

SPORTS

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Photos by Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School will have its first cheerleader squad in 17 years, when this team takes the field for Friday night football games.

FALL SPORTS NIGHT OPENS ASTORIA'S SEASON

The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School's "fall sports preview night" always marks the unofficial opening of the school sports year.

The Fishermen hosted their annual night Friday at CMH Field. The annual tradition dates back to when Astoria played football at John Warren Field, and showcases all the sports teams for the upcoming fall sports season.

After selected teams posed for group pictures, fans were treated to scrimmages for the Astoria girls soccer, boys soccer and football teams.

And for the first time since 2001, the Fishermen will have cheerleaders, as a team of 13 made its official debut.



Astoria's Niko Caruana enjoyed a nice night running the ball in a Fishermen football scrimmage at CMH Field.

High school fall sports gets underway this week, as Warrenton hosts Knappa in a volleyball match Thursday, opening serve at 6 p.m.



The Astoria cross country team held its version of a scrimmage, with a mile run around CMH Field. Sophie Long won the girls' race.

The Loggers return to Warrenton two days later, when the Warrenton volleyball hosts its annual preseason tournament.

Chargers DE Ingram gives Seahawks something to think about

Associated Press

CARSON, Calif. — There was no reason for defensive end Melvin Ingram to go all-out in the Los Angeles Chargers' 24-14 preseason win over the Seattle Seahawks on Saturday night.

However, he couldn't resist the chance to exploit a Seattle offensive line that clearly had not game-planned for him, not with the teams set to meet again in the regular season.

"Hey, man, it's extremely fun," Ingram said of the 1-on-1 matchups against Seahawks offensive tackles Duane Brown and Germain Ifedi.

Ingram made the game anything but enjoyable for quarterback Russell Wilson by getting into the backfield seemingly at will. Though he did not record a sack, Ingram sped past Ifedi and forced Wilson to step up into the waiting arms of Isaac Rochell for a loss of 4 yards late in the second quarter. He also bull-rushed through Ifedi to force Wilson to scramble and make an off-balance throw that fell incomplete.

Ifedi had no answers for Ingram, who has 29 sacks over the past three seasons. Even the right tackle's attempt to cut block on a stretch run to the other side of the formation couldn't even knock Ingram off his feet, with Ingram putting his hands down to keep his balance and popping back up to provide the backside pursuit.

Chargers look sharp early in win over Seahawks

By GREG BEACHAM
 Associated Press

CARSON, Calif. — Although Philip Rivers has only faced the Seattle Seahawks three times in games that count, he knows nearly everything about their defense because of Gus Bradley.

Rivers used that know-how to get the Los Angeles Chargers off to a strong start in their first victory of the preseason.

Melvin Gordon rushed for a short touchdown to cap a strong 70-yard opening drive by the Bolts' first-teamers, and Rivers went 6 of 7 for 62 yards in Los Angeles' 24-14 preseason victory over the Seahawks on Saturday night.

Rivers played only two series in his first action of the preseason, but he had six consecutive completions. He also made a few plays by capably eluding the Seattle rush and connecting with strong throws on the run.

None of it surprised Seahawks coach Pete Carroll. Bradley, the Chargers' defensive coordinator, ran Carroll's defense in Seattle for four years, and Los Angeles' scheme is awfully similar.

"Philip had us a couple of times," Carroll said. "He knew what he was going against, and he did a great job. He plays against our defense every day (in practice)."

Russell Wilson was 13 of 21 for 193 yards while playing the entire first half for the Seahawks (0-2). His offense was limited to two field goals by execution mistakes in the red zone, and Wilson was repeatedly flushed from the pocket by Melvin Ingram while the Chargers' destructive pass rusher had an outstanding first half.

David Moore made the Seahawks' biggest play of the first half, hauling in a 52-yard catch between two Chargers downfield. Seattle could have kept it closer, but Chris Carson had a touchdown run waved off by a penalty and later fumbled at the goal line in the first half.



AP Photo/Jae C. Hong

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson, right, is pressured by Los Angeles Chargers defensive end Melvin Ingram.

UP NEXT: SEAHAWKS

- Seattle Seahawks at Minnesota Vikings
- Friday, 5 p.m.

