

**PREP BASEBALL**

# Dragons fall to Kingsmen

*Dallas loses 6-0 in first round of the 5A state playoffs on May 25*

**By Lukas Eggen**  
The Itemizer-Observer



**Earhart**

DALLAS — Dallas' baseball team saw its offense stilled during a 6-0 loss to Putnam on May 25.

The eighth-seeded Dragons fell in the first round of the state playoffs.

Dallas entered the post-season winning its final eight Mid-Willamette Conference games to finish second in the league standings. The team averaged more than five runs per game for the season.

But the Kingsmen held the Dragons to three hits, shutting down Dallas' bats.

The shutout was only the third time this season Dallas failed to score a run and the first time since April 5 against Woodburn.

Treve Earhart went two-for-two during the loss, recording two doubles and a walk, but the Dragons could not advance Earhart past second. Putnam pitcher Alex Martin threw eight strikeouts against the Dragons.

The Kingsmen led 2-0 before scoring four runs in the fifth inning to put the game away.

Putnam was eliminated by Summit in the state quarterfinals on Friday.

Dallas finished the season 17-11 overall and 15-6 in MWC play.

The Dragons earned an automatic berth to the first round after placing second in the league standings.

Dallas will lose four seniors to graduation, including infielder Parker Ford, pitcher/outfielder Everett Minahan and pitcher/first baseman Tucker Weaver. Weaver was also named MWC Pitcher of the Year.



Dallas' baseball team leaves the field after losing to Putnam 6-0 on May 25.

MARLEEN WALLACE/for the Itemizer-Observer

## Dragons: Dallas offense stalls against Churchill

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But players aren't expecting a dropoff in overall talent with several strong returners, including freshmen Kaelynn Simmons and Emma Classen, both earned all-league honors in 2016.

Players believe the future looks bright for Dallas softball, and that this program can build on what they accomplished this season into something bigger and better for years to come.

"This is just the start of building back up a great program and, in the future, it will get even better because Dallas has a lot of softball talent," El-Hato said. "... We made it farther



Dallas sophomore Jayden Wynia attempts to run down a Sandy baserunner on May 25.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

than everyone expected but I always knew we were capable of it. ... I am going to

miss playing for Dallas, but I look forward to seeing how they do in the future."

**PREP BASEBALL**

## Weaver earns honor

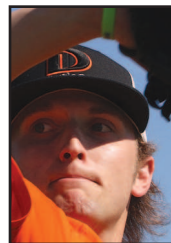
**Itemizer-Observer staff report**

DALLAS — Dallas senior Tucker Weaver was named the Mid-Willamette Conference's co-Pitcher of the Year with Carson Kinkade, of Crescent Valley.

Weaver also earned first-team all-league honors, one of seven Dragon baseball players to receive all-league recognition.

Shortstop Tanner Earhart was named first-team all-MWC, while first baseman Clay Coxen, second baseman Eric Kessler, outfielder/pitcher Everett Minahan and catcher Treve Earhart earned second team all-league honors. Pitcher Jarrett Stewart received honorable mention.

Weaver also earned sec-



**Weaver**

ond team all-state recognition and was a state all-star series selection.

Tanner Earhart received all-state honorable mention.

The Dragons finished the 2016 season 17-11 overall and 15-6 in league play, finishing in second place. Dallas advanced to the first round of the 5A state playoffs before falling to Putnam 6-0.

Six Central baseball players received all-Mid-Willamette Conference honors.

First baseman Luis Amador, outfielder Jackson



**Amador**

Holstad and infielder Peter Mendazona were named first team all-league.

Pitcher Humberto Alarcon, catcher Luke McBeth and utility player Miliano Alarcon received honorable mention.

Holstad was also named second team all-state, while Amador received honorable mention.

The Panthers finished the 2016 season 12-14 overall and 10-11 in league play, finishing fourth. Central fell to Eagle Point 8-1 in the state play-in round.

## Rec: City tries to offer runners more choices

**Continued from Page 10A**

In addition to mainstays like coed and men's softball, which begin in June and July, the city will hold a tennis tournament in August, a Halloween run in October, disc golf and corn hole tournaments, and is gauging interest for an adult flag football league.

People have begun to notice the increased options.

Margaret Pearce, walking club organizer, said activities like the club give people of all fitness levels a chance to become more involved and they are taking advantage of it.

The city also offers programs for kids, including the Mighty Mites program. The latest iteration, which begins Saturday (registration due Friday) hopes to continue increasing in size.

"We started with 30 kids and last time out, we had 65," Brautigam said.

Whether it's an intense game of basketball or a leisurely stroll through a city park, the city of Dallas looks to expand its offerings.

"We want to continue to build on this. Having a variety of things to choose from is really important to us," Brautigam said.

## WOU: Larson places 13th in the javelin finals

**Continued from Page 10A**

Senior Justin Larson took 13th in the finals of the javelin with a throw of 199 feet, 6 inches.

"The day didn't go how I envisioned, but I am able to walk away from this meet and WOU knowing that I gave it my all," Larson said. "After making the national championship four years in a row, I could



**Larson**

not be more thankful and blessed for my opportunity at Western." Senior Stephanie Stuckey competed in the prelims of the women's 1,500, but failed to

qualify for the finals.

