

SPORTS

Astoria boys win Nygaard team title

The Astorian

After a year of smaller meets — or no meets at all — the Astoria swim team hosted the annual Andrew Nygaard Invitational on Dec. 4, named for the former youth swimmer who died after a workout in 1998.

And in honoring one of their own, the Astoria boys scored the team victory at the Astoria Aquatic Center, scoring 62 points to top Taft (59) and Seaside (58) in a close race for the team championship out of eight schools. La Salle cruised to the girls' championship with 106 points, well ahead of second place Valley Catholic (62).

The Astoria and Seaside girls finished sixth and eighth.

On the boys side, the Astoria boys won just one event, with the Gulls winning three.

Seaside and Astoria set the tone right from the start, with the Gulls' foursome of Leif Rehnert, Sam Heroux, Logan Dennis and Masyn McCulloch teaming up to win the 200-yard medley relay in 2 minutes, 0.38 seconds ahead of Astoria in the first event.

Astoria had to rely on second- and third-place showings to compile the points.

In the lone win for the Fishermen, sophomore Jacob Peeler swam to victory in the 500-yard freestyle in 6:25.12, ahead of Taft sophomore Erick Zamorano (6:42.10).

Astoria teammate Phelan Dopp took second in the 200-yard individual medley (2:33.06); Stephen Ero had the second-best time out of 45 swimmers in the 50-yard free-



Alyson O'Connor

The Astoria boys swim team celebrates a team championship at the Andrew Nygaard Invitational.

style (25.70); Dopp and Ero took second and third for big points in the 100-yard freestyle; and freshman Finn Bizzell teamed with Dopp, Christian Womack and Ero for second in the 200-yard freestyle relay (1:46.89) behind Seaside's team of McCulloch, Rehnert, Heroux and Dennis, who won in 1:45.65.

Bizzell added a second place in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:19.92), behind Heroux (1:17.12).

On the girls' side, Astoria sophomore Hannah Daniels was second in the 100-yard butterfly, and Seaside's Taryn Shay was second in the 200 freestyle.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

Boys Basketball — St. Paul at Jewell, 7 p.m.
Girls Basketball — St. Paul at Jewell, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Basketball — Jewell at SW Christian Invitational, TBA
Boys Basketball — Junction City Invitational: Klamath Union vs. Seaside, 5 p.m.; Warrenton at Amity, 7:15 p.m.; Jewell at SW Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Girls Basketball — Philomath at Astoria, 7:15 p.m.; Junction City Invitational: Klamath Union vs. Seaside, 3:30 p.m.; Warrenton at Amity, 5:30 p.m.; Jewell at SW Christian, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY

Basketball — Seaside at Junction City Invitational, TBA; Jewell at SW Christian Invitational, TBA
Girls Basketball — Astoria at Yamhill-Carlton, 1 p.m.
Boys Basketball — Astoria at Yamhill-Carlton, 2:45 p.m.
Swimming — Newport Invitational, TBA
Wrestling — Astoria at Warrenton, TBA

BOYS BASKETBALL

SCAPPOOSE 46, ASTORIA 34

SCA (46): Skyler Schmidt 21, Stoddard 8, Bays 7, Harrison 7, Duschka 3.
AST (34): Colton McMaster 18, Boudreau 8, Benesch 5, Williams 3, Faulkner, Woodrich, Fromwiller, Moore, Wintersteen, Olson.

Scappoose 14	4	10	18—46
Astoria 11	6	8	9—34

Warrenton wrestlers seventh at Estacada

The Astorian

Competing against a field of mostly larger schools, the Warrenton wrestling team finished seventh out of 12 teams in the Ranger Classic, held Dec. 4 in Estacada.

La Grande scored 249.5 points to walk away with the team title, ahead of Estacada (175.5) and Rainier (141), while the Warriors finished with 108.5 points.

Warrenton finished with three finalists (two at the same weight) and eight placers.

In the championship final at 220 pounds, Warrenton freshman Kaison Smith pinned senior teammate Josh Smith in 1:01, as the Smiths pinned their way to the title bout.

Josh Smith won by fall (3:28) over Waylon Riedel of Estacada in the quarterfinals, then pinned Lane Roberts of LaCenter in 3:45 in a semifinal.

Kaison Smith had quick pins over Jami-

son Davis of Sandy (14 seconds) and Brendan Couture of Forest Grove (1:15), before his win in the finals.

Warrenton's Alex Tapia took second at 182 pounds, and Austin Atwood was third at 132.

"It was a great meet for us," said Warrenton coach Corey Conant. "We battled with 4A, 5A and 6A teams and held our own. At the same time, we got a pretty clear picture of the things that we still need to work on."

Warrenton had several wrestlers who won brackets in the junior varsity meet, while Alyssa Thoma went 3-0 and won the 120-pound division in the girls bracket.

"We'll keep our heads down and prep for our home girls and boys meets (Friday and Saturday)," Conant said. "Our girls meet is hosting some great teams and should be one of the better meets in the state this week," while the Warrenton boys are looking to win their third straight home meet.

Scappoose tops Astoria, 46-34

The Astorian

Scappoose and Astoria renewed an old Cowapa League rivalry on Tuesday night at the Brick House, where the Indians scored a 46-34 nonleague boys basketball win over the Fishermen.

Astoria led just twice in the first half — a 3-pointer by Merrick Benesch gave the Fishermen a 3-2 lead, and a three-point play by Colton McMaster had Astoria in front 17-16 late in a low-scoring second period, in which the Fishermen outscored Scappoose 6-4.

The Indians answered McMaster's score with a 12-2 run for a 28-19 advantage.

Astoria staged a rally of its own, as a Niko Boudreau 3-pointer sparked an 11-3 run, bringing the Fishermen to within 31-30 in the fourth quarter.

But Scappoose post Skyler Schmidt couldn't be contained in the fourth, as the 6-foot-8 junior scored eight points over the final six minutes, including a 3-pointer from the corner and a reverse layup during a 15-4 run to close the game.

"It was one of those nights where we just couldn't make anything," said Astoria coach Kevin Goin. "We had a lot of open looks and we were taking decent shots — we just didn't hit a lot of them."

Schmidt led all scorers with 21 points, followed by McMaster with 18.

The Fishermen have yet to play at full strength, as Astoria was missing Owen Williams for the first two games, and Tuesday night the Fishermen were without Judd Field.

Astoria plays Saturday at 2:45 p.m. at Yamhill-Carlton.

In other boys basketball action Tuesday, fourth-ranked Seaside cruised past Estacada 78-40, and No. 2-ranked Knappa defeated Kennedy 59-42.

Neah-Kah-Nie at Warrenton was canceled.

In girls basketball, Seaside scored its second win of the season, 29-21 at Estacada; and Knappa defeated Kennedy 35-18.

Knappa 59, Kennedy 42

Tanner Jackson scored 18 points and Logan Morrill had 17, helping No. 2-ranked Knappa defeat Kennedy 59-42 in a nonleague 2A boys basketball game Tuesday at Knappa.

Kennedy held an early 6-0 lead, "but we settled down and the guys really dug in defensively," said Knappa coach Paul Isom. Tucker Kinder added 12 points for Knappa.

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