

SPORTS

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Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
 ghenley@dailyastorian.com

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Warrenton grapplers fourth in district meet

By **GARY HENLEY**
The Daily Astorian

WILLAMINA — Warrenton finished fourth out of nine teams Saturday on the final day of wrestling in the 3A Special District 1 tournament at Willamina High School.

The Warriors finished with 167.5 points in the team standings, just one point behind third-place Dayton. Willamina was the big winner, racking up 337 points for the team title ahead of Rainier (225.5).

“We knew we wouldn’t have a load of champions, but we brought a big team and felt that if everyone chipped in, we could finish in a spot that we could be proud of,” said Warrenton coach Corey Conant.

The Warriors will send three wrestlers to the state meet, Feb. 16-17 in Portland.

And the trio includes one individual district champion, as junior Kaden Gilbert won the title at 182 pounds, and will make his third trip to the state meet, his first with Warrenton.

With just five wrestlers competing in the 182-pound bracket, Gilbert opened with byes in the first two rounds.

He scored a fall (1:32) over Chris Byrum of Taft in a semifinal match to qualify for state.

And Gilbert capped his tournament with a technical fall (2:38, 18-1) over Dayton’s Leonel Rosas in the championship match.

Warrior freshman Sam Irwin will also head to state, taking third out of five wrestlers at 195.

Irwin had a bye in the first round, won by forfeit in the second round, and lost by a fall (1:57) to Dayton’s Blake Larsen in the semifinals.

He bounced back in consolation, where he pinned teammate Leo Thompson in 2:14, then won the third-place match with a 9-7 decision over De La Salle’s Josue Hernandez.

At 285 pounds, Warrenton’s Beau Reynolds was 2-1 on the mat and finished third to qualify for state.

After a first-round bye, Reynolds pinned Dayton’s Guillermo Lopez in just 11 seconds in a quarterfinal match.

In the semifinals, Willamina’s Tanner Cavan had a 36-second pin over Reynolds, sending the Warrior senior to the consolation bracket, where he won another short match, a 15-second pin over Lopez.

There were 13 wrestlers in the bracket at 170 pounds, where Warrenton’s Morgan Buoy lost a first round match to Clatskanie’s Alvin Roberts.

But Buoy stayed afloat with four straight wins in the consolation bracket, with falls over Logan Gilleo of Taft (4:17) and DeAndra Brocksterman of Sheridan (5:07).

He scored a 4-3 decision against De La Salle’s Zachary Mahoney, followed by a 4-2 overtime win over De La Salle’s Maxwell Castillo.

In the third-place final, Willamina’s Nate Konovalov scored an 8-1 decision over Buoy, who placed fourth.

“We were so proud of the way Morgan fought,” Conant said. “The team points were huge, but he served as an even bigger inspiration to the rest team throughout the whole tournament.”

Also at 170, Warrenton’s Gabe Lagana scored three pins in consolation to place sixth.

“Over the course of the season, it is typically expected that you will lose a certain number of wrestlers to injuries, grades or students deciding they want to quit,” Conant said. “We kept almost our entire team with us from the beginning of the year to the end.”

“All season we talk about how the district tournament is like an end-of-the-year exam,” he said. “The team felt like they could have finished higher, but this was a performance they should be proud of.”

Knappa wrestlers qualify for state

The Daily Astorian

MONROE — The Knappa wrestling team made the trip to the 2A/1A Special District 1 tournament, hosted by Monroe, last Friday and Saturday.

Vernonia scored the team championship with 305 points, far ahead of second-place Monroe (148), while Knappa took seventh out of nine teams.

The Loggers qualified two wrestlers for the state meet.

Luke Goozee was 2-0 on the mat to win the title at 132 pounds, while Robert Pina took second at 113.

Goozee was the top-seeded athlete in his bracket, and wrestled a little over three minutes.

After a first-round bye, he pinned Toledo’s Ryder Smith in 1:09 in the semifinals. In the championship bout,

Goozee scored a 1:58 fall over Neah-Kah-Nie’s Eochaid Fry.

Pina had just two other wrestlers in the bracket at 113.

He pinned Monroe freshman Jared Egbert in 56 seconds in the semifinals, before a 13-3 loss to Vernonia’s Wyatt Jones in the championship.

Elsewhere, Knappa freshman Isaac Goozee was 3-1 for third out of eight wrestlers at 182.

He finished with a fall (3:24) over Nestucca’s Jeffrey Adair in the third-place final.

“There was a lot of good competition, especially with Toledo and Kennedy coming into our league,” said Knappa coach Dan Owings.

Team scores: Vernonia 305, Monroe 148, Neah-Kah-Nie 140, Toledo 112, Siletz Valley 111, Nestucca 90, Knappa 86, Kennedy 45, Waldport 42.



Seaside’s Andrew Gastelum, top, gets the upper hand on Tillamook’s Daniel Garcia in the third-place match at 113 pounds. Gastelum eventually won, 6-2.

Brad Mosher/Tillamook Headlight Herald

Astoria, Seaside wrestlers compete at league meet

By **GARY HENLEY**
The Daily Astorian

TILLAMOOK — The host team was the best team over the weekend in the Cowapa League wrestling championships at Tillamook.

The host Cheesemakers ran away with the team title, racking up 477 points. Scappoose was a distant second with 259.5 points, followed by Banks (223), Seaside (73) and Astoria (34).

Despite their last-place team finish, Fishermen senior Trey Hageman earned big points for Astoria, placing second at 160 pounds.

Hageman opened with pins over Seaside freshman Jeremiah Stanley (18 seconds) and Tillamook sopho-

more Alex Werner (1:45).

In the championship match, Tillamook junior Caleb Werner pinned Hageman in 3:39.

