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Gary Henley | Sports Reporter
ghenley@dailyastorian.com

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SPORTS

SEASIDE HOLDS OFF ASTORIA IN CLATSOP CLASH BATTLE

McMaster scores 35 for Fishermen

By GARY HENLEY
The Astorian

The outcomes were never really in doubt for Tuesday night's Clatsop Clash basketball doubleheader at Astoria.

With the difference in records and rankings, the No. 3-ranked Seaside boys were heavily favored to beat Astoria, while the second-ranked Lady Fishermen are heavily-favored to beat just about anybody in 4A girls basketball.

Both games turned out as predicted, as the Gulls defeated Astoria 61-53 in the boys game, and the Astoria girls topped Seaside 58-26 in game two.

If anything, the boys' game provided some scores that no one expected to see — not with the Gulls fresh off an 80-50 win over No. 1-ranked North Marion just four days earlier.

Just seconds into the second quarter of the Cowapa League opener for both teams, Astoria held a 20-8 lead over Seaside.

The Fishermen turned an early 3-2 advantage into a 16-2 lead, with an offensive rebound basket by Dylan Junes capping a 13-0 run.

After Astoria's lead reached 20-8, the Gulls reeled off 17 unanswered points to take the lead for good, 25-20.

Still, the Gulls looked nothing like they did in their win over North Marion.

Seaside was just 3-for-15 from the field in the first quarter, and finished 24-of-58 (2-for-17 from the 3-point line), while Brayden Johnson — who scored 34 in the victory over the Huskies — was held to just four points in Tuesday's win.

"I was real happy with the way we played," said Astoria coach Kevin Goin, whose team is finally approaching 100% healthy, although "Ryan Stenblom was sick as a dog. But he played and had a heck of a game defensively."

The offense — or nearly all of it for the Fishermen — came from Colton McMaster, as the 6-foot-2 sophomore poured in a game-high 35 points, 14 in the fourth quarter.

"(McMaster) did a great job in the post," Goin said. "He's done a great job all season, and the guys are feeling comfortable in getting him the ball."

After Seaside's 17-0 run in the first half, the Fishermen never allowed the Gulls to pull away, as they did against North Marion.

Back-to-back three-point plays by McMaster midway through the fourth quarter, followed by a McMaster break-away score, had Astoria within 50-47 with just over three minutes left.

But Seaside took advantage of a few untimely Fishermen turnovers, Everest Sibony connected on the Gulls' second 3-pointer of the night, and Seaside finally made some free throws in the closing minute to lock up the win.

"Seaside did a nice job, too," Goin said. "They kept their composure, and Ryan Hague had an outstanding game," with a team-high 26 points. Stephen Snyder added 15, as the Johnson's (Beau and Brayden) were held to a combined five points, with Beau fouling out late in the game. Sibony had nine key points off the bench.

For Astoria, Stenblom fouled in the final minute.

Neither team shot well from the free throw line, with Astoria 8-for-18 and Seaside 11-of-24.

Astoria's tough week continues Friday against Banks (followed by four straight games on the road), while Seaside hosts Valley Catholic on Friday.



ABOVE: Astoria's Colton McMaster goes up for a shot against Seaside's Stephen Snyder (1). McMaster scored 35 in the Fishermen loss. BELOW: Astoria's Isaac Brockman (2) works against Seaside's Ryan Hague in Tuesday's Clatsop Clash.



Photos by Melissa Linder-Cho

Astoria girls cruise to Clash win

The Astorian

In game two of the Clatsop Clash doubleheader, Astoria had nearly all the points it would need after just one quarter, in a 58-26 win over Seaside in a girls basketball Cowapa League opener.

Julia Norris (15 points) and Brooklynn Hankwitz (11 points) equaled Seaside's total offensive output, while six Fishermen players hit 3-pointers and 10 players made

the scoring column for Astoria.

One important team statistic for the Lady Fishermen is always their opponent's ratio of points-to-turnovers. And it wasn't good for the Gulls, who had 26 points with 32 turnovers.

Jadah Doney led Seaside with a team-high six points, while Lilli Taylor was held to five. The Gulls were able to get off just 29 shots from the field to Astoria's 62 shot attempts (22 made).

Taft tops Warrenton girls, 39-36

The Astorian

The Warrenton Lady Warriors opened the league season Friday night at Taft, where the Tigers trimmed the Warriors, 39-36.

Taft improved to 8-6 overall, while Warrenton drops to 4-12.

The Tigers jumped out to a 9-0 start, before the Warriors rallied and led at halftime.

Ayvree Meithe scored 10 of her 13 points in the first half, "But ultimately we couldn't pull it out, as Taft hit shots down the stretch and we missed some we needed to make," said Warrenton coach Jake Mullins.

