

PREP BASEBALL

Dragons down Ashland in play-in game

By **Lukas Eggen**
The Itemizer-Observer

Class 5A State First Round

What: No. 11 Dallas at No. 6 Hood River Valley.
When: Wednesday, 4:30 p.m.
Where: Hood River Valley High School.
Admission: Adults, \$6; students, \$4.
What's at stake: The winner advances to the second round on Friday against the winner of Marist Catholic vs. Crescent Valley.

DALLAS — Dallas' baseball team is off to state.

The Dragons defeated Ashland 5-4 in the state play-in round on Friday to advance to the first round of the state playoffs.

"Friday was a great game," Dallas coach Scot McDonald said. "Jaret Stewart pitched really well and the kids made plays when they had to. Clutch hitting from Zach Wallace made the difference offensively."

Wallace finished with two hits and three RBIs. Treve Earhart and James Van Everdinge also had two hits each. Stewart threw 10 strikeouts over seven in-

nings on the pitcher's mound.

Dallas, ranked No. 11, will play at No. 6 Hood River Valley Wednesday (today) at 4:30 p.m.

Hood River Valley finished 19-7 overall and 10-2 in Columbia River Conference play, finishing first.

"Hood River has three good pitchers that compete, and their lineup scores runs," McDonald said. "They are a league champ

with tradition and know how to win."

Defeating the Eagles will be difficult, but McDonald said the Dragons have the tools necessary to advance.

"We will need good defense and timely hitting," McDonald said. "We preach to worry about what you can control and let the other stuff go. The guys will handle the tense situations and hopefully



JULI LICHTENBERGER/for the Itemizer-Observer

Dallas defeated Ashland 5-4 in the state play-in round.

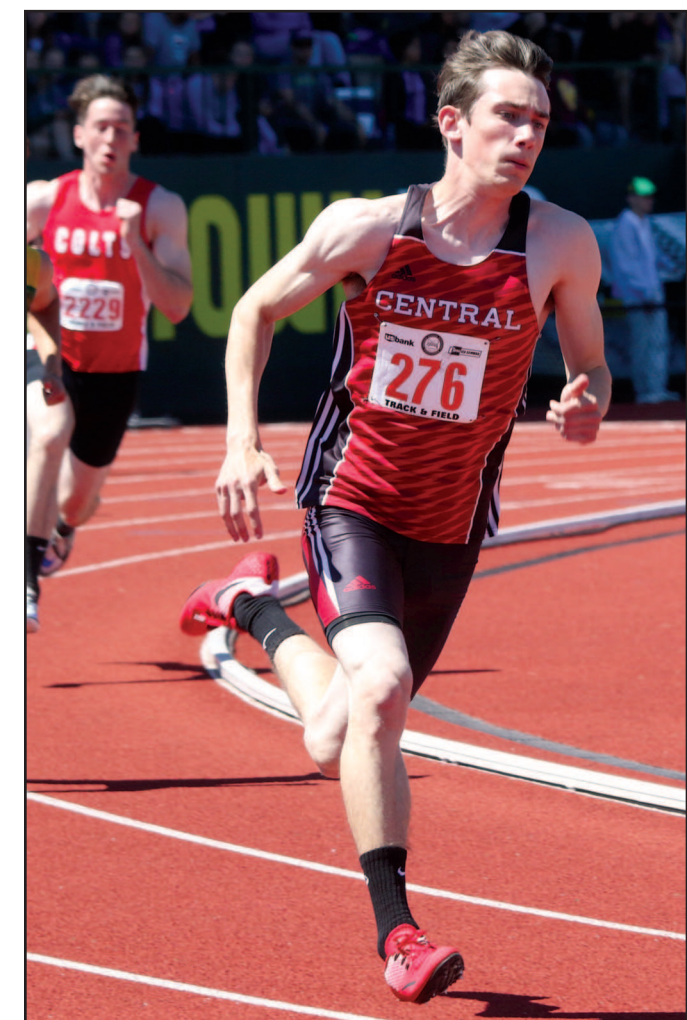
relax and allow themselves to perform."

The winner advances to

play the winner of No. 14 Marist Catholic vs. No. 3 Crescent Valley in the state

quarterfinals on Friday. The state semifinals will take place on Tuesday.

State: Panthers place in eight events in Eugene



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Issac Burgett takes off at the start of the boys 400-meter run final on Saturday in Eugene.

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As the starting gun went off, Altamirano was aggressive, and it became clear it would come down to her and Summit's Sarah Reeves.

The two were in a virtual deadlock headed into the final 100 meters, but Altamirano would not be denied.

"I knew that was going to happen," she said. "I imagined myself that I could win, that I deserved to win for all the work I've put in just for this."

Altamirano won the race in 57.67 seconds. Reeves finished in 57.77.

"It feels amazing," Altamirano said. "I'm in shock. That was the hardest race of my life. It's freaking me out a little. It's crazy to think (that I'm a state champion)."

Altamirano placed eighth in the 200.

"I want to thank God for letting me be here, because I don't know if I'm coming here next year," she said. "I like to thank Cirino, too, because he's done so much more for me."

The Panthers saw athletes place in eight events during the state meet.

Sophomore Sophia Henke

set a new personal record in the high jump, reaching 5 feet, 3 inches, and placed third.

"It was really calm," Henke said. "You'd think there'd be more anxiety down on the field than anywhere else, but it's the calmest place in the whole stadium. I was just hoping to clear the starting height. I didn't think I was going to PR by two inches. That's pretty cool. It was a crazy opportunity. I had an amazing support system and I definitely want to do high jump again."

On the boys side, junior Issac Burgett took sixth in the 400, and sophomore Jaydon Aydelotte placed sixth in the 110 hurdles.

