



Jeff TerHar

Carson Kawasoe and Elliott Lee shake after a dramatic performance.

Kawasoe wins golf title with sudden death birdie

By GARY HENLEY
Seaside Signal

Seaside senior Carson Kawasoe birdied the first hole of sudden death to win the Cowapa League individual title over defending state co-champion Elliott Lee of Tillamook on Monday afternoon at the Astoria Golf & Country Club.

In their last season in the Cowapa League, Banks won the team title with a 324 score, ahead of second-place Valley Catholic (329). Both schools will be dropping to the 3A level next fall. Tillamook was third (360), followed by Seaside (384) and Astoria (395). All teams were set to compete Wednesday and Thursday in the District 1 region state qualifier.

“It was a back-and-forth battle all day between Kawasoe and Lee,” said Seaside coach Jim Poetsch.

Both golfers birdied the 12th, and Kawasoe tied the match with a birdie on the 16th. Both players missed birdie opportunities on the

18th hole to send the match into a sudden death playoff hole, won by Kawasoe.

Kawasoe and Lee were joined on the all-league team by Aaron Brown of Banks (74), Valley Catholic’s Ryoma Lane (77) and D.J. Ramano (78), a trio of Banks players (Ben Cost, 82; Jake Walters, 83; and Bo Wormington, 85), Valley Catholic’s Lucas Howell (86) and Aiden Liu (88), and Astoria’s Judd Field (90).

“It was great to see Carson join an elite group of Seaside golfers as Cowapa League champions,” Poetsch said, as Kawasoe finished second to teammate Curtis Kunde as a freshman in 2019, the last time the tournament was played.

Preview match

Defending 3A state champion Oregon Episcopal won a boys golf state preview match, held last Wednesday at Quail Valley Golf Course.

The Aardvarks posted a four-over par team score of 292, ahead of Banks, the top 4A school with a 323.

Defending 4A champion Marist was third (326) followed by Valley Catholic (329).

Individually, Aaron Brown of Banks tore up his home course with a five-under par 67 to earn medalist honors. Alex Tseng of Oregon Episcopal was a stroke back at 68, ahead of his brother Ethan at 70.

Seaside was led by Carson Kawasoe’s 78, for ninth place. Also scoring for the Gulls were Carter Perrigo (105), Carson Bates (114), Ever Sibony and Merrick Habecker (each at 115) and Madden Wunderlich (111).

“Carson (Kawasoe) played much better than his score showed,” said Seaside coach Jim Poetsch. “He hit one in the water on nine and missed a slick downhill putt on six that led to doubles. Otherwise, he was pretty solid.”

“As far as the state tournament, it looks like Banks, Valley and Marist will battle it out,” he said. “And if Cowapa League history holds, Tillamook could be right in the mix for a trophy.”

GIRLS GOLF

Valiants win Astoria invite

Some of the top individuals in Oregon 4A girls golf are from the Cowapa League, so it was a strong field for the annual Astoria Invitational, held last Thursday at the Astoria Golf & Country Club.

Valley Catholic won the team title with 228 points under a modified Stableford scoring format, paced by medalist and defending state champion Challin Kim with 75 points.

With 61 points from Jocelyn Janecek, Banks was second with 178, edging Astoria (177), which had all five of its varsity golfers scoring a season-best in points.

Caleigh Peterson led the way with 54, followed by Ava Davis (46), Marlee Both (41), Katie Jo Strimple-Fields (36) and Mia Rochon (26).

Seaside, Tillamook, Warrenton and Catlin Gabel all had incomplete teams scores. Competing for the Gulls were Holly Fergus (49 points) and Alyssa Bergman (34).

Girls golf regionals were scheduled for Thursday and Friday at Quail Valley Golf Course.

Seaside opened up scoring in the first inning when Erin Owsley grounded out, scoring one run.

In the top of the fourth inning, Valley Catholic tied things up at five.

Lydia Klumper was credited with the victory for the Gulls. The pitcher surrendered six runs on six hits over seven innings, striking out two.

Garcia launch the game-winning shot in the seventh inning.

Seaside saw the ball well, racking up 16 hits in the game. Klumper and Lair each managed three hits to lead Seaside. Tara Lair, Klumper, Garcia, Emma Arden, Ila Bowles and Abby Nofield each managed multiple hits for Seaside.

Valley Catholic over Seaside

Valley Catholic’s MaryLou Lux was 4-for-4 at the plate with two home runs, as she led the Valiants to a 12-4 win over visiting Seaside in a Cowapa League softball game last Monday.

Valley Catholic also had five doubles on the day.

Valiants 9, Gulls 7

Five days after the Seaside softball team scored a walk-off victory over Valley Catholic at Broadway Field, the Valiants bounced back with a 9-7 win over the Gulls, Tuesday in Beaverton.

The Valiants led 2-0 through four innings, before Seaside scored seven in the top of the fifth for a seemingly safe 7-2 lead.

But Valley Catholic rallied with two runs in the bottom of the fifth, then tacked on five more in the sixth. Seaside had 11 hits to Valley Catholic’s six.

Second annual 100K Relay on the Prom

Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District celebrates life at the beach with their second annual 100K Relay on the Prom.

Teams will run all night along Seaside’s historic Promenade to complete the race, culminating with breakfast and prizes the next morning. The race begins on Friday, May 27 at 8 p.m. at 12th and Prom. Check in starts at 7 p.m.

More information about the relay can be found at sunsetempire.com/100k-relay-on-the-prom.

Cost is \$50 per participant and a breakfast voucher to Pig ‘N Pancake and a T-shirt are included while supplies last. Call the Sunset Empire Park & Recreation District at 503-738-3311 to register.

This event is sponsored by Runkle Consulting Group and the Kathryn Riverfront Inn.

Seaside Invitational

Banks compiled 167 team points to win the Seaside Invitational girls golf tournament, held last Monday at the Gearhart Golf Links.

In a modified Stableford scoring format, medalist Jocelyn Janecek had 55 points to pace the Braves, just ahead of Valley Catholic’s Challin Kim (54). The Valiants finished second in team scoring with 153 points, followed by Astoria (127) and Seaside (104), with Warrenton incomplete.

Astoria’s Ava Davis shot a personal best in stroke play (98) for 45 points to lead the Lady Fishermen, with Caleigh Peterson (38), Lily Reed and Mia Rochon (22 points apiece), Katie Jo Strimple-Fields (21) and Marlee Both (19) rounding out the scores.

Kaylee Snyder had 31 points as Seaside’s top scorer, followed by Alyssa Bergman (27) and Holly Fergus (26).

SOFTBALL

Garcia’s walk-off grand slam gives Seaside softball win

A walk-off grand slam propelled Seaside High School varsity softball to a decisive, dramatic victory over Valley Catholic, 9-6, last Thursday. Seaside trailed 6-5 in the bottom of the seventh inning when Jazel Garcia homered on a 1-2 count, scoring four runs.

Both offenses were strong at the plate as Seaside collected 16 hits and Valley Catholic six in the high-scoring affair.

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