

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

WOU not satisfied with success

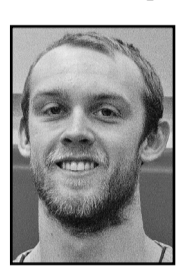
Western Oregon hopes to claim conference championship

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon's men's basketball team has one conference title to its name this season. The Wolves aren't ready to stop there.

WOU enters the Great Northwest Athletic Conference championship this Thursday through Saturday as the top seed, receiving a bye into the semifinals round on Friday in Billings, Mont.

Western Oregon has more at stake than just the GNAC championship.



Thomas

The N C A A ranked W O U fourth in its most recent Division II West Region Poll on Feb. 25, which determines the five teams that will join the GNAC, PacWest and California Collegiate Athletic Association tournament champions, who receive automatic berths to the eight-team regional March 13-14.

"I've been impressed with the way we have handled wins and success,"

Tourney Time

What: Great Northwest Athletic Conference Men's Basketball Championship.

When: Thursday through Saturday.

Where: Billings, Mont.
Of note: Top-seeded Western Oregon will face the winner of the Alaska Anchorage/Central Washington matchup on Friday night. The winner advances to the conference championship game on Saturday. Both the Seawolves and Wildcats defeated the Wolves in their most recent meetings. Follow the *Itemizer-Observer* on Twitter and on Facebook for updates.

WOU coach Brady Bergeson said. "To be a champion, you have to be really good at dealing with both success and failure. They're equally important. This team is very consistent in that way. They approach games, practices, film sessions and weight training the same. I haven't been able to tell the difference after a win or a loss. They're just hungry between those lines. We still haven't played our best." Western Oregon closed

out the regular season by defeating Alaska Fairbanks 75-60 on Saturday. Devon Alexander scored a team-high 19 points, Andy Avgi added 17 points and seven rebounds and Thomas Lewis and Marwan Sarhan scored with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

The victory was a bounce back game from an 80-78 defeat to Alaska Anchorage on Thursday, when the Seawolves shot 55.8 percent from the field.

Western Oregon enters the GNAC championship boasting one of the conference's most prolific offenses, averaging 79.7 points per game, good for third in the conference. Avgi, Julian Nichols, Alexander and Jordan Wiley all average more than 10 points per game.

Defensively, WOU held opponents to 68.8 points per game, second best in the GNAC.

Avgi was named the GNAC Player of the Year, while Nichols received Newcomer of the Year honors. Bergeson earned Coach of the Year honors, while Wiley and Lewis Thomas earned all-GNAC honorable mention.

The Wolves will face Alaska Anchorage or Western Washington Friday at 7:30



Wiley

WOU will face significant challenges.

Both the Seawolves and Vikings defeated Western Oregon in their most recent meetings.

Western Washington defeated WOU in Monmouth 73-50 on Feb. 19.

"The bad news is we're going to play one of two teams that beat us the last time we played," Bergeson said. "The good news is they beat us the last time we played. That does not sit well with our guys."

No matter what happens, Bergeson said he hopes the team continues to challenge itself. And, although the Wolves have their eyes on a bigger prize, Bergeson hopes they don't take this chance for granted.

"We can't forget that these things aren't given to you," Bergeson said. "It's a privilege to have the opportunity that we got. You always have to assume this is a once in a lifetime chance."

p.m. The winner advances to the championship game Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

B u t

WESTERN OREGON ROUNDUP

Wolves end year with home victory

Women's basketball earns win

Itemizer-Observer staff report

MONMOUTH — A frustrating 2014-15 campaign ended on a happy note, as Western Oregon's women's basketball squad beat Northwest Nazarene 69-55 on Saturday.

Four WOU players score in double figures, led by sophomore Jordan Mottershaw with 20 points, including 16 in the first half, and senior Dana Goularte, who added 18 points. Freshman Sami Osborn recorded a double-double with 14 points and 11 rebounds.

"We did a great job on the glass at both ends of the floor and we shared the ball on offense," Wolves coach Holli Howard-Carpenter said. "When we have four in double figures, good things happen."

The Wolves opened the week with a heartbreaking loss, falling 54-52 to Central Washington on Thursday. Goularte scored 20 points and grabbed nine rebounds, but WOU could not rally late.

Trailing 53-51, Goularte had a chance to tie the game with less than 10 seconds left in the game, but missed one of two free throws. Western Oregon finished the 2014-15 season 8-18 overall and 5-13 in Great Northwest Athletic Conference play.



