

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

Baseball: Silverton at Central, 4:30 p.m. Dallas at Lebanon, 4:30 p.m. Western Oregon at Concordia, 4 p.m.

Softball: Dallas at Central, 4:30 p.m. St. Paul at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m.

Track and field: Central at Silverton, 3:45 p.m. Dallas at Crescent Valley, 3:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Boys tennis: Central at Corvallis, 4 p.m. South Albany at Dallas, 4 p.m.

Girls golf: Dallas at Canby Invitational, noon.

Girls tennis: Corvallis at Central, 4 p.m. Dallas at South Albany, 4 p.m.

Softball: Dallas at Corvallis, 4:30 p.m.

Track and field: Falls City, Perrydale at Amity, 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Baseball: Central at Silverton, 4:30 p.m. Lebanon at Dallas, 2:30 p.m. Perrydale at East Linn Christian, 4:30 p.m.

Softball: Central at Corvallis, 4:30 p.m. Northwest Nazarene at Western Oregon (DH), 2 p.m.

Track and field: Western Oregon at John Knight Twilight, 1 p.m. (field events).

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Baseball: Saint Martin's at Western Oregon (DH), 1 p.m.

Softball: Northwest Nazarene at Western Oregon (DH), noon.

Track and field: Central at Sandy Invitational, 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Baseball: Saint Martin's at Western Oregon (DH), 1 p.m.

Softball: Western Oregon at Saint Martin's (DH), 1 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 10

Baseball: Western Menonite at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m.

Boys golf: Central, Dallas at Springhill (Albany), 12:45 p.m.

Girls golf: Central, Dallas at Trysting Tree (Corvallis), 11 a.m.

Softball: Perrydale at Western Menonite, 3:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

Baseball: Central at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.

Boys tennis: Silverton at Central, 4 p.m. Lebanon at Dallas, 4 p.m.

Girls tennis: Central at Silverton, 4 p.m. Dallas at Lebanon, 4 p.m.

Softball: Woodburn at Central, 4:30 p.m. South Albany at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Perrydale at Sheridan, 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

Baseball: Dallas at Central, 4:30 p.m.

Softball: Silverton at Central, 4:30 p.m. Lebanon at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.

Track and field: Western Oregon at Mt. Sac Relays, all day.

Schedules Subject to Change

QUICK HITS

CHS Hall of Fame tickets on sale

INDEPENDENCE — Tickets are on sale to celebrate Central High School's Hall of Fame ceremony on April 22 at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 and can be purchased at the athletics office or the Independence Les Schwab.

The 2017 class includes Paul Schmidt, Davina Dungey, Bret Brouse, Bill Sherrod, Kelly McArthur, Tom Mcfie, Sara Cole and the 1986 boys cross-country team. Mike Ainsworth will receive the Meritorious Award.

For more information: 503-606-2228.

Polk Pedalers to meet Saturday

DALLAS — The Polk Pedalers Bicycle Club will host a ride Saturday at 8 a.m. Cyclists will meet at Courtyard Coffee House. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Helmets are required. For more information: 503-623-6533.



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Siblings Cody and Jenifer Webb take pride and excitement in seeing the other succeed on the track.

DALLAS TRACK AND FIELD

Sibling rivalry

Brother, sister push each other to their limits

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-ObsERVER

DALLAS — Growing up, siblings Jenifer and Cody Webb always found a way to compete.

“For as long as I can remember, we’ve always turned everything into a competition to see who was the ‘better twin,’” Jenifer said. “Even silly things like who was taller.”

Jenifer and Cody are incredibly close — each a source of strength for the other.

“I will never forget the biggest smile that (Cody) had on his face after I placed (fifth in the 100-meter hurdles) in the state meet last season,” Jenifer said. “He talked about it for days. The medal didn’t make me feel nearly as special or accomplished as the smile

Track meet

• Dallas’ track and field team will compete at Crescent Valley Wednesday (today) at 3:45 p.m. The Dragons will be off until the Viking Relays at North Salem on April 14 at 4 p.m.

on his face.”

Now both seniors on Dallas’ track and field team, their competitive drive has evolved.

“Even today, we still push each other,” Jenifer said. “But somewhere along the way, our gears shifted. It’s not so much a push to be better than the other anymore, but rather we push each other to be the best of our competitors and the very best that we know each other is capable of.”

