

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
Baseball: Crescent Valley at Central, 4:30 p.m. South Albany at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Perrydale at St. Paul, 4:30 p.m.
Softball: Lebanon at Central, 4 p.m. Dallas at Silverton, 4:30 p.m. Perrydale at St. Paul, 4:30 p.m.
Track and field: Central at Corvallis, 3:30 p.m. Dallas at Lebanon, 3:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20
Baseball: Perrydale at East Linn Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Boys tennis: Woodburn at Central, 4 p.m. Crescent Valley at Dallas, 4 p.m.
Girls tennis: Central at Woodburn, 4 p.m. Dallas at Crescent Valley, 4 p.m.
Softball: Silverton at Central, 4 p.m.
Track and field: Falls City, Perrydale at Sheridan HS, 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21
Baseball: Central at Crescent Valley, 4:30 p.m. Dallas at South Albany, 4:30 p.m.
Softball: Central at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Western Oregon at Western Washington (DH), 1 p.m.
Track and field: Central at John Oliver Invitational at CHS, 3:30 p.m. Dallas at Central Coast Invitational, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22
Baseball: Concordia at Western Oregon (DH), 1 p.m.
Softball: Western Oregon at Western Washington (DH), noon.
Track and field: Dallas at Centennial Invitational, 11 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23
Baseball: Concordia at Western Oregon (DH), 1 p.m.
Softball: Western Oregon at Simon Fraser (DH), noon.

MONDAY, APRIL 24
Boys golf: Central, Dallas at Mallard Creek (Lebanon), 10 a.m.
Girls golf: Central, Dallas at Tukwila (Woodburn), 10 a.m.
Softball: Toledo at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25
Baseball: Woodburn at Central, 3:30 p.m. Dallas at Silverton, 4:30 p.m. Perrydale at Regis, 4:30 p.m.
Boys tennis: Central at South Albany, 4 p.m. Dallas at Corvallis, 4 p.m.
Girls tennis: South Albany at Central, 4 p.m. Corvallis at Dallas, 4 p.m.
Softball: Woodburn at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26
Baseball: Central at Woodburn, 3:30 p.m. Silverton at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.
Softball: Corvallis at Central, 4:30 p.m. Dallas at South Albany, 4:30 p.m. Western Oregon at Saint Martin's (DH), 1 p.m.
Track and field: Dallas at Central, TBA. Falls City at Tiger Invitational, 3:30 p.m.

Schedules Subject to Change

QUICK HITS

CHS Hall of Fame tickets on sale

INDEPENDENCE — Tickets are on sale to celebrate Central High School's Hall of Fame ceremony on Saturday at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 and can be purchased at the athletics office, the Independence Les Schwab, or at the door.

The 2017 class includes: Paul Schmidt, Davina Dungey, Bret Brouse, Bill Sherrod, Kelly McArthur, Tom Mcfie, Sara Cole and the 1985 boys cross-country team. Mike Ainsworth will receive the Meritorious Award. For more information: 503-606-2228.

Youth wrestlers travel to Reno

RENO, Nev. — Dallas' youth wrestling team took 10 athletes to the Flo Reno Worlds national tournament April 7-9. Ashton Brecht competed in the heavyweight (15 and younger) division, placing second. As a team, Dallas came in 20th.

PREP BASEBALL

Panthers on the prowl

Senior helps Central win two of three games

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Last year, Central's baseball team struggled to find its identity. With a 12-14 record overall and 10-11 mark in Mid-Willamette Conference play, the Panthers showed they could be a threat — but not consistently.

They're out to change that perception in 2017.

The Panthers won two of three games last week, defeating Dallas 5-3 on April 11 and Silverton 3-2 on Saturday before losing to Dallas 5-4 on Saturday.

Central began a three-game series against Crescent Valley Tuesday after press time. The Raiders entered the week tied for first in the MWC. The Panthers entered tied for third and with a chance to leap frog Crescent Valley in the league standings with a series sweep.

"I think we're making good progress so far," senior Luis Amador said. "We have to keep playing good defense because we know errors will kill us. We have to work on our offensive approach and just keep improving every game."

Amador isn't the type to get riled up. He's not one to shout at teammates or show his emotions during a game.



