

SPORTS

CONTACT US

Gary Henley | Sports Reporter

ghenley@dailyastorian.com

FOLLOW US

facebook.com/

DailyAstorianSports

Nuggets, Blazers series features Jokic vs. Lillard

By PAT GRAHAM
Associated Press

DENVER — The Joker versus Dame. Versatile big man against prodigious scorer.

They are two big reasons why Denver and Portland are meeting in the Western Conference semi-finals as the series begins tonight in the Mile High City.

Nikola Jokic: The 7-foot, do-it-all center for the Nuggets who guided them to a Game 7 victory over San Antonio with another triple-double.

Damian Lillard: The gifted shooter who lifted the Blazers to a series win over Oklahoma City by erupting for 50 points in Game 5, including the game-winner at the buzzer.

A featured attraction in what should be a formidable series.

“Damian Lillard right now is playing at another level,” Nuggets coach Michael Malone said.

Same with his guy, who’s nicknamed The Joker because he’s constantly filled with surprises.

“Couldn’t be happier for Nikola, couldn’t be prouder for Nikola,” said Malone, whose second-seeded squad advanced in the postseason for the first time in a decade. “Because all of his hard work has allowed him to go on the national stage and hopefully people take notice of what he’s doing, because it’s been remarkable.”

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE TODAY	
Baseball — Banks at Seaside, 5 p.m. Softball — Seaside at Banks, 5 p.m. Girls golf — Cowapa championships, Astoria GCC, 10 a.m. Boys golf — Cowapa championships, Astoria GCC, noon	
TUESDAY	
Baseball — Taft at Warrenton, 4:30 p.m.; Knappa at Portland Christian, 4:30 p.m. Softball — Taft at Warrenton, 4:30 p.m.	
BASEBALL	
Astoria 2, Valley Catholic 0 Astoria 002 000 0—2 3 4 V.Catholic 000 000 0—0 7 0 Rush and Hillard; Eisenhardt and Pruitt. W: Rush. L: Eisenhardt. RBI: Ast, Matthews. 2B: Ast, Matthews. LOB: Astoria 2, Valley Catholic 9. DP: Astoria. Seaside 6, Tillamook 2 Seaside 402 000 0—6 10 0 Tillamook 000 002 0—2 3 6 Westerholm, Johnson (6) and Teubner; Richardson, Harmon (4) and Buffan. W: Westerholm. L: Richardson. RBI: Sea, Derby, Januik, Teubner, Thompson, Westerholm. 2B: Sea, Johnson, Teubner. HBP: Sea, Teubner; Til, Biancofiore 2, Weber. LOB: Seaside 12, Tillamook 8. Game 1 Warrenton 11, Willamina 0 Warrenton 320 042—11 7 0 Willamina 000 000—0 3 6 Jackson, Little (7) and Morrow; Reed, Briant (4), Neville (6) and Colton, Baker (4). W: Jackson. L: Reed. 2B: War, Little, Falls. HR: War, Morrow. Game 2 Warrenton 9, Willamina 0 Warrenton 012 000 6—9 10 2 Willamina 000 000 0—0 2 5 Breitmeyer, Little (7) and Morrow; Colton, Tuck (5), Neville (7) and Reed. W: Breitmeyer. L: Colton. 2B: War, Herrera. Game 1 Knappa 14, St. Paul 1 St. Paul 010 00—1 4 1 Knappa 185 0x—14 10 1 Jackson, Smith (3) and Coppola; Flues and Patterson. W: Flues. L: Jackson. RBI: SP, Coppola; Kna, Bartlett 4, Patterson 4, Goodman 2, Coffey, Lackey, Takalo. 2B: SP, Herberger; Kna, Bartlett, Coffey, Goodman, Patterson. HBP: SP, Coppola, Crawford. LOB: St. Paul 6, Knappa 4. DP: St. Paul, Knappa. Game 2 Knappa 15, St. Paul 2 St. Paul 110 00—2 2 1 Knappa 013 (11)x—15 8 4 Crawford, Smith (4) and Coppola; Takalo and Patterson, Miller (5). W: Takalo. L: Crawford. 2B: Kna, Takalo, Miethe. HR: Kna, Wallace. <th>SOFTBALL</th> Tillamook 16, Seaside 5 Tillamook 310 009 3—16 17 2 Seaside 200 120 0—5 7 0 W: Torrin Richardson. L: Gracie Rhodes. RBI: Til, Dentel 4, Hurliman 4, Johnson 3, Reeves 3, Jenck, Lourenzo; Sea, Flaigg 2, S.Owsley. 2B: Til, Dentel 2, Johnson 2, Hurliman; Sea, Flaigg. LOB: Tillamook 6, Seaside 2. Game 1 Willamina 11, Warrenton 5 Warrenton 010 001 3—5 7 6 Willamina 410 123 x—11 7 4 W: Katrina Graham. L: Avyree Miethe. RBI: War, Kadera, Kapua, Miethe; Wil, Graham, Tuck, Rust, Mooney. 2B: War, Dyer; Wil, Hunt. HR: War, Miethe. HBP: Wil, Graham, Tuck, Nolen. LOB: Warrenton 8, Willamina 5. Game 2 Warrenton 14, Willamina 7 Warrenton 362 001 2—14 14 2 Willamina 001 110 4 x—10 4 W: Mia McFadden. L: Liz Nolen. RBI: War, Freniere 2, Ramsey 2, Thomas 2, Bussert, Dyer, Kadera, Quashnick; Wil, Mooney 3, Leno, Tuck. 2B: War, Quashnick; Wil, Graham, Hunt, Mooney. HR: Wil, Mooney. HBP: Wil, Rust, Nolen. Game 1 Knappa 14, St. Paul 4 St. Paul 001 03—4 8 9 Knappa 424 22—14 10 3 W: Madelynn Weaver. L: Rachel Vela. RBI: Kna, Carlson 3, Hellberg 3, Hendrickson 2, Denny, Nicholson, Weaver. 2B: SP, Smith; Kna, Carlson, Weaver. 3B: Kna, Hellberg. LOB: St. Paul 9, Knappa 7. Game 2 Knappa 11, St. Paul 1 St. Paul 100 00—1 1 1 Knappa 007 04—11 14 0 W: Hannah Dietrichs. L: Rachel Vela. RBI: Kna, Weaver 3, Corcoran 2, Dietrichs 2, Hendrickson 2, Hellberg, Patterson. 2B: SP, Smith; Kna, Carlson, Weaver. 3B: Kna, Hellberg. LOB: St. Paul 1, Knappa 6.	SOFTBALL

