

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, NOV. 27
Men's basketball: Western Oregon vs. Notre Dame De Namur at Belmont, Calif., 7 p.m.
Women's basketball: Western Oregon vs. Regis at Golden, Co., noon.
SATURDAY, NOV. 28
Men's basketball: Western Oregon vs. Holy Names at Belmont, Calif., 5 p.m.
Women's basketball: Western Oregon at Colorado School of Mines, 2 p.m.
TUESDAY, DEC. 1
Men's basketball: Western Oregon at Concordia, 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2
Boys basketball: North Eugene at Central, 7 p.m. Dallas at McKay, 6:45 p.m. McKenzie at Falls City, 7 p.m. Perrydale at Willamina, 7:30 p.m.
Girls basketball: Churchill at Dallas, 7 p.m. McKenzie at Falls City, 5:30 p.m.
 —
 Schedules Subject to Change

QUICK HITS

Cross Creek to host tourney

DALLAS — Cross Creek Golf Course will host the Survivors Tournament on Dec. 12.
 The three-person scramble begins at 9 a.m. All skill levels are welcome. Prizes will be awarded for gross and net scores and also for long and short drives, long putts and closest to the pin.
 Cost is \$45 per player and includes green fees and prize money. Players pay for their own team or sign up as an individual and be placed with others.
 Deadline for registration and payment is Dec. 10.
 Stop by the Pro Shop to sign up or call 503-623-6666 to register over the phone.
 Entry forms are available at www.cross-creekgc.com/survivors-tournament.html.

Pirates earn all-league honors

PERRYDALE — The Perrydale football team had seven named to the first team all-Special District 4.
 Senior running back Keenan Bailey, senior tight end Brant Barnes, senior center Kirk Fairchild and senior guard Hunter Sagmoen earned first team recognition on offense.
 Senior lineman Spencer Bibler, junior linemen Alex Hawes and C.J. Marsters and Bailey (linebacker) were named to the first team defense.
 Junior quarterback Daniel Domes and junior lineman Jacob Pope were named to the second team offense. Barnes (linebacker) and Fairchild (defensive back) received second team honors on defense.
 Senior tight end Spencer Bibler received an honorable mention.
 Perrydale won the Special District 4 league title and finished 10-1 overall.



Bailey

2015 ITEMIZER-OBSERVER ALL-REGION FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Sacking the competition

Junior dominates on defense

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central junior Marlon Tuipulotu isn't one to brag. Yet, during his three-year football career, the defensive lineman has become one of the state's best defensive players — and one of the nation's top defensive lineman prospects.

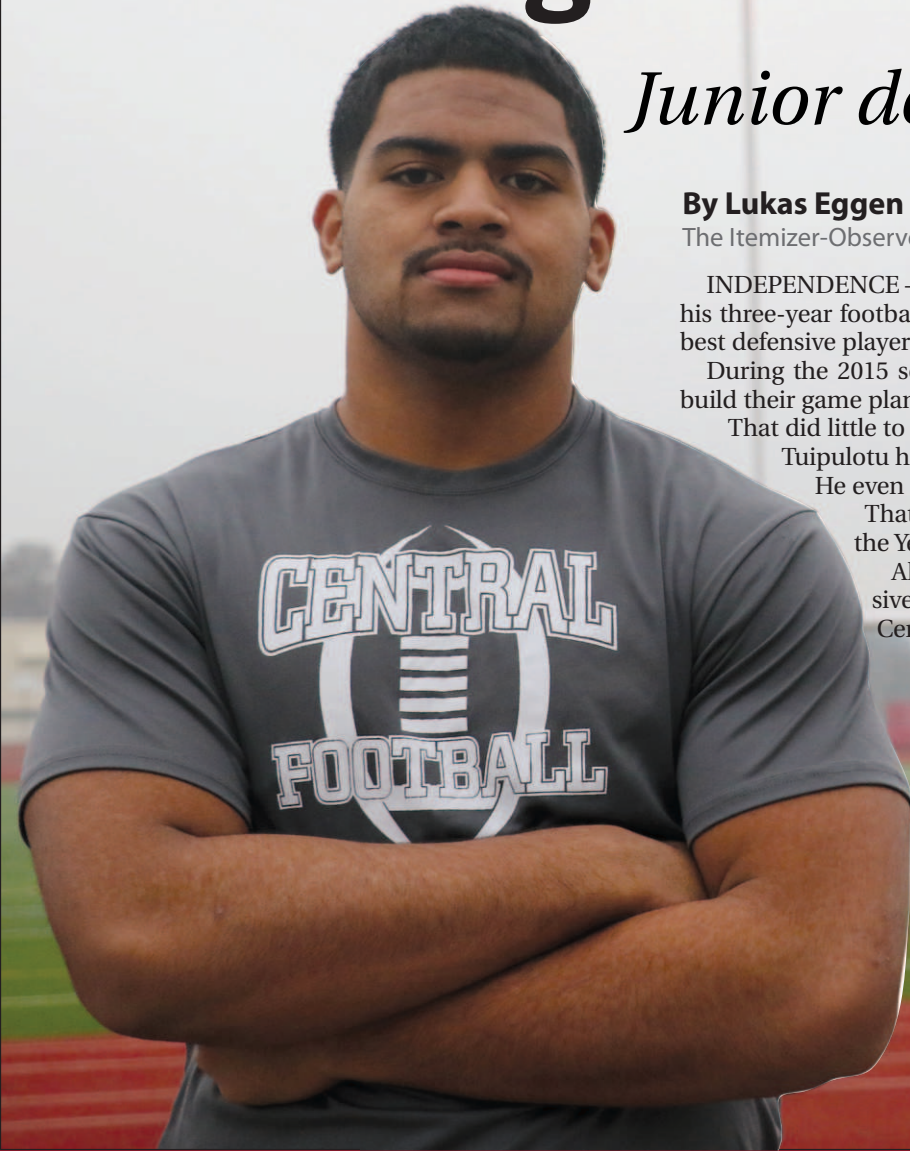
During the 2015 season, Tuipulotu was a force that opponents had to, in part, build their game plans around stopping. That did little to slow the lineman.

