

## HOMETOWN REPORT

## SPORTS

## Utti on a roll at Long Beach

Mitchell sets school record at Oregon State

By GARY HENLEY  
The Astorian

Seaside's Maddi Utti is making the most of what could be her final season of college basketball.

The senior at Long Beach State is leading her team in almost every category, following a standout senior season last year at Fresno State.

Now 14-3 overall, the Beach (formerly the 49ers) is 7-2 in the Big West Conference following a 74-63 win Thursday night over California State University, Bakersfield.

And Utti is playing a big part in the team's success, as she played all 40 minutes and scored a team-high 21 points in Thursday's win, with 10 rebounds and three assists, her fourth double-double of the season.

The graduate of Seaside High School and a former star at Fresno State, Utti was granted an extra year of athletic eligibility, and she's making the most of it.

Utti leads Long Beach in several statistical categories at both ends of the floor. She leads the Beach in scoring (13.3 points per game), rebounding (8.7 per game), steals (53) and blocks (17).

For her efforts, she has twice been named Big West Conference Player of the Week.



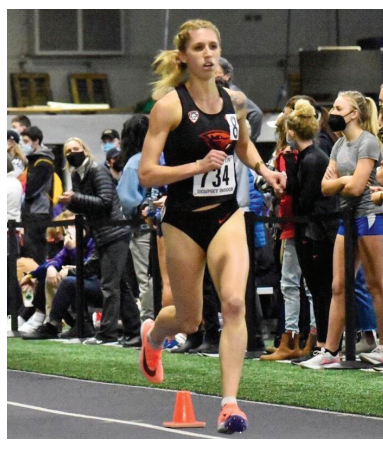
Long Beach State Seaside graduate Maddi Utti is lighting up the scoreboard in her 2021-22 season at Long Beach State.

### Mitchell sets Oregon State record

Kaylee Mitchell, who attended Astoria High School for two years before transferring to Sprague High School, is now an official record-holder at Oregon State.

After graduating from Sprague and attending Seattle Pacific University, Mitchell transferred to Oregon State, where she has added to her already impressive list of accomplishments in track and cross-country.

Mitchell, who competed in the women's steeplechase at last summer's Olympic trials but failed to



Oregon State University Kaylee Mitchell, one-time runner for Astoria High School, on her way to a school record in the 3,000 meters for Oregon State last weekend.

make the U.S. track team, recently shattered the Oregon State record in the 3,000 meters.

As the Beavers were closing out competition at the UW Invitational in Seattle last Friday and Saturday, Mitchell finished third in the 3,000 in a time of 9 minutes, 3.26 seconds.

It was a new personal best for Mitchell and also set a new Oregon State school record, previously 9:23.36, set by Juliana Mount in 2019.

In her fourth year of college, Mitchell is still just a redshirt junior in athletic eligibility.

## Knappa teams split games with Portland Christian

The Astorian

It took exactly 30 minutes, 54 seconds for the Portland Christian Royals to get their first lead Thursday night at Knappa, and once they got it, the Royals hung on for a thrilling 48-46 win over the Loggers in a Northwest League girls basketball game.

Making up for early foul trouble to teammate Hannah Dietrichs, Knappa sophomore Ariana Miller scored six points in the first quarter for the quick seven-point lead.

The Royals managed to keep themselves in the game, with sharp shooting from the outside by Anna Humphrey (12 points, including a

pair of 3-pointers in the first half).

Dietrichs finished with nine points before eventually fouling out, but teammates Kendall Jackson and Taryn Barendse picked up the scoring slack in the second half.

Barendse drilled a 3-pointer with 4:20 left in the game, and Knappa's lead reached 46-38 after a three-point play from Miller.

But those would be the final points of the night for the Loggers, as Portland Christian freshman Maiya Hardy put on a fourth quarter scoring exhibition, pouring in 16 of her game-high 25 points in the final period.

Miller scored 14 and Barendse

added seven for Knappa, which drops to 1-6 in league play, while the Royals improve to 4-6.

### Boys basketball Loggers 85, Royals 29

The Knappa boys basketball team overcame a rough start, but the Loggers eventually heated up and went on to score an easy 85-29 win over Portland Christian in a Northwest League contest Thursday at Knappa.

Ranked second in the latest 2A coaches poll with three first-place votes, Knappa is the NWL's lone unbeaten team (9-0) in league play, 17-1 overall. Portland Christian drops to 1-19 overall.

## Knight makes \$250K campaign donation to Johnson

Nike co-founder backs former state senator

By HILLARY BORRUD  
The Oregonian

Nike co-founder Phil Knight has written his first big check to a candidate in this year's Oregon governor's race: \$250,000 to unaffiliated Betsy Johnson.

Johnson's campaign received the donation on Monday and disclosed it in the state's campaign finance system Thursday morning. The six-figure donation could mean Johnson has locked down a commitment from Knight to supply her campaign with more cash in the months ahead.

Knight is one of just a handful of billionaires in Oregon and has made large donations in recent governor's races, mostly to Republican candidates. In 2018, Knight gave \$2.5 million directly to moderate Republican lawmaker Knute Buehler, who was attempting to unseat Gov. Kate Brown, and Knight also sent \$1 million to the Republican Governors Association.

In 2010, Knight gave \$400,000 to Republican gubernatorial candidate and former Portland Trail Blazers player Chris Dudley. Knight gave less — and switched teams — in 2014, when he spent \$250,000 to help Democratic former Gov. John Kitzhaber win reelection against Republican Dennis Richardson.

The billionaire has also spent large sums on other Oregon political races. In 2016, Knight contributed a total of \$380,000 to Republicans in competitive legislative races. Last month, Knight donated \$100,000 to Washington County District Attorney Kevin Barton's reelection campaign.

With the \$250,000 contribution, Knight is tied with another

of Johnson's campaign donors, heavy equipment dealer The Papé Group, which also gave Johnson \$250,000, according to state campaign finance records. Her next largest donors are Columbia Sportswear CEO Tim Boyle, followed by a subsidiary of oil and gas distribution company Global Partners, which has holdings that include a transloading terminal in Clatskanie, at \$160,000.



Betsy Johnson

Knight's contribution is by far the largest any Oregon gubernatorial candidate has accepted from an individual or organization so far this cycle. Salem oncologist and Republican candidate Bud Pierce, who ran for governor and lost to Brown in 2016, has given

\$374,000 to his own campaign, according to state campaign finance records. Christine Drazan, the former House Republican leader, accepted \$150,000 from the company Team Management based in Keizer.

Former New York Times columnist and Democratic candidate Nicholas Kristof accepted \$75,000 from the Oregon Labor Policy Network, and state Treasurer Tobias Read, a Democrat, accepted \$50,000 each from Steve Silberstein, of California, and William Bloomfield Jr., of Utah.

Former House Speaker and Democrat Tina Kotek's largest political check so far is \$51,000 from the Local 48 Electricians union, although her recent endorsement by the state's largest public employee union, Service Employees International Union Local 503, means that union is likely to spend huge sums on her campaign.

During Brown's 2018 reelection campaign, SEIU 503 spent \$400,000 in a single day on Brown's campaign shortly before the general election.

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Recent data suggests COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness wanes over time. If it's been more than five months since your last vaccination (or two months since you received the J&J shot), we recommend getting a booster shot. Boosters are free and available at many local pharmacies, as well as the County Public Health Department.

Please help us reduce disease transmission and severity of disease by getting a booster as soon as you can!

