

Gulls split games with Valley Catholic

Seaside Signal

Valley Catholic senior Josie Napoli scored 28 points, but the Valiants needed help off the bench to hold off a big second half rally by Seaside, in a Cowapa League girls game Monday on the Gulls' home floor.

The Valiants ultimately won, 59-46, in a game much closer than the score.

Trailing 32-16 at halftime, the Gulls played their best quarter of the season in the third, as they outscored Valley Catholic 11-1 to start the period to close to within 33-27.

A 3-pointer by Tristyn McFadden, coupled with baskets by Lilli Taylor and Landri Mickle sparked Seaside, which continued the comeback in the fourth quarter.

Free throws by Caleigh Peterson trimmed the Valiant lead to 44-39 with over five minutes remaining.

That's as close as the Gulls would get, as Valley Catholic answered with a three-point play by Napoli and a score by Mariella Gunther.

The Valiants closed with an 8-3 run, but Seaside coach Marla Olstedt was proud of her team, 2-2 over their last four games, following a 1-3 start.

"These girls are play-ing so hard," she said. "We talked at halftime about chipping away, and they did just that. With our halftime adjustments, we were able to slow (the Valiants') scoring and push the ball to get some easy scores. We controlled the momentum and



Lilli Taylor goes to the basket for the Gulls.

things were going our way."

The Gulls "played one of their best quarters of the season," she said. "Now if we can put four of those great quarters together, I'd say watch out."

She added, "For such a short season, these girls have really stepped into their positions well. From our post play, primarily being Lilli (Taylor, 18 points) and Caleigh (15 points) to our guard play, we're playing well together. I told them I was proud of their ability to learn what we often do in a five-month season. These girls are relentless and resilient. I'm proud of their effort."

The Gulls were playing without Abby Nofield and Erin Owsley, and Aubrie Taylor went down with an injury, but should return Friday.

Seaside plays Friday at Astoria.

Gulls over Warriors

Seaside played its last nonleague game of the season Saturday, hosting Warrenton in the second of five straight home games for the Gulls.

After a slow start, the Gulls built a 12-2 lead in the first quarter, on their way to a 44-13 win over the Warriors.

Lilli Taylor scored 12 points and Caleigh Peterson added 10 for Seaside, which led 38-13 after three quarters. Freshman Gracie Duncan

scored seven points as one of three Warrenton players to score.

Banks defeats Gulls

Baskets by Seaside's Tatum LaPlante and Tristyn McFadden had the Gulls leading 14-6 early in last Thursday night's game with visiting Banks but the Lady Braves dominated the second half for a 42-24 Cowapa League girls basketball win.

Lilli Taylor led the Gulls

with seven points. Kate Hailey had 10 points and teammates Camila Narvaez and Sydney Maller added eight apiece for Banks.

Boys Seaside 58, Valiants 48

Seaside won for the fifth time in six games with a 58-48 victory Monday at Valley Catholic.

The Gulls are in the midst of five straight road games, which continues Friday at Astoria.

Seaside is hoping to catch Banks, which currently holds first place in the Cowapa League standings at 5-0. The Gulls (3-1 in league, 6-2 overall), close out the regular season with games at Tillamook June 14 and home games vs. Banks June 16 and Astoria June 17.

Seaside's junior combination of Cash Corder and Conner Langmo scored 11 points apiece, leading the Gulls to a 46-35 nonleague boys basketball win Saturday afternoon at Warrenton.

Dawson Little led the Warriors with 15 points while both teams struggled from the field in the low-scoring contest.

The teams missed a combined 39 3-pointers in the game, 20 by the Gulls.

Seaside junior Ever Sibony made a trio of 3-pointers for his nine points, while freshman Ruger Thompson's turnaround trey at the buzzer to end the first half gave the Gulls a 24-13 halftime lead.

Little connected from long range to bring the Warriors back to within seven points midway through the third quarter, and teammate Elijah Whitsett beat the buzzer to end the third period to bring Warrenton within 35-29.

The Gulls answered with 3-pointers by Sibony and Tanner Kraushaar to highlight an 8-0 run to start the fourth.

Banks tops Seaside

A 4A boys basketball championship game preview? With the top two teams in the Cowapa League, it usually is.

The first meeting of the season between Banks and Seaside went to the Braves, who held off a Seaside rally, then pulled away for a 54-42 win last Thursday night at Banks.

The last three state championship games at the 4A level (2017, 2018, 2019) have featured an all-Cowapa League final, including the 2019 title game, when the Braves beat the Gulls. Banks led 14-4 after one

quarter in Thursday's showdown, saw its lead whittled to 26-25 in the third quarter, then went on a 24-5 run to rebuild a 50-30 lead early in the fourth quarter.

The Braves struggled at the free throw line (4-for-11 during the second and third quarters), while the Gulls missed six of their first eight attempts.

The teams exchanged five 3-pointers in a one-minute span in the second period, featuring treys from Seaside juniors Cash Corder, Ever Sibony and Conner Langmo.

After the Gulls pulled to within 26-25, the Braves reeled off a 15-3 run.

Banks had key second half scores from Tyler Exline and Cooper Gobel.



Astoria, Seaside meet in Clatsop Splash

The Astorian

The Fish and the Gulls were in the pool at the same time recently, competing in a dual meet at the Astoria Aquatic Center, where Alyson O'Connor was making her home debut as the new Astoria coach.

Team-wise, the Clatsop Splash was a split, as the Astoria girls defeated Seaside 91-33, while the Seaside boys topped Astoria 119-45. The Gulls won the combined team score, 152-136.

"My first home swim meet and it went smooth as can be," O'Connor said. "My swimmers did good

and had great attitude and sportsmanship."

The Astoria girls opened the meet with some familiar names (seniors Tori Smith, Grace Peeler and Constance Rouda, along with freshman Hannah Daniels) leading the way to a win in the 200-yard medley relay.

There were more victories for Smith in the 200-yard medley (2:44.05) and 100yard backstroke (1:13.21) and Peeler in the 100-yard freestyle (1:04.79) and 100-yard breaststroke (1:19.68).

The Lady Gulls, meanwhile, are "getting close to having our full squad ready to go," said Seaside coach Shane Spell. "Morgan Houston and Gabriela Tapia made

their competitive high school debuts, and it was great to see them race. Nicole Blankenhorn had a nice 50 and showed great promise in her fly leg in the 200 medley."

On the boys side, Seaside's Sam Heroux "had a nice rally on the breaststroke leg of the 200 IM to get a narrow win in that race," Spell said. "Sean Olea did a great job on his turns in the 100 breaststroke to have a strong swim, close to his PR and secured more points for the team. (Senior) Henry Garvin doubled in the 50 and 100 as well as anchoring the 200 free relay."

Astoria returned to the pool last Tuesday for a dual meet against Valley Catholic and swept the Valiants.

The Fish honored seniors Daniel Emerson, Peeler, Rouda and Smith.

Smith won the 200 IM and the butterfly, while Peeler was first in the 100 freestyle and the breaststroke.

Daniels added victories in the 50 freestyle and backstroke and sophomore Brooke O'Connor won the 500 freestyle.

Winners for the Astoria boys included sophomores Christian Womack (breaststroke), Cody Crisp (backstroke) and Trevor Newman (200 freestyle).

Astoria was scheduled to host two additional meets on Tuesday vs. Tillamook and June 17 vs. Valley Catholic.

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