

Astoria, Seaside softball post wins

The Astorian

Astoria held an 8-2 lead after two innings, and cruised to a 12-5 Cowapa League softball victory, Tuesday at Valley Catholic.

Astoria's top four players in the lineup all had at least two hits apiece, while Shelby Rasmussen led the Lady Fish, going 3-for-4 with a double.

Halle Helmersen and Tenley Matteucci also had doubles, and Mollie Matthews scored three runs with three RBIs.

Astoria pitcher Emma Biederman scattered six hits with seven strikeouts and six walks.

Malia Groshong had a home run for Valley Catholic, which dropped to 0-12, while Astoria improved to 7-7 overall.

Seaside 12, Tillamook 7

Seaside softball is still in the playoff hunt, as the Lady Gulls improved to 9-3 overall with a 12-7 victory over Tillamook, Tuesday at Broadway Field.

Erin Owsley hit a three-run home run to highlight the win.

Now 8-2 in Cowapa League play, Seaside can still earn a co-league championship with two wins over Banks, Thursday and Saturday.

Rainier 10, Warrenton 0

Rainier pitcher Kyla Cook gave up just one hit with 11 strikeouts and no walks Tuesday, leading the



Seaside's Erin Owsley (15), is greeted at home plate by her teammates, following her three-run homer in Tuesday's win over Tillamook.

Jeff Ter Har

Columbians to a 10-0 win over Warrenton in a Coastal Range League softball game.

Reese Schimmel had a home run for Rainier, while Jamie Annat had Warrenton's lone hit.

Vernonia 4, Knappa 3

Knappa's Hannah Dietrichs was 3-for-4 with three runs batted in, but those were the only three runs for Knappa, in a 4-3 loss at Vernonia in a Northwest League

softball game Tuesday.

Dietrichs also gave up just four hits as pitcher, with 14 strikeouts and three walks.

Knappa hosts a double-header Friday with Vernonia to end the regular season.

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Baseball — Seaside at Banks, 5 p.m.
Softball — Banks at Seaside, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball — Warrenton at Rainier (2), 3 p.m.; Knappa at Vernonia (2), 3 p.m.
Softball — Newport at Astoria (2), 1 p.m.; Rainier at Warrenton (2), 3 p.m.; Vernonia at Knappa (2), 3 p.m.
Track — Valley Catholic at Astoria, 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Baseball — Seaside at Astoria, Noon
Softball — Seaside at Banks, 1 p.m.

Warrenton tops Rainier in battle of 3A baseball powers

By GARY HENLEY
The Astorian

Everything looked back to normal Tuesday afternoon at Warrenton's Huddleston Field: a sunny spring day with a big crowd on hand to watch the Warriors start a three-game series to decide a league champion.

And — business as usual — as Warrenton slipped past previously unbeaten Rainier 6-4 to move into first place in the Coastal Range League baseball standings.

Crucial hits by Dylan Atwood and Mike Ulness proved to be the difference in Tuesday's win, while Atwood also picked up the victory on the mound in relief.

The Warriors (11-1) are seeking a return to the state championship, where they finished the 2019 season with an 8-1 loss to La Pine.

And — to show that things haven't changed much — the Warriors look like they're ready to play for another state title as they made all the crucial hits and recorded the big outs in Monday's win over the Columbians, also 11-1.

"That was just a lot of fun," said Warrenton coach Lennie Wolfe. Regardless of the outcome, "it was just a great game between two quality teams. Both coaches agreed on that."

The two teams still have two games remaining (doubleheader, Friday at Rainier), but the Warriors have won 11 straight, and only need a split to secure the league title.

After that, 3A baseball will set up an eight-team tournament to play for an unofficial state title, which will be held next week, with the final's place and time to be determined.

The only thing determined at this point: the Warriors are on a roll.

After Warrenton spotted the Columbians a 2-0 lead through three innings of Tuesday's game, the Warriors roared back with a four-run fourth inning, highlighted by a two-run single from Ulness, Warrenton's

'I HOPE BOTH TEAMS MAKE THE PLAYOFFS, BECAUSE I THINK BOTH WILL REPRESENT OUR LEAGUE WELL.'

Lennie Wolfe |
Warrenton coach

No. 8 hitter.

After a scoreless fifth, Rainier rallied for two runs on RBI hits from Logan Chapman and Josh Ellis.

But it could have been more, had not Atwood picked off pinch runner Griffin Hunt at first base, just before Ellis's double.

Atwood made up for giving up the two runs by leading off the bottom of the sixth with a triple.

Rainier reliever Kenney Tripp struck out the next two batters, but Ulness followed with his eventual game-winning single to right to score Atwood. A bases loaded walk gave the Warriors their sixth run.

Rainier starter Brayden Marcum — on a pitch count, as was Warrenton's Duane Falls — struck out seven, walked one and allowed two hits before leaving in the fourth.

"It's been a number of years since I've coached against a kid that good," Wolfe said.

For the Warriors, he said, "It was a good team effort win for both the coaching staff and the players on Senior Day. Ryan (Hoaglund) and Duane (Falls) have meant a lot to the program."

"I hope both teams make the playoffs, because I think

both will represent our league well."

Astoria 14, Valiants 4

Trailing 4-3 after four-and-a-half innings, the Astoria baseball team scored 11 runs in the bottom of the fifth, on its way to a 14-4 win over Valley Catholic, in a Cowapa League baseball game at Tapiola Park.

Michael Moore was 4-for-4 with two doubles and a home run to lead Astoria's 10-hit attack, while Niko Boudreau and Gunnar Olson combined to pitch a two-hitter with 11 strikeouts and six walks.

Seaside 5, Tillamook 4

Tillamook's two-run rally in the bottom of the seventh came up one run short, as Seaside held on for a 5-4 win over the Cheesemakers in Cowapa League baseball action Tuesday.

Both teams had nine hits, while Riley Kuhl and Jarred White had two hits apiece for the Gulls. Seaside starter Tanner Kraushaar allowed five hits in five innings, with Cameron Schulte pitching the final two innings.

Still hoping for a spot in the season-ending, eight-team tournament, the Gulls finish the regular season with games Thursday at Banks and Saturday at Astoria.

Knappa 9, Vernonia 3

Vernonia played Knappa to a 3-3 tie through five innings, but Knappa finally pulled away with six runs in the bottom of the sixth on its way to a 9-3 win in the Logger showdown.

Having already clinched the Northwest League baseball title, Knappa was out-hit (five to four) in Tuesday's win, but remains as one of only three unbeaten 2A teams at 12-0.

The two teams play a doubleheader Friday at Vernonia.

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