

SPORTS

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SPORTS
IN BRIEF

Knappa boys crush
Neah-Kah-Nie

Knappa bounced back from a tough loss at Portland Christian last week with a decisive 71-38 win Tuesday night over Neah-Kah-Nie in a Northwest League boys basketball game.

Eli Takalo scored 24 points (22 through three quarters) for the Loggers, who scored their 23rd straight win over Neah-Kah-Nie going back to the 2002-03 season.

The lopsided matchup picked up right where it's been for the last 15 years, following Knappa's wins last year (70-32 and 89-52).

Knappa led 24-4 after one quarter, built a 31-9 lead late in the second quarter and had to settle for a 41-21 half-time advantage. The Loggers pushed their lead back to 56-27 after three quarters.

Neah-Kah-Nie came in as the No. 8-ranked team at the 2A level. The Pirates were coming off a 51-48 win over Vernonia, and defeated Portland Christian 47-43 just over a week ago, the same Royals team that scored a last-second win over Knappa last Friday.

"Everybody had a bad taste in their mouth after the loss last Friday," said Knappa coach Paul Isom, "and I just told our guys before the game, 'it's a good night to get that out.'

"We came out with a lot of energy," he said. "We pressed, and that really helped get our legs under us. It got the crowd into it, and it just sort of snowballed from there."

Timber Engblom added 11 points for Knappa, which takes part in the Dayton tournament, Thursday through Saturday.

In other Northwest League action Tuesday, Columbia Christian defeated Portland Christian 78-42.

Neah-Kah-Nie
edges Knappa girls

Neah-Kah-Nie rallied from a small deficit midway through the first half by outscoring Knappa 26-16 over the second and third quarters, helping the Pirates post a 48-39 win over the Lady Loggers in a Northwest League girls basketball game Tuesday at Knappa.

Sophia Carlson led Knappa with 17 points, followed by Madelynn Weaver with 13 and Aiko Miller with six. Weaver also had six steals, while Carlson finished with seven rebounds and five steals.

Miller had a team-high 11 boards for Knappa, which is still playing with just six players.

"(The Pirates) just had too many second-chance points tonight," said Knappa coach Marie Green. "We've got to block out better. Our guards can't be out-rebounding our posts.

"It was a tough loss, but hopefully it will be different and we'll have some people back when we go there (Jan. 25)."

Knappa plays Thursday at Riverdale.

St. Paul sweeps Jewell

The Jewell basketball teams played a Casco League doubleheader Monday night in St. Paul, where the Buckaroos swept past the Blue Jays.

St. Paul won the girls' game, 51-24. Haley Norman led Jewell with 12 points, followed by Nedi Morales with six, and Lillie Meier and Cheyenne Stapleton with three apiece.

Jewell's Andy Valdez scored 10 points in the boys' game, won by St. Paul, 90-24.

— *The Daily Astorian*

Constantine named to Oregon shotgun team



Paul Williams
Kory Constantine of the Clatsop Claybusters will compete with the Oregon national shotgun team.

The Daily Astorian

Clatsop Claybusters announced that one of its members, Kory Constantine, has been appointed to the Oregon 4H National Shotgun team.

Constantine competed at the Oregon state competition in June and received a qualifying score in both Trap and 5 Stand. He will compete at the 4H national contest in June.

Constantine has been a

member of the Claybusters for over seven years, and has developed into an accomplished leader in the club. One of the challenges he faces is that the national contest requires members to compete in all three major shotgun disciplines: Trap, Skeet and Sporting Clays.

While Constantine can fine-tune his Trap skills locally, he will have to travel to ranges in the valley to practice Skeet and

Sporting Clays. He is committed to representing Oregon and Clatsop County at the national contest and plans on receiving coaching in those two disciplines.

Constantine has been working on increasing his proficiency in both sporting clays and skeet through his membership on the Youth Education in Shooting Sports (YESS) team, Clatsop Shot and Awe. He is one of the founding members of the team

and has participated in all competitions.

Coach Paul Williams said that Constantine and his mother, Tara, have been exceptionally dedicated in Kory's efforts to improve his skills.

Williams stated that the next seven months will require a higher level of preparation and funds. If interested in supporting Constantine, donations can be made to Clatsop Claybusters, P.O. Box 1273, Astoria.

No. 7 Oregon defeats No. 4 Mississippi State

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

EUGENE — Oregon coach Kelly Graves chided guard Sabrina Ionescu following No. 7 Oregon's win over No. 4 Mississippi State as she rested her head in her hand while addressing the media.

