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SPORTS

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

TORI SMITH
Astoria

Astoria's junior had her best meet of the season, in the District 1/4A championships at Newport. Smith won the 200-yard individual medley in 2 minutes, 22.98 seconds, and then took first in the 100-yard backstroke in 1:03.91 to gain two automatic spots for the state meet. Smith will have the sixth-best seed time in the 200 IM at state and will be the eighth seed in the backstroke.



Kathryn Zacher

SAM IRWIN
Warrenton

Warrenton's junior at 195 pounds was one of five Warriors to qualify for the state meet in Portland, and one of two to win district championships last week. Irwin cruised to another tournament title, pinning his first two opponents in 2:49 and 4:48, then posted a 7-2 decision over Willamina's Corey Greenlaw in the championship. Warrenton took third in the team standings.



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian



Jeff Ter Har

Seaside fans enjoyed a doubleheader sweep over Banks at the Gulls' Nest.

Gulls score win over Banks

The Astorian

The Seaside Gulls are gradually taking away from the Banks Braves what should have belonged to Seaside last season — a third state championship. The Gulls cruised to a 58-51 win over Banks in a Cowapa League boys basketball finale Thursday night at the Gulls' Nest, resulting in a co-league championship between the Braves and Gulls.

Seaside and Banks will break the tie and play for the Cowapa's No. 1 seed to state on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Tillamook.

Win or lose, the Gulls will likely host a first round state play-off game later in the week.

The Braves held just three leads in Thursday's game — 1-0, 6-4 and a very brief 49-48 lead in the fourth quarter, after Banks had rallied from a 48-39 deficit.

Seaside answered with a 9-0 run, highlighted by a reverse layup and four straight free throws by Beau Johnson for a 57-49 lead.

Three-pointers by Brayden Johnson, Ryan Hague and Everest Sibony highlighted a 17-5 run by the Gulls in the first half.

Three players scored in double figures for Seaside, led by Sibony off the bench with 12 points. Brayden Johnson and Stephen Snyder added 10 points each.



Jeff Ter Har

Everest Sibony pumped in 12 points off the bench for Seaside.

Lady Gulls pound Banks in tuneup for state tourney

The Astorian

The Seaside Lady Gulls are now looking far past just the Sweet 16.

If they play like they did Thursday night, there could be two Seaside teams playing in Forest Grove next month.

Late in the second quarter of Thursday's Cowapa League finale against Banks, the Lady Gulls — in their best performance of the season — had all the points they would need for the entire night, eventually crushing the Braves 47-22.

Seaside led 24-7 late in the second period, and a 10-0 run in the second half made it 36-9, sending the Braves to one of their worst league defeats in years, outside of a 50-31 loss to Astoria Feb. 11.

And there's plenty of basketball left to be played at the existing Seaside High School, before the Gulls move to their new school campus next season.

Two weeks after hosting their "last Clatsop Clash," and two nights after playing the "last league game," Seaside will host its "last league playoff" Saturday at 6 p.m. against Banks. The Seaside boys will likely host a "last state playoff" game late next week.

Despite sweeping Banks during the regular season, the Gulls will still have to play the Braves a third time, with Saturday's winner clinching at least the No. 3 seed to the state playoffs. The winner will play Tuesday at Valley Catholic for the league's No. 2 seed to state.

The loser of Saturday's Banks-Seaside game will also likely qualify for the state playoffs.

In Thursday's win, Seaside's Jadah Doney hit two 3-pointers, and teammates Tristyn McFadden and Lilli Taylor also connected on one 3-pointer apiece, all in the first quarter for an 18-3 lead after one period.

Ruby Douglas led Seaside with

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE SATURDAY

Girls Basketball — Cowapa Playoff: Banks at Seaside, 6 p.m.; NWL Playoff: Faith Bible vs. Knappa, 2 p.m. (at Vernonia HS).
Boys Basketball — CRL Playoff: Rainier vs. Warrenton, 7 p.m. (at McMinnville High School); NWL Playoff: Mannahouse Christian vs. Knappa, 7 p.m. (at Vernonia High School).

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Seaside 47, Banks 22
BAN (22): Maggie Strebblow 11, Hailey 7, Walker 6.
SEA (47): Ruby Douglas 15, Taylor 14, McFadden 10, Doney 6, Peterson 2.

Banks	3	4	4	11—22
Seaside	18	8	19	11—47

BOYS BASKETBALL

Seaside 58, Banks 51
BAN (51): Cade Buchanan 11, Evans 8, Slifka 8, Exline 6, Gobel 5, Buliga 5, White 5, Taylor 3.
SEA (58): Everest Sibony 12, Snyder 10, Br. Johnson 10, Be. Johnson 8, Hague 7, Rich 7, Pugh 2, Langmo 2.

Banks	11	10	18	12—51
Seaside	15	12	19	12—58

15 points, Taylor scored 14 with 12 rebounds, and McFadden finished with 10 points, five assists and four steals.

"What a revelation — making shots really helps," said Seaside coach Mike Hawes, whose team was 17-of-40 from the field, 6-for-15 from the 3-point line.

"We came out on fire against their zone, making four 3-pointers in the first quarter, which is probably a season-high right there," he said. "We knew we'd have those shots, so it was nice seeing them go down. Jadah Doney, starting on Senior Night, was big, hitting two three's to get us going."

"Banks came out of its zone after one, and we executed well enough in man to keep scoring, though we still like to pass to each others' shins," Hawes said. "Ruby was huge, Lilli solid. I told those two we needed what they do, and others needed to score."

McFadden "made plays and got us three in double figures. Good win. I suspect that Saturday will be tougher, but it's nice to get third, and host at home, for the last time ever, Saturday."

Warrenton boys clinch first state playoff berth in 10 years

The Astorian

From a 1-23 record two years ago, to the state tournament.

After a 10-year absence, the Warrenton boys basketball program is once again part of the state tournament, after scoring a 36-24 win Thursday night at Willamina, in a Coastal Range League playoff.

The Warriors will play a seed-ing game Saturday vs. Rainier at McMinnville High School, then will prepare for the state tournament in Coos Bay.

Warrenton's victory capped a doubleheader split Thursday between the Warriors and Willamina, following Willamina's win



over Warrenton in the girls' game.

The Warrenton boys built a 12-9 halftime lead, extended their advantage to eight points, then held off a Willamina rally late in the third quarter.

Warrenton freshman Dawson Little hit a 3-pointer midway through the third that gave the Warriors a seemingly safe 19-11

lead, but Willamina's 8-0 run tied the game at 19-19 heading into the fourth quarter.

The Warriors answered Willamina's 8-0 rally with an 11-0 run of their own, with Little connecting on another 3-pointer to highlight the run.

Senior Austin Little scored six points in the closing minutes to secure the win.

The Warriors' last appearance in the state tournament was a two-and-out performance in 2010, when the tournament took place at Willamette University in Salem.

Warrenton's last state playoff win was Feb. 27, 2010 (39-38 over Bandon).