

SEASIDE Sports

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BOYS SOCCER

All-league honors for Seaside, Astoria players

The Astorian

Despite tough years in the league standings, the Astoria and Seaside boys soccer teams still managed to place a combined 11 players on the Cowapa all-league team, as voted on by the league's coaches.

In a down season for the Cowapa League, the 4A boys soccer state quarterfinals did not include any teams from the Cowapa, as league champion Valley Catholic and second place Tillamook both lost in the first round of the state playoffs.

Player of the Year honors went to Carter Affolter of Tillamook and Charles Bettger of Valley Catholic; and Goalkeeper of the Year recipients were Valley Catholic's Dhilan Thanik and Seaside senior Riley Wunderlich.

Valley Catholic landed eight players on the all-league team, including two goalkeepers.

Seaside (5-7-1 overall), which lost at state runner-up Hidden Valley in the play-in round, had six all-league selections, with two juniors and three sophomores joining Wunderlich, one of just two Seaside seniors this season.

Seaside's first team all-league players were juniors Migiel Campos and Anthony Peon, and sophomores Leivis Lopez and Ismael Villasenor.

A young Astoria team, which had just one senior, finished 0-13-1 overall. The Fishermen still reeled in five all-league selections, with one junior, two sophomores and two freshmen.

First team players were junior Cameron Schauermann, sophomore keeper Salvador Wienecke and freshman Walker Steele.



Seaside's Anthony Peon, left, and Astoria's Cameron Schauermann, middle, both made Cowapa all-league first team as juniors.



Seaside's Riley Wunderlich capped his senior season with a co-Goalkeeper of the Year award for the Cowapa all-league team.

Photos by Gary Henley/The Astorian

COWAPA ALL-LEAGUE

Player of the Year: Carter Affolter, Tillamook; Charles Bettger, Valley Catholic

Goalkeeper of the Year: Dhilan Thanik, Valley Catholic; **Riley Wunderlich, Seaside**

First Team

M/F: Carter Affolter, Jr., Tillamook

M: Charles Bettger, Sr., Valley Catholic

M/F: Cole Affolter, Fr., Tillamook

F: Elian Ayala, Sr., Valley Catholic

D/M: Migiel Campos, Jr., Seaside

D: Carl Carlson, Sr., Banks

M: Edgar Estrada, Sr., Tillamook

D: Riley Hill, Sr., Valley Catholic

D: Drew Klopocic, Fr., Valley Catholic

D/M: Leivis Lopez, So., Seaside

D: Brock Manderson, Sr., Tillamook

M/F: Cruz Mendola, Jr., Banks

M: Bruno Monroy, Sr., Tillamook

M/F: Anthony Peon, Jr., Seaside

M/F: Cameron Schauermann, Jr., Astoria

M/D: Walker Steele, Fr., Astoria

D: Sebastian Stefanowicz, Sr., Valley Catholic

D/F: Ismael Villasenor, So., Seaside

F/M: Graysen Voss, Jr., Banks

GK: Sam Brown, Sr., Valley Catholic

GK: Dhilan Thanik, Sr., Valley Catholic

GK: Salvador Wienecke, So., Astoria

GK: Riley Wunderlich, Sr., Seaside

Honorable Mention

M/F: Kaden Burch, So., Seaside

D/M: Tayden Cole, Fr., Astoria

F: Cole Crossen, Jr., Banks

M/D: Kainoa Henley, Sr., Banks

M/GK: Diego Lara, Fr., Tillamook

F/M: Alex Lopez, Sr., Tillamook

M: Riley Reinikka, So., Valley Catholic

M/F: Owen Williams, So., Astoria

Arden, Taylor, Brien on girls soccer first team

By GARY HENLEY
The Astorian

League champion Valley Catholic continues to lead the way and reap the rewards in Cowapa League girls soccer, but Astoria and Seaside continue to close the gap between the Valiants and the next two best teams in the Cowapa.

While Valley Catholic led the all-league selections with seven players (five on the first team), the Fishermen and Gulls were right behind, with a combined nine all-league players (five for Seaside, four for Astoria).

The league's Player of the Year honor went to Valley Catholic senior Casmira Fox, while Rainier's Jamie Knox was named Goalkeeper of the Year and the Valiants' Kibwe Cuffie earned Coach of the Year honors.

Seaside had three first team selections — senior Emma Arden and juniors Lilli Taylor and Abby Brien, one of two goalkeepers on



Jeff TerHar

Emma Arden takes the ball downfield.

the first team.

The Fishermen landed seniors Karen Jiminez and Maddie Sisley on the first team.

