

QUICK HITS

Williams to hold free football camp

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon football alum and wide receiver for the Los Angeles Chargers Tyrell Williams will hold a free offensive skills camp June 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The camp will take place at WOU and is open to quarterbacks, running backs, wide receivers and tight ends in grades seven through 12.

Williams will present along with Western Oregon football players.

The camp is limited to the first 150 students.

To register: GameOn-TY16@gmail.com.

Cross Creek men's club results

DALLAS — Cross Creek's men's club results for May 30:

Low gross/net
Gross: 1, Mike Largent, 30; 2 (tie), Ted Bennett, Bill Karjala, Ken Dankenbring, Jim Schroeder, Lee Gamaney and Terry Reed, 32.

Net: 1, Jason Fahlman, 21; 2 (tie), Al Fahlman and John Mangini; 4, David White, 26; 5, Lynn Hurt, 27; 6 (tie), Glen White, Dave Voves, Vern Smith, Bob Bennett, Brian Reed, Ken Ross and Derrill Weever, 28.

Booster Club to offer sports physicals

DALLAS — Dallas Booster Club will hold sports physicals on June 19 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Oregon Family Health, 607 SE Jefferson St., Dallas.

Cost is \$25 (cash or check only) and proceeds will support Dallas High School athletics.

Please arrive by 7:45 p.m. so physicals can be completed by 8:30 p.m.

Student-athletes need a sports physical once every two years. Pop Warner requires yearly physicals.

Forms will be available on site.

WOU softball camp registration open

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon softball will host its annual Elite Softball Camp June 19-21 at the WOU softball field. The camp will run from 1 to 4 p.m. on June 19 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 20-21. An optional session from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday will also be available.

The camp is aimed at working with softball players entering ninth through 12th grades.

Camp instructors will work with individuals on all aspects of the game with an emphasis on preparing athletes for advanced-level competition with the chance to showcase skills to WOU coaches and possibly other colleges.

Cost is \$225 per person and includes a camp T-shirt and shorts.

Registration is available online at www.wou-wolves.com/documents/2017/5/9/59/SB_elite_camp_flier_updated_2_1_.pdf?id=2168

For more information: Mo Jimenez, 360-910-1939.

STAT SHEET

2 The number of Dallas teams that advanced to the state semifinals or championship game during the 2016-17 school year. Football went to the semifinals, while softball made it to the 5A state championship game on Saturday.

44 The number of games Dallas' softball team has won over the past two seasons. Dallas went 25-5 this spring.



Dallas' softball team celebrates after placing second at state. The Dragons advanced to the 5A state championship game on Saturday. LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

PREP SOFTBALL

Dragons place second

Dallas dispatches Silverton in semifinals before falling to Marist Catholic

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

CORVALLIS — In the moments after Dallas' 12-7 loss to Marist Catholic in the 5A state softball championship on Saturday, coach Brandi Jackson addressed her team.

The loss stung — but Jackson wasn't about to let disappointment ruin the moment.

"You have nothing to hang your heads about," she told her players.

Emma Classen gave the Dragons a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first after recording a two-RBI single. But Marist Catholic scored six runs in the third to take the lead for good.

The Dragons kept the pressure on Marist, scoring in all but two innings, but Marist Catholic seemed to have the answer at every turn. Marist ended the game with 21 hits.

"I never like to put it in the umpire's hand, but there were a lot of questionable calls, when you're not get-



Ashlee Lichtenberger slides into home plate during Dallas' 12-7 loss to Marist Catholic on Saturday afternoon. LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

ting the corners (of the plate called strikes) and you have to bring the ball against an amazing hitting team ... I don't have words for that," Jackson said. "But no matter what, the umpire is part of the game, and we have to push through and try to work with it."

See DRAGONS, Page 14A



Jayden Wynia attempts to bunt against Marist Catholic on Saturday afternoon. LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

By The Numbers

23

The number of games Dallas' softball team won in a row during the 2017 regular season and playoffs.

0

The number of times Dallas' softball team had been to a state championship game before this year.

2

The number of seniors Dallas will lose to graduation: Olivia Nelson and Ashlee Lichtenberger.

Hess honored as assistant coach of the year

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Mark Hess' coaching career began with a bang.

"Greg Smith, who was a longtime PE teacher in Dallas, I played legion baseball for him," Hess said. "The next year, I was too old for Legion and Greg asked myself and another player to coach the state legion team for the summer."

The team won state.

"That was kind of fun," Hess said. "Actually, it was a lot of fun."

That started a coaching career that has spanned nearly four decades.

He's coached at Dallas High School, McKay High School, Taft middle and high schools, and LaCreole Middle School. Sports include baseball, football, boys and girls basketball, and softball.

Since 2005, he has helped coach LaCreole football and served as an assistant at Dal-

las High in baseball, football and softball at various points.

Partly under his guidance, athletic teams have racked up the accomplishments. He can add one of his own now.

Hess was honored as the Oregon Athletic Coaches Association's Assistant Coach of the Year for Oregon in May.

"I've worked for a lot of great guys," Hess said. "Tracy Jackson is one of them. Bill (Masei) is one of them. Scot (McDonald) all

those guys, they do great stuff and put in a lot of time and effort. I just surround myself with great people."

Hess knew something was up when Masei had a mysterious request.

"He told me to make sure (May) 20th is clear for you," Hess said. "I knew something was going on. I found out I was nominated and my first thought was there are a lot of great coaches in our school district who are a lot

more deserving than I was."

Those who have worked with him beg to differ. "It was a great honor for me to present this award to a friend and colleague of mine," Masei said. "He's not only an outstanding coach, but an outstanding educator as a PE teacher at LaCreole Middle School."

When Hess started his coaching career, he had dreams of becoming a head baseball coach.

See HESS, Page 14A