Senior Badane Sultessa just missed qualifying for the finals in the men's 800, finishing ninth.

The top eight advanced to the finals. Josh Dempsey took 15th and Josh Hanna placed 21st in the same race.

The meet was WOU's final competition of the 2015-16 school year.

## Resolutions: Softball, triathlon, tennis up next

**Continued from Page 10A**

The crowd went wild. Cannons blasted confetti all over the green as I celebrated a momentous occasion.

That might be a slight exaggeration of what happened one afternoon in February. But that didn't make the moment any less epic (in my head).

I stood just off the green on the ninth hole at Dallas Golf Course. I was maybe five to 10 feet away from the hole. And I was at a 44.

At stake? The chance to cross one of my New Year's goals off my list — shoot a 45 over nine holes.

I grabbed my putter, lined up and hit the ball confidently and forcefully.

Alas, there was no crowd to share my crowning moment nor confetti. That didn't stop me from giving a fist pump and a yell of triumph.

New Year's Resolutions are notoriously hard to see through. And here I was, not even two months into 2016, and I was 25 percent done with mine.

Yeah, I felt cocky.

If only the rest were that easy.

Enter the Monmouth-Independence Fourth of July

Tennis Tournament: Still on track for this one. I've even hit the court a couple of times, though the results have been ... less than desirable. The good news is each time I've played, I've gotten a great workout in. The bad news is that's because I'm chasing balls that have gone over the fence or into someone else's court.

Yeah, my glory days of tennis have passed (or never arrived). But I'm bound and determined to show up to the tournament to play some ... OK tennis and, hopefully, not hit anyone with a wayward shot.

It's the little victories sometimes.

Enter (and finish) a full/half triathlon: There's something about New Years that gets me all motivated. Movie speeches on TV make me feel ready to take on the world (Thanks "300"). All my friends bust out the seemingly endless motivational quotes and I eat it all up.

For the record, a full, Olympic triathlon consists of a 1,500-meter swim, 24.9-mile bike ride and a 6.2-mile run.

Am I ready for that? Well, I feel about as prepared as I would be to perform brain

surgery on someone with a jackhammer.

Naturally, I'm choosing a date. The Rolf Prima Triathlon in Cottage Grove is Saturday, July 23 at 8 a.m.

Take part in one of Dallas' adult rec leagues: Any chance I had to relive my (brief) athletic glory days passed when I definitely missed the boat on Dallas' basketball league.

And so, the men's softball league begins in July.

To my future teammates — a word of warning.

My greatest "accomplishment" on the baseball diamond came when I was 6 or

7. Upon struggling to throw the ball accurately to our first baseman, a coach told me to aim for his head when I threw.

To my credit, my aim was true. Unfortunately, the end result was the first baseman taking a ball square in the face. That was pretty much the end of my baseball career in my mind.

So how am I doing with my New Years resolutions? Ask me at the end of July. Today, this seems like it'll be one epic month. If I'm still walking by the end of it, I might have a different view.

**PREP SOFTBALL**

## El-Hato named PoY

**Itemizer-Observer staff report**  
DALLAS — Dallas senior Yasmine El-Hato was named the Mid-Willamette Conference's Softball Player of the Year.

El-Hato was one of seven Dragon players to be honored.

El-Hato and freshman Kaelynn Simmons were named first team all-league. Senior Ciara Greisen, freshman Emma Classen and senior Makena Linn were named second team all-league. Junior Olivia Nelson



**El-Hato**

and freshman Allison Wells received honorable mention.

Seven Central softball players received all-league honors.

Senior Kylie Nash, junior Jori Kerr and freshman Mariah Hyre were named first team all-Mid-Willamette Conference. Sophomore Erin Cole and

senior Briana Broadus earned second team all-league recognition, while senior Makayla Trevino and freshman Cassidy Noon received honorable mentions.

The Dragons finished 12-6 in league play and advanced to the state quarterfinals round.

Central finished the 2016 season 11-13 overall and 9-9 in league play, finishing fifth. The Panthers fell to Crater 9-5 in the 5A state play-in round.

**Solution on Page 3A**

		2		8	9	1			
				7	4				
			1						
	4	1	2						
8	5				3				
		6			9	3	8		
1	9					7			
6	3	4	7					2	
				9					

**Sudoku**

Difficulty: ★★★★★☆

Row →	4	3	2	8	1	6	7	5	9
	5	6	9	3	7	4	8	1	2
	1	7	8	9	5	2	4	6	3
Three-by-three square →	3	4	7	2	8	5	6	9	1
	2	1	6	7	4	9	3	8	5
	9	8	5	1	6	3	2	7	4
	7	9	1	4	3	8	5	2	6
	8	5	3	6	2	1	9	4	7
	6	2	4	5	9	7	1	3	8

**How to do Sudoku**

Fill in the grid so the numbers 1 through 9 appear just once in every column, row, and three-by-three square. See example above.

By Ben Arnoldy

The Christian Science Monitor