

# Knappa grads lead Western Oregon rugby team

Wolves in the Final Four

By GARY HENLEY  
The Astorian

It's hard to say if Knappa has ever produced any rugby players. If they have, there haven't been many.

Even so, few have advanced as far as Sean Pomeroy and Braedon Eltagonde.

Pomeroy is the head coach of Western Oregon University's men's rugby team, and Eltagonde is one of his players.

Both will be in Houston, Texas, this weekend, when Western Oregon competes in the Final Four of the National Collegiate Rugby championship tournament.

The Wolves were scheduled to play Wayne State on Friday at Aveva Stadium in Houston. The game will be one of two semifinals in the men's small school division. Win or lose, Western Oregon plays again Sunday.

As conference and regional champions, Western Oregon qualified for the National Collegiate Rugby championships. The Wolves will compete with the champions from the other three regions for the national title.

Western Oregon opened the 2021 season with a loss, but the Wolves have been on a hot streak ever since.

"We had a tough loss in a scrimmage vs. Oregon State our first game," Pomeroy said. "After that we won against Central Oregon Community College (51-5)," followed by a victory over defending conference champion Oregon Tech (36-17), an exhibition win over Willamette (101-9) and a 12-10 decision over Gonzaga to end the regular season.

"Our season went well," Pomeroy said. "Coming out of COVID I was a little concerned we would be able to



Western Oregon University photos  
**Knappa graduate Sean Pomeroy (third row, far right) is the head coach for the men's rugby team at Western Oregon University. One of his players is Knappa grad Braedon Eltagonde (second row, far left).**



**Knappa graduate and former football player Braedon Eltagonde now carries a rugby ball at Western Oregon University.**

field a team, but every day it seemed like a new face showed up to practice and eventually we had a team to play matches."

Pomeroy has 23 players on the team, including Eltagonde, a 2018 Knappa graduate.

As for Pomeroy, the Knappa graduate of 2011 tried walking on for football and track at Western Oregon, but ended up accepting an invitation to play rugby, a club sport at the university.

And, he said, "I found the brotherhood I'd been

## PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

**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

**MONDAY**  
Girls Basketball — Knappa at Neah-Kah-Nie, 6 p.m.  
Boys Basketball — Knappa at Neah-Kah-Nie, 7:45 p.m.

**TUESDAY**  
Boys Basketball — Westside Christian at Warrenton, 7:30 p.m.; Jewell at Falls City, 7 p.m.  
Girls Basketball — Westside Christian at Warrenton, 5:30 p.m.

lacking since leaving home. I played for WOU for about five years, and my last year in school I volunteered as an assistant coach."

In 2018 Pomeroy was named as head coach, and took the team to the regional semifinals, where Western Oregon lost to the eventual national champions.

# Many Fishermen, Gulls on all-league squad

The Astorian

League champion Banks swept most of the individual awards, while the Cowapa League football Coaches of the Year had Astoria ties.

Banks's Cole Linehan — a former track coach at Astoria — shared Coach of the Year honors with Tillamook's Kye Johnson, an Astoria graduate.

Astoria and Seaside both had numerous first team and second team selections. The first team included four of the league's six starting quarterbacks, while the Gulls — for the third year in a row — had every starting linebacker named all-league.

Senior Charles White of Banks was selected as the league's Offensive Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year.

Wyatt Hesselman of



Gary Henley/The Astorian  
**Astoria senior Rocky Rub was one of four quarterbacks on the first team all-league squad.**

Banks was Kicker of the Year, and Astoria's Colton McMaster was named Punter of the Year.

## COWAPA ALL-LEAGUE

**Offensive Player of the Year:** Charles White, Banks  
**Defensive Player of the Year:** Charles White, Banks  
**Kicker of the Year:** Wyatt Hesselman, Banks  
**Punter of the Year:** Colton McMaster, Astoria  
**Coach of the Year:** Cole Linehan, Banks; Kye Johnson, Tillamook

### FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

WR: Marshall Allen, Sr., Tillamook  
WR: Aaron Brown, Sr., Banks  
WR: Sean LaChapelle, Sr., Milwaukie  
WR: Colton McMaster, Sr., Astoria  
C: Jared Landolt, Sr., Tillamook  
G: Aiden Giles, Jr., Astoria  
G: Izzy Jantes, So., Seaside  
T: Jake Cooper, Sr., Milwaukie  
T: Aiden Johnson, Sr., Tillamook  
T: Michael Vereen, Sr., Banks  
TE: Charles White, Sr., Banks  
FB: Lawson Talamantez, Sr., Seaside  
RB: Luke Cummings, Jr., Astoria  
RB: Jamar Flippen, Sr., Banks  
QB: Trent Buchler, Sr., Tillamook  
QB: Cooper Gobel, Sr., Banks  
QB: Kaden Harris, Sr., Milwaukie  
QB: Rocky Rub, Sr., Astoria  
K: Wyatt Hesselman, So., Banks

### FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

DE: Jackson Farris, Fr., Valley Catholic  
DE: Daevon Vereen, Jr., Banks  
DE: Michael Vereen, Sr., Banks  
DT: Matt Evans, So., Astoria  
DT: Dillon Stein, Sr., Tillamook  
LB: Zane Garvey, Sr., Milwaukie  
LB: Noah Holub, So., Valley Catholic  
LB: Andrew Ignatov, Sr., Milwaukie  
LB: Aiden Johnson, Sr., Tillamook

### LB: Tanner Kraushaar, Jr., Seaside

LB: Cooper Rogien, Sr., Seaside  
LB: Lawson Talamantez, Sr., Seaside  
LB: Charles White, Sr., Banks  
LB: Gilbert Whitlatch, Jr., Tillamook  
CB: Jack Lyda, Jr., Banks  
CB: Brody Thompson, Sr., Milwaukie  
SS: Niko Boudreau, Jr., Astoria  
SS: Tyler Moncrief, Jr., Tillamook  
FS: Jamar Flippen, Sr., Banks  
FS: Jarred White, Sr., Seaside  
P: Colton McMaster, Sr., Astoria

### SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

WR: Tanner Hoskins, So., Tillamook  
WR: Zeyon Hurliman, Jr., Tillamook  
WR: Henry McCarthy, Jr., Valley Catholic  
OL: Antonio Aguilar, Fr., Milwaukie  
OL: Sam Diaz, Jr., Tillamook  
OL: Gus Hendrickson, Sr., Valley Catholic

### SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

DL: Will Hofmann, So., Astoria  
DL: Sven Johnson, Jr., Astoria  
NT: Luke Bigsby, Fr., Banks  
LB: Logan Kind, Jr., Banks  
CB: Kaleb Bartel, Sr., Seaside  
CB: Everest Sibony, Sr., Seaside  
FS: Gavin Smith, Jr., Milwaukie

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## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
49 38 Breezy with rain	44 35 Cloudy with showers	43 34 Rain	44 35 Brief showers	45 36 A thick cloud cover	45 33 Showers possible	44 35 Cloudy



### ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday

**Temperatures**  
High/low ..... 48/38  
Normal high/low ..... 49/38  
Record high ..... 61 in 2014  
Record low ..... 16 in 2009

**Precipitation**  
Thursday ..... 0.50"  
Month to date ..... 2.35"  
Normal month to date ..... 3.16"  
Year to date ..... 66.68"  
Normal year to date ..... 62.74"

Forecasts and graphics provided by  
**AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021

### UNDER THE SKY

**Tonight's Sky:** First quarter moon (5:36 p.m.).

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

**SUN AND MOON**  
Sunrise today ..... 7:48 a.m.  
Sunset tonight ..... 4:30 p.m.  
Moonrise today ..... 1:18 p.m.  
Moonset today ..... 12:03 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
Dec 10	Dec 18	Dec 26	Jan 2

### TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
7:23 a.m.	7.7	12:45 a.m.	0.9	
7:09 p.m.	6.5	1:34 p.m.	2.9	
<b>Cape Disappointment</b>				
7:06 a.m.	7.7	1:04 p.m.	3.2	
6:47 p.m.	6.4	none		
<b>Hammond</b>				
7:13 a.m.	8.0	12:15 a.m.	0.9	
6:58 p.m.	6.8	1:16 p.m.	3.1	
<b>Warrenton</b>				
7:18 a.m.	8.1	12:29 a.m.	1.0	
7:04 p.m.	6.9	1:18 p.m.	3.0	
<b>Knappa</b>				
8:00 a.m.	8.0	1:46 a.m.	0.8	
7:46 p.m.	6.8	2:35 p.m.	2.5	
<b>Depoe Bay</b>				
6:24 a.m.	7.8	12:32 p.m.	3.3	
6:02 p.m.	6.5	none		

### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sun.
Atlanta	71/40/t	58/37/s
Boston	64/43/sh	48/37/pc
Chicago	41/29/r	48/37/s
Dallas	56/35/s	63/41/s
Denver	48/29/pc	60/32/pc
Honolulu	82/72/pc	82/70/pc
Houston	67/42/c	64/47/pc
Los Angeles	63/42/s	61/44/s
Miami	82/71/s	83/71/pc
New York City	64/45/sh	49/38/s
Phoenix	67/45/s	72/47/s
San Francisco	57/49/s	56/53/r
Wash., DC	73/42/t	52/34/s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

## REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today	Sun.	City	Today	Sun.
Baker City	37/29/sn	41/32/sn	North Bend	53/41/r	48/41/sh
Brookings	51/42/r	47/42/sh	Roseburg	51/41/r	48/41/sh
Ilwaco	49/41/r	44/38/sh	Seaside	49/39/r	44/36/sh
Newberg	49/39/r	46/39/sh	Springfield	50/41/r	50/40/sh
Newport	48/40/r	46/37/sh	Vancouver	49/42/r	45/39/sh