"I'm tired!" Ionescu protested with a smile.

She'd certainly earned a breather. Ionescu scored 29 points, including all 17 of her free throws, as the Ducks handed the Bulldogs their first loss this season 82-74 on Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs (10-1) had won 46 regular-season nonconference games, but couldn't catch up once the Ducks (9-1) started to pull away in the fourth quarter, boosted by their home fans. Maite Cazorla added 20 points for the Ducks.

Anriel Howard led Mississippi State with a career-high 30 points. Oregon held senior Teaira McCowan to five points, but she had 11 rebounds.

"Obviously it helps. That's a quality win against a great team, they'll be a one or a two seed ultimately, odds-on favorite to win the SEC, so, sure," Graves said when asked what the win meant to the team's season. "But the reality is, we enjoy it tonight and practice tomorrow and we'll forget about it and move on."

Oregon went up 64-57 on Ruthy Hebard's short jumper with 7:47 left. Cazorla added a layup for the Ducks before Bre'Amber Scott's 3-pointer for Mississippi State.

A driving layup from Cazorla made it 76-65 and got the crowd at Matthew Knight Arena on its feet. Jazzmun Holmes' layup got the Bulldogs within 80-74 with 1:23 left, but Howard fouled out a short time later.

The Ducks went into the game leading the nation with an average of 92.4 points a game, while the Bulldogs, last season's NCAA tournament runner-up, were a close second at 92.3.

"We played a really good team," Mississippi State coach Vic Schaefer said. "I'm disappointed. I thought we got out-toughed all night long. Give credit to Oregon. That's something we take great pride in is winning the toughness battle. It's one thing to talk the talk, it's another thing to walk the walk, and Oregon walked the walk tonight."

Oregon guard Sabrina Ionescu celebrates after making an assist in the first half.
Andy Nelson
The Register-Guard

Oregon tops Florida A&M
behind Bailey's 16 points

Associated Press

EUGENE — A matinee start seemed to catch the wrong team off its game with no excuses.

Fortunately for Oregon, there was enough that went right between falling behind by eight points early and giving up 13 straight at the end for the Ducks to claim a season-high fourth consecutive win.

Victor Bailey Jr. scored 16 points in his first start and Oregon finished a sweep of its four-game homestand by outlasting Florida A&M 71-64 on Tuesday.

"It was a disappoint-



Andy Nelson/The Register-Guard
Oregon guard Victor Bailey Jr. dunks during the first half.

ing finish and our start was poor, but it shows just how far we have to go as a team," Oregon coach Dana Altman said. "We've got a lot of work to do and lots of things we've got to work on and get finished up."

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE TODAY	
Girls basketball — Rainier at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; C.S. Lewis at Jewell, 5:30 p.m.	2:30: Madras vs. Marist
Boys basketball — Rainier at Warrenton, 7:30 p.m.; C.S. Lewis at Jewell, 7 p.m.; Willapa Valley at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.	5:30: Cottage Grove vs. Corbett
THURSDAY	8:30: Montesano vs. Seaside
Girls basketball — Knappa at Riverdale, 6 p.m.; Ilwaco at Willapa Valley, 7 p.m.	
Boys basketball — Knappa at Dayton Tournament, TBA	GIRLS BASKETBALL
2018 Seaside Holiday Classic at Seaside High School	Neah-Kah-Nie 48, Knappa 39
Thursday's games	NKN (48): Alicia Cruz Lilly 14, Soans 12, B.Woodward 8, Huntley 6, Smith 4, A.Woodward 2.
(Game times are approximate)	KNA (39): Sophia Carlson 17, Weaver 13, Miller 6, Corcoran 3, Dietrichs, Patterson.
Girls	NeahKahNie 12 9 17 10 — 48
10 a.m.: Elma vs. Astoria	Knappa 15 6 10 8 — 39
1:00: Newport vs. Marist	
4:00: Cottage Grove vs. Corbett	BOYS BASKETBALL
7:00: Crook County vs. Seaside	Knappa 71, Neah-Kah-Nie 38
Boys	NKN (38): Josh Elinsky 12, Donaldson 10, Holm 6, A.Pieper 6, K.Pieper 4.
11:30 a.m.: Newport vs. Astoria	KNA (71): Eli Takalo 24, Engblom 11, Philip 7, Green 6, Westerholm 5, Hoover 4, Ramvick 4, Lackey 4, Wallace 4, Vanderburg 2, Coffey.
	NeahKahNie 4 17 6 11 — 38
	Knappa 24 17 15 15 — 71

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