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CLATSOP CLASHES

BIG START LEADS SEASIDE PAST ASTORIA BOYS, 70-43

By **GARY HENLEY**
The Daily Astorian

On a night when Astoria High School introduced its new class of Hall of Fame inductees, a bunch of future Hall of Famers from Seaside High School crashed the party and got the win.

The Seaside boys' basketball team — which could celebrate state championship No. 3 in a row just over a month from now — jumped out to a 20-2 lead on their way to a 70-43 win over Astoria in Clatsop Clash action Friday night at the Brick House.

Chase Januik erupted for 33 points — which included a 12-0 run by Januik alone in the first quarter — and the Gulls took long-range target practice on the Fishermen, finishing 8-for-27 from the 3-point line.

The first half was all Seaside, which scored the first 15 points of the game.

Astoria scored the first two points of the second quarter, but the next 16 points belonged to the Gulls, who quickly turned their 20-7 lead into a 36-7 advantage.

To their credit, the Fishermen followed up one of their worst first halves of basketball with one of their best.

A 3-pointer by Xander Marinovich sparked a 9-2 Astoria run to begin the third quarter, in which the Fishermen outscored the Seaside starters 19-18.

But, Januik wasn't done, as the senior followed up his 18-point first half with a 15-point second half. He finished 8-for-9 from the free throw line.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Chase Januik launches a three-point attempt for Seaside.

Astoria had 3-pointers from Isaac Brockman and Conner Long to keep the Fishermen within 22 points (closer than their 40-point loss at Seaside earlier in the season), and Ian Hunt scored 10 of his team-high 15

points in the second half. Brockman finished with 13, while Ryan Hague and Beau Johnson scored 11 apiece for the No. 2-ranked Gulls.

Astoria hosts No. 1-ranked Banks on Tuesday.

Astoria girls defeat Seaside, ready for first-place showdown

The Daily Astorian

Seaside has gone toe-to-toe this year with some of the best 4A girls basketball teams in the state — Banks, North Marion, Stayton — but the Lady Gulls just seem to have trouble rising to the occasion against Astoria.

Astoria won its fifth-straight Clatsop Clash, 43-23, Friday night at the Brick House, setting up a first-place showdown Tuesday with Banks.

Meanwhile, ever since the graduation of Maddi Utti, the Gulls haven't been much of a challenge for Astoria, which knocked off Seaside three times last season, and now twice this year — all by double-digit margins.

"Astoria presents a lot of challenges for us, as they have multiple kids and ways to score," said Seaside coach Mike Hawes, "though (Hailey) O'Brien seems to flourish against us."

Hawes was speaking of Astoria junior Hailey O'Brien, who has now scored a combined 38 points in two games this year vs. the Gulls. She led the Fishermen with 18 in Friday's win.

O'Brien was part of Astoria's big first quarter, in which the Lady Fish were 6-for-13 from the field, 4-of-6 from the 3-point line, with two treys from O'Brien and one each for Julia Norris and Halle Helmersen.

Astoria led 17-7 after the first eight minutes. Both teams struggled after that.

Over the final three quarters, the



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Morgan Blodgett passes for the Seagulls.

Fishermen were 1-for-12 on 3-pointers, with 16 turnovers. Seaside had 26 turnovers on the night, and finished 1-for-14 from the 3-point line.

"Sometimes we have painful offensive nights, and this was one of them," Hawes said. "Too many turnovers, not enough shot attempts, too few makes. Even if you're playing decent defense, everything is magnified. The girls played hard and we'll keep plugging away."

Meanwhile, Astoria (4-1 in league)

is poised to tie Banks (5-0) atop the Cowapa standings with a win Tuesday.

With the exception of a Jan. 18 loss at Banks, no team has even come close to the Lady Fishermen, whose last eight victories have come by an average margin of 27 points per game.

Following Tuesday's game vs. Banks, Astoria closes the league season with games at Tillamook and Valley Catholic, as the Fishermen look to secure their first state tournament appearance since 2002.

Knappa girls top Columbia Christian Knights, 42-17

Knappa scored just two points in the first quarter, but the Lady Loggers limited Columbia Christian to just 12 total points over the final three quarters, lifting Knappa to a 42-17 win Saturday over the Knights in a Northwest League girls basketball game.

The victory snapped a five-game losing streak for the Loggers, who have one remaining league game (Tuesday at Nestucca), with a nonleague contest Friday at Seaside.

Madelynn Weaver led Knappa with 15 points and 11 steals, while Sophia Carlson added 10 points, four rebounds and three assists. Raven Corcoran scored eight points and Hannah Dietrichs grabbed eight rebounds for the Loggers, who outscored the Knights 40-12 over the final three quarters.

Knights rally past Knappa

The showdown between Class 2A boys basketball powers Columbia Christian and Knappa — who just happen to play in the same league — went to the Knights in a Saturday afternoon matinee in Portland.

Columbia Christian trailed after one quarter, then outscored Knappa 64-41 over the final three for a 75-55 win over the Loggers in Northwest League action.

The two teams could meet as many two more times before the season is over, in the league playoffs and the state tournament.

Knappa held a 14-11 lead over the No. 1-ranked Knights after the first period,

before Columbia Christian went on a 25-11 run in the second quarter, and never trailed again.

The Loggers "came out playing really well," said Knappa coach Paul Isom, in building their first-quarter lead.

After that, "(the Knights) hit some tough shots in the second, and built an 11-point lead. We played tough in the second half, but could never really close the gap. I was proud of the effort though.

