

SEASIDE Sports

10A

FRIDAY

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Winter Sports

BOYS BASKETBALL

GULLS PASS THE 'KNAPPA CHALLENGE'

By Gary Henley
Seaside Signal

With both schools having canceled or postponed their originally scheduled games, the Seaside and Knappa boys basketball teams decided to keep it "in county" Friday night, as the Gulls paid a rare visit to Knappa, for a nonleague Clatsop Clash.

And in the matchup between the best team at the Class 4A level and one of the best at the 2A level, the Gulls got the best of the Loggers in a 78-54 Seaside victory.

Knappa is undefeated against 2A and 3A competition, but dropped to 0-2 against the 4A (Astoria knocked off Knappa Dec. 3, 54-47).

"Knappa has a pretty good ball team," said Seaside coach Bill Westerholm. "Dale Takalo is one of the better offensive players we'll see, they've got guards who can handle the ball really well, and they don't turn the ball over."

Meanwhile, it was one of the closest half-time margins of the season for the unbeaten (10-0) Gulls, who held a slim 38-30 lead at the break.

Basically, these were two teams with high hopes of playing in state championship games come March. And they gave the fans their money's worth.

First half fireworks saw both teams hot from the field, with four 3-pointers by the Gulls and three for Knappa.

Consecutive scores by Takalo, Colton Weirup (3-pointer) and Ethan Rubus gave the Loggers an early 9-6 lead, but Seaside answered with 3-pointers from Jackson Januik and Hunter Thompson, with a two-point bucket from Januik giving the Gulls a 14-9 lead.

Duncan Thompson's old-fashioned three-point play had Seaside in front, 19-12, before Knappa closed the first quarter with a 4-0 run.

Following a steal and score by Thompson, Takalo's 3-pointer had Knappa within 21-19.

Jackson Januik had 14 of his game-high 20 points in the first half, and had help in the first half from Payton Westerholm, who assisted Attikin Babb for two midway through the fourth quarter, then drained a 3-pointer with 1:30 left to give the Gulls an eight-point halftime lead.

And — as they do in every game — the



KRISSY BARENDS-GOODMAN/FOR EO MEDIA GROUP

Any game at Knappa is going to have players on the floor, as Seaside's Jackson Januik finds out.

Gulls gradually wore down the Loggers in the second half and pulled away.

A three-point play by Weirup had Knappa within 45-37, but scores by the Januik brothers, including a steal and layup for Jackson, pushed Seaside's lead to 51-37.

A long-range bomb by Hunter Thompson, followed by two free throws from Thompson, gave the Gulls a 56-40 advantage.

The Loggers had a few highlights of their own in the second half — a pair of 3-pointers from Eli Takalo and a three-point play by big brother Dale — but Seaside had a little too much depth down the stretch.

Westerholm banked in a pair of jump shots, and the Gulls were nearly flawless at the free throw line, building an eventual 24-point lead.

The 78 points was by far the most given up this season by the Loggers.

Still, "Seaside's the No. 1 4A team for a reason, but I thought we played pretty good," said Knappa coach Chris Spencer. "They've

got a lot of skilled players, and maybe we gave them a game they weren't expecting. We showed that we can play with anybody, and if not for a couple calls and a few misses, things might have turned out differently."

Coach Westerholm, meanwhile, was anxious to see how his players played in the "Knappa Environment."

"I was really looking forward to seeing how our kids played out there," Westerholm said of Knappa, where he still has connections and relatives. "I told them before the game about all the history of that place, and I thought it was good for our kids to face a little adversity and play in a gym where the fans are right on you, yelling and screaming. I made sure we weren't looking past them."

"Knappa teams have always been tough and competitive, and they're not going to back down against anybody," he said. "Even going back to the old (Craig) Cokley days, they would take on bigger schools in the summer."

Athletes OF THE WEEK

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DANNY MILLER/EO MEDIA GROUP

SUMMER SPELL

Senior

The senior swimmer played a key role in Seaside's 80-78 win over Astoria Jan. 12, in the Clatsop Splash dual meet at the Astoria Aquatic Center. Spell took seven seconds off her best time in the 500-yard freestyle, winning the event in 7 minutes, 13.15 seconds — nearly a full minute of the second-place swimmer. Spell — the daughter of Seaside coach Shane Spell — also swam the anchor leg on the winning 200-yard medley relay.



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PAYTON WESTERHOLM

Sophomore

After missing most of the football season with a broken leg, Westerholm is making a (first) name for himself on the basketball court.

The son of Seaside coach Bill Westerholm, Payton has taken on an increased load in the scoring column, as he finished with 15 points in a Jan. 13 win at Knappa, and before that, he scored 19 points in a 93-62 win over St. Helens.

