

Stayton softball shuts out Astoria, 3-0

Eagles advance to semifinals

By GARY HENLEY
The Astorian

The Stayton Eagles set the tone early, and while the Astoria Lady Fishermen displayed some of their “never-say-die spirit” late in the game, the end result was a 3-0 win for the Eagles in a 4A state quarterfinal softball game Friday at CMH Field.

Stayton still had to sweat out an Astoria rally in the sixth, but held on for the win, which advances the Eagles to a Tuesday semifinal at Marist. The best season in program history comes to an end for Astoria (21-4 overall), which lost for just the second time in its last 23 games.

And a stunning loss it was for the Lady Fish, who had defeated Stayton 9-1 just 11 days earlier.

But the Eagles turned the tables in Friday’s game, as junior pitcher Jessica Rule tossed a one-hitter with 11 strikeouts and one walk. She was perfect through four innings.

“The last time we played, (the Eagles) started a lefty, and we scored six runs off her, then they brought in Rule, and we still scored three more,” said Astoria coach Junior Israel. “But she was tough (Friday). She threw a great game, and we just couldn’t get anything going.”

Call it a “learning experience” for the young Astoria team, which will be back next season. And the year after that, and the year after that. The Lady Fishermen could be the team everyone is chasing in 4A softball, beginning in 2023.

The program has come a long way since the Tapiola Park, a.k.a., the “Dairy Queen Field” days. The crowd at Friday’s game never would have fit around the old field.

“It was good,” Israel said. “We had good fan support all year, and we’ve never had that many fans for a home game.”

In the top of the first inning, Stayton’s Christine McCants led off with a triple to the fence. She scored on a sacrifice fly from Rule, which proved to be the winning run.

As pitcher, Rule retired the first 13 batters she faced, before Maddie Wilkin drew a one-out walk in the fifth.

Meanwhile, the Eagles tacked on two runs in the third inning. Sophomore Abigail Archuleta had a one-out single, which was followed by a pair of crucial Astoria mistakes.

An error on a bunt by Isabelle Trevino allowed Archuleta to score, and McCants scored on a ground-out by Rule, who was



Astoria infielder Tenley Matteucci gets set to apply the tag on Stayton's Brielle Kessler.



LEFT: A long fly ball by Astoria's Shelby Bruney was foul by just a few feet in Friday's playoff game. RIGHT: There was heavy traffic on the base path in Friday's playoff. Stayton's Abigail Archuleta, center, was called out for runner's interference in front of Astoria shortstop Nayomi Holmstedt, right.



0-for-4 at the plate, but drove in two runs.

In the bottom of the sixth, some miscommunication by the Stayton fielders allowed two Astoria runners to reach base.

Astoria’s only hit was a pop fly by Avery

Biederman that dropped untouched to lead off the inning.

One out later, Nayomi Holmstedt reached on a fielder’s choice, and all of a sudden the Lady Fish had the tying run at the plate with

one out and their No. 2 and 3 hitters coming to bat.

But after a short meeting with her coach, Rule retired the next two players on ground outs to get out of the inning.

Likewise, Wilkin had to work out of a few jams herself.

Stayton had a leadoff triple in the fourth, and leadoff singles in the fifth and seventh, but Wilkin responded and the Eagles left the runners stranded in all three innings.

Astoria’s freshman pitcher scattered four hits and struck out two with one walk.

“Maddie’s tough. She’s really grown and matured, just this year,” Israel said.

After the game, he added, “Our two seniors, Tenley (Matteucci) and Megan (Davis), they were upset, and the girls were disappointed. But hopefully this will be a ‘stepping stone’ type year, on our way to bigger things.”

Making the state championship game at Jane Sanders Stadium in Eugene, “is our goal,” Israel said.

Photos by Gary Henley/The Astorian

Knappa baseball back in familiar territory

The Astorian

They’re back. For the seventh time in the last eight official postseasons, Knappa baseball is back in the Final Four of the state playoffs.

Oregon’s best 2A baseball program this century found a way to get it done Friday against Regis in a state quarterfinal played on Knappa’s adopted home field at Tapiola Park.

