

# SPORTS

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## CLATSOP CLASHES

### Seaside boys back at full strength, as Gulls defeat Astoria

By **GARY HENLEY**  
*The Daily Astorian*

SEASIDE — The best way to cure a two-game losing skid is a Clatsop Clash win.

Which is exactly what the Seaside Gulls accomplished Tuesday night at home, as they avoided a rare three-game losing streak by flying past Astoria, 54-39, in a Cowapa League boys basketball game.

And Seaside was back at full strength in front of their packed house at the Gulls' Nest, and looking much like a defending state champion is supposed to look.

They're also right back in a position to re-take the Cowapa League.

Seaside improves to 5-2 in league, back within a game of first-place Banks, which lost Tuesday to Valley Catholic. The Gulls host the Valiants Friday, and also host Banks in the regular season finale.

The Gulls had their floor game working in Tuesday's win, scoring off turnovers and draining 3-pointers.

Their only problem in the first quarter — the Fishermen were right there with them.

Astoria was matching Seaside shot-for-shot early on, as the game was tied 15-15 late in the opening period, before a late 3-pointer by Payton Westerholm.

And those points put Seaside in front to stay, as Ryan Hague knocked down a trey early in the second quarter, and senior Rafi Sibony keyed an 8-0 run with a pair of 3-pointers late in the first half.

Seaside was 5-of-13 from the 3-point line in the first half, and the Gulls held Astoria to just four free throws in the third quarter.

Chase Januik was back in the starting lineup for Seaside and scored 10 points, behind Hague's 12. Duncan Thompson had nine points, and Beau Johnson was also back in the lineup, scoring eight points.

Astoria's Karsten Johnson led all scorers with 14 points, with Ian Hunt tossing in 12 for the Fishermen.

### Astoria Lady Fishermen reel off 19-0 run in win at Seaside

By **GARY HENLEY**  
*The Daily Astorian*

SEASIDE — With Banks holding down the top spot in Cowapa League girls basketball at 7-0, the Astoria Lady Fishermen may have to focus on catching Valley Catholic for second place.

And Astoria moved one game closer to the Valiants Tuesday night. Coupled with Banks' win over Valley Catholic, the Lady Fishermen are now just one game out of second place in the Cowapa, following a 56-41 victory at Seaside.

The Clatsop Clash rivals came into the contest with identical 3-3 league records. And they were fairly even on the court over the first few minutes, with Astoria holding a 6-5 lead.

That's where the Fishermen took flight, scoring the next 19 points for a 25-5 lead midway through the second quarter.

While Astoria was knocking down 3-pointers (two by Sam Hemsley, a third by Hailey O'Brien), the Gulls were struggling with turnovers.

Seaside had 12 turnovers during the same 19-0 run by Astoria, and finished the first half with 20 turnovers.

The Fishermen held a 29-9 halftime lead, and kept the lead at 20 points with three more 3-pointers in the third quarter, from Julia Norris, McKailyn Rogers and Hemsley.

Hemsley poured in 21 points to lead all scorers, while Bryre Babbitt and Annaka Garhofer scored seven apiece for Seaside.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Timber Engblom goes for a layup for the Loggers.

## Knappa Loggers boys team topples No. 2-ranked Columbia Christian

By **GARY HENLEY**  
*The Daily Astorian*

**K**NAPPA — The favorites for the Class 2A state title in boys basketball?

It's looking more and more like the Knappa Loggers.

Having already knocked off No. 1-ranked Western Mennonite, the Loggers took down No. 2 Columbia Christian, 64-58, in a Tuesday night showdown between the two powers of 2A boys basketball and the Northwest League.

And the Knights and Loggers (currently tied at 16-1 in the NWL standings) may not even be halfway done in the battle to be the best.

In an odd standard operating procedure for the league, the two teams will likely have to play a tie-breaker for the NWL title early next week, which will decide first place in the regular season.

