



Longtime scorer's table teammates, Alice Olstedt and Denny Vaughn.

Seaside Basketball

Seaside remembers Vaughn, quiet steward of Gulls athletics

Community remembers dedicated coach and teacher

By GARY HENLEY
Seaside Signal

To the many athletes and followers of high school sports in Clatsop County, he was the guy at the scorer's table in Seaside who always wore shorts.

To Seaside, Dennis "Denny" Vaughn — who died at 77 just over a week ago — was much more.

On the surface, you can find his name on the list of Seagull booster club members and in the school's Hall of Fame, plus all the work he did for the Astoria Golf & Country Club and the county's junior golf program.

But, "that was all just the tip of the iceberg, as far as Denny was concerned," said longtime Seaside student-athlete, parent and fan Mark Truax. "He wasn't a teacher or a coach to me, but he certainly was a mentor. He did a lot more behind the scenes — stuff he didn't want credit for."

Vaughn began his teaching career at St. Mary, Star of the Sea School in Astoria, then moved to the Seaside School District and taught for 30 years, retiring in 1999. He coached freshman girls basketball in addition to boys golf, and was inducted into Seaside's Hall of Fame for meritorious service as an educator and coach.

He took the boys golf team to the state tournament 12 times.

He "left me a great program, and many of the standards he set we adhere to, to this day," said Seaside boys golf coach Jim Poetsch. "Even though he was no longer coaching, he never left the program. He helped run the Seaside Invitational and district tournaments, and donated shirts, rain gear, balls and lots of money through the years to the Seaside golf program."

Seaside assistant prin-



Astoria Golf & Country Club

The tribute table for Denny Vaughn at the Astoria Golf & Country Club.

icipal Jason Boyd said, "he was my seventh grade social studies teacher and golf coach. Denny genuinely cared about kids. He was very devoted in making sure the youth of our community had the best opportunity to grow."

Tributes poured in throughout the county following Vaughn's passing.

Jeff Ter Har, a local business owner and photographer who graduated from Seaside and is a big supporter of Gulls' athletics, said "What a great person. I was in his first class when he started teaching here, and my daughter was in his last, with a lot of Ter Hars in between. Truly a great teacher, golf coach, and most importantly of course, a devoted Duck."

"I'm deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Denny," said Dan Foss, a former Astoria boys golf coach. "He was the patriarch of Cowapa League boys golf from the '80s through to the mid-2000s. I will miss his professionalism and genuine friendliness. He cared tremendously about kids. It was an honor to know such a wonderful man."

Scorer's table teammates

She may not have known Vaughn the longest, but Alice Olstedt was one of those who knew him best. You can't sit next to someone at the scorer's table for

countless games and not get to know them.

Vaughn operated the clock while Olstedt kept the scorebook for Seaside basketball, and she spent countless hours sitting to the right of Vaughn at Gulls' home games.

"Like so many of us, everyone knows little bits and pieces about Mr. Vaughn," Olstedt said. "We spent a lot of time talking, but Mr. Vaughn didn't talk about himself. He wasn't that kind of guy."

Vaughn graduated from Central Catholic High School in Portland and later the University of Oregon.

"He was a huge (Ducks) fan," said Olstedt. "He had season tickets for football, but was a huge fan of Oregon women's basketball."

She added, "He was so, so generous ... and I don't think people knew that. He was a Seaside booster donor, and had his name on the sign in the gym and on the sports schedule. But he was the first person to pull out money when kids were selling raffle tickets at basketball games.

"He always gave money to whomever was running the halftime hoop shoot so that kids who might not have money to shoot could shoot."

And Vaughn went a lot further than that, Truax said.

"When Kyle (Truax's son) started playing golf, the next thing we know, there's

a set of Titleist golf clubs on our porch," he said. "Denny had 47 sets of clubs, so he gave Kyle one. He even gave Kyle an Oregon bag, and Kyle used it, because Mr. Vaughn gave it to him." The Truax's are big Oregon State fans.

"Another kid needed glasses, and Denny was there for him," Truax continued. "That's the stuff that nobody knew about, and he didn't want people to know."

Scorer's table etiquette

"He was very particular about how things should go at the table," Olstedt said. "People thought he sometimes made mistakes with the clock, but I can tell you, it was the clock, not Mr. Vaughn."

"We were kind of superstitious at the table. Things had to be set out a certain way. He knew where he wanted the clock. The home and visitors books always had to sit next to each other so you could communicate."

Olstedt added, "I was hoping so much that Mr. Vaughn would be there for the first home game at the table in the new gym. It will be pretty hard to not have him on my left."

"Every year, towards the end of the season, he would say, 'Well, I think I'm going to retire from doing this.' And I would smile and tell him I needed him there. And every year, he would show up."

PREP ROUNDUP

Seaside baseball stays dominant

Seaside remained within striking distance of first place in Cowapa League baseball, with a 13-3 win last Friday at Valley Catholic.

