

Seaside's Toyas wins northwest bodybuilding championship

The Astorian

"Winning an overall championship is seen as the golden standard in amateur bodybuilding, and a lifetime goal for many physique competitors," said Seaside's Jayme Toyas.

A competition bodybuilder and local trainer, Toyas recently accom-

plished that goal by winning the Northwest Bodybuilding Championships in Shelton, Washington.

The show was a national qualifying show, so division winners can now compete in a national competition to earn an International Federation of Bodybuilding pro card.

Toyas is coached by Astoria graduate Alex Whitaker, who currently resides in Salem. Whitaker has coached multiple national level competitors, and owns West Coast Strength in Salem.

Toyas's competition season started with a close second place finish in Spokane, Washington, on Oct. 22 at the NPC Night of Champions, which served as a warmup for the Northwest Championships.

With three weeks of dieting and prep left before the show on Nov. 13, Toyas dialed in all the necessary factors and brought home the coveted overall trophy. Along with the overall open trophy, Toyas also won classic bodybuilding open class B (weight, height class) and masters classic body building over 35.

Championships.

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Some days over the summer, there were as many as 40 people at the courts, Hamer said. "We only have two courts and since only eight people at a time can play we had 32 people sitting out."

Pickleball: Provides social, emotional and physical benefits

Continued from Page A1

The game has skyrocketed in popularity since then.

"During the time period of March 2021 and to October 2021 we have seen a considerable uptick in the amount of people that are playing pickleball on the Gearhart courts," Hamer said. "Yes, some of those are people vacationing in Gearhart and are looking for a place to play. Most of the people that play are from this community and the surrounding communities, such as Astoria, Cannon Beach and Seaside. We are in need of adding two more courts so people get a chance to play."

Hamer asked the city to add two more courts to the Gearhart courts. "We figured out how we could get four courts on the west side of the tennis courts," he said. "We would not be eliminating any tennis as tennis on the east side would continue."

He said pickleball and tennis provide social, emotional and physical benefits. New nets are needed, as the existing pickleball net system has fallen apart, Hamer said. "I know money can be tight and I know the city has other priorities but there is a real need for this type of exercise and there are a lot of people who play. We want to work in harmony with the city of Gear-

hart in the coming months to see if we can figure out a way to make this happen."

Councilors said plans for more pickleball courts should wait until completion of the parks master plan.

The plan, designed to look 20 years into the future, was developed after the state awarded the city \$15,000 grant funds for the project, part of the 2019 local government grant program from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Council members suggested a regional approach to future pickleball play. Indoor pickleball is available in Seaside through the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District year-round on Mondays and Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m. There are additional courts at Camp Rilea, Nehalem and Long Beach, Washington.

Councilor Kerry Smith said land owned by the Seaside School District on North Holladay designated for recreation could provide an option. "I wonder if there is any way they can contact the school district, because I know they're keeping the second field for their athletes," Smith said. "Why can't they approach them and say about turning those tennis courts that are really in need of some work but very well give them eight courts — which would be 64 people playing pickleball."

Council members tabled the motion until after the parks master plan is complete, likely in a "couple of months," Cockrum said. "I think that makes a lot of sense."

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Gladstone outlasts Seaside, 52-21

The Astorian

Seaside trimmed an early 16-point deficit down to six, but Gladstone answered with a big second half run to score a 52-21 win over the Gulls in a nonleague girls basketball

game Monday at Seaside.

Playing without starter Abby Nofield, Seaside trailed 18-2 midway through the second quarter, highlighted by seven first half points from Gladstone junior Hanne Hopkins.

But Hopkins got into foul

trouble, and the Gulls took advantage with a 10-0 run, featuring eight points from Lilli Taylor.

Ranked fourth in the latest 4A coaches poll, the Gladiators regained the momentum in the second half, as Sam Jedrykowski

and teammate Hailey Monte both hit two 3-pointers in the third period.

Jedrykowski and Taylor led their respective teams with 10 points each, while Macie Latcu and Hopkins scored nine apiece for Gladstone.



R.J. Marx

In July, Randy Anderson pointed to discrepancies between Broadway Park playing facilities.

Agreement: Softball fields, facilities to be upgraded

Continued from Page A1

The engineering team is reviewing a number of potential locations for the upgraded facility and trying to determine which one will best meet the requirements of the agreement, which is meant to remedy disparities between the practice and playing fields of the female athletes compared to their male counterparts.

The noticeable differences between the baseball and softball diamonds at Broadway Field create potential violations of Title IX, the federal law meant to protect against discrimination in education.

In 2012, Seaside parents Randy Anderson and John Nicolazzi filed a lawsuit in federal court alleging the school district failed to permit girls from participating equally with boys.

The lawsuit claimed that female students didn't have com-

parable athletic facilities as the boys, that they were unable to participate in team sports and that they had been excluded from the high school's athletic program. That case was dismissed after a settlement in 2014. Terms of the settlement were never publicly released, but the school district responded by adding lights and building a softball diamond at Broadway Field.

Dissatisfied with conditions at the softball field, Anderson filed a civil rights complaint in March 2019. The Office for Civil Rights followed up, concluding that the softball field, as compared to the baseball field, could result in the denial of equal opportunity to female athletes.

At the January school board meeting, Penrod said, the team will bring a recommendation regarding the preferred site for the board to approve. They'll also present an outline for the

other phases in the three-phase project. From there, they can start the design process.

"I'm extremely happy for the Seaside High School female softball players, finally getting the proper playing facility and the recognition as valued student-athletes of the district, something they have been denied by the district administration for many years," Anderson said. "It's too bad that it took an OCR complaint, which validated the inequality, for the district to finally see their discriminating ways. I will be following this closely."

Penrod said she would like to see the facility finished by the beginning of the softball season in 2023 if possible.

"I have said, 'If there is any way you can have it done by February or March, so they could have the new field to play on, that would be wonderful,'" she said.

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