COWAPA ALL-LEAGUE

Player of the Year: Casmira Fox, Valley Catholic

Goalkeeper of the Year: Jamie Knox, Rainier

Coach of the Year: Kibwe Cuffie, Valley Catholic

First Team

M: Casmira Fox, Sr., Valley Catholic

F: Emma Arden, Sr., Seaside

M: Paulina Filip, So., Valley Catholic

D: Malia Groshong, So., Valley Catholic

F: Mariella Gunther, Sr., Valley Catholic

F: Karen Jiminez, Sr., Astoria

D: Anna Kinder, Sr., Valley Catholic

M: Adriana Rico, Sr., Tillamook

M: Madelyn Russell, Jr., Banks

F: Maddie Sisley, Sr., Astoria

D: Lilli Taylor, Jr., Seaside

M: Evelyn Wheeler, Jr., Rainier/Clatskanie

M: Kimara Witham, Fr., Banks

GK: Abby Brien, Jr., Seaside

GK: Jamie Knox, Sr., Rainier/Clatskanie

Honorable Mention

Ila Bowles, Sr., Seaside

Elizabeth Louie, So., Valley Catholic

Kate Manderson, Jr., Tillamook

Natalee Rizzo, Sr., Banks

Tyler Rose, Jr., Banks

Mia Rosebrook, Fr., Valley Catholic

Ashley Sisley, So., Astoria

Kaylee Snyder, Jr., Seaside

Grace Tallman, Sr., Rainier/Clatskanie

Vanessa Velazquez, Sr., Astoria

Areli Velazquez Villa, So., Tillamook

Crab season set to open on time

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Astorian

Marine toxins, skinny crabs and contentious price negotiations have all had a hand in delaying the start of Oregon's lucrative commercial Dungeness crab season in recent years.

Not this season — at least not yet.

For the first time in years, commercial Dungeness crab fisheries in Oregon, Washington state and Northern California will begin on the traditional Dec. 1 opener after recent pre-season testing showed high meat yield in crabs across the region.

At the same time, domoic acid — and the diatom that produces the naturally-occurring marine toxin — seems to have almost disappeared from ocean waters off Oregon and Washington.

Crabbing vessels can begin to set gear on Nov. 28 and could begin pulling ocean crab pots on Dec. 1.

It is the first time in years that Oregon has cleared meat fill hurdles in the first round of tests, said Tim Novotny, spokesman for the

Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission.

A starting price per pound still needs to be set, but, Novotny said, "we are over one big hurdle to a potential Dec. 1 opener for the first time since 2014."

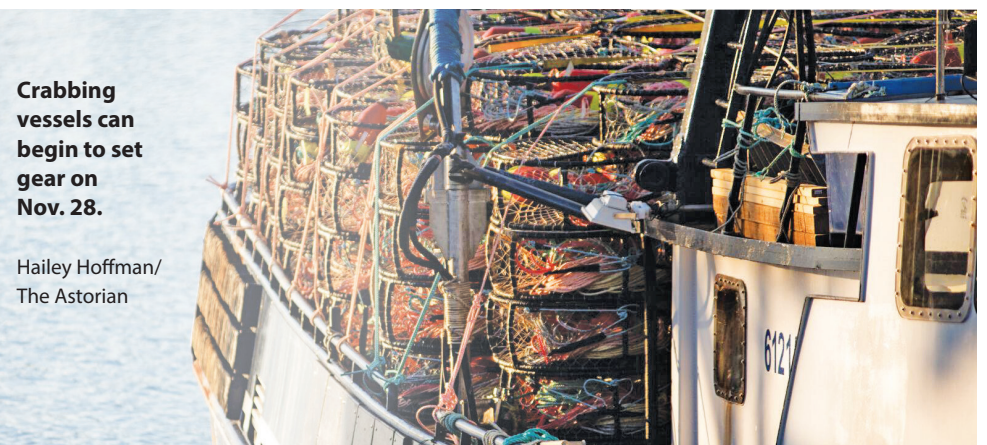
Last season, the state gave commercial crabbers the green light in mid-December but regional price talks and elevated levels of domoic acid in Washington delayed the start of season.

Still, with the all-clear from the state this season, fishermen and buyers can begin to prepare in earnest earlier than has been normal for a while.

Crab could be at markets in time for Christmas this year, another first in a long time, said Dan Ayres, coastal shellfish manager with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Commercial Dungeness crab is one of Oregon's most valuable fisheries. Despite a delay last year, fishermen still landed 12.2 million pounds coastwide in Oregon for an ex-vessel value of \$60.6 million. The West Coast fishery is managed under a tri-state agreement between Oregon, Washington and California.

Cold water off the coast now could also



Crabbing vessels can begin to set gear on Nov. 28.

Hailey Hoffman/
The Astorian

mean domoic acid is unlikely to be an issue this winter. The toxin load in razor clams — an important indicator species when it comes to tracking the presence of domoic acid — is in the single digits and dropping in Washington state, Ayres said.

In Oregon, domoic acid and pseudo-nitzschia, the diatom that produces the toxin, is just "background noise at this point," said Matt Hunter, shellfish project manager with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"You never give it 100% confidence, but I think compared to past years it certainly looks

better than it was," he said.

The good meat fill results may also be a boon for the fishery beyond allowing for an earlier start. Fishery managers do not use the tests to predict crab abundance, but Ayres said they did see a higher number of crabs in pots they pulled.

It is impossible to predict very far in advance for any fishery, however.

"We'll see what we see when we get there," Ayres said.

But, he added, "I think we're headed for some positive stuff ahead."