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SPORTS

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WINTER GAMES 2018

MEDAL TRACKER

Final count

TOP 10 MEDAL WINNERS

1.		Norway	14	14	11
2.		Germany	14	10	7
3.		Canada	11	8	10
4.		United States	9	8	6
5.		Netherlands	8	6	6
6.		Sweden	7	6	1
7.		South Korea	5	8	4
8.		Switzerland	5	6	4
9.		France	5	4	6
10.		Austria	5	3	6

Olympics coverage at bit.ly/DAOlympics

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Ilwaco girls sail past La Conner

LONGVIEW, Wash. — The Ilwaco girls basketball team is now within three victories of a Class 2B state championship, following an easy 60-28 win Saturday over La Conner in Longview, Washington.

They will face either Saint George's or Mabton at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in Spokane.

Naselle boys blaze past Pateros

LONGVIEW, Wash. — The Naselle Comets are headed to Spokane, following a 66-42 win over Pateros in a Class 1B boys basketball state playoff Friday in Longview, Washington.

Naselle plays Tacoma Baptist in the first round of the Hardwood Classic in Spokane, tip-off at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday. The winner will play Sunnyside Christian.

— The Daily Astorian

TICKET PUNCHED

Knappa boys are headed for state after hammering Reedsport, 81-35

By GARY HENLEY
The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — Eight years without a state championship. In the world of Knappa boys basketball, that's considered a drought.

But if they play like they did Friday night, the Knappa Loggers could finally bring that streak to an end, as they made a solid case for "best in state" in a Sweet 16 win over visiting Reedsport, 81-35.

"Ticket punched," said Knappa boys basketball coach Chris Spencer, referring to his team's clinching a spot at the Class 2A state tournament in Pendleton.

Like the previous 11 teams that have played in the Loggers' Den (including the top two ranked teams in the state), the Braves never had a chance.

Reedsport did hold an early 4-0 lead, but that was the highlight of the night for the same school that lost to Knappa in last year's state championship baseball game, when the Braves squandered a six-run lead in the seventh inning.

The Loggers didn't need a late-game rally to win this one.

After spotting Reedsport four points, Knappa scored the next 12 and never looked back.

Eli Takalo, Colton Weirup and Timber Engblom each made a 3-pointer in the first quarter. The same three, plus Ty Vanderburg, knocked down treys in the second quarter, and the Loggers finished the first half 7-for-15 from the 3-point line. Thank you, home court advantage.



Dale Takalo lays the ball in.

Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

"It's nice to be at home," Spencer said. "It was a packed house with an electric atmosphere, and sometimes you feed off that and you're able to take advantage of things. Our guys were ready."

"Dale (Takalo) had a huge game, Eli hit a couple threes and Timber had two in the first half."

The Loggers finished 10-of-26 from the arc. Dale Takalo scored a game-high 21 points and Eli added 20, as the Takalo brothers outscored Reedsport by themselves.

Knappa remained hot in the third quarter, then spent most of the fourth shooting free throws, where the Loggers finished 11-of-19 at the line, to Reedsport's 2-for-11.

While Knappa was knocking down every shot within 20 feet, the Braves couldn't buy a basket on anything under five feet.

Reedsport opened the third quarter 1-of-9, missing several close-range opportunities. The Braves finished the second half 5-for-30 from

the field.

Meanwhile, the Loggers could have a nice path to the semifinals once they get to Pendleton.

Knappa will open the tournament at 6:30 p.m. Thursday against Vernonia, the lowest-ranked team. The Loggers beat them twice in the regular season, both times by large margins.

The winner will play either Kennedy or Columbia Christian Friday at 8:15 p.m.

Still, "it will be a tough game," Spencer said of Vernonia. "They've got our league's Player of the Year, and maybe the state Player of the Year (in senior Clay Sullivan). Both communities travel well and support their teams. It comes down to which team keeps their composure and handles the atmosphere of the state tournament."

