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SPORTS  
IN BRIEF

Expansion  
Vegas Golden  
Knights advance  
to Stanley Cup

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — The Vegas Golden Knights are going to the Stanley Cup Final — with a chip on their shoulder.

“Everybody on this team has something to prove,” Ryan Reaves said. “We call ourselves ‘The Golden Misfits’ for a reason. We’re doing a good job of proving everybody wrong.”

Reaves scored the winning goal, Marc-Andre Fleury made 31 saves and the Golden Knights beat the Winnipeg Jets 2-1 on Sunday to wrap up the Western Conference final in five games.

“It’s insane,” said defenseman Deryk Engelland, who grabbed the Clarence S. Campbell Bowl after the final buzzer to celebrate with his teammates. “Your goal is always to make the playoffs. But if I were to guess I would be sitting here doing this right now, you would be a little skeptical at the time.”

Alex Tuch also scored for the Knights. They lost Game 1 in Winnipeg before winning four straight to become the first expansion team since the 1968 St. Louis Blues — when the six initial expansion teams were put alone in the West — to get to the final.

Griner has 29  
points and 10  
boards, Mercury  
beat Storm 87-82

SEATTLE — Brittney Griner had 29 points and 10 rebounds to help the Phoenix Mercury hold on for an 87-82 victory over the Seattle Storm on Sunday night.

Griner, who led the WNBA in scoring and blocks per game last season, shot 10 for 16 from the field and added four assists and three blocks. Briann January finished with 15 points and six assists, while Diana Taurasi and DeWanna Bonner scored 12 points apiece for the Mercury (2-0).

Sue Bird hit a jumper with 1:21 to play and Jordin Canada had a steal and a layup before Natasha Howard made a basket to cap a 6-0 run that pulled Seattle (0-1) within two points with 24.8 seconds left. After January’s free throw made it 83-80, Breanna Stewart answered with a layup, but Taurasi hit two foul shots to push the Mercury’s lead to three with 9.8 to go. The Storm committed a turnover on their next possession and Bonner hit two free throws to cap the scoring.

Stewart led Seattle with 22 points, 15 rebounds and three blocks.

— Associated Press

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

**Baseball — 4A state playoff:** Madras at Astoria, 4 p.m.; **3A state playoff:** Warrenton at Cascade Christian, TBA; **2A/1A state playoff:** Riddle at Knappa, 4 p.m.

**Softball — 2A/1A state playoff:** North Douglas at Knappa, TBA

BASEBALL

**Astoria 12, Rainier 6**

**Astoria** 300 513 0—12 14 0  
**Rainier** 200 004 0—6 4 7

Hageman, Reed (6) and Hillard; Keizur, Carr (4), Nelson (5), Marcum (6) and Guerr. W: Hageman. L: Carr. RBI: Ast, Matthews 4, Hillard 2, Johnson 2, Kolee, Reed; Rai, Co.Rea 2, Carr, Boulch. 2B: Ast, Matthews. 3B: Ast, Hageman. HR: Ast, Matthews. HBP: Ast, Hillard. LOB: Astoria 12, Rainier 3.

**Knappa 10, Kennedy 0**

**Kennedy** 000 00—0 2 1  
**Knappa** 091 0x—10 6 0

W: Miller. L: Klein. RBI: Kna, Miller 3, Miethe 2, Bartlett. 2B: Kna, Bartlett. HR: Kna, Miller. HBP: Kna, Cruz. LOB: Kennedy 4, Knappa 5.

SOFTBALL

**Elmira 8, Astoria 4**

**Astoria** 120 000 x—3 10 2  
**Elmira** 400 130 0—8 13 1

W: Kylee Anderson (8 Ks, 3 walks). L: Julia Norris (1 K, 1 walk). RBI: Ast, Ranta 2, Norris, Hankwitz; Elm, Anderson 2, Dorsey 2, Haffner 2, Dickson, Feltz. 2B: Ast, Ranta; Elm, Dorsey, Dickson. HR: Elm, Anderson. LOB: Astoria 9, Elmira 8. DP: Elmira.

