

# SPORTS

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## Astoria swimmers capture team title

The Daily Astorian

The big meet is this weekend at Newport, but Astoria scored a notable victory last week, when the Fishermen boys' swim team won a Cowapa League team championship.

Astoria racked up 287.5 points to finish atop the list of the four Cowapa League schools with swim teams, which met for the annual league meet Friday at the Astoria Aquatic Center.

The Fishermen finished ahead of Seaside (252.5 points), Valley Catholic (234) and Tillamook (139).

Tillamook won the girls' team title with 311 points, ahead of Valley Catholic (269), Seaside (233) and Astoria (186).

The Cowapa League schools will meet again later this week, along with teams from Newport, Rainier, Taft and Toledo, for the Special District 1-4A/3A/2A meet, Friday and Saturday in Newport. The district meet will decide state qualifiers.

Still, the Cowapa League title was a big

accomplishment for the Astoria boys, who won three of the 11 events.

Junior Riley Cameron finished the 100-yard freestyle in 55.37 seconds, the best time among 14 entries in the event, and the first Astoria win in three straight boys' events.

Out of eight swimmers in the 500-yard freestyle, Astoria sophomore Kevin Loyola had the top time of 6:08.28, with teammate Noah Kastengren second in 6:30.34.

And the Astoria foursome of Cameron, Rocky Rub, Kastengren and Ryder Dopp teamed up to win the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:45.70, for 32 team points.

Adding points for the Fishermen, Astoria's Phelan Dopp took second in both the 100-yard butterfly (1:12.83) and the 200-yard freestyle (2:23.50), just ahead of teammate Nikolai Boisvert (2:23.76).

Cameron was second in the 200-yard individual medley (2:20.22), and Elias Simmons and Seaside's Henry Garvin tied for second (25.86) out of 13 entries in the 50-yard freestyle.



Howard Rub

Members of the Astoria boys swim team, following their Cowapa League team title Friday at the Astoria Aquatic Center.

And in the final event of the day, the Fishermen team of Simmons, Boisvert, Kastengren and Loyola took second in the 400-yard freestyle relay (4:10.61).

Also for the Seaside boys, Sean Olea was second in the 100-yard backstroke (1:15.93), with other Gulls placing third, fourth and fifth.

On the girls' side, Kendy Lin was the big point-scorer for Seaside, as the senior finished second in both the 200 freestyle (2:20.71) and also the backstroke (1:10.13).

Astoria's Tori Smith was second behind Tillamook's Nina Zweifel in the 200 individual medley, and Astoria sophomore

Grace Peeler took second in the 500 freestyle (6:31.15).

In the relays, Astoria's Constance Rouda, Peeler, Smith and Everett Towsey-French placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

"It was a good opportunity to see the increased level of competition as we prepare for districts," said Seaside coach Shane Spell. The Seaside swimmers "raced tough after a challenging week of practice. We'll use this week to fine-tune some things, rest up a little bit more and see what can happen at districts in Newport. Lots of great competition ahead, and also a great opportunity to really push themselves for a strong finish."

## WRESTLING ROUNDUP

### Knappa Kids find success at state

The Daily Astorian

While the high schoolers are competing in league and district meets, five Knappa youth wrestlers took part in the Oregon Kids state tournament, held Friday through Sunday at the OSU Truax Center in Corvallis.

The Knappa Kids had two top-four placers, as Gary Newberry III took fourth in a 16-wrestler peewee bracket, and Cutter Barendse placed fourth out of 23 wrestlers in an 8U bantam bracket.

Newberry lost his first match in the 6U Peewee 37 bracket, but bounced back with four straight wins. The victories included a 21-second pin over Axel Harmon of Creswell, a 9-6 decision against Mauricio Reyes of Eastern Oregon Elite, and a 15-0 technical fall over Roseburg/Umpqua Valley's Esson McNabb.

In a consolation semifinal, Newberry won a 7-4 decision vs. Blake Johnson of the Salem Elite Mat Club.