After falling behind 3-0, the Loggers scored four runs in the bottom of the third, and that was it for the scoring, which ended with a 4-3 Knappa win.

Both teams had five hits, while the Rams

committed four errors.

In Knappa’s half of the third, the Loggers took advantage of consecutive errors by Regis with a single by Jude Miller and back-to-back doubles from Drew Miller and Treven Moreland.

Nick Rusinovich was the winning pitcher, allowing five hits with seven strikeouts and four walks in five innings.

The Loggers are scheduled to play a semifinal game Tuesday at Kennedy. The winner meets either Umpqua Valley Christian or Dufur/South Wasco in Friday’s state championship.

Knappa has missed the state champion-

ship game just once (2019) since 2015. There were no official state playoffs in 2020 or 2021.

Excluding the two previous seasons, the Loggers have missed the semifinals just twice in the last 13 years.

OBITUARY POLICY

The Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day before publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at DailyAstorian.com/obituaries, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria.

For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 1257.

APPLIANCE PACKAGE DEALS

APPLIANCE AND HOME FURNISHINGS

529 SE MARLIN, WARRENTON

503-861-0929

HOURS OPEN: MON-FRI 8-6 * SATURDAY * SUNDAY 10-4

We Service What We Sell

Over 30 YEARS IN CLATSOP COUNTY

Mattresses, Furniture & More!

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
64 51	64 51	64 52	63 51	64 52	60 50	61 51
Partly sunny	Cloudy	Low clouds may break	Cloudy	Cloudy with showers	Cloudy, showers around	A passing shower

ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday

Temperatures

High/low	56/49
Normal high/low	62/49
Record high	85 in 2007
Record low	37 in 1966

Precipitation

Sunday	0.06"
Month to date	6.11"
Normal month to date	3.21"
Year to date	38.61"
Normal year to date	34.68"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2022

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Hydra, the Snake, is a faint constellation that stretches low from south to west.

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:28 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:58 p.m.
Moonrise today	6:03 a.m.
Moonset today	10:42 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
May 30	June 7	June 14	June 20

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
1:47 a.m.	8.3	9:06 a.m.	-0.7	
3:31 p.m.	6.7	8:46 p.m.	3.3	
Cape Disappointment				
1:28 a.m.	8.3	8:11 a.m.	-0.7	
3:10 p.m.	6.5	7:55 p.m.	3.6	
Hammond				
1:36 a.m.	8.5	8:31 a.m.	-1.0	
3:21 p.m.	6.8	8:17 p.m.	3.3	
Warrenton				
1:42 a.m.	8.7	8:50 a.m.	-0.6	
3:26 p.m.	7.1	8:30 p.m.	3.4	
Knappa				
2:24 a.m.	8.6	10:07 a.m.	-0.6	
4:08 p.m.	7.0	9:47 p.m.	2.8	
Depoe Bay				
12:38 a.m.	8.3	7:42 a.m.	-1.1	
2:27 p.m.	6.6	7:25 p.m.	3.6	

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	88/70/pc	90/70/s
Boston	74/53/pc	62/55/t
Chicago	88/62/t	74/57/pc
Dallas	94/76/pc	94/71/pc
Denver	63/42/pc	57/43/r
Honolulu	85/72/pc	85/73/pc
Houston	91/76/pc	92/74/s
Los Angeles	76/60/s	79/61/s
Miami	85/75/t	86/75/t
New York City	93/64/s	75/63/t
Phoenix	98/75/s	103/77/s
San Francisco	72/52/s	68/54/s
Wash., DC	94/75/s	94/72/pc

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 Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	64/39/pc	71/45/pc	North Bend	63/50/pc	61/50/c
Brookings	65/48/pc	62/49/c	Roseburg	77/51/pc	78/54/c
Ilwaco	61/51/pc	63/52/c	Seaside	63/50/pc	69/51/c
Newberg	76/54/pc	79/54/c	Springfield	74/51/pc	75/53/c
Newport	59/48/pc	58/48/c	Vancouver	77/56/c	79/58/c