STATE TRACK

Warrenton, Knappa, Jewell athletes earn medals

The Daily Astorian

EUGENE — Competition in the small school divisions of the OSAA state track meet took place Thursday and Friday at Hayward Field, where three schools from Clatsop County had athletes competing at three different levels.

In the Class 3A portion of the meet, the Warrenton Warriors had four athletes participating in seven events.

After a rough day Thursday, the Warriors finally came up with a medal

in Friday’s competition.

Sophomore Mark Warren took 10th place in Thursday’s shot put, but bounced back with a second-place showing in Friday’s javelin, with a throw of 165 feet, 4 inches.

Junior Fernanda Alvarez completed her meet with a 10th-place showing in Friday’s shot put, with a toss of 32-8 ¼.

Two Knappa athletes scored points in the 2A standings Friday.

Spencer Teague was the No. 2 seed in the high jump, and finished fourth

after clearing 5-11.

After qualifying for the final in the 100 meters, sophomore Kanai Philip took eighth in the final, in 11.77 seconds.

All eight runners were within a half-second of each other, with the winner (Weston-McEwen’s Jacob Speed) finishing in 11.41.

In Class 1A action, two Jewell athletes combined to score 20 points in Friday finals, for 11th in the team standings.

Junior Lily Kaczenski cleared a

personal best 8-4 for second place in the pole vault.

On the track, senior Gabi Morales concluded her career with a fourth-place finish in the 100-meter hurdles, and fifth in the 300-meter hurdles, both in career-best times.

Seeded second with a time of 17.30 in the 100 hurdles, Morales ran a 16.92 in the preliminaries, then lowered her time again in the finals, to 16.83.

She finished the 300 hurdles in 48.17, after running a 50.22 in the prelims.



Vicki Stultz O'Brien/For The Daily Astorian

Astoria’s Julia Norris raps out a hit in Friday’s softball state playoff game at Elmira.

Elmira win ends Astoria’s season

The Daily Astorian

ELMIRA — A long spell of bad luck in the 4A regional play-in round continued for the Astoria softball team Friday afternoon at Elmira.

In a game that had a combined seven runs and 10 hits over the first two innings, the No. 6-ranked Falcons eventually topped the Lady Fishermen, 8-4.

Elmira (21-6 overall) advances to the state playoffs, while the season comes to a close for Astoria (10-14), now 0-5 in regional play-in games since 2011, including a pair of losses at Elmira.

Still, it looked good early for the Fishermen, as Astoria wasted little time in putting

pressure on Falcon pitcher Kylee Anderson.

In the top of the first, Hailey Ranta had a one-out double to left and Lexxis Lyngstad drew a walk on five pitches.

Julia Norris followed with a single to left to score Ranta with the first run. Hailey O’Brien reached on an error to load the bases, but Anderson retired the next two batters to get out of the inning.

The lead did not last long, however, as Anderson made amends with a leadoff home run to center field in the bottom of the first to tie the game.

After a walk and a single by Cheyanne White, a base hit up the middle by Ashley Feltz scored Josie Dickson for a 2-1 advantage, and Taylor Dorsey made it 4-1, as she

followed with a two-run double to left.

The Fishermen bounced right back in the top of the second, as Kayla Helligso had a leadoff single, followed by walks to Halle Helmersen and McKailyn Rogers to load the bases with no outs. Ranta belted a two-run single to right to bring Astoria to within 4-3, but that’s all the Fishermen would get as Anderson retired three of the next four.

The Falcons tacked on a run in the fourth, and a costly two-out error by Astoria in the fifth led to three more runs, highlighted by three straight singles from Kinsley Stone, Courtney Haffner and Anderson.

The Fishermen managed one more run, with O’Brien scoring on a single by Brooklyn Hankwitz in the seventh.

