

SPORTS

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Athletes of the Week



**MADLYNN
WEAVER**
Knappa



**PAYTON
WESTERHOLM**
Seaside

Photos by Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

The sophomore pitched Knappa into first place in the Northwest League standings last week, with three wins over Nestucca (10-4, 17-6 and 17-9). Weaver earned the pitching victory in all three wins. In 19 innings pitched, she gave up a total of just 13 hits, with 25 strikeouts. At the plate, she was 2-for-5 in the second game, with two RBIs and two runs scored.

In a four-game span, the Gulls defeated the top three teams in the league standings. In a 7-3 win at Astoria (April 25), Westerholm was 4-for-5 at the plate with two doubles, scored twice and drove in two runs. Two days later, he was the winning pitcher in a 7-6 victory at Scappoose. He scattered four hits over 5.1 innings, with seven strikeouts and two walks.

Seaside wins with late rally

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — The seventh inning of a Seaside baseball game is always exciting, as it was again Wednesday night at Broadway Field.

After Valley Catholic scored three runs in the top of the seventh to tie the game, the Gulls scored one in the bottom of the seventh to win, 6-5.

Seaside improves to 5-6 in league. The Gulls play Friday at Tillamook, and can pull into a third-place tie with a win and a Scappoose loss at Banks.

In their final at-bat Wednesday, Seaside's Gage McFadden reached on an error, and took second when the Valiants committed another error on a bunt by Payton Westerholm.

A third error allowed both runners to advance, and Duncan Thompson was walked intentionally to load the bases. Alex Teubner drew another walk to force in McFadden with the game-winning run.

Thompson got the victory on the mound. Seaside had four hits from four different players, with Astor Landwehr driving in two runs with a double. He also scored twice.

Valley Catholic's Daniel Pruitt was 2-for-4 with a double and three RBIs.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

TODAY

Track — Seaside at Banks, 3:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

Astoria 16, Scappoose 8
Astoria 223 252 0—16 13 3
Scappoose 000 332 0—8 8 5
 Hageman and Hillard; Lewis, Anickler (2), Buchanan (5), Toman (7) and Gill. W: Hageman. L: Buchanan. RBI: Ast, Johnson 2, Matteucci 2, Stutznegger 2, Hageman, Kolee, Reed; Scp, Toman, Gross, Travis, Verbout, Lewis. 2B: Ast, Hageman, Matthews, Reed, Stutznegger; Scp, Lewis. 3B: Ast, Johnson. HR: Scp, Toman. HBP: Ast, Kolee; Scp, Toman, Travis, Larson. LOB: Astoria 9, Scappoose 5.

Seaside 6, Valley Catholic 5
V.Catholic 200 000 3—5 5 6
Seaside 010 130 1—6 4 4
 Pruitt, Agnew (5); Westerholm, Thompson (7) and Teubner. W: Thompson. L: Agnew. RBI: VC, Pruitt 3, Schultheis, M.Weber; Sea, Landwehr 2, Teubner 2, Jantes. 2B: VC, Pruitt; Sea, Landwehr. HBP: VC, Eisenhardt, Elston, W.Weber. LOB: Valley Catholic 8, Seaside 4. DP: Seaside.

SOFTBALL

Scappoose 10, Astoria 0
Astoria 000 000—0 2 4
Scappoose 135 001—11 10 3
 W: Nina Macedo (3 Ks, 2 walks). L: Julie Norris (3 Ks, 4 walks). RBI: Krueger 2, Galey 2, Mills, Erhardt. LOB: Astoria 5, Scappoose 6. DP: Scappoose.



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson

Seattle Mariners starting pitcher James Paxton gets ready for the next batter after striking out an Oakland Athletics player as a line of "e'h's," a nod to Paxton's Canadian heritage and his strikeout count, appears on a scoreboard during the seventh inning of Wednesday's game in Seattle.

Paxton strikes out MLB-high 16, but A's beat Mariners 3-2

By **TIM BOOTH**
 Associated Press

UP NEXT: MARINERS

• Oakland Athletics (15-15)
 at Seattle Mariners (17-12)
 • Tonight, 7:10 p.m. TV: RTNW

SEATTLE — Among his variety of pitches, James Paxton discovered quickly he needed only one. His fastball was so overpowering that even though Oakland Athletics batters knew it was coming, they couldn't catch up.

That fastball led to the finest performance of Paxton's career with a major league-high 16 strikeouts on Wednesday night. And yet it ended up coming in a Seattle loss after the Mariners' bullpen blew a late lead and saw the A's rally for a 3-2 win.

It left the Mariners clubhouse filled with mixed feelings — thrilled about what Paxton did, and frustrated about blowing a game it should have won.

Paxton departed after seven innings with a 2-0 lead, then watched Jed Lowrie hit a two-run homer off Juan Nicasio in the eighth inning and Mark Canha opened the ninth with a home run against Edwin Diaz (0-1). Diaz had allowed just one earned run in 15 appearances this season.

"Paxton was just gross today. I haven't faced him in a couple years and just trying to hit that heater was tough," Canha said. "It was kind of like a sigh of relief in the dugout when he finally got out of there, because he was rolling."