Then the Knights and Loggers will turn right around and play a fourth — and most meaningful — game Feb. 17 at a neutral site for the No. 1 seed to the state playoffs. And once they get to state, the Knights and Loggers could end up facing each other at the state tournament in Pendleton.

For now: Advantage, Knappa. The Knappa gymnasium was packed Tuesday like it was for games 20 years ago — which, incidentally, was also a state championship season for the Loggers.

"Round 2 goes to us," said Knappa coach Chris Spencer. "But we'll see them again.

We're not done with that team yet."

Knappa trailed after one quarter in Tuesday's game, but the Loggers ran the Knights off the court the rest of the way.

"We just wanted it more," Spencer said. "We spread them out and just kept attacking. Just straight attacking, and we didn't take our foot off the gas."

And offensively, it was also a balanced attack for the Loggers, who finished with four players in double figures.

Eli Takalo led with 17 points, followed by Timber Engblom with 15. Dale Takalo was held well below his scoring average but still finished with 12, and Colton Weirup chipped in 10.

"Eli had three threes, and they all came at big times," Spencer said. "Eli and Dale had key baskets, and Joe Ramvick added a couple key scores. (The Knights) still made a run in the fourth and got to within four, but Timber made a big and-one (three-point play) with about two minutes left, and Dale did the rest at the free throw line," where he was 5-for-6 in the fourth quarter.

The biggest shot — distance-wise — belonged to Engblom, who drilled a half-court shot to finish the first half, giving Knappa a 33-28 lead.

### Playoff hopes alive for Knappa girls after win

**K**NAPPA — The Knappa girls basketball

team capped the regular season Tuesday with their third win, a 32-25 decision over Columbia Christian in a Northwest League finale.

And while the Loggers are ranked 35th out of 39 teams at the 2A level with a 3-19 record, that should be good enough for a spot in the Northwest League playoffs.

"Three wins — who would have guessed that we could make the playoffs," asked Knappa coach Marie Green.

Yet if City Christian can defeat Columbia Christian Thursday, Knappa will finish sixth in the league standings, enough to make the league playoffs. If Columbia Christian wins Thursday, the Loggers and Knights would have a tie-breaker playoff for sixth.

Knappa built a 17-8 halftime lead in Tuesday's win, only to see Columbia Christian rally to tie the game at 19-19 in the fourth quarter.

But after a 2-for-12 performance at the free throw line in the first half, the Loggers were 11-for-15 in the second half, and put the game away with free throws.

"After (the Knights) tied it, I just told the girls, 'it's a 0-0 game for six minutes.' And they responded and did what they needed to do," Green said.

Paris Vanderburg highlighted the finish by going 7-of-8 at the line in the final period to finish with 11 points, six steals, five rebounds and three assists.

Aiko Miller added eight points, eight boards and five steals.

Knappa's first-round playoff game will likely be at either Gaston or Neah-Kah-Nie.

## Washington welcomes home Georgia transfer QB Eason

*Associated Press*

SEATTLE — Washington announced former Georgia quarterback Jacob Eason is transferring to the Huskies.

Eason was a five-star recruit from Lake Stevens High School near Seattle. He signed with Georgia in 2016 and

started as a freshman, but injured his knee in last season's opener and never could regain his starting job from freshman Jake Fromm. Georgia went to the national title game with Fromm and soon after Eason said he was transferring back home.

The day before signing day in col-

lege football, Washington made it official with a tweet. Eason passed for 2,458 yards and 16 touchdowns with eight interceptions in 16 games for Georgia.

He will have sit out this season to fulfil NCAA requirements, but he would be on target to replace senior Jake Browning in 2019.

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

**TODAY**  
**Boys basketball** — De La Salle at Warrenton, 6 p.m.  
**Girls basketball** — De La Salle at Warrenton, 7:45 p.m.

