

Dragons: Dallas ready for league opener on Friday

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 “We know how tough league is going to be this year,” senior Everett Minahan said. “Last year, there were a few teams that were really good and it kind of fell off from there. This year, our league is pretty stinking good. Every chance we get to improve, we need to take advantage of those opportunities. I think we’re a little bit behind schedule. Our effort’s there. We need to simplify things and get back to what we do best.”

This season, that means spreading the floor, relying on the speed that comes with playing with a smaller lineup than most teams. Finding good looks at the basket is imperative — as is rebounding.

“If we don’t hit shots, we lose some defense because of going small,” Minahan said. “We have to make a conscious effort to box out



White
 The Dragons let North Medford and McKay shoot a combined 53 percent during its two losses. Dallas held Aloha to 44 percent shooting during its win.

Aside from leading scorer Minahan, junior guard Jake Collins has established himself as a key rotation player for the Dragons.

“He has done a really good job attacking the basket,” Schwartz said. “He has a lot of quickness on defense. He was swinging between junior varsity and varsity as recently as the summer league. This winter, he’s started one game for us when Harry (Broad-

us) was out and he’s one of the first guys coming off the bench.”

Collins missed the holiday tournament because of a broken nose suffered during practice. He is expected back soon.

Dallas also hopes to have Aaron White, who has been out with an injured wrist, to return soon. He was scheduled to be re-evaluated by doctors this week.

Even with the pending return of those players, the Dragons aren’t in a position to coast, something Schwartz will continue to stress throughout the season.

“We can’t underestimate anyone,” Schwartz said. “If we want to finish in the top four in our conference, which is one of our team goals, we’ll have to win the games we’re supposed to win on paper and play well against some of the teams picked above us.”

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Williams catches first touchdown

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

DENVER — It took Western Oregon alumni Tyrell Williams until the last game of the regular season to record his first catch with the San Diego Chargers.

He made sure it was worth the wait.

Williams hauled in an 80-yard touchdown catch, his first as a professional, during the Chargers’ 27-20 loss to the Denver Broncos on Sunday.

“It’s a weird feeling,” Williams said. “It was like an outer-body experience. It was awesome.”

Williams was part of the active roster with the Chargers for eight games during the 2015-16 season.

He made the opening day roster after signing with the Chargers as an undrafted free agent. He spent multiple weeks on the team’s practice squad, but returned to the active roster



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer file

Tyrell Williams caught his first NFL touchdown Sunday.

in week 10.

“It was a good season,” Williams said. “It was definitely frustrating at times. I want to go out there and play. I don’t want to just be on the team. I want to be one of the guys out there making plays.”

He finished with two

catches for 90 yards.

Williams plans to return to Oregon for a few weeks before going back to California to begin training for a new season.

“It’s a cool thing to be a part of,” Williams said. “It’s pretty close to how I pictured it would be.”

SCOREBOARD

BOYS BASKETBALL

MID-WILLAMETTE

Team	League	All
South Albany	0-0	6-3
Corvallis	0-0	6-3
Crescent Valley	0-0	6-4
Lebanon	0-0	5-2
Silverton	0-0	5-4
Woodburn	0-0	4-4
Dallas	0-0	4-5
Central	0-0	4-5

Tuesday, Dec. 29 Result
 McKay 70, Dallas 53

McKay 70, DALLAS 53
Dec. 29 Box Score
 DALLAS (53) — Welly 13, Minahan 12, Broadus 7, Wallace 6, Laizure 5, Richey 4, Courtney 3, Koons 2, Dimick 1, Ronco. **Totals 22 6-13 53.**
 McKay (70) — Sullivan 16, Woods 13, Beach 11, Bangs 7, Tavera 6, Castillo 6, Tavera 4, Garza 2, Bailey 2, Cortland 2, Dankis 1, Biggs, Kaion. **Totals 25 13-20 70.**
 Dallas 19 6 10 18—53
 McKay 11 24 10 25—70
 3-point goals — Dallas 3 (Laizure 1, Courtney 1, Wallace 1); McKay 7 (Beach 3, Castillo 2, Bangs 1, Woods 1).