"We're expecting to have a big following there," he said. "Like they say, 'the last one leaving Knappa, remember to turn out the lights.'"

SCOREBOARD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Knappa 81, Reedsport 35
Reedsport 11 13 6 5—35
Knappa 18 22 19 22—81
REE (35): Marc Chaney 10, Gardner 9, McGill 6, Voepel 4, Parmenter 3, Stanley 3.
KNA (81): Dale Takalo 21, E.Takalo 20, Engblom 15, Weirup 12, Vanderburg 8, Miller 3, Hunt 2.
Field goals: Reedsport 15-53; Knappa 30-63. 3-Point FG: Reedsport 3-15 (M.Chaney, Gardner, Stanley); Knappa 10-26 (Weirup 4, E.Takalo 3, Engblom 2, Vanderburg). Free throws: Reedsport 2-11; Knappa 11-19. Fouls: Reedsport 18, Knappa 14. Fouled out: Reedsport, McGill. Turnovers: Reedsport 25, Knappa 13.

Naselle 66, Pateros 42
Naselle 20 26 10 10—66
Pateros 12 6 5 19—42
NAS (66): Cole Dorman 14, Nolan 13, Eaton 11, Edwards 6, Gregory 6, Lindstrom 5, Fontanilla 3, Haataia 3, Glenn 3, Strange 2, Wirkkala, Fauver.
PAT (42): Ethan Wall 16, Gonzalez 11, Larsen 7, Freels 6, Cenicerros 2.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Molalla 53, Astoria 29
Astoria 6 5 10 8—29
Molalla 6 22 15 10—53
AST (29): Brooklynn Hankwitz 12, Long 7, Rogers 5, Jackson 3, Norris 2, Helmersen, Cummings, O'Brien, Fausett.
MOL (53): Alicia Schultz 16, Wood 12, Brinkman 6, Cox 4, Curry 4, Lisac 3, Holas 3, Nacoste 3, Fincher 2.
Coquille 69, Warrenton 48
Warrenton 10 17 9 12—48
Coquille 21 17 15 16—69
WAR (48): Tyla Little 26, Bussert 7, Alvarez 6, Ramsey 5, Heyen 4, Kapua, DeJesus, Talancon, Diego, Foster.
COQ (69): Halle Layton 23, Morgan Baird 17, Dieu 9, M.Wilson 7, S.Salazar 4, Kaufman 4, GeDeros 3, Gallino 2.
Ilwaco 60, La Conner 28
La Conner 2 10 8 8—28
Ilwaco 18 13 23 6—60
LC (28): Justine Benson 14, Lagerway 8, O'Brien 3, Hagen 2, Sloniker 1.
ILW (60): Makenzie Kaech 27, Jacobson 12, Bannister 11, Glenn 6, McMullen 2, E.Sheldon 2, Thomas, Kemmer, Bell, Simonson, T.Sheldon, Whelden.

MORE BASKETBALL
COVERAGE ON
PAGES 3A AND 4A

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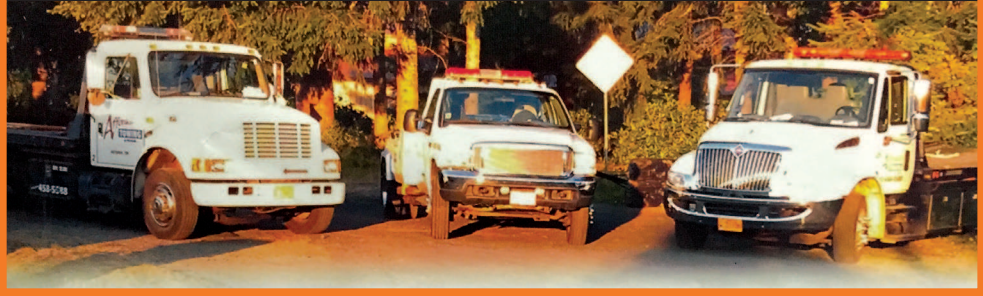
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