**THURSDAY**  
**Girls basketball** — Jewell at Willamette Valley Christian, 6 p.m.  
**Boys basketball** — Knappa at Life Christian, 7:45 p.m.; Jewell at Willamette Valley Christian, 7:30 p.m.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

**Seaside 59, Astoria 34**  
**Astoria** 15 6 4 9—34  
**Seaside** 18 13 11 17—59  
**AST (34):** Karsten Johnson 14, Hunt 12, Brockman 4, Stenblom 2, Olson 2, Long, Tice, Kee, Matlock, Marinovich, P.Johnson, Palmberg.

**SEA (59):** Ryan Hague 12, Januik 10, Thompson 9, Westerholm 8, Be.Johnson 8, Sibony 6, Carter 2, Meyer 2, Ritterby 2, Landwehr.

**Knappa 64, Columbia 58**  
**Columbia** 14 14 10 20—58  
**Knappa** 12 21 15 16—64  
**CC (58):** Dominic Blake 18, Gregg 14, Mariscal 10, Hartman 9, Johnson 6, Bishop 1.

**KNA (64):** Eli Takalo 17, Engblom 15, D. Takalo 12, Colton Weirup 10, Ramvick 6, Miller 4.

**Crosshill 75, Jewell 33**  
**Jewell** 9 6 10 8—33  
**Crosshill** 22 10 24 19—75

**JWL (33):** Ben Stahly 18, R.Kane 6, N.Kane 3, Lilley 2, Nelson 2, Lyons 2, Chronister, Berg, Meehan.

**CC (75):** Andrew Stoddard 13, Cotter 11, Towers 10, Dallum 10, T.Vanderhoof 8, K.Vanderhoof 8, Poliakov 7, DeJager 5, Knox 3.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

**Astoria 56, Seaside 41**  
**Astoria** 10 19 17 10—56  
**Seaside** 5 4 17 15—41

**AST (56):** Sam Hemsley 21, Norris 9, O'Brien 8, Hankwitz 6, Rogers 3, Long 3, Cummings 2, Fausett 2, Jackson 2, Helmersen.

**SEA (41):** Bryre Babbitt 7, Annaka Garhofer 7, Davis 6, Smart 6, Kiser 5, Zagata 5, Ideue 3, Angulo-Joli 2.

**Knappa 32, Columbia 25**  
**Columbia** 4 4 6 11—25  
**Knappa** 6 11 2 13—32  
**CC (25):** Delilah Carter 15, Martes 5, Skelton 4, Davis 1.

**KNA (32):** Paris Vanderburg 11, Miller 8, Weaver 4, Tischer 4, Carlson 2, Inman 2, Taggart 1, Hendrickson, Corcoran, Ramvick.

**Crosshill 23, Jewell 16**  
**Jewell** 0 0 8 8—16  
**Crosshill** 3 6 8 6—23

**JWL (16):** Gabi Morales 7, Guillen 6, Kaczynski 3, N.Morales, Olvera, Meier, DeWees, Shaw, Haddock, Norman.

**CC (23):** Abby Bartel 12, M.Bartel 6, Schanz 2, Hemelstrand 2, Slagle 1.

### Crosshill Christian tops Jewell girls

TURNER — The Jewell girls basketball team did not score a single point in the first half of Tuesday's game at Crosshill Christian — yet the Lady Jays still were not out of the game, trailing just 9-0 at the break.

In the end, Jewell could not catch the Eagles, who posted a 23-16 win over the Jays in a Casco League contest.

Gabi Morales scored seven points with four steals to lead Jewell. Emma Guillen added six points and six rebounds.

Jewell has one regular season game remaining, Thursday at Willamette Valley Christian. However, Jewell has clinched third place in the league standings, and will face Crosshill again in a league playoff. The winner will play Perrydale for the No. 1 seed to the state playoffs.

### Jewell boys fall at Crosshill Christian

TURNER — Crosshill Christian's Andrew Stoddard scored 13 points to lead four players in double figures, helping the Eagles fly past the Jewell Blue Jays 75-33 in a Casco League boys basketball game Tuesday.

Ben Stahly scored 18 points with seven rebounds to lead Jewell.

— *The Daily Astorian*