

## SCHEDULE

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17**  
**Boys basketball:** Central at Silverton, 7 p.m. Crescent Valley at Dallas, 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY, FEB. 18**  
**Men's basketball:** Western Oregon at Alaska Fairbanks, 8 p.m.  
**Women's basketball:** Western Oregon at Northwest Nazarene, 6 p.m.

**FRIDAY, FEB. 19**  
**Boys basketball:** Redmond at Dallas, 7 p.m. Casco League Tournament: Perrydale vs. C.S. Lewis at Warner Pacific College, 7:30 p.m.  
**Girls basketball:** Casco League Tournament: Falls City vs. Livingstone Adventist, 2:15 p.m. Perrydale vs. Willamette Valley Christian at Warner Pacific College, 5:45 p.m.  
**Softball:** Western Oregon vs. Newman (DH) at Canyon, Texas, 11 a.m.  
**Swimming:** Dallas at 5A State Championships at Mt. Hood Aquatic Center, Gresham, 1:45 p.m.  
**Track and field:** Western Oregon at GNAC Championship, all day.  
**Wrestling:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships at South Albany High School, 11 a.m.

**SATURDAY, FEB. 20**  
**Boys basketball:** Casco League Tournament: Perrydale vs. Willamette Valley Christian/Country Christian or Crosshill Christian at Warner Pacific College, 4 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.  
**Girls basketball:** Casco League Tournament: Perrydale vs. Falls City/Livingstone Adventist or Country Christian at Warner Pacific College, 2:15 p.m. or 5:45 p.m.  
**Men's basketball:** Western Oregon at Alaska Anchorage, 3 p.m.  
**Softball:** Western Oregon vs. West Texas A&M (DH) at Canyon, Texas, 3 p.m.  
**Swimming:** Dallas at 5A State Championships at Mt. Hood Aquatic Center, Gresham, 1 p.m.  
**Track and field:** Western Oregon at GNAC Championship, all day.  
**Women's basketball:** Western Oregon at Central Washington, 4 p.m.  
**Wrestling:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships at South Albany High School, 11 a.m.

**SUNDAY, FEB. 21**  
**Softball:** Western Oregon vs. Lincoln (DH) at Canyon, Texas, 9 a.m.

**TUESDAY, FEB. 23**  
**Girls basketball:** Central at Corvallis, 7 p.m. Lebanon at Dallas, 7 p.m. Class 1A state playoffs, first round: Falls City vs. TBA, TBA. Perrydale vs. TBA, TBA.  
**Men's basketball:** Concordia at Western Oregon, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24**  
**Boys basketball:** Corvallis at Central, 7 p.m. Dallas at Lebanon, 7 p.m. Class 1A state playoffs, first round: Perrydale vs. TBA, TBA.

**SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**QUICK HITS**

**DHS spring sports registration begins**

DALLAS — Registration for spring sports at Dallas High begins Thursday. For more info: [www.polkio.com](http://www.polkio.com).

## DALLAS SWIMMING

# Ford, Dressel earn trip to 5A state meet

By Lukas Eggen  
 The Itemizer-Observer



Ford

CORVALLIS — Dallas senior Elizabeth Dressel thought her season was over. Despite setting a pair of school records in the 100 butterfly (1 minute, 4.90 seconds) and 100 backstroke (1:04.17) at the Mid-Willamette Conference district swim meet on Saturday, Dressel didn't think she did quite enough to earn a wild

card berth to the state championships. "I didn't think I was going to make it, so I didn't even check the other results on Sunday," Dressel said. "I got a message on Monday congratulating me for making it to state. I was really confused. I



Dressel

thought I was done." Dressel is not quite done, advancing to state in the 100 butterfly, joining teammate Jolie-Rae Ford, who qualified in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle. "My first thought was, 'oh no, I have to swim (the

