SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 Baseball: Class 5A state playoffs first round: Dallas at Hood River Valley, 5

Softball: Class 5A state playoffs first round: Central at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 29 Baseball: Class 5A state playoffs quarterfinals, TBA. Softball: Class 5A state playoffs quarterfinals, TBA.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2 Baseball: Class 5A state playoffs quarterfinals, TBA. Softball: Class 5A state

Schedules Subject to Change

playoff semifinals, TBA.

QUICK HITS

Signups open for basketball camp

DALLAS — Registration is open for the Dragon Basketball Camp July 13-15.

Dallas girls coach Dave Brautigam and boys coach Trent Schwartz and the coaching staffs will instruct participants on a broad range of topics.

The camp will include focusing on ball handling, shooting, post and guard breakdown moves, defensive positioning and more.

The camp runs from 2 to 6 p.m. each day at the Dallas High School gym and is open for students entering grades four through 12.

The gym will be open at 12:30 p.m.

Cost is \$50 per person. Registration forms can be found online at www.ci.dallas.or.us/index.aspx?NID=425. For more information: David Brautigam, david.brautigam@dallasor.gov or Trent Schwartz, trent.schwartz@dsd2.org.

Sports physicals to be held June 17

DALLAS — The Dallas Booster Club will hold a sports physicals clinic on June 17 at Oregon Family Health, located at 607 SE Jefferson in Dallas.

The clinic will be open from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$25 with proceeds supporting Dallas High athletics.

High school athletes must get a physical once every two years, while Pop Warner requires yearly physicals.

If you arrive prior to 5:30 p.m., start a line outside the door to the parking lot so as not to interrupt office hours.

YMCA seeks sport camp volunteers

POLK COUNTY — The Monmouth-Independence YMCA is searching for volunteer coaches for its summer sports camps.

Camps begin June 8 with choices of football, basketball and gymnastics for kindergarteners through sixth-graders and football, soccer, tee ball and basketball camps for ages 3-4.

K-6 camps meet for one week, while micro camps run for one night a week for five weeks. Coaches will help teach and impact the community.

For more information: Natascha Cronin, ncronin-@theYonline.org or 503-838-

Online

Like the Itemizer-Observer's Facebook page and follow us on Twitter @PolkIOSports.

CLASS 5A PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Dragons advance to state playoffs

Sophomore Wallace scores winning run by stealing home

By Lukas Eggen The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Prior to the start of the postseason, Dallas baseball coach Scot Mc-Donald said, despite all the preparation in the world, luck plays a part in the game.

"Sometimes you need the ball to bounce your way," McDonald said.

The Dragons got just that during a 9-8 win over Springfield in the Class 5A play-in round on Thursday.

Class 5A State First Round

What: Dallas at Hood River Valley When: Wednesday, 5 p.m. Where: Hood River Valley High School. Admission: Adults, \$6; students, \$4.

What's at stake: The winner advances to the second round on Friday against the winner of Putnam vs. Churchill.

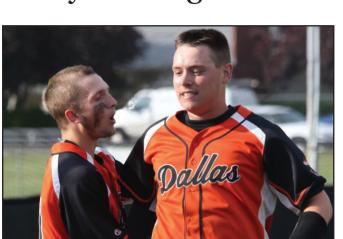
with two outs in the bottom of the sixth, Dallas had runners on first and third. Freshman Treve Earhart at-

tempted to steal second. "I knew the count was 0 and 2 and it was pretty With the game tied at 8 tough," McDonald said.

"Seeing how they were reacting, they didn't seem like they'd be prepared for it."

Unfortunately, Springfield was prepared as Earhart got caught between the first and second basemen.

See DALLAS, Page 12A



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observe

Dallas sophomore Zach Wallace (right) celebrates with Tucker Weaver after scoring against Springfield Thursday.

CLASS 1A PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Yeager takes second, fourth

Falls City senior just misses state title in boys discus



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Falls City senior Tristan Yeager competes in the boys discus on Friday.

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-Observer

EUGENE — Falls City senior Tristan Yeager didn't enter the track and field season with state aspira-

After reaching the podium in the boys discus and shot put at the Class 1A state meet, Yeager capped his high school career with an unfor-

gettable experience.

"It was good," Yeager said. 'I've never been here

Last year, I didn't make the thought about the specific podium for districts. This thing I wanted to work on." year, I made it (to the podium) a lot, so it was really cool."

Yeager placed second in the discus with a throw of 128 feet, 4 inches and fourth in the shot put with a mark of 40-4¾ on Thursday and Friday

Yeager, who scratched on four of his six throws, still

came close to winning the state title in the discus, falling short by four inches. The winning throw came during the final round of the

finals Despite competing against the state's best, Yeager didn't let himself get overwhelmed by the moment.

"I was nervous about a bunch of people watching

> you, but other than that, I (didn't have too m a n y nerves)," Yeager said. "I didn't think

before. It was pretty exciting. about anything or only

Yeager entered the season with modest expectations', more excited about his friends joining the track and field team than his chances at making state.

But it didn't take long for those around him to see he was headed for big things this spring.

See YEAGER, Page 12A

CLASS 5A PREP SOFTBALL

Central cruises to state playoffs

Huffman hits grand slam

By Lukas Eggen The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE Headed into Central's softball team's play-in matchup

against Ashland on Friday, Panthers coach Kendra George wanted just one thing: maximum effort. Central answered the call, earning a 14-2 win. "They came on the field

ready to play," George said.

"The girls had a lot of good

energy and were consistent



they were playing and were there to compete and play

Ryanne Huffman hit a triple in the second inning and a grand slam in the sixth to clinch the victory. See CENTRAL, Page 14A

STATE TRACK AND FIELD COVERAGE

 Central's Thomas Peterson ties for fifth in the 200-meter run to lead Panthers ... Page 13A

 Perrydale's Taylor Price finishes eighth in the 300-meter hurdles; Sarah Clark takes 10th in the javelin ... Page 13A

Dallas' Kyleen Benz places second in the discus and 11th in the shot put to lead Dragons ... Page 13A



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Dallas junior Kyleen Benz placed second in the girls discus at the OSAA Class 5A state track and field meet Saturday at Hayward Field in Eugene. Benz also finished 11th in the shot put. Benz has qualified for state in each of her three seasons and finished second in an event each time.

www.polkio.com

www.facebook.com/pages/Polk-County-Itemizer-Observer/205062686252209

the entire

www.twitter.com/PolkIOSports



Mon -Fri 8am - 6pm • Sat 8am - 5pm **DALLAS** 121 Main St - 503-623-8155 **INDEPENDENCE 1710 Monmouth St. 503-838-6340** www.LesSchwab.com



Whatever the road throws at you – from potholes to nails - any road hazard, our FREE GUARANTEE protects you







YOUR LES SCHWAB TIRE CENTER **WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT**

MAY 24-30 IS NATIONAL TIRE SAFETY WEEK