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Central senior first baseman Luis Amador has helped lead Central to an 8-3 record overall and a 5-3 mark in Mid-Willamette Conference play.

"I'm known as a relaxed person," he said. "You don't really see me losing my cool. I try and be nice and relaxed and let the game come to me."

Don't mistake that for a lack of intensity.

Amador is one of the Panthers' most feared hitters and has been a steady presence at first base for

years — a far cry from his freshman season when Amador was a jittery, inexperienced player worried about making a mistake.

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PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Brautigam steps down as coach

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — David Brautigam has stepped down as head girls basketball coach.

Brautigam said he made the decision so he could spend more time with his family.

Brautigam has coached the girls basketball team since the 2006-07 season.

"We cannot thank Dave enough for the time and effort he has put forth for Dallas athletics from our youth level to the high school level," athletics director Tim Larson said. "He's spent many hours with one goal in mind: How do we improve the competitiveness of Dallas athletics?"

Dallas finished 2016-17 season with a 14-11 record overall and an 8-6 mark in Mid-Willamette Conference play and advanced to the first round of the 5A state playoffs.

In recent years, the Dragons made qualifying for the postseason a regular occurrence.

Larson said the position will be officially opened in the near future.

"We do not have anyone ready to roll into the position and will look for the best applicant to fill the spot," Larson said.



Brautigam

PREP GIRLS GOLF

Dragons excited to show off depth



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Dallas golfer Natalie Crabtree hits a shot on the first hole at Cross Creek on Monday.

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Dallas' girls golf team has seen success in recent years, thanks in part to senior Kailee Curtis, who has earned her spot among the state's best golfers.

The rest of the players want to show that they are ready to do the same.

"Right now, our goal is to be in the top four and earn a chance to play at regionals for a trip to the state tournament," coach Danielle Landis said.

That will be no easy task.

Dallas finished fifth on Monday at Cross Creek Golf Course, despite competing in steady rainfall.

The top four teams at the regional district tournament will qualify for the state tournament.

With teams so scoring so closely together, that means for Dallas' varsity team,



Curtis

which has included Curtis, Natalie Crabtree, Emma May Johnson, Missie Davis and Madison Shuck, shaving even a single stroke off their scores can make a big difference.

Whatever success Dallas finds as a team, it will be Curtis who leads the charge. She placed 14th at state in 2016, and will be a contender to defend her district title later this spring.

"One area we are focusing on is having a game plan that she can stick to as she plays," Landis said. "That way, she doesn't get too wrapped up with what is happening around her. We also have worked on her short game to help improve from 50 yards and in."

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PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Perrydale trio excels at Invitational

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

BANKS — Competing at a meet with 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A schools, Perrydale's track and field teams were looking to make a statement at the Rob Frank Invitational at Banks High School on Saturday.

That's exactly what they did.

On the girls side, Abigail Bibler took second in the shot put with a throw of 30 feet, 1½ inches.

Amity Deters placed third in the long jump (14-



Bibler

an amazing kid and a great all-around athlete," coach Brian Evans said. "She's in the top two or three in districts in all of her events right now."

Evans is also considering placing Deters in the triple jump. It would mean an increased workload on meet

days, but give her a realistic shot of qualifying for state in as many as four events, Evans said.

Jacob Pope led the boys with a fifth-place finish in the javelin with a throw of 129-0 and an eighth-place finish in the discus (109-5).

"Jacob is probably my hardest worker," Evans said. "He's trying very hard at practice to get better every day. His two events are highly competitive this year, but we continue to fine tune his approach and delivery."

Evans is trying a new ap-

proach to training during the season. In previous years, the focus has been getting kids ready to perform their best at each meet.

This time, Evans has his team thinking big-picture, and ready to perform at their peak at districts — a strategy that Evans is excited to see pay off in a big way this spring.

"In the past, if we had a



Pope

meet on a Thursday, we would go hard Monday, then back off on Tuesday," Evans said. "Wednesday would be a day to fine tune. This year, we are working hard right up to the meet. Our goal is to have it all come together for districts. We have some kids lifting three days a week, and sometimes that's a day before a meet. To us, we're focused on getting the kids stronger and putting all our cards on the table for districts."

The Pirates will compete at Sheridan Thursday at 3:30 p.m.