### **SCHEDULE**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25** Softball: Western Oregon at San Francisco State (DH), 1 p.m.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26** Track and Field: Western Oregon at Mt. Hood Multi Meet, Gresham, 9 a.m.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 27** Baseball: Dallas at Mountain View, 11 a.m. Western Oregon at Northwest Nazarene (DH), 2 p.m.

Dallas at Ridgeview, 4 p.m. Softball: Tournament of Champions at Turlock, Calif.: Western Oregon vs. Sonoma State, 12:15 p.m.; Western Oregon vs. Academy of Art, 2:15 p.m.; Western Oregon

vs. Chico State, 5:45 p.m. Track and Field: Western Oregon at Mt. Hood Multi Meet, Gresham, 9 a.m.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28** Baseball: Western Oregon at Northwest Nazarene

Softball: Tournament of Champions at Turlock, Calif.: Western Oregon vs. Hawaii-Hilo, 9 a.m.; Western Oregon vs. Cal State Monterey Bay, 1:30 p.m.

Track and Field: Western Oregon at Willamette Invitational, Salem, 10:30 a.m.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29** Softball: Western Oregon

at Tournament of Champions at Turlock, Calif., TBA. **MONDAY, MARCH 30** 

Boys Golf: Dallas, Central at Mid-Willamette Conference Tournament, Trysting Tree Golf Club, Corvallis,

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31** Baseball: Dallas at Lebanon, 4:30 p.m. Central at Woodburn, 4:30 p.m. Per-

rydale at St. Paul, 4:30 p.m. Softball: Woodburn at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Central at South Albany, 4:30 p.m. Boys Tennis: Woodburn

at Dallas, 4 p.m. Central at South Albany, 4 p.m. Girls Tennis: Dallas at

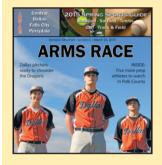
Woodburn, 4 p.m. South Albany at Central, 4 p.m. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

Baseball: Lebanon at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Woodburn at Central, 4:30 p.m. Softball: Dallas at Central, 4:30 p.m. Perrydale at

Scio, 4:30 p.m. Track and Field: Dallas at Lebanon, 3:30 p.m. Central at Woodburn, 4 p.m.

**Schedules Subject to Change** 

## **QUICK HITS**

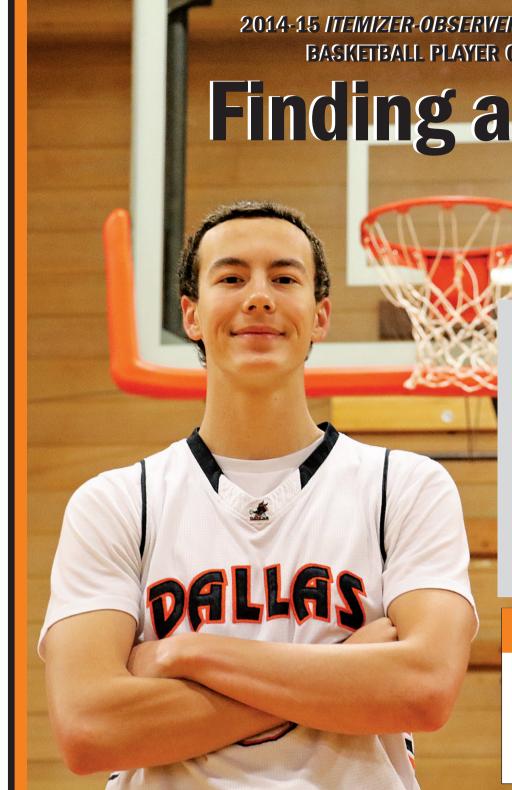


#### **Spring preview** section is inside

POLK COUNTY — Looking for previews of your favorite Polk County high school sports team? You'll find them inside the special 2015 Spring Sports Guide insert included with this week's Itemizer-Observer.

The 20-page full-color section includes season outlook overviews, schedules and more for all varsity baseball, softball, track and field, tennis and golf teams at Dallas, Central, Perrydale

and Falls City high schools. There are also features on Dallas High's baseball pitching staff and Central High track athlete Reba Hoffman.