In the third-place match, Dante Lewis of the Beaverton Mat Club pinned Newberry in 59 seconds, leaving Newberry with 14.5 team points.

Barendse had a busy tournament in his 70-pound division, wrestling seven matches, winning five.

After a loss in the championship bracket second round, Barendse wrestled back with five straight victories.

He won three in a row by pin over wrestlers from West Albany, Dayton and Pleasant Hill, followed by a 5-4 decision against Harrison Smith of the Lebanon Mat Club, who earlier had defeated Barendse in the Oregon Classic.

In the consolation semifinals, Barendse won by fall (2:33) over Cash Cooper of Pleasant Hill.

And in the third-place match, Brayden Thomas of the Dallas Mat Club won a thriller over Barendse, 2-1.

"It's been a long season and the kids have worked hard," said Knappa coach Gary Newberry. "The hard work showed this weekend in matches where they were down in points, but worked hard to win in the end."

Other Knappa wrestlers taking part included Kenneth Lyle (8U Bantam 53), Easton Bartlett (8U Bantam 56) and Kohen Connor (10U Intermediate 84).

### Warrenton girls place fifth in the North Regional qualifier

Members of the Warrenton girls wrestling team took part in the North Regional qualifier last weekend at Liberty High School in Hillsboro.

The tournament drew 223 wrestlers, "blowing away last year's state tournament numbers," said Warrenton coach Corey Conant.

Only two girls per weight qualified for the state tournament, and unfortunately for the Warriors, no Warrenton wrestlers were able to qualify.

The brackets for the state tournament include just four wrestlers per weight, with the other two qualifiers coming out of the South Regional, held last weekend at Thurston High School.

"Next year they will look to expand it to an eight-girl state tournament," Conant said. "I feel like that is a much more equitable number. A lot of great wrestlers will not get a chance to compete at state due to how tough it can be to finish in the top two."

The Warriors had 11 wrestlers competing in the regional, after a rash of injuries and illnesses over the past few weeks knocked several team leaders out for the season.

Still, "the 11 girls who made it all the way

to competition did a wonderful job," Conant said.

Warrenton senior Noel O'Bryan took third at 170 pounds, and had a chance to qualify for state in consolation.

"She gave herself some chances, but wasn't able to pull off the victory," Conant said.

Elsewhere, Warrior senior Madison Kadera was fourth at 110, where she "turned it on at the right time and came from behind to pin the No. 3 seed in the quarterfinals," Conant said.

Warrenton senior Libby Renhert was fifth at 190.

Hillsboro won the team title, followed by Hood River Valley, Century and Scappoose, all 5A or 6A schools. Warrenton and Class 6A Centennial tied for fifth.

"We are super proud of our most successful Warrenton women's wrestling team ever," Conant said. "They grew a ton this year and continue to build a tradition for future Warrenton Warriors to follow."

Other locals competing included Astoria freshman Emma King, who went 5-2 and finished fifth in her weight bracket.

Knappa's Lakota Schaeffer and Jade Somoza were both 1-2 in their respective divisions.

Conant said the number of wrestlers who competed in the two regionals is double the number of last year's state tournament.

The sport of girls' wrestling "is exploding across the state, and we want the North Coast to be a big part of that," he said.

### Points hard to come by for Astoria, Seaside wrestlers

Wrestlers from four Cowapa League schools met on the mats last Saturday in Banks, where Tillamook ran off with the team title.

The Cheesemakers racked up 446 points to finish well ahead of Banks (231), Seaside (114) and Astoria (34). The same four teams will meet — along with teams from Estacada, Molalla, North Marion and Woodburn — later this week in the District 1/4A tournament, Friday and Saturday in Tillamook.

Tillamook scored most of the victories in Saturday's league meet, leaving very few points for the remaining teams.

For Seaside, Andrew Gastelum placed second at 120 pounds, scoring 18 team points for the Gulls.

After a first-round bye, Gastelum scored his lone win over Mason Warren of Banks, a 54-second pin in the semifinals.

In the title match, Tillamook's Keegan Hagerty pinned Gastelum in 1:40.

