

SEASIDE IMPRESSIVE IN CLATSOP CLASH WIN

By **GARY HENLEY**
Seaside Signal

The Seaside Gulls were unranked in the latest coaches poll for class 4A boys soccer.

Following their performance Oct. 15 at Broadway Field, the Gulls may be demanding a recount.

Because for an unranked team, the Gulls were looking very much like a Top 3 squad in a 4-1 win over Astoria.

The second game of the Clatsop Clash soccer doubleheader didn't finish until nearly 10 p.m., and the Gulls looked wide awake during their battle with Astoria.

Perhaps a bit fired up since having to settle for a 1-0 win in their last meeting with the Fishermen, the Gulls were flat-out unstoppable in the first half, as they took target practice on the Astoria net.

Just two minutes, 43 seconds into the game, Seaside's Dodger Holmstedt gathered in a long pass near the top of the penalty area. Holmstedt then dropped a short pass to teammate Stephen Snyder, who fired a shot into the Fishermen net for the game's first goal.

And the rout was on. The Gulls had five corner kicks in quick succession, with one shot on goal (from Alex Campuzano-Luna, saved by Astoria keeper Dylan Altheide-Nielson).

Snyder, meanwhile, was playing at another level on Seaside's Senior Night.

The Seaside senior was outracing everyone to the ball, and in the 11th minute, he sprinted past a pair of Astoria defenders and scored his second goal for a 2-nil lead.

The Gulls were just warming up,



Seaside's Stephen Snyder scores one of his three goals in the Oct. 15 Clatsop Clash win over Astoria.



Jeff Ter Har

as a hard shot by Ryan Hague with 21:33 remaining slipped through the hands of Altheide-Nielson for a 3-0 advantage.

And just minutes later, Snyder had the hat trick, scoring his third goal off a deflected attempt by Holmstedt.

That would be Seaside's final goal of the night, but the Gulls kept firing laser-beam shots at the Astoria net. Some were saved by Altheide-Nielson, some deflected off the post and others ended up in the Broadway Field parking lot.

With 21 of the 22 players on the field spending most of the first half on Astoria's defensive side of the field, the Fishermen crossed mid-field only four times and did not have a shot on goal.

The Gulls kept the pressure on into the second half, but Altheide-Nielson made several big saves and the Fishermen held the Gulls scoreless over the final 40 minutes.

Astoria had shots on goal from Jeremy Owen and Leo Matthews, which were both saved by Seaside keeper Patrick Chapman.

The Fishermen scored their lone goal with 4:28 remaining in the game, with Javier Campos Bermudez converting on an indirect free kick from teammate Michael Postlewait in front of the Seaside net.

The Gulls finished the second half with five shots on goal. Westin Carter had Seaside's final two shots with under a minute remaining.

In Clatsop Clash boys soccer games since 1996, the series is now tied, 23-23-8.

Seaside hosts Valley Catholic on Thursday. A win would put the Gulls into a first-place tie with the Valiants.

Seaside, Valiants battle to 0-0 draw

Seaside Signal

Are the Valley Catholics Valiants the best team in 4A boys soccer?

After Monday night's game at Broadway Field, the No. 1-ranked Valiants may not even be the best in their own league.

That title is still up for grabs, following a 0-0 tie between Valley Catholic and Seaside, under the bright lights of Broadway.

The possible state championship game preview left the Valiants with a 4-0-1 league record, 8-1-2 overall. Seaside is just behind Valley Catholic at 4-1-1, 8-3-1 overall.

The Valiants have three league games remaining, to Seaside's two. Monday's game was orig-

inally scheduled for last Thursday, but was postponed.

Valley Catholic entered the game on a six-game win streak, having outscored the opposition 25-1 over that stretch. Seaside had won three in a row, outscoring its last three opponents 15-2.

With weather affecting the playing conditions for Monday's game, the Gulls had a wind behind them in the first half, "and put lots of pressure on the Valiants," said Seaside coach John Chapman.

A large part of the first half was Valley Catholic clearing the ball on the multiple Seaside attacks from all directions.

At the other end, Seaside's defense was solid, as was goalkeeper Patrick Chapman.

"The ball was often hard

to control in the wind and the rain," coach Chapman said, and that would be no different in the second half, when the elements favored the Valiants. "Both teams displayed the finest battles, matching toe-to-toe."

The Gulls still had several near misses, but the scoreboard stayed blank for the entire 80 minutes.

"Both teams laid it out there, which was clear in the post-game emotions," Chapman said, adding that his team is "focused on last two games and representing well in the post season."