Kenz Ramsey also had 13 points, with four 3-pointers. Melia Kapua and Grace Fritz finished with four points each.

Rainier sweeps Warrenton boys in league doubleheader

It was a Rainier sweep Tuesday night at Warrenton where the Columbians scored two victories over the Warriors in a Coastal Range League basketball doubleheader.

The first-place Rainier boys improved to 3-0 in league play with a 46-38 win over Warrenton, which falls to 6-8 overall, 1-1 in league.

The highest-ranked team in the Coastal Range League at No. 20, the Columbians are the only team in the league with an overall winning record (9-7).

In the girls' game, Rainier picked up its first league win of the season with a 47-29 victory over the Warriors.

The Warrenton teams return to action Friday for a doubleheader at Clatskanie.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE THURSDAY

Girls Basketball — Gaston at Knappa, 6 p.m.
Boys Basketball — Gaston at Knappa, 7:45 p.m.; Jewell at Washington School for the Deaf, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

Boys Basketball — Banks at Astoria, 6 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 6 p.m.; Warrenton at Clatskanie, 6 p.m.
Girls Basketball — Banks at Astoria, 7:45 p.m.; Valley Catholic at Seaside, 7:45 p.m.; Warrenton at Clatskanie, 7:45 p.m.

BASKETBALL Coaches Polls (First place votes in parentheses)

4A Girls
1. Philomath (9) 126
2. Astoria (2) 108
3. Hidden Valley (2) 101
4. Baker 90
5. La Grande 64
6. Madras 57
7. North Marion 42
8. Molalla 36
9. Cottage Grove 34
10. Stayton 25
Others receiving votes: Mazama 13.

4A Boys
1. Marist Catholic (9) 116
2. Philomath (2) 104
3. Seaside 84
4. Cascade 80
5. North Marion (1) 75
6. Banks 55
7. Woodburn 51
8. Stayton 20
9. Henley 18
10. Klamath Union 18
Others receiving votes: Gladstone 17, Sweet Home 13.

2A Boys
1. Western Christian (9) 99
2. Toledo (1) 87
3. Knappa 70
4. Columbia Christian 59
5. Santiam 55
6. Coquille 50
7. Oakland 44
8. Kennedy 22
9. Jefferson 10
10. Bandon 10
Others receiving votes: Butte Falls/Crater Lake 8.

BOYS BASKETBALL Seaside 61, Astoria 53
SEA (61): Ryan Hague 26, Snyder 15, Sibony 9, Langmo 6, Br.Johnson 4, Be.Johnson 1, Bennett.
AST (53): Colton McMaster 35, Brockman 11, Williams 4, Jones 2, Stenblom 1, Altheide-Nielson, Marincovich.
Seaside 8 23 12 18—61
Astoria 18 5 12 18—53
JV: Seaside 53, Astoria 37

GIRLS BASKETBALL Astoria 58, Seaside 26
SEA (26): Jadah Doney 6, Taylor 5, Douglas 4, McFadden 3, LaPlante 3, Owsley 3, Blodgett 2, Peterson.
AST (58): Julia Norris 15, Hankwitz 11, Helmersen 8, O'Brien 6, Long 5, Faustett 4, Matthews 3, Cole 2, Jackson 2, Espelien 2.
Seaside 7 5 5 9—26
Astoria 20 16 7 15—58

Utti is conference player of the week, again

Third time in her college career

The Astorian

For the second consecutive week, Fresno State junior and Seaside graduate Maddi Utti was named Mountain West women's basketball Player of the Week, the conference announced Monday morning. The honor is the third of Utti's career.

Last week, Utti recorded back-to-back double-doubles to help the Bulldogs to a pair of wins and

remain perfect in Mountain West play at 7-0. They were her third and fourth in a row, a run that goes back to Jan. 4.

The Seaside native also became the first player in the league this season to post rebounding totals of 15 or more in consecutive games during the same week (17 and 16). During her double-double streak, Utti recorded no less than 15 rebounds in a game.

In Fresno State's five-point win at San Diego State, Utti tied her career-high on the glass with 17 rebounds while scoring 11 points.

With the Bulldogs holding a two-point lead with 4:18 left in the game, Utti scored the last points of the contest with a three-point play to push Fresno State's lead to five.

Three days later, Utti collected 16 rebounds to go with 11 points in 25 minutes in an 89-59 win over Wyoming. Her final point of the game was the 1,000th of her career as she became the 25th Bulldog to reach the milestone. The junior recorded six offensive rebounds in the game, which led to nine points. She also tied a career-high in assists with six, which resulted in 16 points.



Fresno State University
Maddi Utti, Fresno State.