.

Being retired from coaching, Branson said, “it’s easier to put time into this. And of course the volunteers are consistently great, and the people at Camp Rilea amaze me at how hard they work on this thing.”

In addition, “it’s nice to keep my finger in the pie. I love cross-country and being around the kids. This is an event that people appreciate, so it’s nice and healthy to make it happen.”

Teams that traveled the farthest distance to compete this year included Cerritos High School from Southern California, along with Monta Vista from the San Francisco Bay Area, and Canadian schools Walnut Grove (from Langley, British Columbia) and West Point Grey (Vancouver, British Columbia).

As always, the local schools had some success, both individually and as teams.

The Astoria girls’ team was the top Division 3 team, with all of their finishes combined.

Astoria senior McKenzie Burnett finished eighth out of 236 finishers in the Easy race; and Ilwaco’s Eliza Bannister was 11th to help her team place fifth in the team standings.

Astoria freshman Sophie Long was 12th out of 238 runners on the Hard course.

At the middle school level, Astoria eighth-grader Lindsay Riutta was seventh out of 113 runners in the 3,000-meter middle school race; and Warrenton eighth-grader Gabe Boisvert was 13th out of 123 runners in the boys’ middle school event.

There was also two smaller 3,000-meter challenge races (with 10 to 15 runners each), both of which were won by Seaside athletes (Jacie Gregory, girls; Rain Cannon, boys).

Astoria scores milestone win at Seaside

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — It was one small step for the Astoria girls soccer program, and one giant leap for the Lady Fishermen.

For the first time since 2013, Astoria posted a Cowapa League win over a team other than Tillamook, as the Lady Fishermen scored a goal in each half for a 2-0 victory over Seaside Saturday night at Broadway Field.

It was Astoria’s first win in the Clatsop Clash girls soccer series since a 1-0 victory in 2008. And the Lady Fish had not won a 2-0 game over their rivals since 2002.

In Saturday’s contest, early shots on goal by Astoria’s Tailiegh Cole and Abby Albright were halted by Seaside keeper Sidney Owsley, before the Fishermen scored at the 28:00 mark.

Astoria freshman Hayley Kelley intercepted a goal kick by Owsley, took a few steps forward and scored from 15 yards out for a 1-0 lead.

A pass moments later from Sarah Lertora to Elizabeth Whitsett almost netted a second goal for Astoria, but Owsley made the save.

Owsley saved three more attempts over the first 16 minutes of the second half, while Seaside shots on goal by Katie Zagata were off the mark.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Chloe Bartel, left, wearing number 5, and Sarah Lertora, right, wearing number 10, struggle for control of the ball during Saturday’s soccer match between Seaside and Astoria.

MORE SPORTS

Clatsop Clash: Astoria, Seaside boys soccer teams battle to 2-2 draw

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Astoria had the clincher in the 72nd minute, as Cole took a pass up the middle and outraced the Seaside

defense to score past Owsley for the 2-nil lead.

Seaside defender Bryre Babbitt was effective in stopping other Fishermen attacks, while Astoria keeper Lexi Law got the shutout in goal, making five saves.

Junior Varsity: Astoria 1, Seaside 0.

FOOTBALL BRIEFS

Big second half helps Scappoose Indians defeat Seaside Gulls

SCAPPOOSE — It’s not often that the Seaside Gulls come into a game ranked higher than the Scappoose Indians, but that was the case Friday night in Scappoose in a Cowapa League football opener.

And for one half, the Gulls looked like the higher-ranked team, leading 14-7 in the final minute of the second quarter.

But a 65-yard touchdown run by the Indians’ Tevin Jeannis in the closing seconds of the first half tied the game, and was the first of six unanswered touchdowns by Scappoose in a 49-14 win over Seaside.

Payton Westerholm and Alex Teubner had second quarter TD runs for the Gulls, while Teubner finished with 136 yards rushing on 21 attempts, running his season total to 630 yards in four games, with eight touchdowns.

Seaside will look to bounce back Friday at home against Astoria, 7 p.m.

Warrenton Warriors defeat Nestucca, end losing streak

CLOVERDALE — Warrenton’s 12-game losing streak finally came to an end Friday as the Warriors posted a 41-35 nonleague football win at Nestucca.

The Warriors built a 35-7 lead, then watched as the Bobcats rallied to tie the game at 35-35 in the fourth quarter before Warrenton scored the game-winning touchdown.

Logan Fischer’s TD with 3:58 remaining was the final six points and clinched Warrenton’s first victory since 2015.

“We made it more stressful than we needed to, but good for our kids to get one,” said Warrenton coach Ian O’Brien. “The kids battled to get our first win in a couple years.”

Fischer was the Warriors’ workhorse, rumbling for 206 yards and four touchdowns on 29 carries.

Fischer also returned an interception 30 yards for a score, and teammate Devin Jackson returned an interception 40 yards for a touchdown, both in a 35-point second quarter for the Warriors. Quarterback Jake Morrow added a touchdown run, and completed 6-of-13 passes for 137 yards.

Ilwaco Fishermen hang on for win over Toutle Lake

TOUTLE, Wash. — Ilwaco snapped a two-game losing skid with a 21-19 win at Toutle Lake Friday in a nonleague football game.

Brandon McMullen scored three touchdowns for the Fishermen, the last with 7:27 left in the fourth quarter that gave Ilwaco a 21-12 lead.

Jorge Galvan made all three point-after touchdown kicks for the Fishermen, while Toutle Lake failed the conversions after its first two scores.

McMullen finished with 113 yards rushing on 16 attempts, while Alex Kaino caught four passes for 48 yards.

— The Daily Astorian