

BUSY SEASON FOR SEASIDE SWIMMERS

Seaside Signal

The Seaside swim team spent a big part of its Christmas break in the pool, as the Gulls took part in a pair of big meets over the holidays. The Gulls kicked off the Christmas break with a road trip down Highway 101 for the Newport Invitational, Dec. 20. Newport won the girls’ team title, followed by Taft and Valley Catholic, with Seaside taking fifth out of nine schools. Scappoose took first on the boys’ side, with Seaside seventh. Seaside’s foursome of Kaisa Liljenwall, Taryn Shay, Brooke Blankenhorn and Nicole Blankenhorn highlighted the Gulls’ showing by winning the 200-yard freestyle relay in 2 minutes, 01.00 seconds. “With several of our more experienced swimmers battling illness and injury, it was a growth opportunity as some of the newer kids got bumped up into relays and saw some of the tough competition we’ll face at districts in February,” said Seaside coach Shane Spell. The Gulls returned and hosted their first home meet of the new season Jan. 3, when Seaside brought in Gladstone and class 5A Scappoose. On the girls’ side, Scappoose defeated Seaside (98-58), and Gladstone topped the Lady Gulls (89-56), while the Seaside boys defeated Gladstone (120-31), but



Seaside swim coach Shane Spell, left, talks with members of Seaside’s girls relay team.

Gary Henley

lost to Scappoose (99-69). Seaside had second place finishes in both 200-yard medley relays. For the girls, Liljenwall won the 200-yard individual medley in 2 minutes, 55.0 seconds. Liljenwall added points with a second-place showing in the 100-yard freestyle (1:05.50), with junior teammate Emily Philbrook third (1:14.11). Philbrook also placed third in the 50-yard freestyle (31.83). In the 200 freestyle relay, Liljenwall swam the lead leg, followed by Shay, Sofia Shipley and Philbrook teaming up to finish first in 2:06.46. Shipley added a win in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:34.71). On the boys’ side, Seaside

junior Henry Garvin had the winning time (25.01) out of 19 entries in the 50-yard freestyle, while the Gulls highlighted their meet with a 1-2-3 sweep in the 100-yard backstroke. Sophomore Leif Rehnert won in 1:13.58, followed by junior Shawn Collins (1:15.24) and sophomore Sean Olea (1:16.19). Seaside freshman Masyn

McCulloch was second in the 200-yard freestyle (2:30.45), and sophomore Sam Heroux took second in the 100-yard butterfly (1:11.69). The Seaside foursome of Shawn Collins, Leif DeWinter, Luke Verley and Garvin took second in the 200 freestyle relay (1:49.81). DeWinter placed second in the breaststroke (1:19.12). Seaside finished the meet with a second place in the 400-yard freestyle relay (4:29.79). “We’re getting to the home stretch of the illness bug, and had a few kids gone for holiday travels, but it was great to be in the home pool, in front of a full crowd and see the kids race well,” Spell said. The Seaside girls were short-handed, “but made their swims count with a couple of individual and relay wins,” Spell said. “The boys team is pretty young compared to Scappoose, but battled well. It was fun seeing the great support in the stands and our kids responding to that.” With school back in session and their health returning, “we’ll be getting everyone geared up for a big push of four meets, two at home, over a 10-day span,” he said, beginning with a match Jan. 15, and ending with a dual meet Jan. 24 at Astoria. “Lots of potential ahead,” Spell said. “Just getting healthy, and making sure we’re taking care of academics, and then developing a wide range of swimmers for a wide range of events.”



Jeff Ter Har

Seaside sophomore Lilli Taylor, in a 28-point game against Scappoose. She suffered an ankle sprain over the Christmas break at the Stayton Holiday Classic.

Taylor injured in Stayton tournament

Seaside Signal

The Seaside girls basketball team won one and lost two games in the Stayton Holiday Classic, Jan. 2-4. After opening with a loss to Cottage Grove, the Lady Gulls bounced back with a 40-38 win over Woodburn, then finished with a 37-29 loss to Mannahouse Christian. Calieigh Peterson scored 15 points in Friday’s win, picking up the slack for Lilli Taylor, who suffered

an ankle sprain in Thursday’s loss. Peterson “had an excellent floor game, especially in Lilli’s absence,” said Seaside coach Mike Hawes. “We got Ruby (Douglas) going too. I think we forgot everything we ever learned by Saturday. Physical fatigue “led to mental errors galore,” he said. “I thought maybe we could sneak in a win with Lilli still nursing a sprained ankle.” Tristyn McFadden led Seaside with eight points in Saturday’s loss.

Marist stuns Seaside on Gulls’ home floor

Seaside Signal

The Marist boys basketball team accomplished one of the toughest tasks in Oregon high school sports Friday night — the Spartans defeated Seaside on the Gulls’ home floor. Despite the No. 2 ranking for Marist, when you beat a team that’s won its last 27 games at home and hasn’t lost on its home floor in over two years (and 43-1 over the last four years) — it’s considered an upset. Seaside held a brief lead in the first quarter, before the Spartans grabbed a 12-11 advantage late in the quarter and never gave it up in a 63-54 win over the No. 3-ranked Gulls. Marist overcame foul trouble and a big disadvantage at the free throw line, where Seaside finished 17-of-24. The Spartans were just 2-for-5 until the final two minutes of the game, when

the Gulls were forced to foul. Six-foot-4 forward Ben Morehouse scored 20 points to lead Marist, while 6-4 Luke Eagen added 18 and 6-2 Alec Vendetti scored 16 before fouling out. All three players are juniors. Seaside senior Ryan Hague poured in a game-high 23 points and Beau Johnson added 14, including a 3-pointer and a layup early in the third quarter that helped the Gulls rally from a 30-23 deficit to tie the game at 33-33. From there, the Spartans finished the quarter with a 15-4 run. A barrage of 3-point baskets by Morehouse and Eagen helped Marist build a 56-47 lead midway through the fourth, and the Spartans made just enough free throws in the final 2:27 to hold off Seaside, which had not lost at home since Dec. 16, 2017. A bright spot for the Gulls — in the junior varsity



Jeff Ter Har

Seaside’s Ryan Hague goes up and over Ben Morehouse of Marist for two points.

game, Seaside rallied from a 22-point deficit in the second half to defeat Marist in overtime.

Cash Corder hit a long 3-pointer with one second left in regulation to tie the game.

Amazing comeback for Gulls JV boys



Everest Sibony



Cash Corder



Carson Kawasoe

Photos by Jeff Ter Har

Down by 22 points in the second half to Marist, the JV Boys fought back led by Everest Sibony. Cash

Corder hit a 3-pointer from way outside with one second on the clock in regulation to tie the game and

send the game into overtime. Seaside used the overtime to put Marist away.

SCOREBOARD

PREP SPORTS SCHEDULE

FRIDAY
Girls Basketball — Seaside at Estacada, 5:30 p.m.
Boys Basketball — Seaside at Estacada, 7 p.m.
BOYS BASKETBALL
Marist Catholic 63, Seaside 54

MAR (63): Ben Morehouse 20, L.Eagen 18, Vendetti 16, Harbert 7.
SEA (54): Ryan Hague 23, BeJohnson 14, Snyder 9, BrJohnson 3, Sibony 2, Langmo 2, Bennett 1, Pugh, Kawasoe.
Marist 16 14 18 15—63
Seaside 14 9 14 17—54