

## SCHEDULE

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26**  
**Baseball:** Central at Woodburn, 3:30 p.m. Silverton at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.  
**Boys tennis:** Silverton at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.  
**Girls tennis:** Dallas at Silverton, 4 p.m.  
**Softball:** Dallas at South Albany, 4:30 p.m. Western Oregon at Saint Martin's (DH), 1 p.m.  
**Track and field:** Dallas at Central, 4 p.m. Falls City at Tiger Invitational, 3:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27**  
**Baseball:** Santiam at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m.  
**Boys tennis:** Crescent Valley at Central, 4 p.m.  
**Girls tennis:** Central at Crescent Valley, 4 p.m.  
**Softball:** Lebanon at Dallas, 5 p.m. Perrydale at Santiam, 4:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 28**  
**Baseball:** Central at Woodburn, 3:30 p.m. Dallas at Silverton, 4:30 p.m. Kennedy at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m. Western Oregon at Central Washington (DH), noon.  
**Softball:** Silverton at Central, 4 p.m. Lebanon at Dallas, 4 p.m.

**Track and field:** Central at Nike/Jesuit Twilight Relays, 2:30 p.m. Dallas at Rob Allen Twilight Invitational, 4:30 p.m. Western Oregon at Oregon State High Performance Meet, TBA.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29**  
**Baseball:** Western Menonite at Perrydale, 1 p.m. Western Oregon at Central Washington (DH), noon.  
**Softball:** Corvallis at Dallas, noon. Saint Martin's at Western Oregon (DH), noon.  
**Track and field:** Perrydale at Portland Christian Invitational, 11 a.m. Western Oregon at Oregon State High Performance Meet, TBA.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 30**  
**Softball:** Central Washington at Western Oregon (DH), noon.

**MONDAY, MAY 1**  
**Girls golf:** Dallas at Emerald Valley Invite (Eugene), 10 a.m.  
**Softball:** Perrydale at Sheridan, 4:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, MAY 2**  
**Baseball:** South Albany at Central, 4:30 p.m. Crescent Valley at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Perrydale at Country Christian, 4:30 p.m.  
**Boys tennis:** Corvallis at Central, 4 p.m. Dallas at South Albany, 4 p.m.  
**Girls tennis:** Central at Corvallis, 4 p.m. South Albany at Dallas, 4 p.m.  
**Softball:** South Albany at Central, 4:30 p.m. Dallas at Crescent Valley, 4:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3**  
**Baseball:** Central at South Albany, 4:30 p.m. Dallas at Crescent Valley, 4:30 p.m.  
**Boys golf:** Central, Dallas at Regionals (at Quail Valley in Banks), TBA.

**Softball:** Crescent Valley at Central, 4:30 p.m. Dallas at Corvallis, 4:30 p.m. Perrydale at Amity, 4:30 p.m.

Schedules Subject to Change

## QUICK HITS

### Scrap metal drive returns May 20

DALLAS — Dallas' boys basketball program will hold its fifth annual scrap metal drive May 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
 Email Trent Schwartz, trent.schwartz@dtd2.org or call 503-623-8336, ext. 2105 to arrange a pickup by May 18. Name, address and brief description of the scrap and where to pick it up at the address is required.  
 Acceptable items include iron, cast iron, tin, cars, appliances, copper, brass, aluminum, stainless wire and copper wire.  
 Refrigerants, asbestos, petroleum by products, antifreeze and other harmful substances will not be accepted. For more information on what is acceptable: www.cherrycitymetals.com/recycling.  
 All proceeds will help pay for Dallas' boys basketball team, including equipment, tournament fees and jerseys.

## PREP SOFTBALL

# Dallas puts league on notice

### Dragons blank Panthers 13-0 to improve to 8-0 in MWC play



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Dallas scored 13 runs against Central on Friday afternoon, including 11 in the third inning.

**By Lukas Eggen**  
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

DALLAS — The last time Dallas' softball team squared off against Central, it was a defensive battle with the Dragons pulling out a 2-1 victory.

Things were a bit different on Friday. Solo home runs from the Dragons' Jordan Dippel and Lauren Wallace in the first inning gave Dallas a 2-0 lead entering the third inning.

"I'm always thinking get a base hit," Wallace said. "If I do that, the home runs will come. That's my mentality at the plate. As soon as I felt it off the bat, I knew it was gone."

Wallace hit an RBI double to help kick start a third inning that saw the Dragons pour on 11 runs against the Panthers, en route to a 13-0 victory — the team's seventh in a row.



Simmons

"They're being aggressive early and making sure they're having quality at bats," coach Brandi Jackson said. "That doesn't necessarily mean getting a home run or a base hit. That can mean going deep in the count making the opposing pitcher throw more pitches."

