

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DEC. 27
Girls basketball: Dallas at Nike Interstate Shootout at Lake Oswego High School, TBA.

MONDAY, DEC. 28
Boys basketball: Roosevelt at Central, 7 p.m. Dallas at North Medford, 7:30 p.m.

Girls basketball: Dallas at Nike Interstate Shootout at Lake Oswego High School, TBA. Falls City at Siletz Valley, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 29
Boys basketball: Dallas at Abby's Holiday Tournament at North Medford, TBA. Falls City at Alsea, 7 p.m. Perrydale at Gaston, 7:30 p.m.

Girls basketball: Wilson at Central, 6 p.m. Dallas at Nike Interstate Shootout at Lake Oswego High School, TBA. Falls City at Alsea, 5:30 p.m. Perrydale at Gaston, 6 p.m.

Men's basketball: Western Oregon at Oregon, 6 p.m.

Wrestling: Central, Dallas at Northwest Duals, 9 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30
Boys basketball: Dallas at Abby's Holiday Tournament at North Medford, TBA.

Girls basketball: Dallas at Nike Interstate Shootout at Lake Oswego High School, TBA.

Wrestling: Central, Dallas at Northwest Duals, 9 a.m.

Schedules Subject to Change

QUICK HITS

WOU baseball to welcome eight

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon's baseball team announced eight players joining its 2016 recruiting class.

The Wolves will see Justin Dolezal (Spokane, Wash.), Cole Hamilton (Salem), Spencer Bennion (Pasco, Wash.), Trevor Garrison (McKinley, Calif.), Alex Roth (Glendale, Ariz.) and Steve Wagner (Henderson, Nev.) become part of WOU's team.

Western Oregon went 29-24 overall and 21-11 in Great Northwest Athletic Conference play.

The Wolves finished second in the regular season standings before defeating Northwest Nazarene twice to win the GNAC tournament title.

Dallas mat club to recycle trees

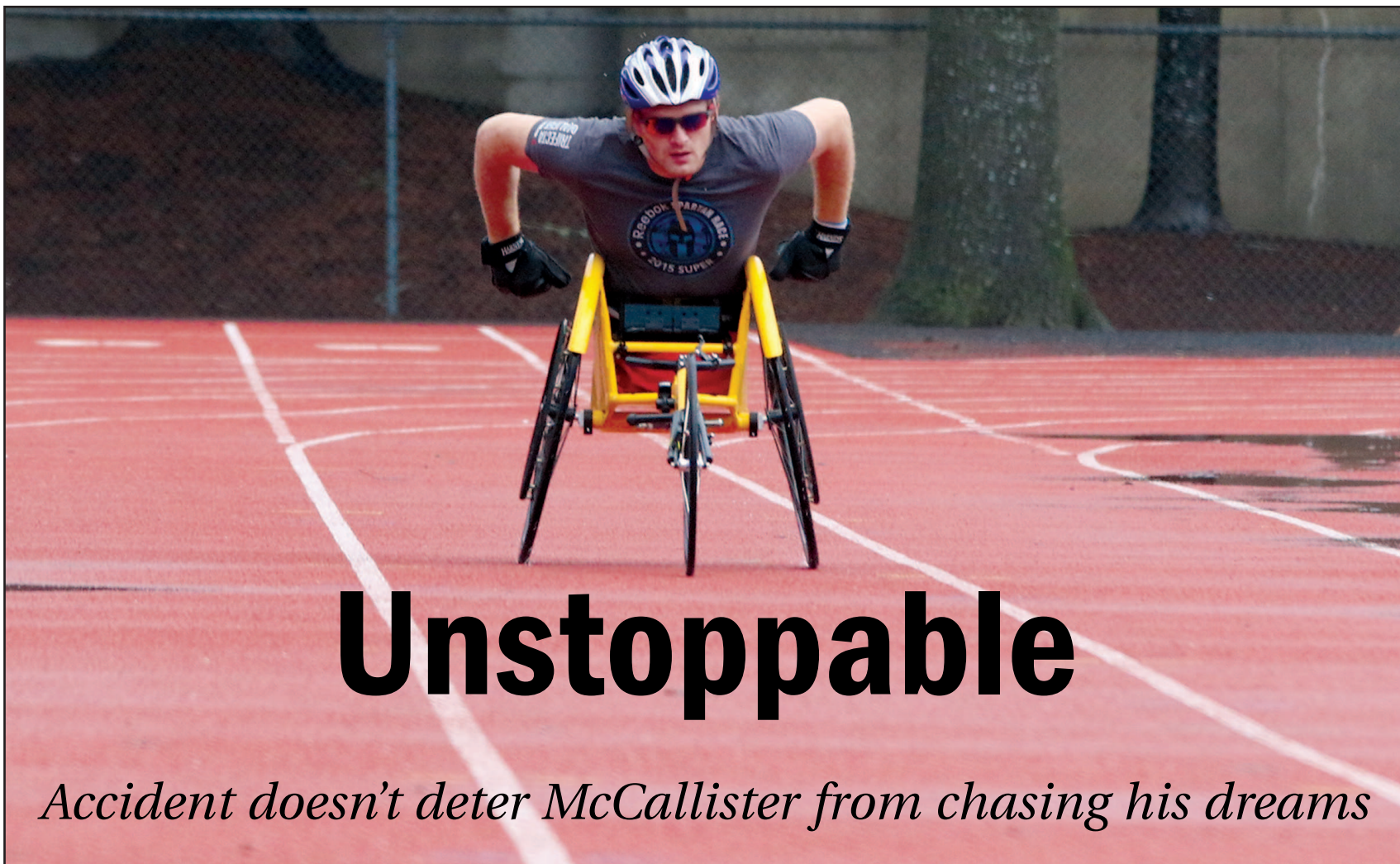
DALLAS — The Dallas Mat Club will hold its annual Christmas tree recycling day on Jan. 3.