"I think Columbia is a top team at any level in the state, so being able to compete and hang in there against them is no easy task, and I think gives us some confidence heading into our last couple games and into the playoffs."

— *The Daily Astorian*

Clatskanie holds off Warrenton in league battle

The Daily Astorian

The Warrenton Lady Warriors are closing in on the Clatskanie Tigers, in Coastal Range League girls basketball.

Yes, the Tigers have won three straight — but the games are getting progressively closer.

From Clatskanie's 67-31 win over Warrenton on Jan. 2, the Tigers have narrowly escaped with two 10-point wins in the last two meetings, including 57-47 Friday night.

The next time they meet — in the league playoffs — don't be surprised if the Warriors come away with the win.

Warrenton got close in the latest meeting at Clatskanie, leading 24-15 after one quarter.

"The girls were amazing tonight against one of the best teams in the state," said Warrenton coach Robert Hoepfl. "We lost, but the score doesn't tell the story. We played our best quarter, maybe ever, in the first."

Warrenton's Kenzie Ramsey (17 points) and Claire Bussert (13) "outscored Clatskanie's two all-state players (Shelby Blodgett and Olivia Sprague) and played unreal on both ends," Hoepfl said. "Claire outplayed their guard on both ends and I am just super proud of the season she is putting together."

Ramsey, meanwhile, moved into first all-time on the school's list for most 3-pointers in a season, breaking a mark set by Tyla Little just last year.

But, Clatskanie rallied from an eventual 12-point deficit in the first half, to within 31-28 by halftime.

Blodgett took over in the second half, as she finished with 11 rebounds and eight steals, in addition to her 17 points.

Alexis Smith added 14 points, and Kaity Sizemore finished 10 points and 10 boards for the Tigers, who had four players in double figures.

Clatskanie improves to 9-0 in league to Warrenton's 7-3.

"We outplayed them for long stretches, and unfortunately had a tough three-minute stretch in the second (quarter) and some weird calls in the third," Hoepfl said.

"They deserve the league title," he said of the Tigers, who won their first league title since 1995, and just the third in the program's history, the first being in 1974.

On Warrenton's side, Hoepfl said, "Fernanda Alvarez rebounded well and had a great fourth quarter inside, scoring nine points. Avyree Miethe played her best varsity game, scoring two points, but more importantly fighting for rebounds and making rotations at an elite level."

Adriana Dejesus "played maybe the best guard defensive game we have had in my four years," he said, and "she did this while ill as well. Unreal effort."

The Warriors finish the regular season this week with home games vs. Willamina and Rainier. Warrenton is a combined 4-0 against both.

Clatskanie puts the clamps on Warrenton boys, 56-25

Warrenton tied its season low in points scored, as Clatskanie posted a 56-25 win over the Warriors in a Coastal Range League boys basketball game Friday.

The Tigers opened up a 26-11 halftime lead, helping No. 9-ranked Clatskanie to a 7-2 league record.

Warrenton slips to 4-6, and hosts games this week vs. Willamina and Rainier.

Cooper Blodgett scored 13 points to lead Clatskanie.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE TUESDAY

Girls basketball — Banks at Astoria, 6 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 6 p.m.; Willamina at Warrenton, 7:30 p.m.; Knappa at Nestucca, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Falls City, 5:30 p.m.

Boys basketball — Banks at Astoria, 7:30 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 7:30 p.m.; Willamina at Warrenton, 6 p.m.; Knappa at Nestucca, 7:30 p.m.; Jewell at Falls City, 7 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Seaside 70, Astoria 43
SEA (70): Chase Januik 33, Hague 11, BeJohnson 11, BrJohnson 7, Thompson 4, Westerholm 2, Acree 2,
AST (43): Ian Hunt 15, Brockman 13, Marinovich 5, Long 3, Stenblom 2, Soderstrom 2, Williams 2, Johnson 1.
Seaside 20 16 18 16—70
Astoria 5 7 19 12—43
Columbia Christian 75, Knappa 55
KNA (55): Ty Vanderburg 14, Takalo 13, Engblom 10, Phillip 5, Ramvick 4, Hoover 3, Wallace 3, Westerholm 3.
Knappa 14 11 13 17—55
Columbia 11 25 13 26—75

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Astoria 43, Seaside 23
SEA (23): Lilli Taylor 9, Blodgett 5, Angulo 5, Douglas 2, Zagata 1, Kiser 1, Goin, Garhofer.
AST (43): Hailey O'Brien 18, Helmersen 7, Norris 6, Hankwitz 4, Long 3, Jackson 3, Fausett 2, Cole.
Seaside 7 4 5 7—23
Astoria 17 7 11 8—43
Clatskanie 57, Warrenton 47
WAR (47): Kenzie Ramsey 17, Bussert 13, Alvarez 9, MHeyen 4, McCall 2, Walter, Nicholson, Rilatos, Tischer, Hellberg.
CLA (57): Shelby Blodgett 17, Smith 14, Sprague 12, Sizemore 10, Martin 2, McLeon 2.
Knappa 42, Columbia Christian 17
KNA (42): Madelynn Weaver 15, Carlson 10, Corcoran 8, Dietrichs 5, McCall 2, Walter, Nicholson, Rilatos, Tischer, Hellberg.
CC (17): Maranda Brumley 7, Tsegaye 3, Davis 2, Behny 2, Skelton 2, Rutz 1.
Knappa 2 12 14 14—42
Columbia 5 3 4 5—17