

SPORTS

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SCOREBOARD
PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE
TODAY

Girls basketball: Washington Class 2B State Tournament, Spokane — Tri-Cities Prep vs. Ilwaco, 9 a.m.

Boys basketball: Oregon Class 2A State Tournament, Pendleton — Kennedy vs. Knappa, 10:45 a.m.; Gladstone at Seaside, 7 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL
Vernonia 52, Knappa 50

Vernonia 5 14 15 18—52
Knappa 10 14 13 13—50

Vernonia (52): Clay Sullivan 31, Jakob Handegard 9, Gunnar Harral 6, Kale Sullivan 3, Gaven Everett 2, Andrew Vazquez 1.

Knappa (50): Timber Engblom 22, Colton Weirup 9, Joe Ramvick 7, Dale Takalo 6, Eli Takalo 6, Kanai Phillip, Kaleb Miller, Ty Vanderburg, Braedon Eltagonde.

Field goals: Vernonia 17-34; Knappa 18-45. **3-Point FG:** Vernonia 7-12 (C.Sullivan 6, K.Sullivan); Knappa 2-14 (Weirup, Engblom). **Free throws:** Vernonia 11-14; Knappa 12-18. **Fouls:** Vernonia 17, Knappa 15. **Fouled out:** Vernonia-Everett. **Turnovers:** Vernonia 19, Knappa 11. **Rebounds:** Vernonia 24 (C.Sullivan 5, K.Sullivan 5); Knappa 25 (Ramvick 7).

Scores
Class 3A Quarterfinals

De La Salle 63, Irrigon 26
Blanchet Cath. 48, Horizon Chr. 45
Santiam Chr. 45, Cascade Chr. 41
Dayton 46, OR Episcopal 37

Class 2A Quarterfinals

W. Mennonite 60, Grant Union 38
Oakland 51, Toledo 44
Vernonia 52, Knappa 50
Columbia Chr. 58, Kennedy 45

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Saint George's 62, Ilwaco 54

S. George's 13 18 12 10 9—62
Ilwaco 10 8 10 25 1—54

Saint George's (62): Lydia Bergquist 21, Ceci Bergquist 19, Mia Smith 10, Daysha Melendez 7, Izzy Boring 2, Shayla Melendez 2, Cambrie Rickard 1, Abby Jones.

Ilwaco (54): Makenzie Kaech 25, Erika Glenn 9, Madeline Jacobson 8, Eliza Bannister 7, Chandelie Thomas 3, Ebby McMullen 2, Estella Sheldon, Sunny Kemmer, Arianna Bell.

Field goals: SG 19-42; Ilwaco 18-50. **3-Point FG:** SG 5-9 (C.Bergquist 5, L.Bergquist); Ilwaco 3-12. **Free throws:** SG 19-30; Ilwaco 15-24. **Fouls:** SG 26, Ilwaco 22. **Fouled out:** SG-L.Bergquist; Ilwaco-Bannister, McMullen, Jacobson. **Turnovers:** SG 15, Ilwaco 11. **Rebounds:** SG 42 (Smith 9); Ilwaco 36 (Jacobson 8).

Scores
Class 3A Quarterfinals

Salem Academy 51, Nyssa 19
Blanchet Cath. 48, Clatskanie 45
Rainier 36, Creswell 30
Dayton 48, Coquille 29

Class 2A Quarterfinals

Kennedy 52, Heppner 19
Faith Bible 53, Grant Union 49
St. Paul 39, Oakland 36
Monroe 71, Gold Beach 34

Class 2B (Wash.) Quarterfinals

Colfax 65, Tri-Cities Prep 47
Saint George's 62, Ilwaco 54 (OT)
Napavine 53, Wahkiakum 27
Davenport 55, Life Christian 49

Blazers beat Timberwolves 108-99 for fifth straight win

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Damian Lillard wasn't concerned. He knew his shots would eventually fall.

Lillard finished with 35 points after a slow start and the Portland Trail Blazers rallied to beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 108-99 on Thursday night for their season-high fifth straight win.

Lillard missed all seven shots from the field in the opening quarter.

