



BOYS BASKETBALL

GULLS SCORE WIN OVER VALIANTS

By Gary Henley
Seaside Signal

When you've got a date with destiny, things just have a way of working out. Miracle shots have a way of falling, and no deficit is large enough that it can't be overcome. In the end, you just can't keep a great team down.

That's the case with the 2017-18 Seaside boys basketball team.

The Gulls pulled another miracle out of the hat Feb. 9 at home, where Seaside scored a wild, 57-50 double overtime victory over Valley Catholic.

A week ago, the Gulls were in third place and two games behind league-leading Banks.

All of sudden, the ball is in Seaside's court (literally), and the Gulls have an inside track to the Cowapa League title, following the win.

The No. 2-ranked Gulls are now just one game behind the No. 1-ranked Braves, who play at Seaside Feb. 15 to finish the regular season, and a game likely to decide the league championship.

And should the Gulls go on to defend their state title, they will have two Chase Januik 3-pointers to thank for it. Both shots came in a 29-second span in the first overtime of Friday's game.

Januik's desperation 3-pointer at the end of the first overtime tied the game at 46-46, and the Gulls won it at the free throw line in the second overtime, making 8-of-10 at the line in the final 1:30.

After trailing early, 12-7, Seaside rallied and had the game well in hand by halftime with a 24-17 lead, with Januik scoring 13 of his game-high 21 points in the first half.

Duncan Thompson had back-to-back scores to open the second half, and knocked down a 3-pointer later in the period for a commanding 33-23 lead.

But the Valiants rallied and closed to within 36-35 with 4:35 remaining in the game, and a turnaround jumper by Jack Grasberger with 25 seconds left tied it at 39-39, sending the game to overtime.

And Valley Catholic had things seemingly locked up with 30 seconds remaining in the first OT, leading 46-40.

But Januik — who may just keep the state 4A Player of the Year award in the family —



Brayden Johnson takes the shot.

JEFF TER HARFOR SEASIDE SIGNAL

knocked down a 3-pointer at the 29-second mark.

"We're down 46-40, then Chase hits a three from the angle," said Seaside coach Bill Westerholm, who had a great view of the shot. "Then we called a time out and put a little full court press on them, and ended up fouling (Ben) Robbins."

And — another break — Robbins missed both free throws. And the Gulls still had 15 seconds to work with.

With about four seconds left, Januik got off a 3-point attempt and missed, but he was able to get his own rebound near the backboard, along the baseline.

He raced back out to the 3-point line, and from the left corner, calmly made the game-tying trey as time expired.

"Chase got the rebound five or six feet

from the baseline, took a little spin, jump and a funny hop and hit the fadeaway," Westerholm said. "We got lucky. Those don't happen very often. It was a big shot in a big moment, and if there's any guy I would want taking that shot, it's Chase."

Valley Catholic had a brief 48-46 lead in the second overtime, before the Gulls came back and scored nine of their 11 points on free throws to secure the win.

The Valiants were plagued by foul trouble, with Jack Tetzloff and Andrew Plambeck eventually fouling out.

"Plambeck fouled out with only four points," Westerholm said, of Valley Catholic's 6-foot-5 guard. "We played defense very well. We were a little bothered by their 1-3-1 (zone defense), but we'll get that fixed by the next time we see them."

Athletes OF THE WEEK



JEFF TER HARFOR FOR THE SEASIDE SIGNAL

MADDI UTTI Basketball

Seaside High School graduate Maddi Utti scored a game-high 14 points with five rebounds and four steals to lead the Fresno State women's basketball team to a 66-60 win in a Wednesday, Feb. 7, game at San Diego State.

In the middle of an outstanding freshman season at Fresno State, Utti was also named Student Athlete of the Week at FSU for the week of Jan. 29.