Seaside's current losses are to the No. 1 and 2-ranked teams in class 3A (Oregon Episcopal and Catlin Gabel), and a 1-0 loss to Valley Catholic earlier in the season.

FOOTBALL

Banks beats Seaside in state title rematch

Seaside Signal

The Game of the Night in class 4A football Oct. 18 was a rematch of the 2018 state championship, as Banks hosted Seaside in a battle of unbeaten teams in league play.

It was still a close game at halftime, but the Braves pulled away in the third quarter, building a 34-0 lead on their way to a 34-6 win over the Gulls.

Banks led 14-0 at halftime, then scored 17 unanswered points in the third period.

Martial Stegemeier scored the first touchdown of each half for Banks, including a 45-yard run to open the scoring in the third quarter.

Seaside scored its lone touchdown in the fourth, a 75-yard run by Kaleb Bartel.

The No. 1-ranked Braves had 10 penalties, but the Gulls had five turnovers, helping Banks to its third straight win over Seaside.

Banks improves to 4-0 atop the Cowapa League standings, while the Gulls fall to 3-1. Seaside finishes the regular season Friday at home vs. Tillamook.

SCOREBOARD

OSAA ACADEMIC ALL-STATE 4A Football (with team GPA)

1. Valley Catholic (3.28)
2. Cascade (3.22)
3. Marshfield (3.19)
4. Mazama (3.18)
4. Stayton (3.18)
6. Newport (3.11)
7. La Grande (3.10)
8. SEASIDE (3.09)
9. Sweet Home (3.05)
10. Crook County (3.04)

4A BOYS SOCCER

1. Philomath (3.68)
2. Hidden Valley (3.60)
3. La Grande (3.58)
4. Valley Catholic (3.52)
5. Marist Catholic (3.44)
6. Cottage Grove (3.40)
6. Sweet Home (3.40)
8. North Valley (3.33)
9. Astoria (3.25)
10. SEASIDE (3.19)

Big second half lifts Astoria over Seaside

Seaside Signal

The incentives to win were high for both teams Oct. 15, in a Clatsop Clash girls soccer showdown at Broadway Field.

The winner would get their first league victory of the season, and would climb out of a tie for last place in the league standings.

After a 0-0 tie in the previous meeting with Seaside, the Astoria girls managed to score the first goal in Clatsop Clash play this season, then tacked on four more in a second half scoring explosion on their way to a 5-0 win over the Gulls.

In Clatsop Clash girls soccer games since 1999, the five goals was the most scored since Seaside defeated Astoria 6-1 in a 2001 contest.

Tied with 0-3-1 records in league play entering the contest, the Lady Fishermen picked up their first league win of the season, with three games still remaining. Seaside's young team drops to 0-4-1.

Even more impressive — Astoria accomplished the win with just 12 players in uniform. And two injuries had the Lady Fish down to 11 healthy players for a time.

But Astoria was the more aggressive team from start to finish, attacking the Seaside goal with several shots in the opening minutes.

Attempts by Meghan O'Meara and Elle Espelien in the first 11 minutes were saved by Seaside freshman keeper Abygale Brien, who made two more saves on shots by O'Meara in the 22nd and 24th minutes.

But in the 26th minute, O'Meara scored the first Clatsop Clash goal of the season, blasting in a rebound shot for a 1-0 lead.

From there, Espelien was off the mark on successive attempts, and Astoria finished the first half with seven shots on goal to Seaside's one.

The real scoring did not begin until the second half.

Four minutes, 53 seconds into the half, O'Meara dribbled a ball across the top of the penalty area from left to right, and sent a shot past a diving Brien into the Sea-



Gary Henley

Abby Nofield tries to keep the ball inbounds.



Jeff Ter Har

Emerson Landwehr moves the ball for the Gulls.



Jeff Ter Har

Emily Philbrook and Hailey Hughes go for the ball in the Clatsop Clash.

side net.

In the 48th minute, Espelien stole a ball from a Seaside defender and converted the first of her two goals for a 3-nil advantage.

Less than two minutes later,

Espelien's pass down the center of the field was gathered in by O'Meara, who scored her third goal of the night.

And with 20:41 remaining in the game, Espelien scored her second goal off a deflected shot on

goal, giving Astoria its most goals ever in a Clatsop Clash.

The Fishermen had 11 shots on goal in the second half. Playing with no reserves for the final 25:22, Astoria kept the Gulls scoreless over the final 40 minutes.