

**SCHEDULE**

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28**  
**Boys Basketball:** Crescent Valley at Dallas, 7 p.m. Central at Silverton, 7 p.m.  
**Wrestling:** Dallas at South Albany, 6 p.m. Woodburn at Central, 6 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JAN. 29**  
**Men's Basketball:** Montana State Billings at Western Oregon, 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JAN. 30**  
**Boys Basketball:** Lebanon at Dallas, 7 p.m. Corvallis at Central, 7 p.m. Central Linn at Perrydale, 7 p.m. Falls City at C.S. Lewis, 7 p.m.  
**Girls Basketball:** Central Linn at Perrydale, 5:30 p.m. Falls City at C.S. Lewis JV, 5:30 p.m. Dallas at Lebanon, 7 p.m. Central at Corvallis, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 31**  
**Wrestling:** Central at Monroe Tournament, 9 a.m.  
**Men's Basketball:** Seattle Pacific at Western Oregon, 7 p.m.  
**Women's Basketball:** Western Oregon at Saint Martin's, 5:15 p.m.

**SUNDAY, FEB. 1**  
**Baseball:** Western Oregon at California, San Diego (DH), noon.

**MONDAY, FEB. 2**  
**Boys Basketball:** Perrydale at Regis, 8 p.m.  
**Girls Basketball:** Perrydale at Regis, 6:30 p.m.  
**Baseball:** Western Oregon at California, San Diego (DH), 6 p.m.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 3**  
**Boys Basketball:** Crosshill Christian at Falls City, 7 p.m.  
**Girls Basketball:** Silverton at Dallas, 7 p.m. Central at Woodburn, 7 p.m.  
**Swimming:** Central at Dallas, 4 p.m.  
**Baseball:** Western Oregon at California, San Diego (DH), 6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4**  
**Boys Basketball:** Dallas at Silverton 7 p.m., Woodburn at Central, 7 p.m. East Linn Christian at Perrydale, 7 p.m.  
**Girls Basketball:** East Linn Christian at Perrydale, 5:30 p.m.  
**Wrestling:** Silverton at Dallas, 6 p.m. Central at Crescent Valley, 6 p.m.

*Schedules Subject to Change*

**QUICK HITS**

**Central volleyball coach to return**

INDEPENDENCE — Claudine Mendazona will return as Central High's head volleyball coach next fall, Panthers Athletics Director Shane Hedrick announced on Monday.

"(Claudine) is one of the most respected volleyball coaches in the state of Oregon and Panther Nation is excited to have her back," Hedrick said.

Mendazona previously coached the Panthers for 16 years before stepping down before the 2014 season.

"I am in a very fortunate situation," Mendazona said. "I was able to take last season off to watch my kids play their fall sports."

"With the previous coach being a one-year interim, it was a perfect opportunity to get back to coaching the game. I've had a lot of success at Central and I hope to get us back to the tradition of competing for championships."

Central finished 4-14 overall in 2014.

**PREP SPORTS**

# Until the last whistle

*Experienced official doesn't show any signs of stopping*

**By Lukas Eggen**  
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — As a basketball player through college, Charlie Goodman wasn't a fan of officials.

Little did he know that he would see what it was like to see the game from the striped shirt's perspective.

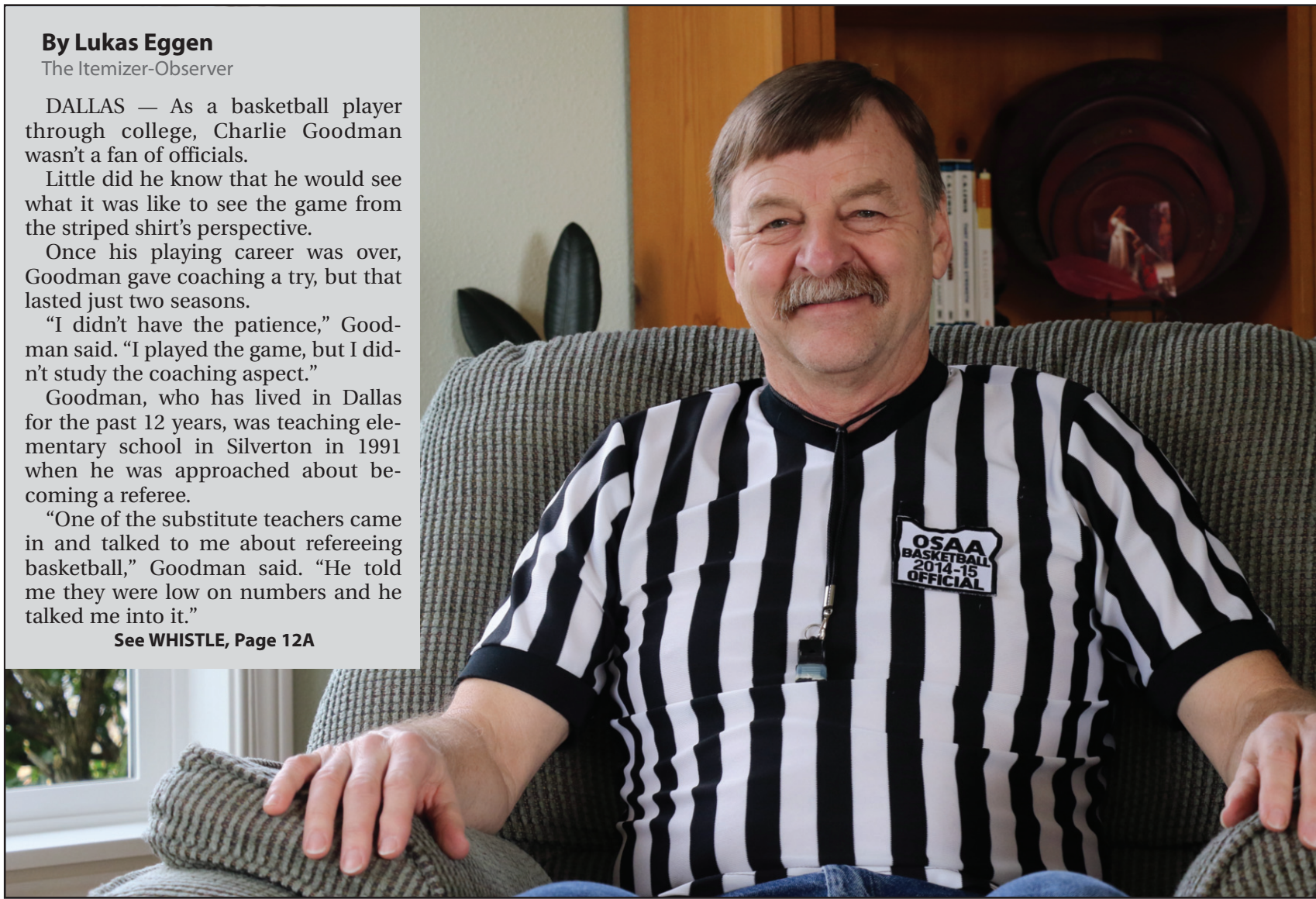
Once his playing career was over, Goodman gave coaching a try, but that lasted just two seasons.

