

Lady Gulls still learning, improving

By Gary Henley
EO Media Group

Seaside softball took a major step forward in 2015.

True, the 6-9 league record wasn't earth-shattering. But it was better than the 0-15 records the Gulls finished with in 2007, 2009, 2012 and 2014.

Co-coaches Jon Hotchkiss and Bill Westerholm took Seaside into the post-season in 2015, and they're hoping to take it a little further in '16.

"I expect us to compete," Hotchkiss said. "We're going to battle. I would be surprised if we didn't at least get to where we got last year."

The Lady Gulls

Seaside has six varsity returners, and Hotchkiss spent the pre-season trying to fill a few gaps in the defensive lineup.

Despite the loss of catcher Allison Bussert, the Gulls are still fairly strong up the middle, with sophomore pitcher Jetta Ideue, senior shortstop Whitney Westerholm and senior center fielder Paige Ideue, a letter-of-intent signee to Centralia College.

Seaside had key losses with the graduation of Brianna Babbitt, Shelby Miller and Bussert, while junior Lucy Bodner suffered a knee injury in basketball and will miss the season.

"We're trying to see how we can fill the gaps," Hotchkiss said the third week. "Not having Lucy here is going to hurt us a little, but we have some other girls ready to step up and take on that role."

"We've still got Paige in center, Whitney at short, Brittany (West, Sr.) at first for the most part, with Jetta pitching."

Junior Emma Dutcher will take over the catching duties, and sophomore outfielder Se-



JOSHUA BESSEX/EO MEDIA GROUP

Seaside's Jetta Ideue pitches during a softball game against Naselle.



JOSHUA BESSEX/EO MEDIA GROUP

Seaside's Jetta Ideue runs after a bunt during a softball game against Naselle at Broadway Field.

quoia Shand is the sixth varsity returner.

Freshman pitcher Tori Tomlin saw action in the circle in the Seaside Tournament, while other possibilities in the infield will be junior Mica Paranal at second, and sophomore GeriAnn Klaffke at third.

SEASIDE SOFTBALL

COACHES: Jon Hotchkiss, Bill Westerholm, 2nd year

2015: 9-16 (6-9 Cowapa)

PLAYOFF: Lost at Douglas, 1-14

ALL-LEAGUE LOSS: Allison Bussert

KEY RETURNERS: Jetta Ideue, Paige Ideue, Brittany West, Whitney Westerholm

"We'll see," Hotchkiss said. "We have a couple we'll try there, and then fill the hole in right field. We had five girls playing (in the season opener) who had never played before."

"With Jetta back in the circle, Whitney and Brittany both returning, Paige in center ... I expect us to be competitive, just like last year."



JOSHUA BESSEX/EO MEDIA GROUP

Seaside's Jetta Ideue, right, meets with teammates on the mound.

printing • copying • digital services

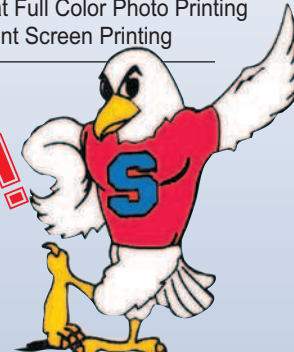
LAZERQUICK
BENNECO, INC. dba

Independent Lazerquick Centers
Locally owned & operated
Serving the North Oregon Coast for over 20 years

Service Specialties

Offset Printing • High Speed Duplicating • Self Service Copies
Engineering Copies • Color Copies • Fax Services
Laminating • Internet Access • Computer Time Rental
Typesetting & Graphic Design • Banners • Brochures
Business Stationary • Flyers • Carbonless Forms
Bindery Services • Wide Format Full Color Photo Printing
Vinyl Lettering • Garment Screen Printing

GO GULLS!



SEASIDE

Safeway Retail Center
507 S. Roosevelt Dr.
(503) 738-4102
LZQSEA1@yahoo.com

ASTORIA

Historic Spexarth Bldg.
818 Commercial St.
(503) 325-1185
LZQAST@gmail.com



Gearhart Grocery

Proud Supporters of

Seaside High School Seagulls!

Sandwich Punch Cards
Lunch Specials
Soup & Friday Clam Chowder
Salads • Pie • Cake
Catering
Premium Meats

599 Pacific Way, Gearhart

503.738.7312

Wed-Mon 9 to 6, Closed Tues
Sunday 9 to 5