

## SCHEDULE

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10**  
**Baseball:** Central at Lebanon (DH), 3 p.m. Corvallis at Dallas, 4:30 p.m. Great Northwest Athletic Conference Championship (at Portland): Western Oregon vs. Montana State, Billings, 7 p.m.

**Boys tennis:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Timberhill Tennis Club, Corvallis), 8 a.m.

**Girls tennis:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Timberhill Tennis Club, Corvallis), 1 p.m.

**Softball:** Central at Corvallis (DH), 3 p.m.

**THURSDAY, MAY 11**  
**Baseball:** Perrydale at Central Linn, 4:30 p.m. Great Northwest Athletic Conference Championship (at Portland): Western Oregon vs. TBA, TBA.

**Boys tennis:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Timberhill Tennis Club, Corvallis. Consolation matches at Crescent Valley High School), 8 a.m.

**Girls tennis:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Timberhill Tennis Club, Corvallis. Consolation matches at Crescent Valley High School), 1 p.m.

**Softball:** Lebanon at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 12**  
**Baseball:** Great Northwest Athletic Conference Championship (at Portland): TBA vs. TBA, noon.

**Boys tennis:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Timberhill Tennis Club, Corvallis), 1 p.m.

**Girls tennis:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Timberhill Tennis Club, Corvallis), 1 p.m.

**Softball:** South Albany at Dallas, 4:30 p.m.

**Track and field:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Lebanon High School), 3:30 p.m. Falls City, Perrydale at Special District 1 Championships (at Portland Christian), TBA. Western Oregon at Great Northwest Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships (at Monmouth), TBA.

**SATURDAY, MAY 13**  
**Baseball:** Central at Scappoose, 1:30 p.m.

**Track and field:** Central, Dallas at Mid-Willamette Conference District Championships (at Lebanon High School), 10 a.m. Falls City, Perrydale at Special District 1 Championships (at Portland Christian), 11 a.m. Western Oregon at Great Northwest Athletic Conference Outdoor Championships (at Monmouth), TBA.

**MONDAY, MAY 15**  
**Girls golf:** Central, Dallas at State Golf Championships (at Emerald Valley, Eugene), TBA.

**TUESDAY, MAY 16**  
**Baseball:** Regis at Perrydale, 4:30 p.m.  
**Girls golf:** Central, Dallas at State Golf Championships (at Emerald Valley, Eugene), TBA.

**Softball:** Gladstone at Central, 4:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10**  
**Softball:** Dallas at Tualatin, 5 p.m.

Schedules Subject to Change

## QUICK HITS

### District golf results

Results from the district golf tournament, held Monday and Tuesday after press time, will be posted online at [www.polkio.com](http://www.polkio.com) as they become available.

Follow the *Itemizer-Observer* on Twitter @PolkIOSports to stay up to date with scores.

## PREP TENNIS

# Finding a connection

## Doubles pair picks up steam

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — When Josh Dudley and Zac Price first started playing together this season, things were a bit rough around the edges.

“We were disconnected,” Dudley said. “We struggled with coordination and when to switch. Sometimes the ball would go over one of our heads and we would both be in the same area.”

Often times Price, who had tennis experience, but hadn't played for the Dragons before this spring, would rely on Dudley.

“I relied on Josh more in the beginning of the season,” Price said. “But now, I can say to him, I got this one.”

Things were a bit smoother on May 3. Price and Dudley defeated Silverton 7-5, 1-6, 6-4 and are seeded fifth entering the Mid-Willamette Conference district championships Wednesday (today) through Friday.

“We worked on fundamentals,” Price said. “We worked on placing our shots and to know that you don't always have to go for the big shot.”

In recent weeks, the two have seemingly found their stride.

“Our play is totally different,” Dudley said. “We're



Josh Dudley and Zac Price are seeded fifth at the district tennis championships.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

### Road To State

**Who:** Dallas and Central boys and girls tennis.  
**What:** Mid-Willamette Conference championships.  
**When:** Wednesday, 8 a.m. (boys), 1 p.m. (girls); Thursday, 8 a.m. (boys), 1 p.m. (girls) and Friday, 1 p.m.  
**Where:** Timberhill Tennis Club, Corvallis.  
**What's at stake:** The top four finishers in singles and doubles play advance to the state championship later this month.



Blair

It will be a grueling few days, but Dudley and Price think they know what it will take to be successful.

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being more aggressive.”

They will need that aggressiveness at districts. The top four pairs advance to

state.

Dudley and Price open the tournament against South Albany and a possible

matchup with the first- and fourth ranked doubles pairs later in the tournament.

## PREP TENNIS

# Panthers face tough draw

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central boys tennis coach Patti Youngren knows each of her players has a tough road ahead at the Mid-Willamette Conference district championships.

But the Panthers are ready to come out swinging.

There will be a few changes in Central's lineup.

Chris Polanco will switch from singles to doubles and join forces with Justin Landers.