Central entered the game on a five-game winning streak.

"We knew we'd have to come out with lots of energy," Olivia Nelson said. "We knew they beat some good teams, so we'd have to bring our A game to crush them."

Wallace finished the game with three hits and four RBIs. Ashlee Lichtenberger added three hits and three RBIs.

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LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Dallas' Olivia Nelson, right, throws toward first base on Friday afternoon.

## PREP TRACK AND FIELD

# Falls City ready to climb to state

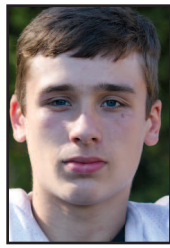
**By Lukas Eggen**  
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

FALLS CITY — When junior Jeremy Labrado arrived in Eugene for the 1A state track and field championships last May, he was overwhelmed.

"I've learned not to think about the moment too much," Labrado said. "I went to state last year and thought about it way too much, and I scratched."

Labrado hopes to get another crack at state this spring — and he's not the only one Falls City coach Ronnie Simmons thinks will be headed to Eugene.

The Mountaineers' track



Labrado

and field teams most recently competed at Sheridan on Thursday where the girls took second and the boys finished fifth.

Labrado took second in the boys triple jump (37 feet), third in the long jump (17-6 1/2) and fifth in the high jump (5-4).

"In track, you have this mentality that it's you against everyone else," Labrado said. "You don't have anyone helping you,



Burgess

except in relays."

Labrado ranks second in Special District 1 in the long jump and third in the high jump.

"It would mean a lot to get back to state knowing how much I've improved and how much the competition improved," Labrado said.

Simmons said Labrado is on the verge of a big breakthrough in his events.

"He has sacrificed, and I think you will see the results of what I'm talking about in



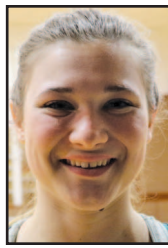
Hendrickson

the very near future," Simmons said.

Austin Burgess took first in the 400-meter run in 55.03 seconds and fourth in the 200 (25.08).

The sophomore ranks in the top 10 in the league in numerous sprint events.

"The guys that are faster than me aren't that much faster," Burgess said. "If someone is in front of me, I push myself harder. I have another cylinder in me that I can tap into."



Potts

For the girls, Brittny Potts took second in the 400 (1:10.00); Natalie Battie placed second in the 800 (3:03.00) and Madelyn Hendrickson finished second in the 100 hurdles (18.92).

Jaime Shaw placed third in the triple jump (30-5).

With districts on the horizon, Simmons said athletes will be honing in on their best events while balancing busy schedules.

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## PREP BOYS TENNIS

# For more than love of the game

### Senior honors family each time he steps onto the tennis court

**By Lukas Eggen**  
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

INDEPENDENCE — When Central senior Chris Polanco steps onto the tennis court, he's playing for more than himself.

He plays for the fans in attendance.

He plays for his friends who have supported him throughout his high school career.

Most of all, he plays for family as a way to thank them for giving him something that had eluded him — a home.

"The biggest thing is this is for my grandmother (coach Patty Youngren)," Polanco said. "I'm doing this all for her. When I see the few people who show up to our matches, it makes me want to put on a respectable face when I go out because I'm representing our team, our school and my grandma."

Polanco wasn't sure

## Tennis

- Central's boys tennis team lost to Dallas 6-2 on April 18 and Woodburn 7-1 on Thursday.
- Hassan Eltelbany defeated Caedmon Blair 6-1, 6-1 and Esai Leos defeated Hyrum Johnson 3-6, 7-6, 10-8 against Dallas.
- Cade Magill and Dylan Hopkins defeated Woodburn's Ibzon Delapoz and Jorge Perez 3-6, 6-1, 10-6 on Thursday.
- Central played South Albany Tuesday after press time. The Panthers host Crescent Valley Thursday at 4 p.m. and Corvallis Tuesday at 4 p.m. Central closes out the regular season at Silverton on May 4 at 4 p.m.

whether this would be home.

Polanco, born in Arizona, was part of the foster care system and had moved multiple times in Arizona and Oregon.

Six years ago, he thought that was about to end.

"I was going to be adopted when I lived in Arizona, but it didn't work out," Polanco said.

He was instead placed with the Holliday family in Oregon.

Moving around had made it difficult for Polanco to ever feel settled and at home, but

there was something different this time.

"They are really nice and I chose to stay here, and they took me in," he said.

Panthers tennis coach, and Chris' grandmother, Patty Youngren said the connection between Chris and the Hollidays was clear from the beginning.

"Kids are immediately family members," she said. "We don't let go. ... His parents are very kid-oriented. They do amazing things as a family and are very direct."

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LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Chris Polanco serves during a match earlier this season.