Trees can be brought to LaCreole Middle School, located at 701 SE LaCreole Drive, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

STAT SHEET

9 The total number of points Western Oregon's men's basketball team has scored more than 80 points this season.

18 The number of nonconference games the Western Oregon men's basketball team has won in a row dating back to last season.



Unstoppable

Accident doesn't deter McCallister from chasing his dreams

PHOTOS BY LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer
 Kacey McCallister had both of his legs amputated when he was 6. He hasn't let that stop him from pursuing athletic challenges.



Kacey McCallister's workouts range from doing stairs to racing around the track in his racing wheelchair.

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Monmouth resident Kacey McCallister has lived his life with one mission: always push forward.

"One of my firm beliefs is life is like a treadmill," McCallister said. "You can't stand still. If you stand still, you're going backwards. I believe we're put on this earth to get better at a lot of things — to learn and grow."

McCallister has taken that motto to heart — even when fate threw a life-changing curve his way.

A new perspective
 It was a normal Sunday morning when McCallister, then a 6-year-old living in Utah, saw his life change.

"I remember little pieces," McCallister, now 29, said. "I remember we were eating pancakes at my grandma's house in the morning. We were at church before and I remember getting a Christmas tree cookie."

McCallister's family

stopped to cross a two-lane highway. Two cars and a semi-truck approached.

"After the two cars, I took off across the road," McCallister said.

He cleared one lane. He failed to clear the second.

"The truck caught my legs and rolled me under the wheels of the semi," McCallister said.

He was transported to a hospital in Salt Lake City.

Doctors saved his life, but both of his legs were amputated.

His family — and his doctors — weren't about to let this moment define him negatively.

"The doctors told my mom something very important," McCallister said. "They told her don't do things for him. If you do, he'll rely on that."

See UNSTOPPABLE, Page 12A



Kacey McCallister hopes to earn a spot on the U.S. Paralympic team in the 1,500-meter race.

DALLAS WRESTLING

Molina explores new boundaries

Senior reaching new heights since transferring to Dallas High

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Marcos Molina didn't expect much out of his senior wrestling season after transferring from Central as a junior.

"I figured I was going to be an average wrestler," Molina said. "I thought I'd get a few wins."

Those expectations have changed quickly. In his first three tournaments, Molina has finished first once and second twice, including at Liberty on Saturday afternoon.

"It's been a bit of a shock to me," Molina said. "With the coaches working with me, I've progressed way more than I thought I could."

Dallas

- Dallas placed second out of 18 teams at the Oregon National Guard Tournament at Liberty High School on Saturday.
- Joseph Foster (113-pounds) and Jeff Dunagan (170) placed first.
- Noah Sickles (132), Treve Earhart (170) and Marcos Molina (220) finished second.

Molina has surpassed what he thought was possible on the wrestling mat, but the sport has meant much more to him than wins and losses.

Molina was never one to play sports.
 See MOLINA, Page 11A



Senior Marcos Molina has finished first or second in his first three tournaments.

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