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BIG ROAD 'W' FOR KNAPPA

By GARY HENLEY

The Astorian

was a nice start to the league season, to say the least, for the Knappa Loggers.

On the road and facing the Northwest League favorite, the Loggers shocked the Warrenton Warriors, 32-23, Friday night in front of a charged up Warrior crowd.

"Honestly, we knew that whoever won this game would be in the driver's seat for the league title," said Knappa coach Aaron Barendse, whose team improved to 2-2 overall, 1-0 in league. "We had lost our last two coming in, and this was the best team we've seen on film.

"This game is always a battle," he said. "It's a good rivalry, great atmosphere ... I'm just proud of our guys, proud of their conduct. We did it right."

Eli Takalo, in his first game back as quarterback for the Loggers, threw two touchdown passes and ran for two more to lead Knappa, which takes over the league favorite role.

The Loggers had to work for Friday's win, however.

Knappa's 16-0 lead midway through the first quarter had turned into a 23-16 deficit by halftime, as the Warriors took advantage of a 96-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Hordie Bodden Bodden and a 21-yard field goal by Kenzie Ram-



Krissy Barendse-Goodman

Knappa's No. 5, Kanai Philip, catches a touchdown pass in front of Warrenton's No. 5, Hordie Bodden Bodden. See more photos online at DailyAstorian.com

sey. A Knappa turnover late in the first half led to a Warrenton go-ahead touchdown with 29 seconds left in the second quarter.

Warriors' the But go-ahead touchdown was also their last score of the night.

Knappa defense The tightened up and shut down Warrenton over the final two quarters, holding the Warriors to 222 yards in total offense — not bad, considering the numbers Warrenton had been putting up through three weeks.

In the third quarter, a 22-yard touchdown pass from Takalo to Kanai Philip and a two-point conversion run by Jaxson Goodman put the Loggers back in front, 24-23.

Early in the fourth,

Takalo scored on a 15-yard run, then passed to Hoover for Knappa's fourth successful two-point conversion for the final margin.

Takalo even finished the night by intercepting a Warrenton pass with 3:11 remaining.

Takalo was 11-for-17 passing for 186 yards, and rushed 23 times for 170 yards. Philip caught six passes for 115 yards, and Hoover had five receptions for 71 yards.

"Being Eli's first game back, he was limited," Barendse said. "We wanted to hold him to 20 passes or fewer, and we were able to do that."

On the other side of the ball, "our defense has been playing tremendous football," he said. "They've kept us in games. Drew Miller did an outstanding job at linebacker, and Cam Miethe did a great job defensively."

The Knappa coaches, he said, "put together a game plan, and the kids bought into it. Our offensive and defensive lines both played great. Isaac Goozee was back, unfortunately got hurt again, and Spencer Teague is back at full strength."

For Warrenton, quarterback Jake Morrow was 6-of-15 for 48 yards, while the Warriors gained 174 yards rushing on 38 attempts.

After a bye week, Warrenton hopes to bounce back Oct. 11 at winless Vernonia



The Astoria girls cross-country team with their latest team

Astoria girls finish fourth at Nike meet

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The entire Astoria cross-country team set season bestsand the Lady Fishermen finished fourth in the team standings at the Nike Portland XC meet Saturday in Gresham.

Astoria continues to move up the state and league rankings following another strong showing. All 20 Astoria runners had season-best marks for their races, including 11 personal records on the soggy grass and gravel courses at Blue Lake Park.

The Astoria girls finished fourth out of 20 teams, which included schools from Oregon and Washington as well as Cowapa League rival Valley Catholic.

Sophie Long led the way for Astoria, running with the lead pack for much of the race and placing eighth out of 142 runners in a time of 20 minutes, 29 seconds.

She was followed by freshman teammate Ella Zilli (16th, 21:18), junior Allyson Pritchard (40th, jan Relays Thursday. 22:08) and sophomore Lindsay Riutta (50th, 22:21). Annalyse Steele rounded out Astoria's scoring five (25:04).

The Astoria boys were missing one of their top runners, Nikolai Boisvert, but stepped up to fill the gap with five of their six running all-time bests for a 5,000 meter race.

John Clement was Astoria's top finisher (45th, 18:02), followed by Elias Harding-Coe (18:53),Jack Colquhoun (18:59), Tommy Laman (19:04), Jacob Matlock (19:41) and Cole Hudnall (20:21). Astoria boys finished 12th out of 20 teams.