Wednesday, Dec. 30 Result
 Dallas 52, Aloha 49

DALLAS 52, ALOHA 49
Dec. 30 Box Score
 ALOHA (49) — Sullivan 12, Powers 11, Mall 6, Lavincey 5, Davis 5, Tshala 3, Ling 3, Nekepan, T. Hornbuckle 2, Edwards, Channel. **Totals 19 6-12 49.**
 DALLAS (52) — Minahan 18, Laizure 11, Richey 7, Hansen 6, Broadus 4, Welly 4, Ronco 1, Dimick 1, Wallace, Koons, Bennett. **Totals 19 11-18 52.**
 Aloha 16 10 16 7—49
 Dallas 12 12 17 11—52
 3-point goals — Aloha 5 (Powers 3, Davis 1, Sullivan 1); Dallas 3 (Hansen 1, Laizure 1, Welly 1).

Saturday, Jan. 2 Result
 Mountain View 55, Central 49

MOUNTAIN VIEW 55, CENTRAL 49
Saturday's Box Score
 MOUNTAIN VIEW (55) — Vance 19, Holly 11, Van Tassel 11, Cheney 7, Scinto 5, Emerson 2, Ramsey. **Totals 18 11-14 55.**
 CENTRAL (49) — Barba 18, Cable 10, Stepp 6, Bal 5, Mason 4, Mendazona 3, Barry 3, Abraham. **Totals 19 4-6 49.**
Mt. View 12 17 14 12—55
Central 14 16 8 11—49
 3-point goals — Mountain View 8 (Vance 4, Van Tassel 2, Holly 1, Cheney 1); Central 7 (Barba 4, Bal 1, Mendazona 1, Barry 1).

Friday, Jan. 8 Games
 Central at South Albany
 Dallas at Woodburn

Tuesday, Jan. 12 Game
 Dallas at Central

CASCO LEAGUE

Team	League	All
Crosshill Christian	3-0	7-1
Perrydale	3-1	5-4
Country Christian	3-1	4-4
Willamette Valley Christian	3-2	3-4
C.S. Lewis	2-1	4-4
Livingstone Adventist	1-3	1-3
St. John Bosco	1-4	3-5
Jewell	0-1	3-4
Falls City	0-3	2-6

Tuesday, Dec. 29 Results
 Falls City vs. Alesa (won by forfeit)
 Perrydale at Southwest Christian
 Perrydale vs. St. John Bosco (at Perrydale)

Tuesday, Jan. 5 Game
 Falls City at Perrydale

Thursday, Jan. 7 Game
 Perrydale at Southwest Christian

Friday, Jan. 8 Games
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Tuesday, Jan. 12 Game
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us, Berry, Riddell, Girod. Totals 15 17-30 51.
 Wilson 9 11 4 10—34
 Central 17 18 6 10—51
 3-point goals — Wilson 1 (Kresl 1); Central 4 (Nash 2, Omlid 1, Chavez 1).

Wednesday, Dec. 30 Result
 Dallas 39, South Eugene 35

Saturday, Jan. 2 Result
 Central 37, Mountain View 33

CENTRAL 37, MOUNTAIN VIEW 33
Saturday's Box Score
 MOUNTAIN VIEW (33) — Zwielp 12, Skoog 8, Reinwald 6, Goetz 2, Misenner 1, Morcy 1, Scrocca. **Totals 11 10-21 33.**
 CENTRAL (37) — Chavez 12, Nash 10, Girod 6, Omlid 6, Alvarez 3, Broadus, Riddell. **Totals 12 13-23 37.**
 Mountain View 3 12 6 12—33
 Central 11 10 4 12—37
 3-point goals — Mountain View 1 (Reinwald 1); Central 0.

Tuesday, Jan. 5 Games
 Beaverton at Central
 Sunset at Dallas

Thursday, Jan. 7 Game
 Woodburn at Dallas

Friday, Jan. 8 Games
 South Albany at Central
 Dallas at Mountain View

Wednesday, Jan. 13 Game
 Central at Dallas

CASCO LEAGUE

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Country Christian	4-0	7-0
Perrydale	3-1	4-5
Crosshill Christian	2-1	2-4
Willamette Valley Christian	2-2	4-2
Falls City	1-2	5-4
C.S. Lewis	1-2	1-7
St. John Bosco	1-3	2-5
Livingstone Adventist	1-3	1-3
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Tuesday, Dec. 29 Results
 Alesa 37, Falls City 36
 Perrydale 35, Gaston 29

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 Falls City at Perrydale

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Friday, Jan. 8 Games
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