

PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Deming places second in 300 hurdles

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

EUGENE — It wasn't the dream ending he hoped for, but Dallas senior Jacob Deming highlighted a strong showing from Dallas' track and field team at the OSAA Track and Field State Championships on Friday and Saturday.

Deming capped off a strong state meet by taking second in the 300-meter hurdles. Deming also placed fifth in the long jump and 11th in the triple

jump. Deming's time of 38.53 seconds in the 300 hurdles was a new personal record.

"Overall, I'm happy with the time and with myself," Deming said. "(State) is definitely different than anything else I've done. You have this sense of awe."

Deming was one of several Dragon athletes to place at state.

Jacob Collins took fourth in the pole vault (13-6¼); Aaron White placed eighth in the triple jump (42-5¾); Trevor Cross finished 10th

in the 3,000 (9:08.99); and Jacob Ronco took 11th in the javelin (144-10).

For the girls, Jenifer Webb and Stefani Tallon finished seventh and eighth (16.11 and 16.18) in the 100 hurdles. Kayley Sayer placed seventh in the long jump (16-3¼); Hailey VanWell took ninth in the triple jump (33-11¼); and Amelia Burgess finished 11th in the discus (105-11).

"The kids did well and should be proud," coach Bill Masei said. "It was a good weekend for Dallas track

and field."

For the athletes competing, state brought excitement, nerves and a wide range of emotions.

"It was difficult knowing it was my last time jumping," Sayer, a senior said. "Everything is running through my head, but it's an honor to be here."

For Aaron, a senior, who competed at state for the third time, the moment was just as magical as the first time he stepped onto Hayward Field.

"It's really fun," Aaron

said. "It's just this crazy experience. Track has always been my sport, the thing I've been best at. Being here three years in a row and being around these athletes is amazing."

He said sharing the moment with his father/coach Jason White made the moment even more special.

"My favorite memory is having my dad as my coach," Aaron said. "He's someone who knows the sport and it's a special relationship."

Aaron and Deming

weren't the only pair to share state together. Webb and Tallon competed together one last time in the 100 hurdles.

"It means more to us because it's our last year," Webb said. "We've been playing sports together since, like, sixth grade."

Even the way they finished was symbolic of the friendship they've shared through the years.

"How funny that we ended up going out the way we came in — nice and close," Tallon said.



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Freshman Hailey VanWell placed ninth in the triple jump.



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Dallas senior Jacob Deming leaps over a hurdle during a preliminary heat on Friday. He placed second in the final.

PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Shaw shines in first year of jumping

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

EUGENE — Falls City sophomore Jaime Shaw wasn't going to do track and field. Instead, she was planning on relaxing during the spring until curiosity got the better of her.

"I always loved running and all my friends were doing it, so I thought I might as well give it a try," Shaw said.

Initially she thought she would be a runner, but she soon changed course.

"I like being active, but

I'm not a very good long-distance runner, and I'm not fast enough to be a short-distance runner, so I decided to try jumps," Shaw said.

That turned out to be a good decision.

Shaw finished eighth in the triple jump at the 1A Track and Field State Championships on Friday in Eugene.

"It's kind of surreal," she said. "I'm happy I made it to the state finals."

The Mountaineers placed in four events during the state meet. The girls 4 x 100-meter relay team of Amara

Houghtaling, Natalie Batie, Brittney Potts and Madelyn Hendrickson placed sixth (54.30 seconds), while the boys 4 x 100 team of Jeremy Labrado, Nathan Kempfer, Charlie Gilson and Austin Burgess took 11th (47.36).

Labrado also took ninth in the triple jump (11.59 meters).

"I saw our athletes rise to the occasion and post personal records in all the events they competed in," coach Ronnie Simmons said. "It was great weather and just an awesome time to sit back and watch."



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Falls City sophomore Jaime Shaw finished eighth in the triple jump at the OSAA Track and Field State Championships on Friday. Shaw participated in track and field for the first time during the 2017 season. The Mountaineers placed in four events during state meet, held in Eugene, on Thursday and Friday.

PREP BASEBALL

Panthers fall to Marist Catholic in play-in round

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — Central's baseball team saw its season come to an end on Friday after losing to Marist Catholic 7-1 in a state play-in game.

The Panthers finished the season with a 17-9 record overall.

"I thought we had a very good season," coach Reed Rainey said. "Obviously, we wanted to go further in the playoffs than we did, but winning 17 games and finishing third in the conference has to be considered a good season."

Central saw a mixed bag

during the season.

"Our pitching and defense were very good throughout the season," Rainey said. "We don't have any power arms, but we competed very well on the mound and I was proud of the way all our pitchers progressed. Defense was the key to many of our wins."

While defense was a strength, the offense never found the consistency necessary.

"We had a couple of kids put up big numbers, but overall our offense did not match our pitching and defense," Rainey said. "A lot of that has to do with experience. We started four sophomores and three juniors, and the lack of varsity experience

and overall baseball experience was evident throughout the season. The positive is they gained valuable experience that will help us in the long run."

Moving forward, the Panthers will have to replace graduating seniors Jackson Holstad, Luis Amador and Humberto Alarcon. That won't be easy as the trio formed the core of the team's offensive production, but Rainey is optimistic for the future.

"We have a young team, and if we get stronger over the summer and continue to gain experience and knowledge, we will have a competitive team again next season," he said.

Dallas: Dragons have won 20 games in a row

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Dallas has excelled in all three areas during Mid-Willamette Conference play.

The Dragons led the MWC in runs scored (257) and fewest runs allowed (91), and enters the playoffs with confidence.

The Dragons boast arguably one of the deepest and most talented lineups in 5A, but just as important as talent is playing up to their potential every time they step onto the field.

"Consistency is something we have focused on all year," Jackson said. "Being consistent on both

sides of the ball is key."

Consistency is something the Dragons have had in spades.

Catcher Lauren Wallace was named the league's co-player of the year, while Kaelynn Simmons earned Pitcher of the Year honors. In addition, Olivia Nelson earned first team all-league honors; Jayden Wynia, Zoe Whitlow and Ashlee Lichtenberger received second team all-MWC recognition; and Emma Classen and Jordan Dippel earned honorable mentions. Jackson was named Coach of the Year.

The key to Dallas' success

is never being satisfied and knowing from here on out, one bad game could mean the end of the season.

"The girls know that with success we have had during league that opposing teams from here on out are hungry to beat us," Jackson said. "We do a great job of playing our game and playing to win, not playing not to lose. There is a big difference."

The winner advances to the quarterfinals on Friday against the winner of No. 9 Lebanon vs. No. 8 Eagle Point.

The state semifinals will take place May 30.



JULI LICHTENBERGER/for the Itemizer-Observer

Dallas' softball team opens the state playoffs at home Wednesday (today).

PREP GIRLS GOLF

Curtis takes 13th at state

Itemizer-Observer staff report

CRESWELL — Dallas senior Kailee Curtis placed 13th at the OSAA 5A Girls Golf State Championships May

15-16. Curtis shot a 36 over par over two days.

Curtis shot a 96 in the first round and a 48 in the second round. The second

round was reduced to nine holes due to weather.

Pendleton's Haley Greb and Summit's Olivia Loberg tied for first with a 5 over par.