In the 5,000-meter small school race, Knappa's Robert Piña-Morton took fourth in 16:48, out of 136 runners.

"I was really happy to see so many season bests and PRs for the day," said Astoria coach Andrew Fick. "More and more we're running as a team. Today was a great stepping stone and a confidence builder towards what I know we're capable of.

"I know for some of our younger runners these big meets can provide a lot of valuable experience in race tactics, and it's great to see them approach each race as a learning opportunity and a way to continue to improve."

Astoria races at the Tro-

seeing them step up and run aggressively is a good sign of positive things to come," Fick said. "We have a good mindset, we keep improving, and the combination of what we're doing in our workouts and our races is setting up for a solid second half of the season."

Warrenton 'conquers the hill'

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The Warrenton girls swept the top three individual spots and won the team title Thursday in the "Conquer the Hill" cross-country meet at Delphian High School.

Warrenton sophomore Abigail Miller took first, covering the 5,200-meter course in 30 minutes, 35.5 seconds.

She was followed by teammates Kaisa Liljenwall (31:02) and Tori Rehnert (31:15), as the Warriors finished with 24 points. Delphian was the only other scoring team, with 32 points.

Rounding out the Warrenton runners were Hayleigh Anglim (10th, 35:43) and Schenbeck (17th, Anna 49:23).

Jewell's Alivia Swearingen was ninth in 35:42.

On the boys' side, Molalla was the team winner with 36 points, followed by Chemawa (52), Warrenton (81), Delphian (85) and Willam-

Clement Afterbuffalo of Chemawa was the individual winner in 22:10, while senior Kale Moss was Warrenton's top runner (seventh, 24:08).

Warrior senior Darren Garnett was 14th in 26:03.

Nicholas Nikander was Jewell's top finisher (25th,



Warrenton Cross-Country

Warrenton's top three runners in the 'Conquer the Hill' meet, from left to right: Tori Rehnert, Abigail Miller and Kaisa Liljenwall.

Gretchen Darnell

Seaside, Oregon

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE TUESDAY
Volleyball — Tillamook at Astoria,

6:30 p.m.; Warrenton at Rainier, 6 p.m.; Knappa at Mannahouse Christian, 6:30 p.m.; Jewell at Willamette Valley Chris-Girls Soccer — Banks at Astoria, 6:30 p.m.;

Valley Catholic at Seaside, 7:15 p.m. THURSDAY

Volleyball — Astoria at Valley Catholic, 6:30 p.m.; Tillamook at Seaside, 6:30 p.m.; Warrenton at Banks, 6:30 p.m.; Knappa at Vernonia, 6:30 p.m.

Girls Soccer — Astoria at Tillamook, 7:15 p.m. Boys Soccer — Tillamook at Astoria, 7:15 p.m. Cross-Country — Trojan Relays, St. Hel-ens, 4 p.m.; Black Lake XC Race, TBA

FOOTBALL Seaside 8, Astoria 0

Seaside Astoria 0 0-0 First Quarter SEA: Brayden Johnson 3 run (kick blocked) 7:05 Second Quarter SEA: Safety, ball snapped out of end Seaside Statistics

Cook 14-65, Br. Johnson 4-7, Pugh 4-6 Passing: Pugh 0-1-0-0. Astoria Statistics Rushing: Stutznegger 16-12, Williams 4-9, Colvin 1-(-5). Passing: Williams 6-18-70-1. Receiving: Junes 2-31, Boyle 2-26, Feld-

Rushing: Teubner 11-102, Black 17-101,

man 1-12, Stutznegger 1-1. Team Statistics Seaside Astoria Total offense 281 86 First downs 15 10 Rushes-yards 50-281 21-16 Passing yards 0 70

Penalties-yards 12-120 3-30 Turnovers 1 1 Fumbles-lost 4-1 3-0 Knappa 32, Warrenton 23 Knappa Warrenton First Quarter KNA: Eli Takalo 10 run (Devin Hoover

KNA: Hoover pass from Takalo (Takalo run) WAR: Hordie Bodden Bodden 96 kick

return (kick failed) Second Ouarter WAR: Kenzie Ramsey 21 FG WAR: Bodden Bodden run (Ramsey kick) WAR: Warrenton touchdown (Ram-

sey kick) Third Quarter

KNA: Kanai Philip 22 pass from Takalo (Goodman run) KNA: Takalo 15 run (Hoover from Takalo) I got screened.

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