"In the red zone in particular, we've got to stay on schedule," Wilson said. "That's the lesson we learned from tonight, but the great thing was really the score should have been 21-7 pretty early. First three drives, we get three touchdown opportunities, and that's what we look for. We go to the truth of what we did and where we can get better."

JJ Jones returned a punt 72 yards for a touchdown late in the first half, and Mike Williams caught a 25-yard touchdown pass from Geno Smith in the second half of the Chargers' preseason home opener in their second season at compact StubHub Center. Coach Anthony Lynn was infuriated by 14 penalties, but otherwise pleased.

"Classic example of bend-but-don't-break defense," Lynn said.

"They didn't let them in the end zone, and that's the most important thing."

Smith then made a strong argument for the Chargers' backup job, going 6 of 8 for 85 yards. His TD pass came on an eye-opening catch by Williams, who jumped over Seattle cornerback Akeem King and hauled in the first score of his NFL career for a 21-6 lead.

Seahawks rookie Alex McGough led a solid drive in the final minutes, hitting Malik Turner with a 12-yard touchdown pass.

Robert Aguayo hit a 39-yard field goal with 40 seconds left, boosting his bid to win the Chargers' kicking job.

INJURIES

Seahawks: RG D.J. Fluker dislocated his finger, but Carroll doesn't think it's serious: "He's an offensive lineman. I think he can handle that."

Chargers: S Jaylen Watkins started, but was helped off the field late in the first half with a right knee injury. Ingram fell on his teammate on the play.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Dodgers beat Seattle 12-1

SEATTLE — Clayton Kershaw pitched seven sharp innings for his 150th career win, Justin Turner homered and drove in five runs, and the Los Angeles Dodgers routed the Seattle Mariners 12-1 Sunday.

Kershaw (6-5) gave up four hits, struck out seven and walked one. The 30-year-old lefty with three NL Cy Young Awards improved to 150-69 in the majors.

Turner extended his hitting streak to 13 games with a season-high four hits, including a three-run homer in the ninth inning with position player Andrew Romine on the mound.

Kike Hernandez had an RBI single as part of the Dodgers' five-run first inning. He added his 18th home run and a bases-loaded walk as the Dodgers won for the third time in four games.

Cody Bellinger pushed his own hitting streak to 12 games with three hits and two RBIs for Los Angeles.

The Dodgers tagged Seattle starter Roenis Elias (2-1). He had been on the disabled list with a left triceps strain since July 31 and was activated to start against the Dodgers. Before the game, Seattle manager Scott Servais said he hoped Elias could, "if it goes well, to give us maybe four innings." Elias did last three innings, giving up the five runs and seven hits.

Los Angeles kept adding to the lead against the Mariners bullpen, scoring a run in five of the last six innings.

Rubio's 2 goals help Sporting KC beat Timbers 3-0

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Diego Rubio scored two goals and Tim Melia had his 10th shutout of the season to help Sporting Kansas City beat the Portland Timbers 3-0 on Saturday night.

Sporting (12-6-6) won its third straight to remain three points behind Western Conference-leading FC Dallas.

Rubio rifled a shot from the top of the box just inside the near post to open the scoring in the 28th minute and then made it 2-0 when he put away a cross by Daniel Salloi in the 37th.

Johnny Russell capped the scoring in the 89th minute. He tapped it to Roger Espinoza near the penalty arc, who led Russell toward the spot for the left-footed finish.

Portland (10-6-7) has lost three in a row. The Timbers had just one shot in the first half and were out-shot 25-7 overall.

Storm beat Wings in regular-season finale

SEATTLE — Breanna Stewart and Crystal Langhorne had 15 points each to help the Seattle Storm beat the Dallas Wings 84-68 in the regular-season finale for both teams Sunday.

Sue Bird sat out the game and Stewart played just 13 minutes in the game that had no effect on the Storm's No. 1 playoff seed.

Seattle (26-8) closed the season winning eight of the last nine and will begin the playoffs in the semifinals with byes through the first two single-elimination rounds and home-court advantage throughout.

The Storm pulled away in the second quarter with an 18-5 run to lead 41-24. Dallas (15-19) cut it to 61-50 early in the third quarter before Seattle built to its largest lead at 79-54 at the end of the period.

Glory Johnson led the Wings with 16 points. Liz Cambage added 11 points, and Azura Stevens had 10.

— Associated Press

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Volleyball — Knappa at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Columbia Christian, 6:30 p.m.