

Knappa tops Toledo in Beach Bash tournament

By GARY HENLEY
The Astorian

The Knappa Loggers gave a lesson in how to win big games on the road Friday night, with a 78-76 victory over No. 2-ranked Toledo, on the Boomers' home floor.

The only unbeaten team (10-0) at the 2A level, Knappa went on to easily win Toledo's "Beach Bash" Invitational with an anticlimactic 59-26 win over Harrisburg Saturday, but Friday's semifinal was the true championship game of the tournament.

It was a "big-time win tonight," said Knappa coach Paul Isom, following Friday's victory. "The guys really played well. Every guy made some huge plays."

The No. 3-ranked Loggers — who are somehow still ranked behind Toledo in the OSAA rankings — let a 17-point third quarter lead slip away. Knappa even led 71-60 with just over two minutes remaining in the fourth, as a furious rally helped the Boomers tie the game at 76-76 with nine seconds left.

But Knappa's Eli Takalo hit an eight-foot jumper as time expired to give the Loggers the victory.

Had Toledo not lost a starter to an injury in the opening minutes of the game, and if the Boomers had made just one more of their attempted 33 3-pointers (instead of missing 23), the game could have turned out differently.

The difference in the game came down to disciplined, patient, offensive basketball. Which Knappa showed, and Toledo did not.

In addition to knocking down several big 3-pointers, the Loggers were picking up most of their points on close-range drives to the hoop. Knappa finished 33-of-56 from the field, to Toledo's 25-for-58.

The Boomers, meanwhile, spent the majority of the night launching NBA-length 3-pointers, and finished 10-of-33 from the 3-point line.

Toledo made four 3-point bombs in the fourth quarter comeback, but Knappa remained patient on offense, working the ball into Mason Westerholm and Takalo for easy scores, with some fastbreak layups for Kanai Phillip and a pair of clutch scores from Cameron Miethe late in the game.

Toledo senior Conner Marchant was a one-man show in the Boomer comeback, finishing the night with 35 points.

Trailing 71-60 with just over two minutes remaining, Marchant trimmed Knappa's lead to 75-73 with 20 seconds left, hitting a 3-pointer (with another from Mason McAlpine), converting a three-point play, then making three straight free throws after getting fouled on a 3-point shot with nine seconds remaining.

After a Logger shot with three seconds left that was deflected out of bounds, Devin Hoover inbounded to Takalo, who hit the game-winner as time expired.

"Joe Ramvick had some foul trouble, but was a monster on defense when he was in," Isom said. "Then Cameron came in and played extended minutes, and was tasked with shutting down one of their best players and did awesome. He also added some big time buckets."

Hoover and Takalo both scored 21 points to lead the Loggers, with Westerholm tossing in 16 and Phillip adding 14. Miethe was the only other Logger to score, with six points.

"Mason, Devin, Eli and Kanai all were great on both ends," Isom said. "Devin had the tough task of guarding Marchant all game

and did a really nice job, making things difficult. And then (the Boomers) didn't really have an answer for Eli down low. All in all, just a great win on the road against one of the best teams in the state."

The Boomers lost starter Clifton Howard to an ankle injury in the opening minutes, while Ramvick and Westerholm both had four fouls midway through the second half.

Loggers 59, Harrisburg 26

In the tournament finale against Harrisburg, Knappa led just 12-7 after one quarter, then just 26-17 at halftime.

The second half was all Loggers, who outscored Harrisburg 20-0 in the third quarter to secure the win.

Knappa "came out pretty sluggish, but Joe (Ramvick) really got us going in the second quarter," said Logger coach Paul Isom. "He hit three three's and ended up leading us in scoring with 15 for the game. And then everyone else finally got going in the third quarter."

It was a "great weekend for the team overall," Isom said. "We still have a lot of work left to do, but obviously we couldn't ask for a better start to the season."

Knappa's Eli Takalo was named tournament Most Valuable Player and was joined by Devin Hoover on the all-tournament team.

The Loggers face some much easier competition this week, with a return to Northwest League play against Neah-Kah-Nie (2-5) Tuesday and Faith Bible (1-7) Thursday.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Knappa wins one, loses two at Toledo

After opening the Toledo "Beach Bash" Invitational with a 49-39 win over Illinois Valley last Thursday, the Knappa Lady Loggers ran into some tougher competition over the next two rounds.

