

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11
Baseball: Central at Corvallis, 3:30 p.m. Dallas at South Albany, 4:30 p.m.
Boys tennis: Central, Dallas at MWC District Tournament at Timberhill (Corvallis), 1 p.m.
Girls tennis: Central, Dallas at MWC District Tournament at Timberhill (Corvallis), 8 a.m.
Softball: Central at Corvallis, 4:30 p.m. Dallas at Lebanon, 4:30 p.m. Taft at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m.
Track and field: Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District championship at Central, 3:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 12
Baseball: Great Northwest Athletic Conference championship: Western Oregon vs. Montana State, Billings at Nampa, Idaho, 11 a.m. Western Oregon vs. Northwest Nazarene, 2:30 p.m.
Boys tennis: Central, Dallas at MWC District Tournament at Timberhill (Corvallis), 8 a.m.
Girls tennis: Central, Dallas at MWC District Tournament at Timberhill (Corvallis), 1 p.m.
Softball: Central Linn at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m.
Track and field: Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District championship at Central, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 13
Baseball: Central at Corvallis, 4:30 p.m. South Albany at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Central Linn at Perrydale, 3 p.m. Great Northwest Athletic Conference championship: TBA vs. TBA, noon.
Boys tennis: Central, Dallas at MWC District Tournament at Timberhill (Corvallis), 8 a.m.
Girls tennis: Central, Dallas at MWC District Tournament at Timberhill (Corvallis), 1 p.m.
Softball: Dallas at Silverton, 5 p.m.
Track and field: Falls City, Perrydale at Special District 1 championships at Portland Christian, 11 a.m. Western Oregon at Great Northwest Athletic Conference championships (at WOU), 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 14
Track and field: Falls City, Perrydale at Special District 1 championships at Portland Christian, 11 a.m. Western Oregon at Great Northwest Athletic Conference championships (at WOU), 9:30 a.m.

MONDAY, MAY 16
Girls: Dallas at OSAA 5A state championships at Quail Valley, TBA.

TUESDAY, MAY 17
Baseball: Central at West Albany, 5 p.m. Perrydale at East Linn Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Girls: Dallas at OSAA 5A state championships at Quail Valley, TBA.
Softball: Perrydale at Taft, 4:30 p.m.

Schedules Subject to Change

QUICK HITS

DHS basketball to host metal drive

DALLAS — Dallas High School's boys basketball team will hold its annual scrap metal drive on May 21 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. People interested can contact Trent Schwartz at 503-623-8336 ext. 3105 or via email at trent.schwartz@dsd2.org by May 19.

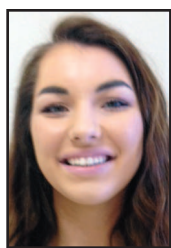
Polk Pedalers to hold camping trip

DALLAS — Polk Pedalers bicycle club will hold its overnight campout Saturday and Sunday. Cyclists will meet at 8 a.m. Saturday at Courtyard Coffee House, 156 SE Mill St., Dallas. An 80-mile ride will be taken with an overnight campout. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Carpooling is available. For more information: 503-623-6533.

DALLAS GIRLS GOLF

Curtis clinches trip to state championship

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer



Curtis
 our school to ever go. It's such a big honor and one of my proudest moments

DALLAS — Dallas junior Kailee Curtis has established herself as one of the area's — and state's — best golfers. Curtis finished in a tie for third at the Special District 1 regional tournament last Tuesday and Wednesday at Quail Valley in Banks, earning a return trip to the state

championships. "It's such a big relief and an honor," Curtis said. "I'm the first girl from our school to ever go. It's such a big honor and one of my proudest moments

State championships

What: OSAA 5A Girls Golf State Championships.
When: Exact tee times will be released by Wednesday (today). All tee times will be between 7:30 and 9 a.m. on Monday and Tuesday.
Where: Quail Valley Golf Course (Banks).