Mariners rally late, beat Tigers 3-2

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Once Francisco Liriano was finished, the Seattle Mariners finally got started.

Mitch Haniger kept Seattle alive with a tying two-run homer in the ninth inning and Jean Segura’s RBI single in the 11th gave the Mariners a 3-2 victory over the Detroit Tigers on Sunday. The Mariners improved to 3-0 in extra-inning games this season.

“The heart that this club has is pretty, pretty impressive, it really is,” Seattle manager Scott Servais said. “These guys, they just keep battling through adversity.”

Liriano took a no-hitter into the seventh but closer Shane Greene blew his third save of the season, giving up Haniger’s 11th home run on an 0-2 pitch with one out. Haniger has hit two game-tying home runs in the seventh inning or later this season.

“I couldn’t have made a worse pitch at a worse time, and I paid for it,” Greene said.

Second baseman Dee Gordon led off the 11th with a single against Buck Farmer (0-3), stole his AL-leading 16th base to advance to second, then scored on Segura’s single down the right-field line, his second career game-ending hit.

“When (Gordon) gets on base, he sets the tone,” Segura



Ted S. Warren/Associated Press

Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Francisco Liriano throws against the Seattle Mariners on Sunday.

said. “You put some much pressure on the pitcher because Dee is running. He left a fastball right down the middle and I was able to put some good contact on it.”

Liriano attempted to become the first Tigers pitcher not named Justin Verlander to throw a no-hitter since 1984, but Haniger’s line drive single with one out in the seventh ended his run at history. The lefty already has one no-hitter to his credit, blanking the White Sox while walking six in a 1-0 win on May 3, 2011, as a member of the Minnesota Twins.

Haniger reached on a two-out walk in the first inning, one of two in the inning for Liriano, before 17 straight Mariners failed to reach base.

“Great feeling for me to be able

to go out there and go deep in the game,” Liriano said. “That’s my whole mentality every five days. Very happy for it.”

A one-out walk by third baseman Gordon Beckham in the eighth appeared to end Liriano’s night. Liriano held out the ball for manager Ron Gardenhire as he walked out for a mound visit, but stayed in and struck out pinch-hitter Mike Zunino and left fielder Andrew Romine to end his night, finishing with five strikeouts and three walks over 102 pitches.

“Great performance by Liriano,” Gardenhire said. “Exactly what we asked for before the day. Get deep into the game with our starter and figure out a way to get your closer in there. It just didn’t work out.”

BASEBALL  
Astoria downs Rainier

The Daily Astorian

RAINIER — The Astoria baseball team scored a measure of revenge Friday at Rainier, where the Fishermen defeated the Columbians 12-6 in a nonleague contest.

Astoria was coming off a 5-0 loss to Rainier three days earlier.

In Friday’s rematch, the Fishermen were back to looking like the Fishermen at the plate, collecting 14 hits off four Rainier pitchers.

Burke Matthews led the charge by going 4-for-5, with a double, a home run, four RBIs and two runs scored. Leadoff batter Trey Hageman scored three runs, and was also the winning pitcher, allowing just three hits in five and a third innings, with five strikeouts and six walks.

Ebin Hillard and Danny Johnson each drove in two runs, while the Columbians committed seven errors.

Astoria begins state playoff action Wednesday (4 p.m.) at Tapiola Park vs. Madras.

Knappa ready for playoffs

The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — In their final tune-up for the state playoffs, the No. 1-ranked Knappa Loggers blanked the Kennedy Trojans in a five-inning baseball game Friday, 10-0.

Logger pitchers Kaleb Miller and Eli Takalo combined on a two-hit shutout with seven strikeouts and two walks.

Miller was also all the Loggers needed offensively, as he finished 2-for-3 at the plate with a home run and three RBIs.

Cameron Miethe also drove in two runs for Knappa, which opens state playoff action Wednesday at home vs. Riddle/Days Creek.