The bullpen collapse muted Paxton's accomplishment. He posted the highest strikeout total by a Seattle pitcher since Randy Johnson fanned 19 on Aug. 8, 1997. He got 14 A's on swinging strikeouts.

"I probably had the best fastball of my career," Paxton said. "It was jumping."

The left-handed Paxton was the fourth different pitcher in Mariners history to strike out at least 16 in a game, joining Johnson, Mike Moore and Mark Langston. Johnson struck out 19 twice, 18 once, and 16 twice in

his Mariners career, while Moore and Langston reached the mark once.

But none of those other performances were as efficient as Paxton. He threw 80 strikes among his 105 pitches, gave up five hits and walked one. Consider when Johnson struck out 16 in 1997, he threw 155 pitches and he threw 160 in 1992 when he struck out 18.

While it's a different era, it also made the efficiency of Paxton's performance stand out more.

"There were no secrets. They knew what he was going to throw, he knew what he was going to throw and he just overpowered them, which doesn't happen very often in this league," Seattle manager Scott Servais said.

Seattle went to Nicasio in the eighth and trouble arrived quickly. Pinch-hitter Matt Joyce lined a ground-rule double with one out and three pitches later Lowrie's shot to nearly the same part of the yard had a little more elevation, clipping the top of the fence and bounding over. Canha's homer was his fifth of the season and came on the second pitch of the ninth inning.

Astoria girls running strong, win again

The Daily Astorian

SCAPPOOSE — The only team expected to challenge Astoria for the Cowapa League girls track title came up far short in a three-way meet Wednesday, as Scappoose hosted the Fishermen and Cascade.

The Astoria girls scored an easy win, compiling 262 points, followed by Cascade (174) and Scappoose (173). The Astoria boys came up nine points short of Scappoose, which finished with 246 points ahead of Astoria's 237. Cascade was a distant third.

The rest of the Cowapa League

will be chasing the Astoria girls in the upcoming league meet, next Thursday and Friday at St. Helens.

For the Lady Fishermen, Darian Hageman skipped the high jump and pole vault, but teammate Elizabeth Barnett stepped in and won both, clearing 4-6 in the high jump and 9-0 in the pole vault.

Hageman had victories in the long jump (16-8 1/2) and triple jump (36-8 1/2).

Other winners for Astoria included freshman Sophie Long in the 400 meters (with a personal best 1 minute, 2.18 seconds). She also had a personal record time of 12:12.51

for second in the 3,000 meters. McKenzie Burnett ran a career-best time 2:36.15 to win the 800 meters.

Astoria's Kes Sandstrom had a personal record toss of 131 feet, 5 inches for first the discus.

Highlights for the Astoria boys included a career-best time (4:47.12) for freshman Josh Condit in winning the 1,500 meters. Senior Tim Barnett won the shot put (51-10 1/2) and discus (158-0 1/2) and placed second in the javelin.

Karsten Johnson scored victories in the high jump (5-8) and long jump (personal best 20-6), and took second in the triple jump.

Astoria baseball scores big road win at Scappoose

SCAPPOOSE — Cowapa League baseball rivals Scappoose and Astoria have played some great games over the years.

The two teams met for the final time Wednesday as members of the same league, before Scappoose moves to the 5A level next season.

And Astoria had the last laugh, scoring a 16-8 decision at Scappoose.

While the Indians continue to battle for a top three finish in league, the Fishermen are closing in on another league title, as they improve to 9-2 atop the Cowapa standings.

Trey Hageman threw a complete game for Astoria, allowing eight hits with five strikeouts and one walk.

Astoria led 14-3 after scoring five runs in the top of the fifth, before Scappoose rallied with eight runs in its final three at-bats.

The top four batters in Astoria's lineup combined for seven hits, and scored 10 runs.

Hageman, Burke Matthews, Will Reed and Ryan Stutznegger each had a double, and Danny Johnson had a two-run triple for the Fishermen.

Four Scappoose pitchers gave up 13 hits and walked eight, while the Indians committed five errors in the field.

Astoria plays Friday at Valley Catholic, with road games next week at Seaside and Banks.

Scappoose blanks Astoria softball

SCAPPOOSE — It's been a rough two-day stretch for the Astoria softball team, which was outscored by a combined 37-3 Tuesday and Wednesday.

Following a Tuesday loss at Banks, the Lady Fishermen hit the road again Wednesday, and lost a 10-0 decision at Scappoose.

The Indians built a 9-0 lead through three innings, then ended the game with a run in the sixth.

Scappoose pitcher Nina Macedo tossed a two-hit shutout, with three strikeouts and two walks. McKailyn Rogers had one of two hits for the Fishermen.

Astoria plays Friday at CMH Field vs. Valley Catholic.

Valiants edge Seaside softball

BEAVERTON — Two teams looking to snap long losing skids met on the field Wednesday at Valley Catholic.

And the Valiants managed to win for the first time in 13 games, with a 9-8 win over Seaside.

With eight straight losses, the Gulls hope to snap their losing skid Thursday at home vs. Tillamook.

— The Daily Astorian