Mottershaw

BASEBALL WINS THREE OF FOUR: The Western Oregon baseball team opened Great Northwest Athletic Conference play by taking three of four games from Saint Martin's. The Wolves (8-12 overall, 3-1 GNAC) swept the Saints on Saturday, winning 4-0 and 3-2. WOU split a doubleheader on Sunday, earning a 7-3 win before dropping the series finale 1-0. Senior Tim Rausch went a combined 4-for-7 on Sunday, with three RBIs and a home run. Senior Garret Harpole also hit a home run on Sunday. WOU hosts Central Washington for a pair of doubleheaders on Saturday and Sunday. First pitch is scheduled for noon on both days.

SOFTBALL TO OPEN LEAGUE PLAY: Western Oregon's softball team will host Northwest Nazarene for a four-game series Friday and Saturday. The Great Northwest Athletic Conference foes will play a pair of doubleheaders. First pitch is scheduled for 2 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday.

POLK COUNTY WORSHIP DIRECTORY

DALLAS

Calvary Chapel Dallas www.calvarydallas.com Currently meeting for worship and verse by verse Bible teaching at 628 SE Jefferson St. Worship service begins at 10 a.m. on Sunday. Sunday school is available from youth ministry and below to nursery. Wednesday evening cafe-style Old Testament study starting at 6:30 pm. Come join us for a relaxed study around a cup of coffee or drink. Mens prayer is Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Womens Bible studies are scheduled also, call for times. The Pastor/Teacher is Larry King. Come join us and be a part of God's family here in Dallas. For more information call 503-831-1074.

Church of Christ - North Kings Valley Hwy. Sunday Class 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 5:30 p.m. Thursday Evening Bible Study 7:00 p.m. We are a Bible Based Church. Visitors welcome. For information call 503-420-4010. If no answer, please leave a message and we'll return your call as soon as possible.

Dallas Alliance Church - 775 E. Ellendale, Dallas, 503-623-2265, Email office@dallasalliance.org, Lead Pastor Jim Jamieson; Youth/Children's Pastor Lance Baker, and Worship/Men's Ministry Pastor Travis Reed; Every Sunday: classes for all ages at 9:15 a.m., Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m., (Nursery provided for a.m. services); Tuesdays: Youth Night 7:00 p.m. in Ediger Hall; Wednesdays: Adult Prayer Meeting 1:00 p.m.; Choir practice 6:45 p.m. Call for info on current Bible Studies. Web: dallasalliance.org.

Dallas Church - PO Box 462, Dallas, OR 97338, 503-623-2711. Worship Gatherings: Sundays 10am. Meeting at 450 SE Washington St., Dallas OR 97338. Atmosphere is relaxed, families & children welcome, come as you are, current music & relevant teaching about Jesus. Pastor: Ben Bauman. www.dallaschurch.org

Dallas Foursquare Church—Located at 976 SW Hayter St. on the corner of Washington and Hayter. Worship Service: Sundays at 10am. Youth Group: Sundays 6pm to 8pm. Pastor: Darrin Hausler. We are a multi-generational church with a heart for our community. Our mission is to Love God and Love People to Extend His Kingdom. For more info call us at 503-623-8277 or visit us online at dallasfour.com.

Evangelical Bible Church - 1175 S.E. Howe, Dallas 503-623-2331. Senior Pastor Jerry Franz, Visitation Pastor Allan Wiebe, Youth Pastor Nathan Ensz. Sunday: Worship *8:00 a.m.; *10:45 a.m.; *6:00 p.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; High School Youth Group 7:15 p.m.; Thursday: Jr. High Youth Group - 7:00 p.m.; 2nd & 4th Tuesday: MOPS *9:00 a.m.; Wednesday: AWANA - 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 7:00 p.m.; Thursday: Bible Studies *9:15 a.m. (women); *7:00 p.m. (men & women) *Nursery care provided.

Faith Evangelical Free Church - 2290 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas, 503-623-8034; Senior Pastor Al Perkins, Associate Pastor Ed Sutter, Worship Pastor Ted Kitzmiller, Youth Pastor Aaron Swank, Children's Director Debbie Davies. Sunday School 9:00 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday High School Youth Group 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday Jr. High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Please call or visit our website for information about other meetings. www.faithfreechurch.org

First Baptist Church - 245 S.W. Church St., Dallas, 503-623-5189; Church Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Fri. 9 am - 4 pm and Wed 5 pm - 7 pm; Pastor Rick Bratton; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:45 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 6-7 p.m.; Everyone Welcome!

First Christian Church - Joyfully Worshipping & Serving 1079 S.E. Jefferson Street, Dallas, 503-623-2569. Senior Pastor - Gary Ivey and Pastor Darren Anderson. "Live Wire Worship" with Praise Team - 8:30 a.m., Adult, Youth & Children Sunday School - 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. (Nursery provided), Men's Bible Study - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. Christian Women's Fellowship - 2nd Tuesday, 1:00 pm (Sept through June). Please call church office for information about other meetings.