ASTORIA, SEASIDE TUNE UP FOR POSTSEASON MEETS



Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

Seaside runner Levi Card ran a season-best time of 2:05.28 for second place in the 800 meters in Saturday’s meet.

The Daily Astorian

Track and field athletes from Astoria and Seaside entered the stretch run of the regular season Saturday, as both schools competed in the annual Dick Baker Invitational at Gladstone.

And with one more three-way league meet remaining before the Cowapa League championships and the state meet, the Astoria girls are showing that they will be title contenders in both.

Competing against some of the top 4A competition in the state, the Lady Fishermen finished second in the team standings behind North Bend in Saturday’s meet. Athletes from Astoria and Seaside combined to win five events in the prestigious invite.

Class 5A North Bend swept the team titles, taking first ahead of Gladstone in the boys’ standings, while Astoria (the top 4A girls’ team) was second in the girls’ standings.

Seaside senior Gretchen Hoekstre was a double winner, and highlighted her day with a personal best toss of 154 feet, 2 inches to win the discus competition.

In addition to being the top mark in the entire state (at any level), her throw was 30 feet ahead of second-place finisher Kes



Gary Henley/The Daily Astorian

In addition to running a leg on a second-place relay team, Astoria’s Nara Van De Grift soared a personal best 32 feet, 9 inches for third place in the triple jump.

Sandstrom of Astoria (124-2).

Hoekstre was the only thrower to top 40 feet to win the shot put (40-3), with Sandstrom fourth, while Seaside teammate Anna Huddleston had her career best throw (114-4) to win the javelin.

The Lady Fishermen had several top three individual finishes, with one victory, as sophomore Sophie Long won the 800 meters in 2 minutes, 26.35 seconds, ahead

of 5A runners Celeste Sinko of North Bend and Kaitlin Nims-Fournier of Cleveland.

Elsewhere, Astoria sophomore Kelsey Fausett was third in the 400 meters, freshman Lindsay Riutta placed third in the 1,500 meters, and the foursome of Nara Van De Grift, Andrea Harris, Fausett and Long teamed up for second place in the 400-meter relay.

In the field events, freshman Maddie Sisley had a career-best leap of 15-9 for second in the long jump, while Van De Grift was third in the triple jump (PR 32-9) and Elizabeth Barnett took third in the pole vault.

On the boys’ side, Astoria senior Ian Hunt cleared 5-11 to win the high jump competition.

Seaside senior Parker Conrad’s throw of 161-4 was a distant second behind the toss of 191-1 of North Bend’s Ty Hampton.

Astoria freshman Colton McMaster added a fourth-place showing in the shot put, and on the track, Seaside’s Levi Card ran a season-best time of 2:05.28 for second in the 800.

The Fishermen and Gulls meet on the track this week, when Seaside hosts Astoria and Valley Catholic on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Astoria defeats Valley Catholic, 2-0

Valley Catholic had seven hits to Astoria’s three, and the Fishermen committed four errors in the field, but Astoria escaped with the win Friday afternoon, a 2-0 decision over the Valiants.

The Fishermen (5-3 in league) scored two runs in the top of the third inning to win the Cowapa League baseball game, to keep pace with Banks (7-0).

