

Astoria girls sweep all-league awards

The Astorian

Denied a chance to compete for the state championship, the Astoria girls basketball team at least swept the Cowapa all-league awards, announced a week before the state playoffs began.

In addition to winning the league title, the Lady Fishermen walked off with the Cowapa League Player of the Year honors (senior Brooklynn Hankwitz), Coach of the Year (Mike Jacobson) and Defensive Player of the Year (junior Kelsey Fausett).

All five Astoria starters earned awards, with seniors Julia Norris, Hailey O'Brien and Hankwitz named to the first team, along with junior Halle Helmersen. Senior Kajsa Jackson was selected honorable mention.

The Seaside girls placed three players on the all-league team — senior Ruby Douglas and sophomore Lilli Taylor made the first team, and junior Tristyn McFadden was selected honorable mention.

COWAPA ALL-LEAGUE

Player of the Year: Brooklynn Hankwitz, Astoria

Coach of the Year: Mike Jacobson, Astoria

Defensive Player of the Year: Kelsey Fausett, Astoria

First Team

Brooklynn Hankwitz, Sr., Astoria

Lexie Crabtree, Sr., Tillamook

Ruby Douglas, Sr., Seaside

Halle Helmersen, Jr., Astoria

Josie Napoli, Jr., Valley Catholic

Julia Norris, Sr., Astoria

Hailey O'Brien, Sr., Astoria

Lauren Snook, Jr., Valley Catholic

Maggie Streblov, So., Banks

Lilli Taylor, So., Seaside

Cameron Wilder, Jr., Valley Catholic

Honorable Mention

Lexie Braxling, So., Tillamook

Hailey Evans, Fr., Banks

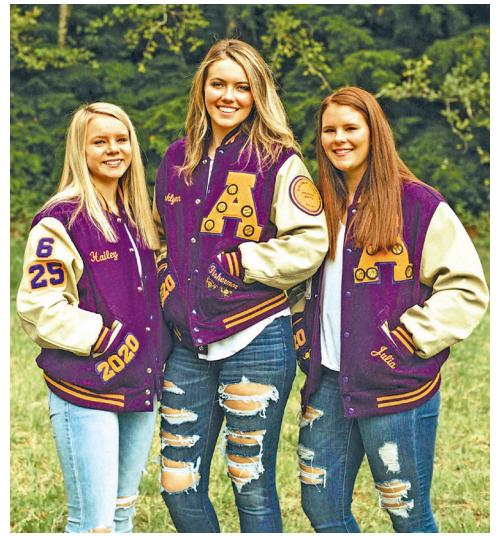
Lauren Goodno, Sr., Valley Catholic

Kajsa Jackson, Sr., Astoria

Tristyn McFadden, Jr., Seaside

Alex Saunders, Fr., Banks

Sydney Stevens, Sr., Tillamook



Maddy Villegas

Astoria's first team all-league seniors, from left, Hailey O'Brien, Brooklynn Hankwitz and Julia Norris.

Spring sports: OSAA executive board will meet in April to reevaluate suspension

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June," said Warrenton baseball coach Lennie Wolfe, whose team is ranked fourth at the 3A level. "We want to believe, as they do, that better things are coming. We just want to encourage the players and families to stay safe and act wisely. We have to have hope.

"We're operating under the belief that there will be a season, and we'll continue to operate that way until we're told that there isn't."

Somehow, "if things are better at that time, maybe we could play a district tournament just for fun and get some games in," Miller said. "But the 28th takes it to almost the end of the regular season. With no practices up to that date, you have to figure at least a week after that date takes you into May.

"We can presume what's going to happen, but nothing official at this point," he said. "And there's no point in pointing fingers and placing blame anywhere."

Astoria athletic director Howard Rub said, "Everybody's looking for guidance. Part of (the OSAA's) process moving forward is looking for guidance from the health department and the governor's office."

Miller said the thoughts are mostly with the senior athletes, who will not have a "normal" spring sports season, if they have one at all.

"That's where your mind goes first," he said. "The seniors who have worked long and hard, and certainly will miss that opportunity if that's how it plays out."

As Rub says, "even if I was a freshman, sophomore or junior, it would be tough. You only get four years. It's a short career when you're that age. Our girls basketball team ... it's devastating when you lose in those late rounds, but I'm not sure how you feel when your opportunity to even play was taken away."