The Gulls' Lawson Talamantez took second at 182. He took the same route as Gastelum, with a first-round bye, followed by a semifinal pin over Tillamook's Rafael Martinez in 1:43.

In the championship, Fabian Niemi of Tillamook pinned Talamantez in 2:39.

Elsewhere, Seaside's Aidan Tice took third at 145, pinning Tillamook's Andrew Fowler in 2:47 in the third-place match. And Luke Nelson placed third at 220, winning by fall (a 55-second pin) over Tillamook's Justin Rowley in the third-place match.

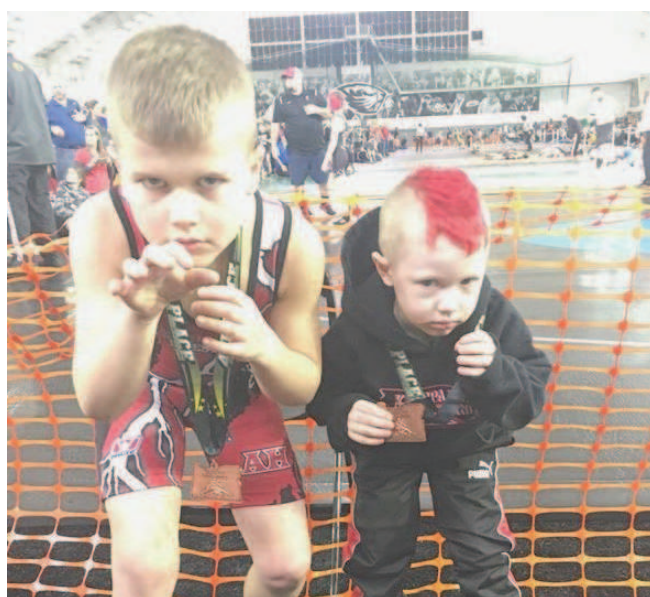
William Eddy had the best finish for Astoria, taking second at 126 pounds.

Eddy won by fall over Tillamook's Leslie Marquez in a quarterfinal match, followed by a pin (2:56) over Haylee Davis of Banks in the semifinals.

Tillamook's Quintin Metcalfe pinned Eddy in the title match.

Astoria's Daniel Messing placed third at 132.

State qualifiers will be determined in the district meet.



## SCOREBOARD

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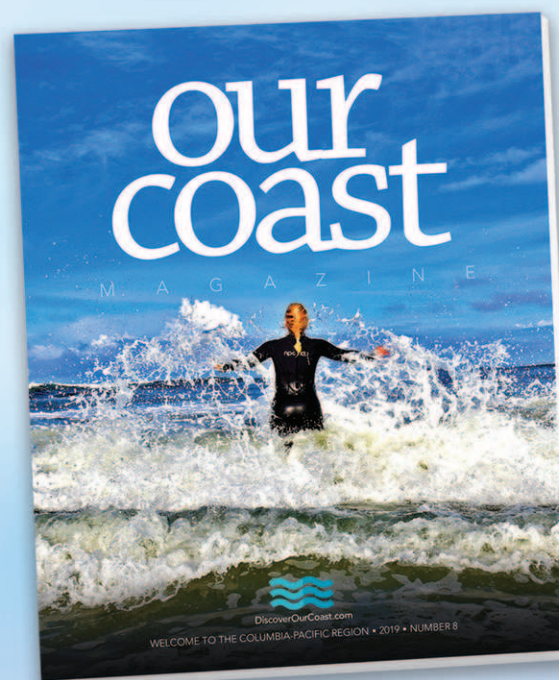
Girls basketball — Banks at Astoria, 5 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 5 p.m.; Willamina at Warrenton, 7:30 p.m.; Knappa at Nestucca, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Falls City, 5:30 p.m.

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

Knappa youth wrestlers Cutter Barendse, left, and Gary Newberry III both placed fourth in their respective weight divisions in last weekend's state tournament. Knappa Kids wrestling

## COMING Spring Break 2019

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