"I was just missing. I was missing a lot of shots short, kept hitting the front of the rim. When it was leaving my hands it felt good. I just knew I had to shoot the ball it a little bit higher," he said. "I really wasn't worried about it, honestly."

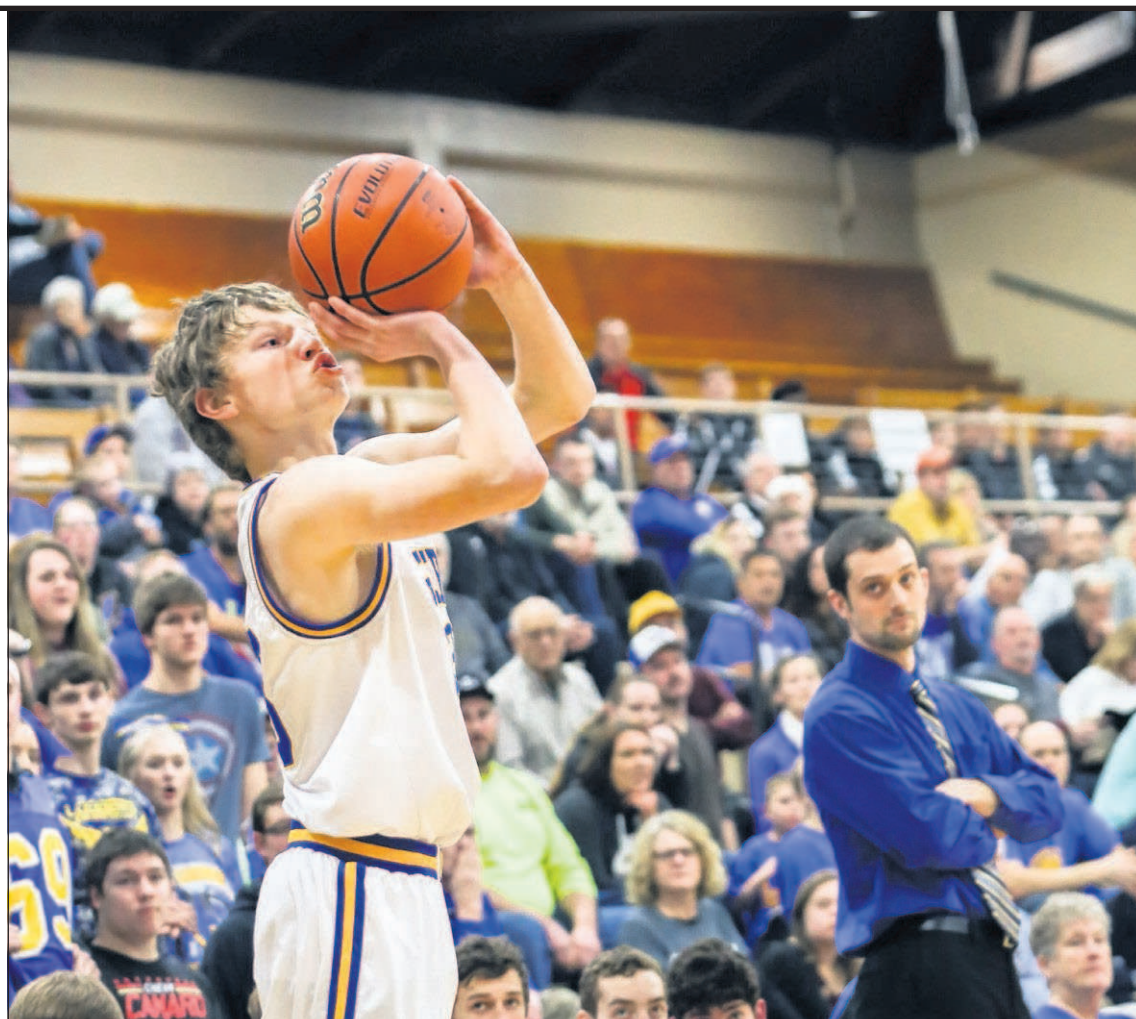
CJ McCollum had 19 points and Jusuf Nurkic added 16 for Portland, which improved to 36-26. It was the first time Portland was 10 games over .500 since the end of the 2014-15 season.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 34 points and 17 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who lost their fourth straight in the Moda Center.