2014-15 ITEMIZER-OBSERVER ALL-REGION BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR Finding an edge Minahan plays fearless basketball By Lukas Eggen The Itemizer-Observer DALLAS — It's easy to think Dallas junior Everett Minahan has always been confident on the basketball As the Dragons' starting point guard, Minahan directed the team's offense and helped guide the squad to a trip to the first round of the OSAA Class 5A state playoffs. But it wasn't always that way. Minahan's evolution into a leader this season made him the Itemizer-Observer's 2014-15 boys basketball Player of the Year. "Everett's tenacity and drive set him apart," Dallas coach Trent Schwartz said. "I have never had a baskeball player put in the extra work he did on his own volition before and after practice.' Minahan's path on the court, however, hasn't always See EDGE, Page 12A **By The Numbers** 11.4 2.4 The number of The number of The number of points Minahan varsity games steals per game averaged during Minahan had Minahan averthe 2014-15 seaplayed prior to aged for the son, a team-high his junior cam-Dragons this paign.

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL** 

# Williams catching his dream

WOU senior making waves as possible NFL draft pick in April

By Lukas Eggen The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon senior Tyrell Williams has always been a Philadelphia Eagles fan. If he

has his way, his allegiance may soon change. Williams hopes to join Kevin Boss among the names of WOU football

players to make the leap to the NFL. "Growing up, it's always been a dream of mine to

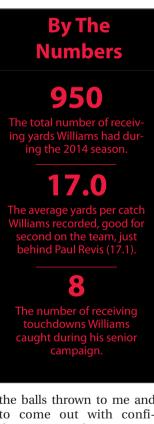
play in the NFL," Williams said. "I always hoped I'd have a chance to play." Williams may see his

dreams realized. Williams excelled after

participating in Oregon State's pro day on March 13. The 6-foot-3 receiver ran a 4.42 second 40-yard dash; 39 1/2 inch vertical; 4.22 second shuttle drill; and a 10 foot, 7 inch broad jump.

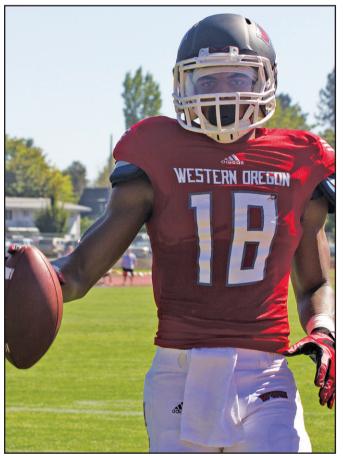
Williams' highlight was the three cone drill, which tests agility. Williams finished in 6.55 seconds, which would have given him the top time at the NFL draft

combine earlier this year. "Coming in, I wanted to get the numbers I knew I was capable of putting up," Williams said. "I wanted to make sure I was catching all



the balls thrown to me and to come out with confidence. I wanted to come out and have fun and not worry

about what comes after." Since his pro day, Williams has seen his draft stock rise significantly. The New England Patriots hosted Williams for a visit and several draft analyses have identified Williams as a sleeper pick and a potential mid-to late-round draft



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer file

Western Oregon senior receiver Tyrell Williams is gaining interest from various NFL teams this spring.

choice. Williams' agent said "I've had quite a few calls the Detroit Lions and San from teams setting up workouts and stuff like that," Diego Chargers have shown the most interest along with Williams said. "My agent has the Patriots. been talking to teams as

## **NFL Bound?**

· Western Oregon senior Tyrell Williams worked out at Oregon State's pro day on March 13.

• Williams has visited with the New England Patriots and received interest from the Detroit Lions and San Diego Chargers.

• The 2015 NFL Draft runs from April 30 to May

· Williams hopes to become the second WOU player to be drafted. Kevin Boss (fifth round, 2007) was the first.

well. We'll keep going from here and see what happens." Williams trained at Para-

bolic Performance in New Jersey in February to prepare for his pro day. Now, he's turning his attention toward impressing any team workouts he is invited to take part in.

"I'm preparing for whatever the scouts put me through," Williams said. "Hopefully, those workouts impress them to get more visits and interviews."

Williams' success has been the culmination of a strong career at WOU. See DREAM, Page 11A

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