Tuipulotu had 13 sacks, 78 tackles and 28 tackles for loss — all team highs. He even had two interceptions.

That is why he is the *Itemizer-Observer's* 2015 All-Region Player of the Year.

All of Tuipulotu's accomplishments may be even more impressive considering he didn't play tackle football until he arrived at Central.

See SACK, Page 11A



By The Numbers

13

The number of sacks Tuipulotu recorded during the 2015 season. He also had 28 tackles for loss.

78

The total number of tackles Tuipulotu had as a junior. He led Central in tackles, and sacks.

1

The number of practices Tuipulotu spent trying to become a tight end as a freshman.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Avgi, Wolves not dwelling in the past

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon senior Andy Avgi doesn't like to spend time thinking about the past.

He doesn't think about WOU's men's basketball team's 2014-15 season, where it won the Great Northwest Athletic Conference regular season title and earned a trip to the NCAA Division II West Regional. He doesn't dwell on the Wolves being ranked in two preseason polls or him being named the conference's preseason Player of the Year.

Instead, Avgi is focused on what's coming next.
 "The accolades are nice



Avgi

and everyone says good job on that, but that's based on what we've done in the past," Avgi said. "It's all about the future now."

Western Oregon has come out firing in the 2015-16 season, starting 4-0. Perhaps more importantly, the Wolves have shown off impressive depth.

In each game, at least four players have scored 10 or more points, while seven players are averaging at least 20 minutes per game.

WOU men's basketball

Coach: Jim Shaw (first season).
2014-15 record: 23-7 overall, 15-3 GNAC.
Key returners: Andy Avgi, senior forward; Devan Alexander, senior guard; Julian Nichols, senior guard; Jordan Wiley, senior guard.
Key newcomers: Tanner Omlid, sophomore guard; Alex Roth, sophomore guard; Janvier Alaby, junior guard; Akil Reese, freshman guard; Kadeem Strickland, freshman guard.

"We have weapons from everywhere," Avgi said. "We want to make sure they have to play against all of our guys. We can really wear them down like that."

Those weapons include returning letterwinners Devan Alexander, Julian Nichols and Jordan Wiley, and newcomers Alex Roth

and Tanner Omlid. Wolves coach Jim Shaw takes over for Brady Bergeson who left for another coaching position earlier this year. A transition could provide some growing pains early in the season, but players haven't taken long adapting to Shaw and his coaching staff.

"Any coach that comes in, they have similar philosophies," Avgi said. "There's just a little bit of adjusting, it's not too bad. I've played basketball for a long time. The other players have too. We're good at adjusting."

Adjusting has been a prominent theme during 2015 for Avgi who, for the first time during his collegiate career, played football during the fall.

While basketball has come to define Avgi's time at Western Oregon, the senior yearned to try something new. It was during 2014 that the idea of football first came up.

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PERRYDALE FOOTBALL

Pirates lose heartbreaker to Dufur

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

HILLSBORO — All that stood between Perrydale and a trip to the 1A state title game was 6 yards.

Unfortunately, that gap proved to be too much as the Pirates fell to Dufur 42-38 in the semifinals.

"I saw 100 percent effort," Keenan Bailey said. "Everyone wanted to win the game. We just couldn't pull it out."

The Pirates and the Rangers engaged in a back-and-forth battle throughout the game. Perrydale had a 38-36 lead with less than a minute left in the fourth

quarter and faced a third-and-six. One first down and Perrydale could run out the clock. Dufur's defense stopped the Pirates on third and fourth down for one last chance.

"(The fourth down play) was designed to be a pass, but Dufur covered (the receivers)," Haylen Janesofsky said. "I tried to maybe run out a little bit of clock, but it just wasn't enough."

Dufur took advantage, scoring on a 64-yard touchdown pass with 22 seconds remaining to advance to the 1A state championship game.

See PIRATES, Page 11A



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer
 Perrydale players react after losing to Dufur 42-38 in the 1A state semifinals.

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STUDDABLE TRACTION
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 Quality traction radials that offer factory siping and are pinned for studs. Great traction in harsh weather & road conditions.
 Your size in stock. Call for size & price.

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 Studdable SUV/light truck tires designed for excellent traction on snow & ice.
 Your size in stock. Call for size & price.