"I've gotten more mentally strong," Curtis said. "In basketball, if you make a mistake you have a split second and then you go back on defense and recover. In golf, you're thinking about (a mistake) for the next four minutes until your next shot and you're out on the course for four hours. I've learned to shake those mistakes off."

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for myself." As Curtis developed on the course, it's been her growth in letting her mistakes go that has been the difference.

PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Dallas, Central race to state



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer file

Dallas senior Kyleen Benz hopes to qualify for the 5A state championship meet for the fourth time in her high school career.

Benz takes aim at a fourth trip to state

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — For the first time in her high school career, Dallas senior thrower Kyleen Benz is having a blast.

"This year is just kind of laid back," Benz said. "I'm enjoying it now, which kind of sucks. I wait until my last year to enjoy the experience."

It's not that she didn't have fun competing, but in previous years she put pressure on herself to perform.

"I was focused more on the success," Benz said. "This year, it's about making memories and helping other people get better."

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MWC Track and Field Championships

What: Mid-Willamette Conference track and field championships.
When: Wednesday, 3:30 p.m.; Thursday, 4 p.m.
Where: Central High School.
Admission: Adults, \$6; students, \$4.
Who: Athletes from Central, Dallas, Corvallis, Crescent Valley, Lebanon, Silverton, South Albany and Woodburn high schools.
What's at stake: Winners and second-place finishers from each event at the district meet automatically qualify for the Class 5A state track and field championships, May 20-21 at Hayward Field in Eugene.
 Any athlete meeting a predetermined qualifying standard may also qualify for state, regardless of number.
 For results: www.polkio.com.

Panthers ready for big challenges at districts

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central's track and field teams won't have to go far when the Mid-Willamette Conference track and field championships begin Wednesday (today).

The Panthers will host the two-day meet, and coach Eli Cirino hopes Central will be ready to put on a show for a home crowd.

"We have had a fun and exciting season and are very optimistic about getting a few kids to state," Cirino said.

Senior Samuel Cole is ranked second in the shot put and third in the discus. Fellow thrower Kyle Miller is seeded second in the discus and fourth in the javelin — leading to the possibility that Cole and Miller may be fighting for one spot to state against each other.

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Cole

FALLS CITY TRACK AND FIELD

Hendrickson learns to leave doubts behind her



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer
Falls City sophomore Madelyn Hendrickson (left) practices on Thursday.

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY — Falls City sophomore Madelyn Hendrickson will take to the track this weekend, fighting for a trip to the 1A state track meet later this month. Hendrickson enters the Special District 1 championships ranked third in the 100-meter hurdles and second in the long jump.

That she's in this position at all is a testament to just how far she's come since her freshman year.

There was just something about the hurdles that drew Hendrickson in.

"When I was in fifth grade, during my first day of track practice I kept looking at the hurdles," she said. "Coach asked me if I wanted to try them out. I fell in love with it."

When she entered her freshman year, she was ready to do some big things on the track.

"I thought, 'I've done hurdles forever. I can be a one-man wolf pack,'" Hendrickson said.

She would soon find out just how wrong she was.

The trouble started when, for the first time, her hurdles race didn't go as smoothly as planned.

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PREP TENNIS

Panthers face an uphill battle

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central's boys and girls tennis teams have a difficult task ahead of them at the Mid-Willamette Conference District tennis championships.



Bruning

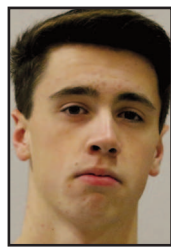
The three-day tournament, held at Timberhill Tennis Lodge in Corvallis, begins Wednesday (today) and continues on Thursday and Friday. The top four singles and

doubles pairs earn a trip to the state championships.

The boys team's top doubles pair of Brice Spreadbury and Hassan Eltelbany was seeded sixth on Monday night. The pair received a scare on May 3 when Spreadbury rolled his ankle during a match. He missed the regular season finale, but recovered enough to rejoin Eltelbany.

Senior Kevin Cable will enter the singles bracket ranked third.

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Cable