First Presbyterian Church - 879 S.W. Levens Street, Dallas, 503-623-3397. Pastor Sandy Larson invites you to come and share with us. Worship 10:30 a.m.; Adult Sunday School 9:00 am; Men's Breakfast & Bible Study Tues. 7:00 a.m.; Handicapped accessible. Bloodbank 4th Monday of even numbered months. Indoor Play Park.

Grace Community Church - 598 E. Ellendale Ave. PO Box 69, Dallas, 503-623-4961. Senior Pastor-Dave Bertolini, Pastor of Worship & Discipleship-Ryan Bucher, Pastor of Youth & Young Adults-Ben Potloff. Sunday Worship: 1st Service-9:00 a.m. with Kids, Youth, & Adult Sunday School running concurrently. 2nd Worship Service-10:45 a.m. with Kids Worship running concurrently. Nursery provided during both services. Office open Tuesday-Friday for office hours visit our website at www.graceindallas.org. All are welcome!

Living Hope City Church - 1156 SE Holman, Dallas. Family Worship 10:30 am. www.livinghopecitychurch.org Equipping Center & Offices 186 SE Mill St., Dallas. For more information call 503-623-6890.

Living Word Faith Fellowship - 830 SE Shelton Street, Dallas, 503-623-9062. Pastor Joan Siewert. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Worship 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting Thursday 6:00 p.m. Children's Sunday service 10:00 a.m., nursery provided. Men's fellowship second Saturday of month breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at Murphy's Restaurant, Dallas. Pastor Lavern Siewert in charge of men's fellowship. Call for additional information. Website: www.proclaimhim.org

Salt Creek Baptist Church - 15075 Salt Creek Road, Dallas, 503-623-2976. Senior Pastor David Curtis. Pastor of Student Ministries, Russ Richmond. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship 10:50 a.m. Nursery provided for worship services. Classes for all ages. Wednesday King's Kids 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Middle School & Senior High Youth 6:30 p.m. Please call for information about other meetings.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church - 589 SW Birch, P.O. Box 450, Dallas 97338-0450. 503-623-5872. Services on Saturday: 9:30 A.M. Sabbath School Bible Study for all age groups. 10:50 A.M. Worship Service. Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 to Noon. Pastor: Lary Brown

St. Thomas Episcopal Church - 1486 SW Levens St., Dallas (at the corner of Levens & Cherry) 503-623-8522. Email: stthomasdallas@gmail.com 10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Eucharist. Sunday School and Nursery Care available during worship. Sundays 1:30-3:00 all ages FREE singing lessons. St. Thomas Episcopal Church 1486 SW Levens Dallas. Call Rebecca 503-559-5205 with questions. The Episcopal Church and St Thomas Welcomes you —please join us.

Trinity Lutheran Church - 320 SE Fir Villa Rd, Dallas, 503-623-2233. Pastor - David Pederson. Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.; Kids Church during 10:00 a.m. Worship. Youth Group HS/MS 11:30 a.m. Sundays. Free Medical Clinic 1st & 4th Saturday of each month. www.dallastlc.org. Catch us on Facebook.

United Methodist Church - A church with Open Hearts, Open Minds & Open Doors. 565 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas, 503-623-2481. Pastor-Rev. Quinton Kimbrow. Worship Service 10:55 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Child-care available. Handicap access. All are welcome! Email: dallasumc@qwestoffice.net Website: www.sites.umcdallas.com

Valley Life Center (Assemblies of God) - 1795 S.E. Miller Ave., Dallas, 503-623-4116. Pastor Chris Barker, Children's Director, Crystal Barker, Sunday Morning Service 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Family Night 6:30 p.m. Please call for more information or visit our website at www.valleylifecenter.com

Falls City Christian Church 233 S. Main Street, Falls City, Oregon 97344, 503-787-3104 Sunday Service: 10 am; Website: www.falls-citycc.com

Falls City United Methodist Church - 242 N. Main Street, Falls City, 503-851-3213. Pastor Rebecca Strader. Morning worship Sunday 9:20 am. All denominations are welcome. www.falls-cityumc.org

Mountain Gospel Fellowship - 303 N. Main, Falls City, 503-787-8037. Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Worship Service 11:00 a.m., Wed. Dinner 6:15 p.m. Everyone welcome just as you are. Join Us!

Seventh-Day Adventist Church - 205 N. Main, Falls City 97344, 503-787-3907. Pastor Lary Brown. Sabbath School Sat. 9:30 am-10:40 am; Worship Service 11 am. Community Service Center (Food Bank) third Wed. of each month, noon-3pm.

