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COLLEGE
FOOTBALL
PLAYOFF

Oklahoma,
Alabama,
Clemson,
Notre Dame

By RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

Faced with a tricky choice, the College Football Playoff selection committee played it safe and fell back on some simple criteria: One loss is better than two. Winning a conference championship is better than not. Go with the team that avoided getting blown out.

Oklahoma is in the playoff over Georgia and Ohio State, moving into the fourth and final spot Sunday after the Sooners avenged their only loss by winning the Big 12 championship against Texas.

The Sooners (12-1) will face No. 1 Alabama (13-0) in the Orange Bowl on Dec. 29 in a matchup of Heisman Trophy front-runner quarterbacks — Tyler Murray of Oklahoma and the Tide’s Tua Tagovailoa, who sprained his ankle in the Southeastern Conference championship game Saturday and is expected to be laid up for two weeks.

No. 2 Clemson (13-0) plays No. 3 Notre Dame (12-0) in the Cotton Bowl on the same day. The winners meet in the championship game on Jan. 7 in Santa Clara, California.

The rest of the New Year’s Six bowl matchups are UCF vs. LSU in the Fiesta Bowl; Florida vs. Michigan in the Peach Bowl; Ohio State vs. Washington in the Rose Bowl; and Texas vs. Georgia in the Sugar Bowl.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

Girls basketball — Naselle at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; Knappa at Jewell, 5:30 p.m.

Boys basketball — Knappa at Clatskanie, 7:30 p.m.; Ilwaco at Naselle, 7 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Madras 65, Astoria 51				
Astoria	17	17	4	13—51
Madras	18	12	19	6—65
AST (51): Julia Norris 12, Hankwitz 11, Helmersen 9, O’Brien 7, Fausett 6, Jackson 6, Lyngstad, Cole, Long.				
MDR (65): Jiana Smith-Francis 20, Culps 12, Davis 10, Zamora-Heath 7, Walker 7, Olivera 6, Bagley 3.				
Seaside 37, Cascade 25				
Cascade	9	3	3	10—25
Seaside	5	5	22	5—37
SEA (37): Lilli Taylor 10, Blodgett 9, Kiser 9, Douglas 5, Garhofer 2, McFadden 2, Goin, Zagata.				
Warrenton 61, Lakeview 29				
Lakeview	9	8	8	4—29
Warrenton	20	15	17	9—61
LKV (29): Brette Graham 6, Z. Suba 5, Jones 4, Dick 4, H. Suba 3, Conley 3, Zendejas 2, Brewster 2.				
WAR (61): Kenzie Ramsey 24, Bussert 13, Kapua 7, Alvarez 6, Miethe 4, M. Heyen 4, Diego 2, Marchello 1, Dejesus, A. Heyen.				

Warrenton 59, Sutherlin 37				
Warrenton	13	17	20	9—59
Sutherlin	5	14	16	2—37
WAR (59): Fernanda Alvarez 23, Ramsey 16, Bussert 6, Dejesus 6, M. Heyen 6, Kapua 2, Diego, Miethe.				

OR Episcopal 44, Knappa 24				
OR Episcopal	4	9	16	15—44
Knappa	12	5	2	5—24
OES (44): Lauren Han 21, Wilcott 7, Borbon 6, Casalino 4, Holzman 3, Reynolds 2.				
KNA (24): Sophia Carlson 10, Weaver 5, Corcoran 3, Miller 2, Rilatos 2, Ramvick 2, Walter, Patterson.				

Toledo 58, Knappa 28				
Toledo	13	18	20	7—58
Knappa	9	6	7	6—28
TOL (58): Kaycie Otis 14, Mahala Fisher 14, Dickason 11, Barnhart 9, Knott 4, C. Fisher 3, Richards, Flatt 1.				
KNA (28): Aiko Miller 11, Carlson 10, Weaver 4, Ramvick 2, Corcoran 1, Walter, Nicholson, Rilatos, Tischer, Patterson.				