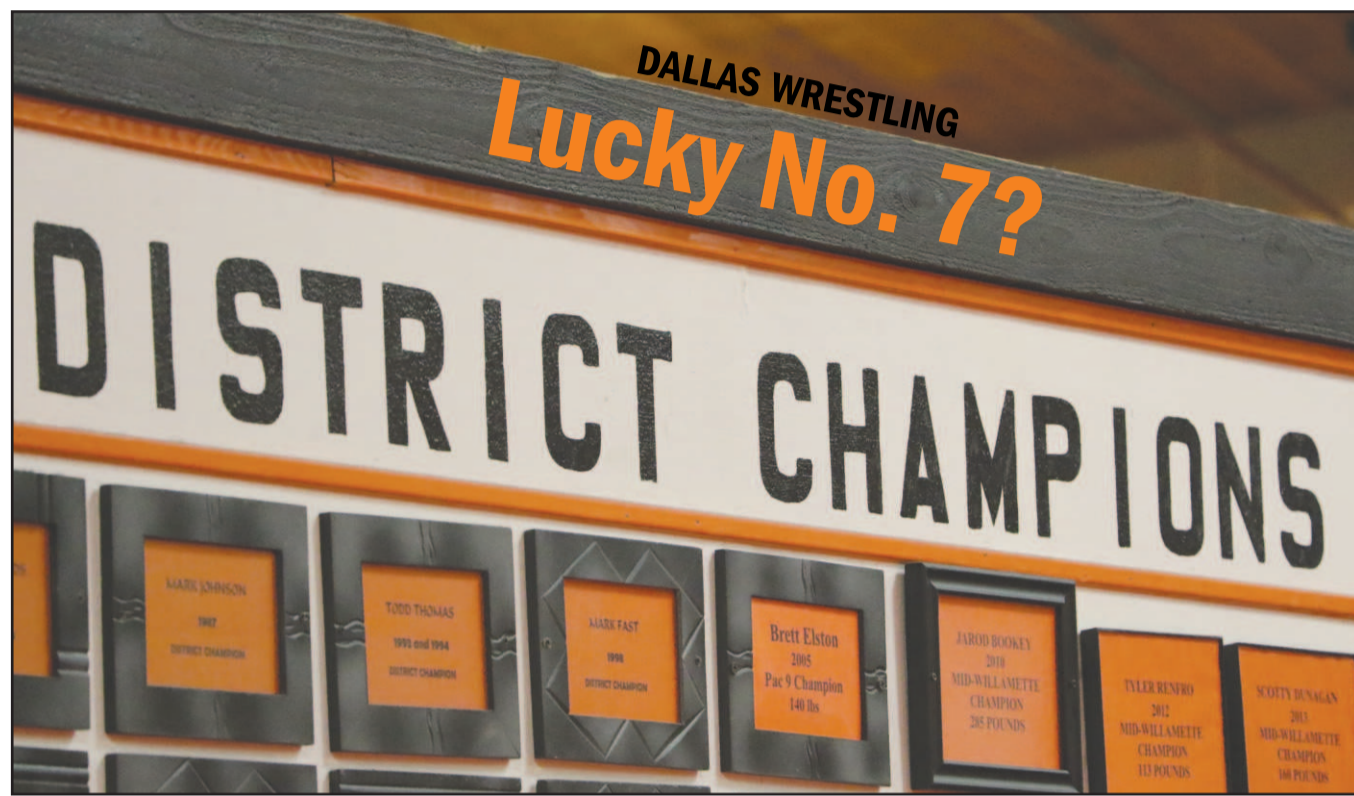
### State Meet

**What:** OSAA Class 5A State Swimming Championships.  
**When:** Friday preliminaries, 1:45 p.m.; Saturday finals, 1 p.m.  
**Where:** Mt. Hood Community College Aquatic Center, Gresham.  
**Admission:** Adults, \$8; students, \$5.  
**Dallas Qualifiers:** GIRLS: Jolie-Rae Ford, jr. (200 freestyle, 500 freestyle), Elizabeth Dressel, sr. (100 butterfly).

butterfly) again," Dressel said. "Then I thought, this will be good. It gives me

one last shot to do something exciting."