Union (10-3 overall) knocked off Knappa 54-19 Friday, and Harrisburg (11-2 and ranked sixth at the 3A level) defeated the Loggers 61-24 in a consolation game Saturday.

Knappa scored the first two points against Union, but the Bobcats went on a 25-4 run from there, and led 33-12 at halftime, highlighted by a 3-pointer from Brianna Kohr at the buzzer to end the first half.

Sophia Carlson scored 10 points to lead the Loggers (4-6).

Against Harrisburg, the Eagles jumped out to a 22-4 lead on their way to the third-place trophy. Hope Bucher led Harrisburg with 15 points, followed by Delaney Buzard (11) and Hailee Johnson (10). Katelynn Weaver led Knappa with 12 points and five rebounds.

"Our girls came out strong against Illinois Valley to help us get on to the winners side of the bracket," said Knappa coach Tracie Brockey. "It set us up for some difficult match-ups on Friday and Saturday, but I was excited for the girls to play some talented teams from other parts of the state."

She added, "as we continue to develop our program, I'm hoping these tough games help us learn and grow and provide some additional motivation to improve. If you want to compete for championships, you have to beat the best teams, and there were some high caliber girls programs represented in Toledo."

Congress demands answers from Trump on Soleimani killing

By ROBERT BURNS
and JONATHAN LEMIRE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump insists that Iranian cultural sites are fair game for the U.S. military, dismissing concerns within his own administration that doing so could constitute a war crime under international law. He also warned Iraq that he would levy punishing sanctions if it expelled American troops in retaliation for a U.S. airstrike in Baghdad that killed a top Iranian official.

But Congress is pushing back, in what's expected to be a pivotal week as lawmakers return from a holiday recess. On Monday, two top Senate Democrats called on Trump to immediately declassify the administration's reasoning for the strike on the Iranian official, Gen. Qassem Soleimani, saying there is "no legitimate justification" for keeping the information from the public.

And House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said late Sunday the House would introduce and vote this week on a war powers resolution to limit the president's military actions regarding Iran. In a letter to House Democrats, Pelosi called the airstrike "provocative and disproportionate" and said it had "endangered our servicemembers, diplomats and others by risking a serious escalation of tensions with Iran." A similar resolution was introduced in the Senate.

Congress, which has the sole power to declare war, has complained that Trump did not provide advance notice of his airstrike on Soleimani in Baghdad. Trump did meet the 48-hour deadline required by the War Powers Act to notify Congress after the deadly drone strike, though the document was classified and no public version was released.

The administration is expected to brief lawmakers on its actions this week.

In their letter to Trump, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York and the Senate Foreign Relation Committee's Sen. Robert Menendez of New Jersey said the White House's classified notification sent to Congress late Saturday under the War Powers Act was insufficient and inappropriate.

"It is critical that national security matters of such import be shared with the American people in a timely manner, they wrote. "An entirely classified notification is simply not appropriate in a democratic society." They asked that the notification be declassified "in full."

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, speaking Monday on "Fox & Friends," dismissed the letter as a "partisan action."

Pelosi said the notification "raises more questions than it answers. This document prompts serious and urgent questions about the timing, manner and justification of the administration's decision to engage in hostilities against Iran."

Iran has vowed to retaliate for Trump's



Alex Brandon/AP Photo
Supporters of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, or the MEK, an Iranian exile group, hold signs and flags during a show of support for a U.S. airstrike in Iraq that killed Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani, in Lafayette Park across from the White House on Sunday.

targeted killing of Soleimani, the head of Iran's elite Quds force. It has sparked outrage in the Middle East, including in Iraq, where more than 5,000 American troops are still on the ground 17 years after the U.S. invasion. Iraq's parliament voted Sunday in favor of a nonbinding resolution calling for the expulsion of the American forces.

Trump first raised the prospect of targeting Iranian cultural sites Saturday in a tweet. Speaking with reporters Sunday as he flew back to Washington from his holiday in Florida, he refused to back down, despite international prohibitions.

"They're allowed to kill our people. They're allowed to torture and maim our people. They're allowed to use roadside bombs and blow up our people. And we're not allowed to touch their cultural sites? It doesn't work that way," Trump said.