"I didn't have the patience," Goodman said. "I played the game, but I didn't study the coaching aspect."

Goodman, who has lived in Dallas for the past 12 years, was teaching elementary school in Silverton in 1991 when he was approached about becoming a referee.

"One of the substitute teachers came in and talked to me about refereeing basketball," Goodman said. "He told me they were low on numbers and he talked me into it."

See WHISTLE, Page 12A



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Dallas resident Charlie Goodman became an official Oregon referee 24 years ago. He's been officiating basketball exclusively since then.

## Need for new referees grows stronger

*Lack of officials leaves current referees in a bind to cover all games*

**By Lukas Eggen**  
The Itemizer-Observer

POLK COUNTY — For some fans, they're a savior, someone to bail out a team in a tight spot.

For others, they're a villain, someone who deserves blame in a loss.

They are the referees — and across Oregon, their numbers are continuing to dwindle.

"We have about 3,300 officials, which is about 10 percent short of where we want to be," Jack Folliard, Oregon Athletic Officials Association executive director said. "That's about 300 to 400 short spread out across all seven sports that we service. All (sports) are

**Learn More**

- The Oregon Athletic Officials Association employs referees for the OSAA.
- Different sports and areas have commissioners to coordinate training and assignments
- Visit [www.ore-officials.org](http://www.ore-officials.org) for more information.

down in numbers over the last several years."

Oregon has about 1,100 basketball referees, Folliard said. Any shortage puts referees in a difficult spot.

See REFEREES, Page 12A



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Cody Coleman was one of two officials to work the Dallas girls basketball game on Friday night.

**CLASS 5A PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL**

## Fennell eyes the drive

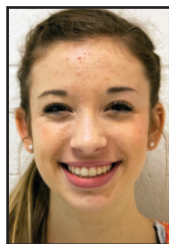
*Senior adding new dimension to her game*

**By Lukas Eggen**  
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — For years, Taylor Fennell has known her role for Dallas' girls basketball team, but that can be both a blessing and a curse.

"The biggest advantage of us playing together for so long is that we know how each other plays," Fennell said. "The disadvantage is other teams in the league knows that this player plays this way or this player does that thing."

In the past, when Fennell



Fennell

take the shot or pass the ball.

It's over the last couple of weeks that Fennell has added a new element to her game.

"We worked on attacking the hoop and getting to the

free-throw line more," Dragons coach David Brautigam said.

Fennell is no longer the pop-out shooter. She's a full blown offensive threat ready to shoot or drive.

"Instead of just focusing on shooting, I wanted to bring a little more to the table," Fennell said.

For the 5-foot-7 senior guard/wing, that means analyzing the defense opponents are playing on her and at times be willing to get physical in the paint.

See FENNELL, Page 12A

**CLASS 1A PREP BOYS BASKETBALL**

## Falls City revival

*Simmons, team, having a blast*

**By Lukas Eggen**  
The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY — On Dec. 12, Falls City's boys basketball team sat in its locker room. The Mountaineers had just defeated Eddyville Charter School 45-26, the squad's first victory in more than a full season. But there were no cheers or hollers.

"In the beginning, it was dead silent," senior Tanner Simmons said. "We didn't know what was going to happen. Coach (Jim Owre) came in. He smiled, possibly for the first time, and we all



Simmons

exploded in laughter. It was something we never experienced before. It was amazing."

Falls City entered the week sitting at three wins for the season, but the Mountaineers believe they are making progress.

Simmons is playing a full role in building the Mountaineers into something special.

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