

## Clearing it out



Jamie Shaw returns a serve during Falls City's victory over Livingstone Adventist on Sept. 6.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

## Falls City: Coach wants confidence

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"Anna Lammers was a huge leader last year, and once she graduated that left a hole," Barnhart said. "But Jamie Shaw and Maddy Hendrickson are on fire. Amara Houghtaling is always dependable. Cassidy Simmons is a sophomore, and has grown by leaps and bounds. She has a very timid, quiet personality, but she's gotten more confident in calling the ball and going after it when it's hers."

The key is finding that confidence in all the players each match.

The Mountaineers lost to Crosshill Christian 25-7, 25-10, 25-10 on Friday. It was a lopsided loss score-wise, but Barnhart said her players

have the tools necessary to compete — it's about confidence in themselves.

"It's all about their mindset," Barnhart said. "It's not about their physical ability. They have all the physical skills. I would like to see them get a little grittier on the court. We have this mindset where we elevate our play against teams they feel confident against, but falter with teams they don't feel as confident about. It's about getting mentally tougher."

Falls City plays at Willamette Valley Christian Thursday at 6 p.m. and at Southwest Christian Tuesday at 6 p.m. The Mountaineers host C.S. Lewis Sept. 20 at 6 p.m.

### PERRYDALE ROUNDUP

## Volleyball extends win streak

**Itemizer-Observer staff report**

PERRYDALE — Perrydale's volleyball team extended its winning streak to 12 matches after going 4-0 last week.

The Pirates swept Livingstone Adventist 25-4, 25-4, 25-4 on Sept. 5, Jewell 25-14, 25-17, 25-9 on Thursday and Damascus Christian 25-17, 25-20, 25-10 and Southwest Christian 25-23, 25-12, 25-16 on Saturday.

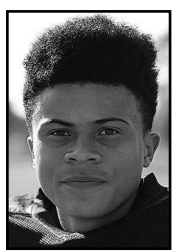
Perrydale improved to 13-2 overall and 3-0 in Casco League play.

The Pirates faced Willamette Valley Christian Tuesday after press time. Perrydale plays at North Douglas Saturday at noon before hosting Crosshill Christian Tuesday at 6 p.m.

**FOOTBALL LOSES TO LOWELL:** Perrydale's football team lost to Lowell 42-22 on Friday.

The Pirates led 22-20 at the half but Lowell outscored Perrydale 22-0 in the second half.

"In the end, their size wore us down," coach Steve Mabry said. "They



Canfield

averaged about 230 pounds on the line. It was a good test from a good team. We know where we need to shore up some things, but the game was much closer than the final score."

Running back Cooper Butler had 83 rushing yards and 86 receiving yards, including a 63-yard touchdown reception.

Running back Randall Canfield recorded 97 rushing yards.

Quarterback David Domes threw for 135 yards and two touchdowns.

On defense, JJ Avila and Butler each had 12 tackles.

The Pirates host Arlington/Condon Friday at 7 p.m.

Mabry said he expects to see some fireworks from both sides.

"This week's match up is a big game as league play opens up," Mabry said. "Every game is paramount to stay in the playoff hunt. We match up well with Arlington as last year's game was a double-overtime game. I expect a bit of a shootout as both teams have big play guys."

## Central: Panthers host Madison Tuesday

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"Her footwork and just overall dedication to soccer has increased drastically," Lepe said. "... Her speed is great, and I needed someone that complemented my other forward. She has grown as a player and as a person."

Rincon is now one of the Panthers' most dangerous weapons on the field.

"You can't let anybody knock you down," Rincon said. "You have to keep working hard because there

is always someone out there better than you."

That hard work has extended to the entire team.

Lepe said players like Sophia Henke, Cristy Leon and Mariah Hyre have all shown improvement.

"I have seen great chemistry, communication and growth from each individual player," Lepe said.

Many of the girls on Central's roster have played together for years through youth soccer leagues. But something about this year is



Rincon

different that has each excited about their potential. "Our passing is the best it's ever been," Rincon said. "It's never been to the point where it's a natural habit. Honestly, it felt at North Salem like we were at practice like we weren't being watched by anybody."

The Panthers play at Cascade Thursday at 4 p.m. before hosting Madison Tuesday at 6 p.m.

As Central makes its way toward the start of Mid-Willamette Conference play, the Panthers are excited to see what they can accomplish, and Rincon is ready to do whatever is needed to help her team.

"Even if we do take a loss, we have to keep going," Rincon said. "We have to put the past behind us and keep moving forward."

### DALLAS ROUNDUP

## Cross takes first at Saxon Invite

**Itemizer-Observer staff report**

SALEM — Dallas junior cross-country runner Trevor Cross won the Saxon Invite on Saturday.

Cross completed the 5,000-meter race in 15 minutes, 58.91 seconds.