"This has been like living the dream," Aydelotte said. "I went into districts not knowing how I would fare against others, and I happened to be a wild card for state. I'm ecstatic. I'd like to thank my coaches. They're the real drivers of my success."

Senior Peter Mason finished seventh in the long jump. The boys 4 x 100 relay team of Sterling Hutchinson, Mason, Burgett and Keegan



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Central senior Peter Mason placed seventh in the boys long jump at the state track and field meet.

Goodrich took 10th.

"I was hoping to do just a little bit better than I did, but the atmosphere at Hayward is great," Mason said. "We count ourselves lucky because we get to come and compete in the greatest facility in the country. ... Knowing I'm a senior, I'm counting down the jumps I had left. Before my last jump, you understand that this is the last one in a Central uniform. I tried to give it

my all."

The boys 4 x 400 relay team scratched after a bump caused Burgett to step on the railing and fall.

"In one afternoon, we experienced about the highest high and the lowest low that you can have in this sport," Cirino said. "We always talk about creating memories and we definitely did that this weekend. None of us will ever forget Saturday."

Pirates: Deters sets school record in high jump

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Pope was one of three Pirate athletes to place at state. Amity Deters finished fourth in the girls high jump (5-0) and eighth in the long jump

(14-10). Abigail Bibler took 10th in the shot put (29-8¾).

"Abigail was very nervous, and I think that affected her throwing the shot, but she still had her sec-

ond-best throw of the season," coach Brian Evans said. "Six of the people who placed in front of her were seniors, so next year could be big for her. Amity Deters was outstanding as a fresh-

man. In spite of fighting off shin splints, she set a new school record in the high jump. I couldn't be happier for this young lady. She is so coachable and she works hard in the weight

room and practice."

Evans was also pleased with Pope's performance in Eugene.

"He was throwing into the wind and still had his second-best throw all time

for him," Evans said. "Eighth place and a medal was very rewarding for us all. His season ended on a positive note, and I was a lucky coach to have him for four years."

PREP SOFTBALL

Central loses play-in game to Churchill

Itemizer-Observer staff report

INDEPENDENCE — Central's softball team lost to Churchill 4-2 Friday in a state play-in game.

"We didn't make adjustments at the plate like we needed to and that prevented us from scoring," coach Kendra George said.

Allison Wells had two hits, while Sydney Nash had a double and an RBI.

The Panthers finished the season with a 15-11 record overall.

"It was a fun group of girls to coach and I was bummed our season ended so soon," George said. "I saw some great improvement this season as individuals and as a team, which is always great. Unfortunately, we didn't win some of the close games

this year like we would have liked."

With the majority of the roster set to return next season, George is excited to see the Panthers grow in the years to come.

"All in all, I'm happy with our girls, their work ethic, and I am looking forward to them growing together as a team and program in the years to come," George said.

PREP BASEBALL

Pirates fall to Santiam

Itemizer-Observer staff report

PERRYDALE — Perrydale's baseball team closed out its season with a 15-1 loss to Santiam on Thursday and a 12-2 loss to Santiam on Friday. The Pirates finished the year with a 3-12 record overall.

"It was a promising start to the year, but the weather and a lack of consistency and depth made some close



Janesofsky

games end up out of reach," coach Steve Mabry said. "Overall, I saw vast improvement in some of the younger players that should help in the coming years."

Haylen Janesofsky led the team in batting, hitting .429, followed by Daniel Domes (.396), Alex Hawes (.351) and Dustin Silver (.345).

Noah Amador led the team's pitchers in starts and strikeouts.

"Overall there is work to be done in building the depth to compete game in and game out, but there was no lack of effort," Mabry said.

Polk Pedalers to meet

Itemizer-Observer staff report

DALLAS — The Polk Pedalers Bicycle Club will meet for an overnight camp out on Monday.

The club will meet at Courtyard Coffee House,

156 SE Mill St., Dallas at 8 a.m. Monday. The group will go on an 80 mile trip (rated moderately difficult) and camp out on Monday night before returning on Tuesday. All ages are wel-

come, but children must have an adult.

Helmets and camping gear are required. There is no cost to attend.

For more information: 503-623-6533.

PREP SOFTBALL

Pirates excited for future

Itemizer-Observer staff report

PERRYDALE — Perrydale's softball team closed out its 2017 season against Santiam on Thursday.

Though the team played an independent JV schedule, coach Chris Gubrud said he saw the groundwork laid for future success.

"This team really improved as the season progressed," he said. "Sydney Perkins and Natalie Juarez became dependable pitchers and the defense made a

lot of plays in the last seven to eight games. Hitting wise, we were really good all the way through the lineup. We seemed to hit the ball the best with runners in scoring positions, which is always nice. Jackie Juarez, Keiley Griffin and Kenzi and Sydney Lawrence all finished the season with hot bats."

Gubrud was also pleased with Kyndle Moore and Shylar Halverson.

"Shylar became a very

solid first baseman, turning many bad throws into outs in the last quarter of the season," he said.

With the roster nearly fully intact for next season, Gubrud expects to see the Pirates return to a full varsity schedule.

"We only lost two seniors and with the addition of a couple of talented freshmen, we should be able to put together a solid varsity squad next season," Gubrud said.

Nine Panthers earn all-league honors

Itemizer-Observer staff report

INDEPENDENCE — Nine Central softball players earned all-league honors. Erin Cole, Jori Kerr, Sydney Nash and Cassidy Noon

were named first team all-Mid-Willamette Conference.

Aunika Farley, Mollie Carter, Kyra Noon, Allison Wells and Peyton Shimanek

earned honorable mentions.

The Panthers advanced to the OSAA state play-in round before falling to Churchill.