Valley Catholic also stranded nine baserunners, while Valiant pitcher George Eisenhardt pitched a near masterpiece, allowing just three hits with 14 strikeouts and one walk.

The game’s only two runs came in the top of the third, when Astoria’s Adam Feldman had a one-out single to center, then took second on a wild pitch and scored on a double by Burke Matthews, who later scored on a balk call for the 2-0 lead.

Astoria pitcher Dylan Rush allowed seven hits with six strikeouts and no walks in the win.

The Fishermen host games this week vs. Seaside (Wednesday) and Banks (Friday).

Seaside shuts down Tillamook, 6-2

The Seaside Seagulls had all the runs they would need in the first inning of Friday night’s game at Tillamook, where the Gulls posted a 6-2 win over the Cheesemakers in a Cowapa League baseball game.

Seaside’s action-packed top half of the first inning included back-to-back singles from Payton Westerholm and Duncan Thompson, fol-

lowed by a run-scoring double by Alex Teubner for the first run.

After an out, Seaside’s rally continued with an RBI single from Chase Januik and three straight walks to give the Gulls a 4-0 lead.

The Gulls collected 10 hits off two Tillamook pitchers, and took advantage of six Cheesemaker errors.

Westerholm pitched five innings to pick up the win, as he gave up just two hits with eight strikeouts and three walks. Brayden Johnson pitched the final two innings.

Seaside improves to 3-4 in the league standings, third behind Banks (7-0) and Astoria (5-3).

Tillamook defeats Seaside, 16-5

Trailing 5-4 through five innings, Tillamook scored nine runs in the top of the sixth inning Friday, on its way to a 16-5 win over Seaside in a Cowapa League softball game at Broadway Field.

Tillamook’s Natilee Dentel and Makinley Johnson had two doubles apiece, while the Mooks finished the game with 17 hits. Dentel and Nessa Hurliman drove in four runs each.

Kandice Flaigg and Alyssa Goin had two hits apiece for Seaside. Flaigg finished with a double and two RBI’s.

The Gulls host a league game Wednesday with Astoria.

Knappa sweeps St. Paul, 14-4, 11-1

Knappa racked up 25 runs in just 10 plate appearances Friday, for a 14-4, 11-1 doubleheader sweep over

St. Paul in a Northwest League softball twin bill at Knappa.

The Loggers collected a combined 24 hits, while St. Paul committed nine errors in the first game.

Hannah Hellberg had three of Knappa’s 10 hits in the opener, with a triple and three RBI’s. Sophia Carlson also drove in three runs.

Madelynn Weaver was the winning pitcher in Game 1, as she scattered eight hits with eight strikeouts and two walks.

It was Hannah Dietrichs’ turn in Game 2, as the freshman pitcher tossed Knappa’s first no-hitter of the season, with six strikeouts and one walk.

Hellberg continued her hot pace, going 3-for-3 at the plate with another triple. The Loggers had 14 hits in the second game, which included doubles for Carlson and Weaver, who drove in three runs.

Warrenton, Willamina split twin bill

After falling short in the first game of a doubleheader at Willamina, the Warrenton softball team bounced back with a vengeance Friday afternoon to earn a doubleheader split with the Bulldogs.

Willamina scored an 11-5 win in Game 1, taking advantage of six Warrenton errors.

The Warriors regrouped between games, and jumped all over the ‘Dogs in Game 2 for a 14-7 win.

Warrenton led 11-0 after just two-and-a-half innings of the second game. The Warriors also doubled their hit total from the first game, collecting 14 hits.

Jade Freniere and Ruby Dyer had three hits apiece, while Freniere, Kenzie Ramsey and Lilly

Thomas drove in two runs each.

Starting pitcher Mia McFadden allowed six hits over four innings of work, striking out two before giving way to Avyree Miethe, who gave up four hits over the final three innings.

Defensively, the Warriors had just two errors in Game 2 and turned a pair of double plays.

Miethe highlighted Game 1 for the Warriors with a solo home run, while Dyer added a double.

Warrenton improves to 2-5 in league play, and hosts a single game Tuesday with Taft.

Warrenton sweeps Willamina

Warrenton bounced back from a Wednesday loss to Rainier with a doubleheader sweep Friday at Willamina, 11-0 and 9-0, in Coastal Range League baseball action.

In addition to receiving two top-notch pitching performances, the Warriors gained a little separation in the league standings, improving to 7-1, while second-place Taft slipped to 6-3, following a doubleheader split Friday at Rainier.

Meanwhile, in this year’s three-game series with Willamina, Warrenton outscored the Bulldogs 41-1.

The Warriors held a 5-0 lead through four innings of Game 1, then scored six runs over the fifth and sixth innings to pull away.

Warrenton had seven hits off three Willamina pitchers, which included a 3-for-3 effort from Duane Falls. Jake Morrow was 2-for-3 with a home run in the sixth inning.

Devin Jackson started and pitched four innings before giving way to Austin Little in the fifth. The two combined on a three-hitter with 12 strikeouts and three walks.