Astoria’s Juan Jimenez took fourth place out of four wrestlers at 106, and Dalton Somers placed fifth at 132, pinning Carsen Andersen of Scappoose in a consolation final.

Sophomore Luke Nelson had the highest finish for Seaside.

After a first-round bye, Nelson won a 12-11 decision over Tillamook’s Dawson McKibbin in a semifinal match, before losing by technical fall (18-1) to top seed Brendan Dreyer of Banks in the title match.

At 113, Seaside’s Andrew Gastelum lost an 8-7 decision to Tillamook freshman David Herrera

in the championship semifinals, then bounced back with a 6-2 win over Tillamook sophomore Daniel Garcia in the third-place match.

Junior Christopher Avery added a third-place finish for the Gulls at 170, where Avery won two consolation matches including a 15-5 major decision over Tillamook’s Stephen Lilly in the third-place match.

Seaside senior Donald LaTourette took fourth out of seven wrestlers at 126, winning two matches by fall before a loss in the third-place final.

Astoria and Seaside wrestlers will be back in action and looking to qualify for the state meet, in the 4A Special District 1 Regional meet, Friday and Saturday at Molalla.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

TODAY

Girls basketball — Astoria at Seaside, 6 p.m.; Columbia Christian at Knappa, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Crosshill Christian, 5:30 p.m.

Boys basketball — Astoria at Seaside, 7:45 p.m.; Columbia Christian at Knappa, 7:45 p.m.; Jewell at Crosshill Christian, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Boys basketball — De La Salle at Warrenton, 6 p.m.

Girls basketball — De La Salle at Warrenton, 7:45 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Warrenton 48, Portland Chr. 39

Warrenton 5 8 21 14—48

Portland Chr. 11 8 3 17—39

WAR (48): Fernanda Alvarez 16, Bussert 12, Little 8, Heyen 7, Ramsey 3, Diego 2, Kapua.

PC (39): Maddie DeLucia 15, McKinney 13, Howard 6, Conard 5.

Warrenton Lady Warriors clinch third place in league

The Daily Astorian

PORTLAND — Coupled with Clatskanie’s win over De La Salle, the Warrenton girls basketball team clinched a third-place finish in the Lewis & Clark League standings Monday with a 48-39 win at Portland Christian.

In their final visit to Portland Christian as league foes, the Warriors overcame a six-point halftime deficit with a 21-3 run in the third quarter.

“For whatever reason, we played a sub-par first half,” said Warrenton coach Robert Hoepfl. “But we came back with the 21-3 third quarter. The

biggest play (when the game was tied at 19-19), came when Claire (Bussert) hit a 3-pointer, and there was a foul underneath on the shot. She made the free throw, and we went up 23-19.”

Bussert was 7-of-9 at the free throw line in the fourth quarter (9-for-11 for the game) and finished with 12 points, while Fernanda Alvarez was unstoppable down the stretch, and led the Warriors with 16. Tyla Little added eight points.

The Warriors host De La Salle Wednesday.

In the boys’ game, Portland Christian defeated Warrenton 63-40.

SWIMMING

Astoria boys place second in league meet

By **GARY HENLEY**
The Daily Astorian

ST. HELENS — With the district meet up next, the five Cowapa League schools with swim teams met Friday in St. Helens, for the annual league meet hosted by Scappoose.

And while the Tillamook girls and Scappoose boys made off with the team titles, the Astoria boys placed second and the Astoria girls took third. Both Seaside teams finished fourth.

And if times and places are any indication, the Fishermen and Gulls will qualify several swimmers for the state meet, Feb. 16-17 in Gresham.

With Scappoose moving to the 5A level next year, the future of the Cowapa belongs to Astoria on the boys’ side.

Individually, the Fishermen had victories from sophomore Riley Cameron in the 200-yard freestyle (2 minutes, 2.2 seconds) and freshman Davis Wingard in the 200-yard individual medley (2:23.72).

Senior Thayne Covert added a win in the 500-yard freestyle (5:38.90), with teammate Elias Simmons third.

The Fishermen added points with a second-place showing for Cameron in the 100-yard freestyle.

Astoria took second in a pair of relays. Cameron, Simmons, Cole Beeson and Ryder Dopp teamed up for second in the 200-yard freestyle, swimming a 1:41.68 to finish behind Scappoose. Astoria’s 400-yard freestyle relay capped the meet by taking second in 3:50.40, also behind Scappoose.

The Indians scored 371 points for the team title, followed by Astoria (323). Valley Catholic was a distant third (157).

Seaside scored 148 points, but the Gulls highlighted the meet with a pair of league record swims, both by Josh Shipley.

The junior posted a 22.89 time in winning the 50-yard freestyle, and returned later in event 20, winning the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:03.50, well ahead of the second place time (1:11.68).

The Gulls added a second-place showing in the 200-yard medley relay, with Shipley teaming with Isaiah Collins, Henry Garvin and Dawson Blanchard for a 1:55.07 finish, a four-second drop in their season best.

Collins also took second in the 100-yard backstroke.

On the girls’ side, the Lady Fishermen did not have any wins, but performed well in the relays.

Freshmen Tori Smith and Grace Peeler teamed with seniors Megan Schacher and Izzy Williams for second in the medley relay (2:15.84). The foursome of Peeler, Smith, Schacher and Moira Welsh took third in the 200 relay.

Smith also took second in the individual medley and Schacher placed second in the 100-yard butterfly in 1:21.61.

For the Seaside girls, junior Kendy Lin scored big points with second place showings in the 200 freestyle and the backstroke. Freshman Brooke Blankenhorn had a 15-second drop in her time for second in the 500 (7:05.90), and teammate Kaisa Liljenwall dropped 30 seconds for fourth in the same event.