SEAGULLS VARSITY SCOREBOARD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Seaside 78, Knappa 54
SEA (78): Jackson Januik 20, Westerholm 15, C.Januik 14, H.Thompson 12, D.Thompson 7, Babb 6, Hoekstre 4, Sibony.
KNA (54): Dale Takalo 16, Weirup 13, Engblom 9, E.Takalo 8, J.Miller 6, Rubus 2, Goodman, Geisler, K.Miller.
Seaside 19 19 18 22—78
Knappa 16 14 12 12—54

Seaside 83, Newport 67
NEW (67): Kye Blaser 21, Beaudry 17, Fisher 10, Boys 6, C.Blaser 4, Plechaty 4, Jo.Gonzales 3, Yanez-Carr 2.
SEA (83): Chase Januik 21, J.Januik 17, Babb 12, H.Thompson 10, D.Thompson 8, Westerholm 6, Hoekstre 4, Hague 3, Johnson 2, Sibony, Landwehr.
Newport 17 14 19 17—67
Seaside 22 20 27 14—83

SWIMMING

Girls: Seaside 80, Astoria 78
200 Medley Relay: 1, Seaside (Lin, Carr, McGill, Spell), 2:22.82. 2, Astoria, 2:23.50.
200 Freestyle: 1, Maya McGill, Sea, 2:31.56. 2, Summer Spell, Sea, 2:46.65.



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3, Carla Zulli, 3:05.16.
200 Individual Medley: 1, Kendy Lin, Sea, 2:37.53. 2, Megan Schacher, Ast, 3:01.42. 3, Megan Postlewait, Ast, 4:02.71.
50 Freestyle: 1, Kimberly Mella, Sea, 34.39. 2, Kira Worwood, Ast, 36.46. 3, Kara Spell, Sea, 39.95.
100 Butterfly: 1, Megan Schacher, Ast, 1:19.61. 2, Maya McGill, Sea, 1:19.94.
100 Freestyle: 1, Kendal Gustafson, Ast, 1:05.66. 2, Cady Carr, Sea, 1:16.76. 3, Kimberly Mella, Sea, 1:18.37.
500 Freestyle: 1, Summer Spell, Sea, 7:13.15. 2, Carla Zulli, Ast, 8:11.05. 3, Kira Worwood, Ast, 8:28.99.

200 Freestyle Relay: 1, Astoria (Travers, Albright, Atkins, Worwood), 2:26.76. 2, Seaside, 2:42.90.
100 Backstroke: 1, Kendy Lin, Sea, 1:09.10. 2, Taylor Atkins, Ast, 1:30.79. 3, Claire Albright, Ast, 1:40.46.
100 Breaststroke: 1, Kendal Gustafson, Ast, 1:23.0. 2, Cady Carr, Sea, 1:34.13. 3, Kara Spell, Sea, 1:47.35.
400 Freestyle Relay: 1, Seaside (Lin, Carr, Spell, McGill), 4:39.42. 2, Astoria, 4:51.97.

Boys: Astoria 86, Seaside 75
200 Medley Relay: 1, Seaside (Liljenwal, Rzewnicki, Garvin, Kennedy), 1:59.20. 2, Astoria, 1:59.97.

200 Freestyle: 1, Elias Simmons, Ast, 2:17.55. 2, Aleks Matthews, Ast, 2:27.03. 3, Wesley Corliss, Sea, 2:32.11.
200 Individual Medley: 1, Brad Rzewnicki, Sea, 2:26.65. 2, Thayne Covert, Ast, 2:31.41. 3, Riley Cameron, Ast, 2:36.33.
50 Freestyle: 1, Luke Liljenwal, Sea, 25.33. 2, James Kennedy, Sea, 27.72. 3, Ryder Dopp, Ast, 28.30.
100 Butterfly: 1, Joshua Shipley, Ast, 59.10. 2, Will Garvin, Sea, 1:00.70.
100 Freestyle: 1, Luke Liljenwal, Sea, 56.58. 2, Ryder Dopp, Ast, 1:02.30. 3, Cole Beeson, Ast, 1:04.09.
500 Freestyle: 1, Thayne Covert, Ast, 5:55.17. 2, Elias Simmons, Ast, 6:12.88. 3, Isaiah Collins, Sea, 7:10.75.
200 Freestyle Relay: 1, Seaside (Garvin, Kennedy, Rzewnicki, Liljenwal), 1:43.46. 2, Astoria, 1:51.87.
100 Backstroke: 1, Will Garvin, Sea, 1:04.76. 2, Riley Cameron, Ast, 1:12.64. 3, Isaiah Collins, Sea, 1:17.18.
100 Breaststroke: 1, Joshua Shipley, Ast, 1:08.81. 2, Brad Rzewnicki, Sea, 1:16.52. 3, Aleks Matthews, Ast, 1:21.19.
400 Freestyle Relay: 1, Astoria (Cameron, Simmons, Covert, Shipley), 3:57.15. 2, Astoria B, 4:26.33.

SWIMMING

Gulls, Gladiators split dual meet

By Gary Henley
Seaside Signal

The Seaside-Warrenton swim team was in competition in the new year and for the first time since Astoria's Nygaard Invitational in December, as the Gulls hosted Gladstone for a dual meet Thursday, Jan. 12, at Sunset Pool.

Seaside defeated the Gladiators on the boys' side, 99-43, while Gladstone scored a 98-63 win over the Lady Gulls.

The Seaside boys had sever-

al swimmers with multiple wins, among them Bradley Rzewnicki (200-yard individual medley and 100-yard breaststroke); Luke Liljenwal (50-yard freestyle, 100-yard freestyle); and Will Garvin (100-yard butterfly, 100-yard backstroke).

Sophomore Kendy Lin scored big points for the Seaside girls, winning the 200 individual medley (2:36.58) and the backstroke (1:09.01).

Seaside competes against Taft at home on Thursday, Jan. 26.

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