After struggling in the first half, Portland mounted a comeback in the second and pulled ahead 84-82 on Shabazz Napier's running jump shot with 8:07 left.

UP NEXT: BLAZERS

• Oklahoma City Thunder (36-27)
at Portland Trail Blazers (36-26)
• Saturday, 7 p.m. TV: NSNW



Knappa's Eli Takalo (33) takes aim against Vernonia.

Photos by Kathy Aney/East Oregonian

Vernonia buzzer-beater stuns Knappa boys at state tourney

The Daily Astorian

PENDLETON — With a buzzer-beating shot heard 'round the world of 2A boys basketball, the third time was the charm for the Vernonia Loggers.

In the biggest Logger Show-down on the brightest stage, Vernonia cut down Knappa 52-50 for the first time in three meetings this season, in a quarterfinal game of the Class 2A state tournament.

Gunnar Harral's shot at the buzzer gave the upstart Loggers of Vernonia their first victory over the Loggers of Knappa since Jan. 30, 2016.

The Elite Eight game at the Pendleton Convention Center featured No. 2 seed Knappa, which had scored two wins by a combined 34 points over No. 11 seed Vernonia.

But in a back-and-forth game that saw Knappa lead by as much as nine points in the second half, Vernonia rallied behind NWL Player of the Year Clay Sullivan to score the upset.

Sullivan fought off foul trouble and finished with a game-high 31 points for Vernonia. Timber Engblom led Knappa with 22.

As it has done all season, Knappa came out scoring on offense and forcing turnovers on defense to build a 10-5 lead behind scores from Joe Ramvick and Engblom.

Vernonia took its first lead of the game early in the second quar-



Knappa's Timber Engblom (21) puts up a shot as Jakob Handegard (4) of Vernonia, defends.

ter, a 3-pointer by Sullivan for a 13-12 advantage.

Knappa answered with a 3-pointer from Engblom, four free throws from Dale Takalo and a basket by Colton Weirup, whose score just before halftime had Knappa leading 24-19 at the break.

Scores by Ramvick and Weirup gave Knappa its largest lead at 28-19 to start the second half. But the night belonged to Sullivan, who almost singlehandedly brought his team back.

Sullivan hit three 3-pointers in the third period and had 23 points by the end of the quarter. He also picked up his fourth foul in the closing seconds of the third, and Harral and Jakob Handegard stepped in to help, as both scored

baskets early in the fourth to give Vernonia a 41-37 lead.

Sullivan remained in the game, and his three-point play had Vernonia in front 44-40, but Knappa answered with four made free throws and two baskets by Eli Takalo for a 48-47 lead, with just under a minute remaining.

Missed free throws would cost Knappa, however, as it was 4-of-9 at the line in the final four minutes.

In a wild finish, Sullivan drained a 3-pointer with 15 seconds left for a two-point advantage, and Engblom scored quickly at the other end with nine seconds left for a 50-50 tie.

With 8.6 seconds remaining, Vernonia set up for one final shot, and Harral provided the game-winner, as the sophomore took a pass from Sullivan and hit a short jumper at the buzzer.

Vernonia advances to the Final Four for another NWL matchup with Columbia Christian, while Knappa will return in the consolation round at 10:45 a.m. Friday vs. Kennedy.

Handegard finished with nine points for Vernonia, which used just six players. Weirup scored nine points and Ramvick added seven points, seven rebounds and two steals for Knappa.

Knappa was 18-for-45 from the field, but just 2-of-14 from the 3-point line. Vernonia finished 7-for-12 from the 3-point arc, which included a 6-for-10 effort by Sullivan.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Astoria lands four players on all-league team

The Daily Astorian

League champion Banks placed six players on the Cowapa All-League girls basketball team, as voted on by the league's coaches Wednesday.

Banks junior Aspen Slifka and Valley Catholic senior Noelle Mannen were selected as Players of the Year, and the Braves' Brandon Begley was named Coach of the Year.