FALLS CITY

Church of Christ - 127 N. Heffley St., Monmouth, 503-838-2360. Minister - Dan Brewer, Youth Minister - Jon Siegrist. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 10:45 a.m., Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m., Wednesday Service 6 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church - 200 Monmouth-Independence Hwy., Monmouth (the church with the lighted cross on the "S" curve). School Year Schedule: Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:00 am; Divine Service of Holy Communion 10:30 am. Pastor Dallas C.R. Dubke. www.FaithLutheranMonmouth.org; 503-838-3459. Everyone is welcome!

Heart to Heart Church - 191 N. Monmouth Ave., Monmouth (across street from WOU). Pastor Jim Miller. email: Jim@h2hchurch.com. Sunday School for children and adults 10:00 a.m.; Worship Service 11:00 a.m.; Prayer & Praise 6:00 p.m.; Seekers Night - Monday 6:00 p.m.; Children & Adult Bible Study - Wednesday 7:00 p.m.; Seven Cities Worship Service Friday 8 p.m.; Everybody welcome. Information: church 503-838-0537. www.h2hchurch.com

Monmouth Christian Church - 959 Church Street W, Monmouth, OR 97361; Office: (503) 838-1145; Fax: (503) 838-1162; Email: mcc@mymcc.cc; Website: mymcc.cc; Lead Pastor: Sean Bitzer; Pastors: Ulysses Vela, Mary Weinbender, & Seth Halligan; Sunday Worship Service: 10 am, English & Spanish; children's programming for birth to 6th grades also available. Momentum (7th & 8th Grades) meet Tuesdays 6:30-8:00 pm MCC; Join us this Sunday in person or live online at www.mymcc.tv.

New LIFE Ministries - we're growing in Polk County! CHILDREN'S CHURCH NOW AVAILABLE! We are a God-loving, Bible-believing, non-denominational church body. This church is a little different, in that it's not just a church service, but is all about being a "service church". We strive to seek out and serve the needs of the community. It is our hope that God will use us to make a difference. Come join us! We meet at Ash Creek School, 1360 N 16th Street, Monmouth every Sunday morning at 10:00-11:00 am. Our minister is Marion Seick. Feel free to call us at (503) 871-5207. Please come visit and worship with us this Sunday!

Praise Assembly 189 Monmouth Ave, Monmouth, 503-837-0300. www.praiseline.net. Sunday Services & Children's Services 9:30 am & 11 am. Combined Service starting June 16. Tuesday evening Celebrate Recovery meeting at 6:30 pm.

St. Hilda's Episcopal Church 245 Main St. W., Monmouth, 503-838-6087, sthildaschurch.org Sunday Eucharist - 10:00 am followed by Fellowship. Children's Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:00 am. Wednesday Worship at 8:00 am and 7:00 pm. Nursery care provided. Call for periodic small groups and celebrations. All are welcome!

INDEPENDENCE

Buena Vista Community Church - 11355 Church St., Buena Vista, Independence. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship 11 a.m.

First Baptist Church - A warm, friendly church that cares about you! Located at 1505 Monmouth St., Independence (across from Central High School); 503-838-1001. Senior Pastor Michael Parks. Sundays: Worship Service 11 am Wednesdays: AWANA 7 pm (during the school year). Thursdays: Youth Group 6:15pm. Join us for small groups and life groups throughout the week. *First Baptist Church has ministries for children, youth, adults, families and seniors, throughout the week. Check us out at www.independencfirstbaptist.com*

Life Center Foursquare Church - 437 D Street, Independence, OR Phone: 503-838-6507. Pastor Larry Gratreack. Worship Service and Sunday School starts at 10:30 a.m. Men's studies /Women's studies /Home Fellowships available throughout the week. Call for more information. You are welcome! Find us on Facebook.

St. Patrick Parish, Catholic - 1275 E St., Independence. 503-838-5801. Father Henry Guillen Vega Masses Sat., vigil 5 p.m.; Sunday 9:30 a.m. (English), 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Spanish); Weekdays Mon, Tues, Wed, & Thurs. 9am, Saturday 7 p.m. (Spanish). Evergreen Nursing Home; Holy Days 9 a.m. (Eng) & 7 p.m. (Eng/Span). Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 3:30-4:30 p.m. or by appointment. Religious Education: RCIA Mon 7:00-8:30 p.m.; Mid-High & High School Grades Mon 7:00-8:30p.m.; Grades 1-4 Tues. 7:00-8:30 p.m. WOU Campus Ministry: Mass Sun. 5:00 p.m. at 315 N. Knox St., Monmouth followed by a social hour.

MONMOUTH

Christ The King Christian Church - Meets at 959 Church St. W., Monmouth 7:00 pm Saturday Night. Christ The King Christian