See STATE, Page 13A



Dallas' wrestling team has won six-straight district championships. The Dragons will try for seven this weekend.

## Dragons hope to soar to seventh-straight district title

By Lukas Eggen  
 The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — For the past six years, the script has been the same — Dallas' wrestling team has walked away as district champions.



Chung

Olliff said. "We had a tough road this season and a few decided it was too tough to finish. But the few who made it are capable of qualifying a large number for the state tournament."

The Dragons are keen on having a repeat performance at the Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships at South Albany on Friday and Saturday. "We're taking a lean team to district this year," coach Tony

### Battle For State Berths

**What:** Mid-Willamette Conference District Wrestling Championships.  
**When:** Friday, 11 a.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.  
**Where:** South Albany High School.

**Who:** Dallas, Central, Corvallis, Crescent Valley, Lebanon, Silverton, South Albany and Woodburn high schools.

**Admission:** Adults, \$6; students, \$4.  
**What's at stake:** The top four placers in each weight class qualify for the OSAA Class 5A state wrestling championships, to be held Feb. 26-27 at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland.

Among them include returning district champion Treve Earhart and second-place finishers Noah Sickles, Sammy Chung, Jeff Dunagan and Cody Janssen.

Chung, a senior, has come a long way from his first days at DHS. "My freshman year I didn't compete

very much," Chung said. "I was probably like JV 4. I didn't compete at the varsity level. It was frustrating, but I knew I would keep working at it."

The senior continued to develop his wrestling skills, becoming more aggressive against his opponents.

See DALLAS, Page 13A

## CENTRAL WRESTLING

# Swinehart looks for title finish

By Lukas Eggen  
 The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central senior Collin Swinehart has come close to tasting victory.

As a junior he placed second at both the Mid-Willamette Conference district finals and the 5A state finals.

Down to his final chance, he hopes his senior year ends with the two things that have eluded him thus far — district and state titles.

Collin and older brother Tanner always looked up to their eldest brother, Joseph. There was little doubt the pair would follow in Joseph's athletic endeavors.

Until Joseph's sixth-grade year, it appeared that would be basketball.

"(Joseph) was kind of the short, chubby kid," Collin said, smiling. "My dad told him he might want to do something else because he didn't really have the body structure to play basketball."

See FINISH, Page 13A

## WESTERN OREGON MEN'S BASKETBALL

# WOU ranked No. 1 in nation

By Lukas Eggen  
 The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon's men's basketball team has been on a historic run over the past two seasons.

From winning its first conference title last year, the Wolves can now add another piece to school history — the team's first No. 1 ranking in the national Division II men's basketball poll.

"It's definitely cool," senior forward Andy Avgi said. "I don't know how many people can say they've been ranked No. 1 at any level."

For two of WOU's most important players, playing in Monmouth almost didn't

happen.

### The veteran

Coming out of high school, Avgi wasn't supposed to end up at Western Oregon. In fact, he wasn't even planning on playing basketball.

"I already committed to play football at Oregon State," Avgi said. "I was there for like two weeks going to school there, but it wasn't working out."

Former coach Brady Bergeson, then in his first

year at Western Oregon, made his move.

"It was a hard decision," Avgi said. "I didn't want to give up basketball and I think I always knew that, but getting to play (Division I) football is hard to pass up. I knew what I wanted, though."

Avgi backed out of Oregon State and chose to attend WOU. After redshirting his first year, he saw the early building blocks of what would become the core of the Wolves. Avgi, Devon Alexander, Dezmond Dupree-Turner, Jordan Wiley and Jordan Schriber all entered the program together.

See WOU, Page 13A



Western Oregon's Tanner Omlid goes up for a dunk.

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