The Astoria Lady Fishermen finished third in the league standings, and capped their season with four selections to the all-league squad — one junior, two sophomores and a freshman.

Junior Sam Hemsley and sophomore Brooklynn Hankwitz were first-team selections, and sophomore Hailey O'Brien and freshman Kelsey Fausett were named honorable mention.

Seaside seniors Bryre Babbitt and Jetta Ideue were both first-team selections.

COWAPA ALL-LEAGUE
Girls

Players of the Year: Noelle Mannen, Val-



The Daily Astorian

Astoria teammates Brooklynn Hankwitz, left, and Sam Hemsley, far right, were both named to the Cowapa's first team all-league squad.

ley Catholic; Aspen Slifka, Banks
Defensive Player of the Year: Aspen Slifka, Banks
Coach of the Year: Brandon Begley, Banks

First Team

Noelle Mannen, Sr., Valley C.
Aspen Slifka, Jr., Banks
Bryre Babbitt, Sr., Seaside

Lea Brodala, Sr., Scappoose
Brooklynn Hankwitz, So., Astoria
Sam Hemsley, Jr., Astoria
Jetta Ideue, Sr., Seaside
Kim Jordan, Sr., Banks
Callie Kawaguchi, Jr., Valley C.
Laci Lourenzo, Jr., Tillamook
Gracie Nelson, Jr., Banks
Jessi Wren, Sr., Banks

Honorable Mention

Lexi Crabtree, So., Tillamook
Kelsey Fausett, Fr., Astoria
Sydney Gregg, Sr., Banks
Sarah Jones, Jr., Valley C.
Rylie Kind, Jr., Banks
Hailey O'Brien, So., Astoria
Sierra Stafford, Jr., Scappoose
Kaylee Wegner, Sr., Scappoose

Saint George's wins in OT, after big Ilwaco girls comeback

The Daily Astorian

SPOKANE, Wash. — The Ilwaco girls basketball team did some fancy rallying Thursday morning, in a quarterfinal game of the Washington Class 2B state tournament.

And while a comeback of major proportions helped the Fishermen overcome a 15-point deficit to start the fourth quarter, the Dragons of Saint George's ultimately scored the major upset, 62-54, in overtime.

A furious rally by Ilwaco in the final eight minutes of regulation sent the game to OT, but Saint George's outscored the Lady Fishermen 9-1 in the extra frame to win the thriller at the Spokane Arena.

The Dragons held leads of 31-18 at halftime and 43-28 to start the fourth quarter. Ilwaco even trailed by eight points with 1:46 remaining.

Saint George's still held a seemingly safe 53-48 lead with 16 seconds left, when Ilwaco's Makenzie Kaech scored on a cross-over dribble to make it 53-50, and a Fishermen press forced a wild throw on the inbounds pass.

Estella Sheldon stole the ball and got it to freshman Erika Glenn, who stepped back behind the 3-point line, got set and hit the shot to tie it, 53-53, completing Ilwaco's comeback and sending the game to overtime.

Running a terrorizing press at the end of the game, Ilwaco's defense sped the game by forcing turnovers and committing fouls, erasing a 10-point deficit with less than three minutes remaining.

In the process, however, Ilwaco went into overtime with Madeline Jacobson and Ebby McMullen both having fouled out. Eliza Bannister fouled out early in the extra period, and St. George's controlled the scoring in OT.

The Dragons ultimately finished 19-of-30 at the free throw line, to Ilwaco's 15-for-24.

Saint George's Lydia Bergquist (21 points) and Ceci Bergquist (19) combined for 40 points, with a combined 15 rebounds. Lydia Bergquist was 12-of-16 at the line before fouling out.

Kaech led all scorers with 25 points, while Ilwaco's next highest scorer was Glenn with nine. Jacobson scored eight points with eight rebounds and three blocks.

The state championship hopes for the No. 1-ranked Fishermen come to an end, along with a 14-game win streak. Ilwaco (23-2 overall) moves to the consolation bracket, and will play Tri-Cities Prep at 9 a.m. Friday.



The Daily Astorian

Seaside senior Jetta Ideue was a first team all-league selection, along with teammate Bryre Babbitt.