

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**

# Shooting woes cost Astoria girls at Molalla in 53-29 loss

*The Daily Astorian*

MOLALLA — A 22-5 run by Molalla in the second quarter proved to be the difference Friday night, in a first-round Class 4A state playoff girls basketball game.

The big rally gave the Indi-

ans a 28-11 halftime lead, on their way to a 53-29 win over Astoria.

Molalla (13-11 overall) advances to the Sweet 16, while the season comes to a close for the Lady Fishermen, 15-10.

The game was tied 6-6 after

one quarter before Molalla's big run in the second period, while Astoria could never get into a rhythm offensively.

Brooklynn Hankwitz scored a team-high 12 points for the Lady Fishermen, who were 10-of-59 from the field, which included 2-for-20 on

3-pointers. Hankwitz also hauled in 10 rebounds, despite first-half foul trouble.

The Indians were playing their fifth Cowapa League team of the season, with wins over Astoria, Seaside and Scappoose and losses to Banks and Valley Catholic.

Molalla's Alicia Schultz led all scorers with 16 points. Freshman teammate Zoe Wood added 12.

"We stayed with them the first quarter, but that was it," said Astoria coach Mike Jacobson. "Our inexperience really showed its colors tonight. We

didn't play anywhere near we were capable of playing.

"We are definitely going to miss the four seniors (McKenzie Burnett, Taylor Feldman, Libbie Nash, McKailyn Rogers)," he added. "They showed up every day and worked hard on and off the court."

## Boat: You can monitor the progress of Boat-A-Lahti online

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Funded through the maritime museum and private donors, the boats are built to withstand rough weather and equipped with a GPS unit that uploads the boat's position twice a day. A watertight compartment acts as a time capsule carrying mementos from students.

A plan to launch the boat at sea from Tongue Point Job Corps Center's training vessel Ironwood was denied by the U.S. Department of Labor, said Nate Sandel, education director for the maritime museum. Boat-A-Lahti was eventually taken aboard the Astoria-based Coast Guard cutter Alert and launched near San Diego earlier

this month.

Within 14 miles and 10 hours of travel, Boat-A-Lahti washed up on San Diego's Mission Beach but was taken in by lifeguards with the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department.

"You have setbacks," Sandel said. "That's what education is, making adjustments."

The lifeguards towed the vessel out to sea several days later. Boat-A-Lahti traveled south along the Baja Peninsula and by Friday had washed up on a beach in the El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve, Mexico's largest wildlife refuge. The maritime museum will contact officials to relaunch the vessel, Sandel said, or he will travel there to retrieve it.

Boat-A-Lahti has a slim

chance of making landfall on Asia, and likely not this school year. The hull carries information in six different languages about the builders and directions for what to do if the vessel is found.

Shortly before Christmas, Sandel delivered Boat-A-Lahti's sister vessel to Tanesashi Elementary School in Hachinohe, a city on the northern end of the Japanese island of Honshu.

Named East Ocean Friends by Japanese students, the boat was launched at sea several days later by the head of the Minami-hama Fishermen Cooperative.

Because of clockwise currents swirling around the North Pacific Gyre, East Ocean Friends could cross the ocean

this school year. The vessel has mostly headed east across the Pacific.

Matthew Bola, a spokesperson for Hachinohe, said the Educational Passages program helps connect to different cultures through the bonds of education and science.

"While the project itself will show how science can be applied in an interesting and real-world activity, the communication between the two students will form a bond that will be greatly educational and memorable, far surpassing the realm of just the classroom setting," he said.

Monitor the progress of Boat-A-Lahti, East Ocean Friends and other vessels at [educationalpassages.com](http://educationalpassages.com)



Hachinohe  
A miniature fibreglass boat named East Ocean Friends by students at Tanesashi Elementary School in Japan was launched at sea by the head of the Minami-hama Fishermen Cooperative.

## Pynes: 'It's an honor'

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park after closing hours, but has not had any excessively unpleasant encounters.

"It kind of goes with being in a park rather than being in a residential neighborhood downtown," Pynes said. "We haven't had anybody that's been disagreeable at all."

When the park is open, the ability to interact with people from across the globe can be as much of a perk as the views.

"You kind of see it every day through fresh eyes," Pynes said. "It's an honor to be a caretaker of such a beautiful monument."

## Tax break: Opponents argue it's a tax hike on Oregon businesses

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The bill, after more than an hour of at-times acrimonious debate in the Senate, now heads to the House.

All Republicans present voted against the measure, as did one Democrat, state Sen. Betsy Johnson of Scappoose.

Sen. Brian Boquist, R-Dallas, says he plans to sue the state over the revenue package.

Under the state's Constitution, bills for raising revenue require a three-fifths majority vote rather than a simple majority, and must begin in the House.

Boquist believes the bill qualifies as raising revenue and thus must meet those guidelines. However, to date there has been no opinion from the Legislature's attorneys on that question. Boquist told colleagues on the Senate floor that he'd requested an opinion earlier this month.

Earlier versions of the legislation laid out broader tax changes, but the bill was pared down last week in an amendment after what the bill's sponsor described as negative feedback.

Senate Democrats have cast the amended bill as allowing Oregon to assert its self-deter-

mination, in the words of Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick, D-Portland, and tout the support of the pro-business Tax Foundation for repealing the deduction.

Opponents of the plan "argue that this is a tax hike on Oregon businesses, an argument that stretches the imagination," wrote Nicole Kaeding, director of special projects at the Tax Foundation, in a post on the organization's website Thursday. "No business currently receives this deduction in Oregon; preventing it from existing in the state doesn't cause a tax increase."

Sen. Mark Hass, D-Bea-

verton, sponsor of the bill and chair of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue, contended the deduction, when combined with the favorable state tax rates for pass-through businesses that the Legislature passed in 2013, would be another giveaway to the same group of people.

"This bill will not cause any small business in Oregon to pay one cent more in taxes than it did last year," Hass said in a statement after the bill's passage. "The folks we're talking about already enjoy a lower state tax rate on their net income, and they just got a 20 percent federal deduction. We're simply unhitching the state from the Trump tax train so they aren't double-dipping on the deduction."

The move is expected to allow the state to collect \$244 million more in taxes through mid-2019 than if Oregon allowed the deduction from state income taxes.

Republicans cast the measure as a hit to small business owners in the state and claimed it would put small businesses at a disadvantage compared to larger companies, which are benefiting from dramatically lower federal tax rates as a result

of tax reform.

"Democrats claim that (the bill) will merely prevent businesses from 'double-dipping,'" Boquist said in a statement. "This is wrong."

According to the National Federation of Independent Business-Oregon, about 22,000 tax filers qualified for the preferential small business rates in 2016, but there are about 357,000 small businesses in the state, most of which are structured as pass-through entities.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

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