BOYS BASKETBALL

Knappa 49, Astoria 47				
Astoria	15	11	13	8—47
Knappa	15	11	12	11—49
AST (47): Ian Hunt 21, Junes 7, Olson 5, Soderstrom 5, Brockman 5, Marincovich 4, Long, Johnson, Altheide-Nielson.				
KNA (49): Timber Engblom 18, Takalo 11, Phillip 9, Hoover 5, Ramvick 4, Vanderburg 2, Wallace, Westerholm.				

Astoria 44, OR Episcopal 38				
OR Episcopal	11	9	8	10—38
Astoria	10	9	10	15—44
OES (38): Charles Willmott 11, Lewis 6, Monshi 6, Slusher 6, Pejovic-Nezhat 5, Brown 2, Harris 2.				
AST (44): Josh Olson 11, Xander Marincovich 11, Ian Hunt 11, Brockman 9, Long 2, Ploghoft, Soderstrom, Matlock, Junes, Johnson, Altheide-Nielson.				



Seaside freshman Lilli Taylor knocks down a pass for the Gulls in their win over Cascade.

GIRLS HOOPS ROUNDUP

Seaside girls down
Cascade in 37-25 win

The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Seaside bounced back from a season-opening loss Wednesday at Stayton with a 37-25 win over Cascade in a nonleague girls basketball game Friday night at the Gulls’ Nest.

Seaside scored the first two points just seconds into the game — unfortunately it was into the wrong hoop, giving Cascade a quick 2-0 lead.

And the Cougars used the gift to their advantage, as they led 12-10 at halftime.

But it did not take long for Seaside to take control, as the Gulls went on a 20-0 run to open the second half. Fastbreak baskets from Lilli Taylor, Emy Kiser and Morgan Blodgett helped give Seaside a commanding 30-12 lead.

“Well, after a first half that featured an amazing display of offensive offense, we managed to score with our press in the third quarter and take control of the game,” said Seaside coach Mike Hawes.

“We can’t always control our shooting accuracy but we can control our effort, and we’ve played hard twice.”

Taylor again led the Gulls with 10 points, followed by Blodgett and Kiser with nine apiece. Taylor also had five rebounds and four steals.

“Nice scoring balance,” Hawes said. “Kiser at the head of the press was solid and Morgan Blodgett had a good game for us and found ways to score.”

Seaside takes part in the Philomath tournament Thursday and Friday.

Madras rallies to beat Astoria

MADRAS — The Astoria girls basketball team came up short in a second-round game of the Madras Tournament, as the host White Buffaloes scored a 65-51 win Saturday afternoon over the Lady Fishermen.

Astoria suffered through a rough third quarter, and an even tougher day at the free throw line in the loss.

The Lady Fishermen held a 34-30 lead at the break, before Madras went on a 19-4 run in the third period. Astoria finished 12-for-32 on free throws in the 14-point loss.

Madras had three players in double figures, led by Jiana Smith-Francis with 20 points and Vanessa Culps with 12. Julia Norris scored 12 points and Brooklynn Hankwitz added 11 for Astoria, which opened the tournament Friday with an easy 74-18 win over Hood River Valley.

Knappa loses two games
and one player

KNAPPA — Knappa held a 17-13 lead at halftime, but the Loggers went cold at the offensive end in the second half, and Oregon Episcopal scored a 44-24 win Saturday night on Day 2 of the Knappa Tip-Off Classic.

Sophia Carlson scored 10 points and grabbed five rebounds to lead the Loggers, who led 12-4 after one quarter.

Vicki Ramvick and Madelynn Weaver had six rebounds apiece for Knappa, before Ramvick went down with a dislocated knee late in the fourth quarter.

Lauren Han had 21 points for the Aardvarks, who

went on a 16-2 run in the third period.

In a first-round game of the tournament, Mahala Fisher and Kaycie Otis scored 14 points apiece to lead Toledo to a 58-28 win Friday over Knappa.

The Loggers trailed just 13-9 after one quarter, before the Boomers went on a 38-13 run over the next two quarters.

Aiko Miller had 11 points and five rebounds for Knappa, followed by Carlson with 10 points and Weaver with five rebounds and three steals.