The Gulls improved to 5-3, while Banks continues to sit atop the league standings at 8-0.

Seaside spotted the Valiants a 2-0 lead in the top of the first last Thursday, but the Gulls answered with two runs in their first at-bat, and added two in their third highlighted by a double from Jarred White, on their way to a 12-2 win over the Valiants.

Seaside was set to play Tillamook twice this week, and also was to host a nonleague contest Wednesday at 5 p.m. at Broadway Field with Knappa.

Gulls softball tops Valiants

Seaside snapped a 2-2 tie with six runs in the second inning, and the Gulls cruised to an 11-6 win over Valley Catholic in a Cowapa League softball game last Friday at Broadway Field.

The bottom half of Seaside's lineup had the big day offensively, as Erin Owsley was 4-for-4 with a double, and Emma Taylor was 3-for-4 and also had a double. Ila Bowles had two of Seaside's five doubles.

Gracie Rhodes was the winning pitcher, allowing 10 hits and one walk with four strikeouts.

Last Thursday, Seaside snapped a 2-2 tie after three innings with four runs in the top of the fourth, and the Gulls added three in the fifth to pull away for a 10-5 Cowapa League softball win at Valley Catholic.

The Valiants had nine hits to Seaside's seven, but Valley Catholic also committed four errors.

Valiants win Seaside girls golf invite

Seaside was the host team last Wednesday for a Cowapa League girls golf invitational at Gearhart Golf Links.

Playing under Stableford scoring, Valley Catholic was the big winner with 206 points, followed by Astoria (146), Seaside (134), Banks (114) and Tillamook (104).

Individually, Lily Reed led Astoria with 40 points, ahead of Constance Rouda (39), Annalyse Steele (36), Ava Davis (31) and Xochitl Perez (14).

— Seaside Signal

Business Directory

CONSTRUCTION

BOB McEWAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.

EXCAVATION • UNDERGROUND UTILITIES
ROAD WORK • FILL MATERIAL
SITE PREPARATION • ROCK

OWNED AND OPERATED BY MIKE AND CELINE McEWAN

503-738-3569

34154 Hwy 26, Seaside, OR
P.O. Box 2845, Gearhart, OR

SERVING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST SINCE 1956 • CC48302

Melissa Eddy

REAL ESTATE BROKER

Your real estate vision is my expertise.



✉ melissaeddy@windermere.com

📧 beachhomerealtor.com

📞 503-440-3258

Windermere
REAL ESTATE
WINDERMERE REALTY TRUST



JON V. LAUGHMAN CONSTRUCTION

Experienced Carpenter

Residential Remodeling Specializing in Kitchen and Bathrooms • Stair Construction • Exterior & Interior Repairs • Cabinet Installment • Windows & Doors
Cell: 971-606-0495 CCB# 232881
1829 Exchange St. Astoria, OR 97103

CREMATION

Ocean View

Funeral & Cremation Services

Telephone Advice & Assistance 24-Hours A Day
1213 Franklin Ave., Astoria • 503-338-7200
www.OceanViewAstoria.com

Lowest Cost Cremation

On The Northern Oregon Coast

See our website for Up-To-Date Pricing Comparisons.
Also registered in the State of Washington

ELECTRICAL

- Repairs
- Generator installation & servicing
- New construction
- Remodels

Borland

COASTAL ELECTRIC, INC.

FOR YOUR COMPLETE ELECTRICAL NEEDS

Serving the North Oregon Coast since 1950!

Serving Clatsop & Tillamook Counties
503.738.8391



- New Construction
- Remodels
- Panel Changes & Upgrades
- Add Circuits or Lighting
- Generators
- Repairs

CALL US for your next electrical project!

503-739-7145

712 S. Holladay Dr. • Seaside, OR
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
www.jjelectricservice.com

FLOORING



Luxury vinyl planks and tile.

you walk on our reputation



Carpet Corner
Flooring Installation

3470 Hwy 101 Suite 102 • Gearhart, Oregon
503.739.7577 • carpetcornergearhart.com

Randall Lee's Flooring America

Window Treatments, Fabric, Designer Wallpaper, Counter Tops, All Flooring and Miele Vacuums

Randall Lee's Seaside • 2311 N. Roosevelt Dr. • 503-738-5729
rfflooring@yahoo.com • www.RandallLeesFlooring.com

Randall Lee's Flooring Outlet • 3579 Hwy 101 Gearhart • 503-738-6756
Warehouse pricing • Open to the Public • Hundreds of instock rolls & remnants • In House Binding

LANDSCAPING

YARD DEBRIS DROP-OFF (no scotch broom)



- Laurelwood Compost
- Soil Amendments
- Planting MacMix
- Mulch

503-717-1454

34154 HIGHWAY 26
SEASIDE, OR

Laurelwood Farm