COURTESY OF SHANE SPELL, SEASIDE HIGH SCHOOL

JOSH SHIPLEY Swimming

The junior set a pair of Cowapa League meet records Feb. 2 at St. Helens, then followed up the next week with two district title wins in the District 1/4A meet at Astoria.

In the Cowapa League meet, Shipley posted a 22.89 time in winning the 50-yard freestyle, and returned later in event 20, winning the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:03.50. Both times were league meet records.

The Gulls added a second-place showing in the 200-yard medley relay for a 1:55.07 finish.

Jewell's Niqui Blodgett headed to George Fox

Seaside Signal

JEWELL — Jewell High School senior — and Warrenton softball player — Niqui Blodgett signed a letter-of-intent with George Fox University, in

a Feb. 7 signing ceremony at Jewell.

"I chose George Fox because of the amazing education and the thriving community, beautiful campus," Blodgett said, "and the amazing softball

program was of course a bonus."

Since Jewell does not have a softball program, Blodgett has spent the last three seasons playing softball at Warrenton, earning first-team all-league honors

in 2016 and '17.

Blodgett had 16 pitching victories last season, the third-most on the school's single season list. Her career record is 33-30, behind only Stacey Moore's career record of 56-22 (2001-04).

SWIMMING

Seaside qualifies for state

By Gary Henley
Seaside Signal

ASTORIA — North Coast swimmers made a definite splash in the pool Feb. 10, in the finals of the Special District 1/4A swim meet at the Astoria Aquatic Center.

The Tillamook girls and Newport boys scored the team championships, while Astoria and Seaside will both send a handful of swimmers to the state meet, Friday and Saturday at Mt. Hood Community College.

Seaside recovered from a rough preliminary round Friday, bouncing back with junior Josh Shipley winning a pair of individual district titles in Saturday's finals.

Athletes from Astoria and Seaside won three events in Saturday's finals — not bad, considering how tough the district is, said Gulls' coach Shane Spell.

"It is a tough district," Spell said. "It is loaded. And it's good to challenge yourself. If you're not racing big teams, then you're not improving. There's plenty of opportunity available for that in this district."

He added, "(Friday) was a rough day for us, but they came back today with solid swims. It's a young team in a big meet, and we came back well. And I'm happy with that. I think back to our very first practice, and we have come such a long, long way."

SEAGULLS VARSITY SCOREBOARD

GIRLS BASKETBALL			
Valley Catholic 44, Seaside 29			
Valley C	11	10	14
Seaside	6	6	8
VC (44): Noelle Mannen 15, Kawaguchi 11, Jones 10, Justice 2, Wonderlick 2, Fredd 2, Snook 2.			
SEA (29): Annaka Garhofer 9, Babbitt 5, Smart 4, Kiser 3, Ideue 3, Angulo-Joli 2, Davis 2, Goin 1.			
Astoria 56, Seaside 41			
Astoria	10	19	17
Seaside	5	4	17
AST (56): Sam Hemsley 21, Norris 9, O'Brien 8,			

BOYS BASKETBALL			
Seaside 57, Valley Catholic 50			
Valley C	12	5	12
Seaside	12	12	11
VC (50): Jack Grasberger 14, Johnson 9, Boileau 8,			

Robbins 7, Tetzloff 6, Plambeck 4, Pruitt 2.			
SEA (57): Chase Januik 21, Westerholm 13, Hague 11, Thompson 10, BeJohnson 2, Sibony, BrJohnson, Carter, Landwehr.			
Seaside 59, Astoria 34			
Astoria	15	6	4
Seaside	18	13	11
AST (34): Karsten Johnson 14, Hunt 12, Brockman 4, Stenblom 2, Olson 2, Long, Tice, Kee, Matlock, Marincovich, PJohnson, Palmberg.			
SEA (59): Ryan Hague 12, Januik 10, Thompson 9, Westerholm 8, BeJohnson 8, Sibony 6, Carter 2, Meyer 2, Ritterby 2, Landwehr.			

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