On Iraq, Trump said the U.S. wouldn't leave Iraq without being paid for its military investments there over the years — then said if the troops do have to withdraw, he would hit Baghdad with economic penalties.

"We will charge them sanctions like they've never seen before ever. It'll make Iranian sanctions look somewhat tame," he said. "If there's any hostility, that they do anything we think is inappropriate, we are going to put sanctions on Iraq, very big sanctions on Iraq."

He added: "We're not leaving until they pay us back for it."

The administration has scrambled to contend with the backlash to the killing of Soleimani, which marked a stark escalation in tensions between Washington and Tehran.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the U.S. military may well strike more Iranian leaders if the Islamic Republic retaliates. He tip-toed around questions about Trump's threat to attack Iranian cultural sites, a military action that likely would be illegal under the laws of armed conflict and the U.N. charter.

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
52 41 Rain, some heavy	46 39 Cloudy, showers around	48 42 A shower	50 41 Breezy with rain	46 37 A couple of showers	43 37 Rain	43 33 Rain possible

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday

Temperatures

High/low 50/42
Normal high/low 49/37
Record high 63 in 2006
Record low 16 in 1974

Precipitation

Sunday 0.73"
Month to date 2.10"
Normal month to date 1.74"
Year to date 2.10"
Normal year to date 1.74"

Forecasts and graphics provided by
AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: High above the southwest horizon is the constellation of Aries, the Lamb.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:58 a.m.
Sunset tonight 4:46 p.m.
Moonrise today 2:20 p.m.
Moonset today 4:47 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
Jan 10	Jan 17	Jan 24	Feb 1

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
10:02 a.m.	8.6	4:04 a.m.	3.7
11:48 p.m.	6.8	5:26 p.m.	0.3

Cape Disappointment

9:42 a.m.	8.6	3:20 a.m.	4.0
11:28 p.m.	6.6	4:36 p.m.	0.4

Hammond

9:52 a.m.	8.9	3:39 a.m.	3.8
10:39 a.m.	6.8	4:56 p.m.	0.2

Warrenton

9:57 a.m.	9.0	3:48 a.m.	3.8
11:43 p.m.	7.2	5:10 p.m.	0.4

Knappa

10:39 a.m.	8.9	5:05 a.m.	3.2
none	none	6:27 p.m.	0.3

Depoe Bay

8:55 a.m.	8.8	2:44 a.m.	4.1
10:46 p.m.	6.7	4:08 p.m.	0.3

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	57/37/c	57/39/s
Boston	41/32/pc	40/24/pc
Chicago	39/16/c	28/24/pc
Dallas	60/36/s	62/54/s
Denver	53/29/pc	57/26/pc
Honolulu	82/71/pc	82/71/sh
Houston	67/39/s	68/58/pc
Los Angeles	73/47/s	67/45/s
Miami	77/57/c	78/69/pc
New York City	43/33/pc	41/22/pc
Phoenix	71/45/s	67/44/pc
San Francisco	56/48/pc	57/47/pc
Wash., DC	44/32/sn	44/24/s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

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REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Seattle 53/41	Wenatchee 47/34	Spokane 46/34
Tacoma 50/38	Moses Lake 50/37	Pullman 43/34
Aberdeen 50/41	Yakima 47/33	Kennewick 46/43
Olympia 50/37	Walla Walla 50/38	Lewiston 48/39
Longview 50/39	Enterprise 42/31	Pendleton 47/39
Astoria 52/41	La Grande 42/33	Hermiston 51/42
Portland 52/41	John Day 49/34	Burns 42/29
The Dalles 53/40	Ontario 46/32	Caldwell 48/34
Salem 51/40		
Corvallis 50/39		
Eugene 51/40		
Bend 46/31		
Medford 47/38		
Klamath Falls 45/29		

City	Today	Wed.	City	Today	Wed.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	41/30/c	40/24/sn	North Bend	52/41/r	49/41/sh
Brookings	50/40/r	48/41/sh	Roseburg	51/40/r	46/39/sh
Ilwaco	51/42/r	46/41/sh	Seaside	52/41/r	45/40/sh
Newberg	50/40/r	46/39/sh	Springfield	52/40/r	46/39/r
Newport	51/41/r	47/41/sh	Vancouver	51/40/r	45/39/sh