All coaches and athletes can do is "just leave it to athletic directors and the OSAA," Miller said. "When they said April 28, my mind instantly went to 'let's play a league tournament in May, just to get some games in.' Something.

"You think of our seniors in particular. They were part

of back-to-back state championships, and then oh-so-close last year, and hungry to do well this year."

There is still a slim hope to save the season.

The OSAA executive board will meet April 1 and again on April 15, to reevaluate the suspension of spring activities and sports, along with the remaining spring state championships.

Rub said, "I'm hoping the OSAA can come up with a modified season, but it will be interesting. The big question is, 'will we even be able to go back on the 28th?' There's just so much uncertainty right now."

Under the circumstances, he said, "they could extend the seasons a little into June. But all you can do is keep hoping that there will be a process or a way to save some of this stuff.

"You want to keep everything in perspective, but you can imagine all the stuff these kids do, whether it's sports, music, drama or whatever it might be, and it's a hard pill to swallow."

Wolfe is also trying to keep things in perspective.

"As horrible as this is, I keep reminding myself that with some families, playing ball is the least of their worries," he said. "We're dealing with quarantines and the loss of revenue. The economic hit that the county is going to take with spring break in Seaside and the cruise ships coming to Astoria ... a lot of people in Warrenton and Knappa work in those two towns."

The word "unprecedented" keeps popping up when talking about the end of the 2019-20 school year and sports.

"It's unprecedented in our lifetime, let alone the kids," said Miller, whose mother is currently confined to a care center. "But they've done a remarkable job of understanding at this point. I think they get it, and our school has done a good job the entire time, of preparing everyone for what's going on.

"There will be lots of questions around seniors and graduation," he added. "Ceremonies and 'seat hours' — they would have to amend those rules, because they're not going to have enough seat hours to graduate.

Hopefully we can figure out a way to get them some education while they're not in school."

Rub said, "It's certainly unique to anything in my lifetime. You probably have to go back to World War II to see all the things we're used to doing not even being an option.

"For these seniors, we need to find a way to make sure that they will graduate in the next few months. What I'm hearing all makes sense, but it's just hard because it feels so extreme. And it's never really fun dealing with extreme."

In 1962, all three Oregon state championship baseball games were declared ties, when all three were rained out and not played.

Locally, the Astoria, Warrenton and Knappa baseball teams were all in the semifinals last year at their respective levels. All three squads have key seniors and No. 1 pitchers returning.

"I feel bad for all those (Warrenton) kids, too," Miller said. "Astoria had a tough fall and winter, and they were looking forward to success this spring."

Knappa's softball team is a "legitimate semifinal contender this year," said Miller, whose daughter Aiko is on the team. "Right now, our softball team has the perfect mix this year, of veterans, youngsters and pitching and speed. They have all the elements."

As far as baseball, for the last five years Clatsop County has had a team competing for a state championship at Volcanoes Stadium.

Three teams — Astoria, Warrenton and Knappa — all played in the semifinals last season at their respective levels, with the Warriors advancing to the 3A state title game against La Pine, which defeated Warrenton 8-1.

Meanwhile, the Fishermen, Warriors and Loggers were all ranked in the top 10 in pre-season coaches polls for the 2020 season.

So if there is a season, and if the OSAA holds the state championships as scheduled, don't be surprised if Clatsop County has another team or two playing at Volcanoes Stadium the weekend of June 5-6.

"The 3A and 2A/1A

championships are scheduled for June 5, the same day as Warrenton's graduation," Wolfe said. "That would create a conflict. But I've never wanted a conflict as much as I want that one.

"That would mean that A, things are back to normal; B, we would be in the championship; and C, there would be a conflict with our graduation. I would love for there to be a scheduling conflict

on June 5."

Until final decisions are made by the OSAA, Miller said "We'll make the best of it. Who knows? Maybe it ends in an epic whiffle ball game at the end of the year."



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Eric J. Anderson

Owner Since March 2019

Eric moved to the coast in 2018 with the hope of purchasing Hughes-Ransom Mortuary. He achieved his goal a year ago this March and has been very thankful for the communities support and trust. With the help of caring staff, which includes Eric's family, will continue to support the community with compassion, exceptional service and personal requests. Eric attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota before transferring and graduating with a bachelor's degree in Mortuary Science from the University of Minnesota in 1995.