Neither Cody nor Jenifer would consider themselves distance runners.

“For me, there’s more of a thrill in the shorter distances because there’s a shorter window to prove myself. I love that kind of competition,” Jenifer said.

The hurdles seemed to be a natural extension — providing a new challenge but keeping the same basic thrill of a sprint.

“They took some time getting used to,” Cody said. “At first the height is pretty intimidating, but once I got over that, it’s all about the form and steps.”

The Webb siblings have accomplished a lot during their careers. Jenifer finished fifth in the 100 hurdles at state in 2016, while Cody placed 11th as part of the boys 4 x 100 relay team.

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FOOTBALL

Avgi chases football dream

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-ObsERVER

MONMOUTH — There have been few names that have stood as tall in Western Oregon University athletics as Andy Avgi.

On the hardwood, he helped lead the men’s basketball

team to the NCAA Division II Final Four during the 2015-16 season.

On the gridiron, he played football for the last two years, and had 16 catches for 198 yards and five touchdowns during his senior year. Upon the end of the 2016 football campaign, Avgi stood at a cross-

roads — pursue a professional basketball career or football.

“There were thoughts on pursuing basketball, but the opportunity in football is greater,” Avgi said. “I wanted to play at the highest level, and it was going to be in football, and it’s going to be my career.”

Once he decided on football, the training began in earnest for his pro day.

“I would wake up at 6:30 a.m. and drive to Bellevue (Wash.) from Seattle,” Avgi said. “I would have a workout in the morning, then have a snack. I would do a strength workout before lunch and then finish with another workout after lunch.”

Avgi participated in a pro day showcase with Oregon State — and the results were impressive.

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LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Andy Avgi hopes to play professional football in the NFL this fall.

PREP BASEBALL

Dragons flexing muscles at the plate

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-ObsERVER

DALLAS — There’s not much slowing down Dallas’ baseball team.

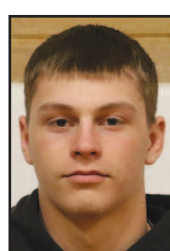
The Dragons went 3-0 at the Newport Tournament March 27-28, defeating Philomath 10-9, Siuslaw/Mapleton 13-2; and Sweet Home 12-8 — bringing the Dragons’ record to 6-2 overall.

“We’ve been more pre-

pared at the plate early on this season than we have been in years past,” senior Clay Coxen said.

Dallas has scored 10 or more runs in six straight games — all victories.

“We’re a good hitting team this year,” Coxen said. “But we have to be able to keep the momentum going all game, because we don’t have the same overpowering pitching that Dallas has become accustomed to seeing



Coxen

an invaluable piece of the Dragons’ puzzle.

For Coxen, baseball sea-

son has always provided a much-needed change of pace.

“While baseball has its moments of intensity and stress and pressure, wrestling is far greater,” Coxen said. “I like the contrast and I actually need it. I love the intensity and hard work that comes with wrestling but I need a break from that, and that’s what baseball gives to me.”

But there is one aspect

that is difficult to deal with.

“In a game where getting three hits out of 10 at bats is considered good, there’s a lot of failure,” Coxen said. “It’s a huge transition from wrestling, where in the Dallas program, there isn’t a whole lot of failure. Players have to realize they are going to fail more than they succeed, and it can be a hard thing to get into their head.”

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CENTRAL SOFTBALL

Panthers clawing to the top

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-ObsERVER

INDEPENDENCE — Central’s softball team is looking to capture the potential it’s shown on a consistent basis.

The Panthers went 2-2 at Newport March 27 and 28, beating Newport 15-3 before falling to

Banks 14-5, and losing to Pleasant Hill 7-6 before defeating Taft 9-0.

Central, which entered the week with a 3-3 mark overall, has scored nine or more runs in each of its three victories so far this season.

“The girls have great energy and are working together as a team to make good things happen,” coach Kendra Hamlin said. “We have to compete every pitch against the best teams. We are still early in the year, and we have a few adjustments to make, but we are doing a nice job of making those game to game.”

One thing is clear, the Panthers’ boast a dangerous lineup at the plate — the team averages 10 runs per game — and saw Erin Cole hit three home runs during the Newport Tournament and Aunika Farley hit one and Sydney Nash recorded two doubles and a triple.

“I’ve been really pleased with our lineup, getting runners on and then finding ways to score,” Hamlin said.

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