The boys placed third in the team standings. Gavin Grass finished 18th in 17:33.32 and Toby Ruston placed 22nd in 17:41.20.

The girls had two runners compete in the varsity



Cross

87th in 25:44.14.

The Dragons will compete at the Northwest Classic at Lane Community College in Eugene Saturday

afternoon before competing at the Mid-Willamette Conference preview Sept. 20 at 3 p.m. at Willamette Mission State Park.

**BOYS SOCCER DOWNS**

**BENSON:** Dallas' boys soccer team picked up its first win of the season after defeating Benson 2-1 on Thursday. Stats were not available as of press time.

The Dragons nonleague match against St. Helens, originally scheduled for Sept.

5, was canceled due to air conditions. Dallas hosts Southridge Thursday at 4 p.m. before playing at Parkrose Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

**GIRLS SOCCER FALLS TO**

**EAGLE POINT:** Dallas' girls soccer team lost to Eagle Point 8-1 on Thursday. Stats were not available as of press time.

The Dragons played Redmond Tuesday after press time. Dallas plays at McNary Thursday at 7 p.m. and at Canby Tuesday at 7 p.m.

# Dragons: Dallas opens league play at Silverton

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Courtney has led a potent rushing attack. Through two games, he has 298 rushing yards and three touchdowns.

"Personally, I like to be a little shifty," Courtney said. "But when the time comes, I'll run people over."

Courtney's emergence — along with the Dragons' stable of running backs — gives Dallas depth and a shot for some new faces to make a big impact on the field.

"I think because we had guys like Aaron White and Jake Collins and Tanner Earhart, you just never had a chance to see what some of

these guys could do," Jackson said. "Now, they're getting their opportunities. Right now, I'm glad we have depth. We don't have to run any single guy into the ground because no one else can play."

The Dragons didn't throw often — quarterback Jaret Stewart had three completions — but when they did, it was successful. Stewart threw a pair of touchdowns, a 49-yard strike to Treve Earhart and a 22-yard pass to TJ Dimick.

"We've got a 6-foot-4 quarterback," Jackson said. "We'll throw when the opportunity is right."

Everything seems to be

going right for Dallas so far. Through two games, Dallas has yet to give up a single point, while combining to score 94.

But accomplishments during nonleague contests will mean little on Friday.

Dallas travels to Silverton to open Mid-Willamette Conference play in what Jackson expects to be a tough challenge.

Quarterback Levi Nielson has thrown for 321 yards and four touchdowns in two games for the Silver Foxes, and receiver Spencer Clements has 11 catches for 150 yards and three touchdowns.

"The thing about a good

quarterback is he can get the ball down the field quickly," Jackson said. "Silverton has good enough athletes that can turn plays into big gains. It's going to be a challenge. We're going to have to get after (Nielson) the best we can."

Silverton defeated Sandy 23-17 on Sept. 1 and Redmond 45-6 on Friday to open the season.

"It's going to be a fight," Jackson said. "We've got to keep making steady improvements, but I'm proud of the work our guys did this last week. I think we had a few letdowns the week before. There were no letdowns tonight."



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Five different running backs scored for Dallas during its 54-0 win over North Eugene on Friday night.

### PREP VOLLEYBALL

## Errors cost Dragons dearly during league openers



Emma Classen (5) and Tristin Savage (7) go up for a block against Crescent Valley.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

**By Lukas Eggen**

The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — For two of the three sets against Crescent Valley on Thursday, Dallas' volleyball team went point-for-point with the Raiders.

Too many self-inflicted proved to be the Dragons undoing in a 25-14, 27-25, 25-23 loss.

"We didn't pass the ball well," coach Shana Lavier said. "It's a mental game. The girls just need to have confidence in themselves. We're in a tough league. There's no one that's easy to put away. They'll get there."

Dallas (2-3 overall, 0-2 Mid-Willamette Conference), which also lost to Lebanon on Sept. 5, showed

the good and the bad.

The good — the Dragons put themselves in a position to win and the bad — seeing costly errors lead to a loss.

"It was a good match and hard-fought," Lavier said. "Give it up to Crescent Valley. They put the ball away when they had to and we had too many unforced errors. ... We have to stay disciplined on defense and on offense, not put five balls into the net in the last set."

The key will be making sure they are ready to take advantage of opportunities. "We definitely never gave up," Emma Classen said. "We just need to keep working and come together more. ... Our practices go well. I think we get a little

scared at the start of a game. We have to learn to relax."

Lavier said she's seen several players step up, but finding that on a consistent basis remains a challenge.

"We definitely have the talent," Classen said. "We just need to put it all together."

Dallas played Corvallis Tuesday after press time. The Dragons play at Silverton Thursday at 6 p.m. before hosting the Dallas Tournament Saturday starting at 8 a.m. Dallas also hosts Central Tuesday at 6 p.m.

"My hitters can go up against anybody in this league," Lavier said. "When they're off, they have to find a way to put the ball in play."