100% Norwegian and the youngest of 7 children Eric was born and raised in Fosston, Minnesota. The proud father of Drew, Isabella and Olivia he is happy to be on the North Coast where he can engage in what he enjoys most; Golfing, fishing, hunting and camping.

Hughes-Ransom will continue to conduct its personal care specific to each families needs/ requests at our funeral home. Hughes-Ransom is proud to have the facilities to be able to accommodate families at our facilities with out having to contract services such as cremation or preparation of your loved one to an out of county funeral home. Hughes-Ransom is dedicate to keeping your loved ones services in our community we so proudly serve.

Hughes-Ransom has always remained a family business that is dedicated to offer the compassionate service that you expect during your most difficult time.



Eric & his mother, Aldora

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
52 36	51 41	48 38	49 37	49 39	51 41	50 39
Mostly sunny	Partial sunshine	A couple of showers	A little morning rain	A shower possible	Cloudy, rain possible	Cloudy, rain possible

ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday

Temperatures

High/low 55/31
Normal high/low 54/39
Record high 77 in 2019
Record low 26 in 1965

Precipitation

Thursday 0.00"
Month to date 1.98"
Normal month to date 4.71"
Year to date 27.02"
Normal year to date 22.35"

Forecasts and graphics provided by
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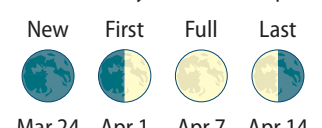
UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Arcturus of Bootes is a red giant, 22 million miles in diameter.

SUN AND MOON

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

Sunrise today 7:16 a.m.
Sunset tonight 7:30 p.m.
Moonrise today 6:40 a.m.
Moonset today 4:54 a.m.



TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
	12:42 a.m.	7.3	6:29 a.m.	2.4
	12:16 p.m.	7.6	7:06 p.m.	0.1
Cape Disappointment	12:34 a.m.	7.1	5:57 a.m.	2.8
	12:00 p.m.	7.7	6:26 p.m.	0.4
Hammond	12:40 a.m.	7.4	6:12 a.m.	2.5
	12:08 p.m.	7.8	6:38 p.m.	0.2
Warrenton	12:37 a.m.	7.8	6:13 a.m.	2.5
	12:11 p.m.	8.0	6:50 p.m.	0.2
Knappa	1:19 a.m.	7.6	7:30 a.m.	2.1
	12:53 p.m.	7.9	8:07 p.m.	0.1
Depoe Bay	11:15 a.m.	7.8	5:25 a.m.	2.9
	none		5:52 p.m.	0.3

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	74/53/c	66/56/r
Boston	49/30/s	40/30/s
Chicago	37/28/pc	44/33/sn
Dallas	60/52/pc	67/57/c
Denver	44/27/pc	48/28/pc
Honolulu	83/71/c	81/70/pc
Houston	69/64/t	79/66/t
Los Angeles	67/50/pc	70/53/pc
Miami	85/70/s	85/71/pc
New York City	50/32/s	46/35/s
Phoenix	73/53/s	76/57/pc
San Francisco	66/50/pc	64/52/r
Wash., DC	57/38/s	54/42/pc

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.

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Seattle	57/40	62/34/pc	Wenatchee	64/37	54/40/pc
Tacoma	58/34	56/43/pc	Moses Lake	65/35	67/41/pc
Aberdeen	53/36	51/38	Yakima	66/31	61/38
Olympia	58/33	56/38	Kennewick	68/34	61/40
Longview	60/35	57/38	Walla Walla	61/40	61/38
Astoria	52/36	50/39	Hermiston	67/35	62/35
Portland	62/39	60/35	Pendleton	62/35	54/28
Salem	62/35	59/28	La Grande	57/29	51/41/pc
Corvallis	62/34	57/24	John Day	56/30	51/41/pc
Eugene	62/35	57/24	Burns	57/24	58/31
Medford	68/35	57/25	Ontario	57/32	58/31
Medford	68/35	57/25	Caldwell	58/31	58/31
Medford	68/35	57/25			