“Chris really improved a lot this year, but understands he is no match for the club players,” Youngren said. “He will step over to play doubles. It's a different game, but Chris has acquired many shots this year, so he will do well.”

Nathaniel Miller, Landers' partner throughout much of the season, has chosen not to play, Youngren said.

Youngren also hopes to see a strong tournament from Cade Magill and Jorge Hernandez-Soto.

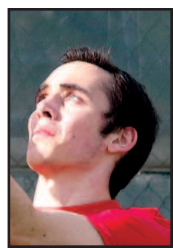
“Cade has won more games than anyone on the team,” she said. “Jorge has played pretty scrappy and can stay in points.”

Joel Robison may have the most difficult path, opening against Crescent Valley's Bojan Soskic. Soskic is seeded second.

The girls will face a tough road in districts.

None of the singles or doubles players are seeded, but singles players like Diana Huerta, Julia Hamar and Kylie Smith or the doubles pairs like Annika Riddell and Katelyn Trevino could surprise.

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Polanco



Smith



Huerta



Hamar

## PREP TRACK AND FIELD

# Less is more as athletes sprint to districts

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central track and field coach Eli Cirino has a different message for his team ahead of the Mid-Willamette Conference district track and field championships Friday and Saturday at Lebanon High School — it's time to get selfish.



Meyer

“We didn't feel like we had a great chance to win the meet, so we're focusing on getting our athletes the best possible chance to perform well in their top event,” Cirino said. “Hopefully we can advance a few to state, and we felt like competing in too many events would diminish their opportunity to get through.”

Hartford

See CENTRAL, Page 12A

### MWC Track and Field Championships

**What:** Mid-Willamette Conference track and field championships.  
**When:** Friday, 3:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.  
**Where:** Lebanon 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 19-20 at Hayward Field in Eugene.  
 Any athlete meeting a predetermined qualifying standard may also qualify for state, regardless of number.  
 For results, follow the *I-O* on Twitter @PolkIOSports and visit [www.polkio.com](http://www.polkio.com).

## SD1 PREP TRACK AND FIELD

# Deters, Lux eye state berths in field events

By Lukas Eggen

The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY/ PERRYDALE — Falls City and Perrydale's track and field teams are ready to invade Portland.

The district meet could signal the emergence of a new force in 1A track and field.

Freshman Amity Deters is ranked among the top four in the long jump, triple jump, high jump and the 300-meter hurdles.

“She has a legitimate chance to go to state in four events,” Pirates coach Brian Evans said. “She's ranked highest in the 300 hurdles and high jump, but if we can get her second phase down in the triple jump, she could do really well in that event. In the long jump, she's sitting in fourth, but she's athletic enough to pull out a big PR and make it to state.”

The only thing holding

### SD1 Track and Field Championships

**What:** Special District 1 track and field championships.  
**When:** Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.  
**Where:** Portland Christian.  
**Who:** Athletes from Falls City, Perrydale, C.S. Lewis, Crosshill Christian, Damascus Christian, Jewell, North Clackamas Christian, Open Door Christian, Oregon School for the Deaf, Portland Waldorf, Southwest Christian, St. Stephen's Academy, Valor Christian School and Willamette Valley Christian.  
**What's at stake:** Winners and second-place finishers from each event at the district meet automatically qualify for the Class 1A state track and field championships, May 18-19 at Hayward Field in Eugene. Any athlete meeting a predetermined qualifying standard may also qualify for state, regardless of number.

her back in recent weeks has been shin splints, Evans said.

Some of Deters' stiffest competition in the jumps could come from teammate Alyssa Lux.

“She has the potential to make it to state in all three jumps with the long and triple jumps being her best events,” Evans said. “Her fourth event is the javelin.

She has improved her distance in each meet. I can see her being the district champion next year. I'm just not sure we have enough time to improve her technique, but she could be a dark horse in that event.”

For the boys, Jacob Pope is ranked in the top five in the discus and javelin.

Moving up the ranking and qualifying for state is



Deters



Pope

well within reach, Evans said.

“We are fine tuning his technique and we really hope that as a senior, he can pop off some big throws,” Evans said.

Abigail Bibler also has a chance at state in the shot put, but would require a personal record, Evans said.

“Our focus now is repetition and fine tuning, encouraging the kids to believe in themselves and their training and not to worry about their opponent but to just focus on the task at

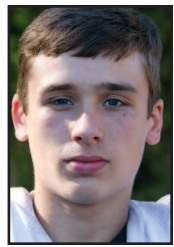
hand and have fun and make a memory,” Evans said.

Falls City track and field coach Ronnie Simmons wasn't shy about expectations coming into the 2017 season. He's excited about how the Mountaineers have developed throughout the spring.

Junior Jeremy Labrado may be primed for a big meet.

Labrado is ranked second in the league in the high jump and triple jump.

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Labrado



Hendrickson