Warrenton cruises
to tournament win

SUTHERLIN — The 2018-19 season is off to a successful start for the Warrenton girls basketball team.

The Lady Warriors completed a three-game sweep in the Bill Spelgatti Invitational at Sutherlin with a 61-29 win Saturday night over Lakeview.

After an opening round win over South Umpqua last Thursday, the Warriors defeated host Sutherlin 59-37 Friday night.

Warrenton was the only team to go undefeated in the three-day tournament, following Saturday’s victory over the Honkers, who were 0-3.

“After the first quarter of the first game, we played really well,” said Robert Hoepfl. “Our defense was outstanding, and I think we won every quarter after that. We were 25-for-32 from the (free throw) line in our last two games, and made 10 threes (in Saturday’s win). We had great contributions from everybody, and that’s big when you’re playing three games in three days.”

Kenzie Ramsey was 7-for-8 from the 3-point line on her way to 24 points in the victory over Lakeview. She also won a tournament 3-point shooting contest, draining 12 in one minute to beat teammate Claire Bussert’s 11. Warrenton’s Maria Heyen won a tournament free throw contest.

In Friday’s win, Fernanda Alvarez had a career high 23 points, Ramsey added 16, and Bussert dominated the game with 15 assists and six points.

Warrenton hosts Naselle in a nonleague game Tuesday.



Warrenton Warriors

The Warrenton girls basketball team, following their tournament victory in Sutherlin.

Knappa
holds off
Astoria,
49-47

The Daily Astorian

KNAPPA — In the final boys basketball game of the Knappa Tip-Off Classic, the Knappa Loggers outlasted Astoria, 49-47, in a battle between the two longtime rivals late Saturday night.

“We had a wide open three to win it, but it didn’t go,” said Astoria coach Kevin Goin, whose team was coming off a 44-38 win over Oregon Episcopal the day before. The Loggers lost a 71-56 decision to Toledo on Day 1.

“I was still real pleased with how we played, both days,” Goin said. “We were missing our two guards (Ryan Stenblom and Michael Moore), so we were playing some guys out of position. And Knappa’s a very good team. Those kids have been playing together for a lot of years. It was a real good high school basketball game. Neither team had more than a five-point lead the whole time.”

Timber Engblom scored 18 points to lead the Loggers, who trailed 39-38 going into the final quarter, after a 26-26 tie at halftime. Eli Takalo added 11 points, but just two in the second half.

Ian Hunt made three 3-pointers for the Fishermen and finished with a game-high 21 points, followed by sophomore Dylan Junes with seven.

In Friday’s win, Hunt had 11 points, as did Josh Olson and Xander Marincovich, helping the Fishermen open up a second-half lead after trailing the Aardvarks 20-19 at halftime.

Isaac Brockman added nine points for Astoria, which hosts a team from Semiahmoo, British Columbia, at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Knappa plays Tuesday at Clatskanie.

Warrenton
slips past
Gaston in
56-54 win

The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — A 24-5 run in the first half sparked the Warrenton boys basketball team Saturday, as the Warriors continued their win streak against the 2A Northwest League with a 56-54 win over Gaston in a nonleague game.

Warrenton was coming off a 48-37 win Friday over Nestucca, and the Warriors resume their battle with the Northwest League with games this week against Neah-Kah-Nie and Vernonia.

Dalton Knight led the Warriors with 18 points in Saturday’s win, followed by Ayden Stephens with 10. Austin Little chipped in eight and Devin Jackson scored seven.

Warrenton coach Nate McBride called it “the best offensive performance we have had in years,” as the Warriors shot 56 percent from the field and 44 percent from the 3-point line.

Warrenton went on a 24-5 run late in the first quarter through the end of the second.

“We struggled through a lot of turnovers in the third quarter (25 for the game) and let them back in, and it was only a three-point game at the end of the third,” McBride said.

The fourth quarter was back and forth, with neither team leading by more than six.

Knight also had five rebounds, three assists and three steals. Little scored the last five points for Warrenton, and Jackson dished out five assists. Stephens hauled in eight rebounds.