

# Football: Central plays CV; Dallas hosts Rebels

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What happened next left one side celebrating and the other despondent.

"I saw (Brycen) reach out for the goal line," Stewart said. "The defensive back just ripped the ball from him. It was just a heart-breaking play."

For the Panthers, the win was a big bounce back after losing to South Albany on Sept. 22.

"We played about as flat as you can play against South Albany," Central coach Shane Hedrick said. "I'm pleased with how the guys bounced back."

The win on the road was a little extra special for the Panthers.

"I got hurt during the first drive against Dallas last year," Abraham said. "This one meant a lot to me."

The game was a back-and-forth affair from the get-go.

"This particular game is always exciting," Hedrick said. "If you go back the last five or six years, it always

goes right down to the wire."

Central opened the scoring with a 13-yard touchdown from Hunter Chase in the first quarter. Dallas answered with a touchdown pass to Tristan DeVries to pull within 7-6 in the second quarter. The Panthers would extend their lead before the half thanks to a 30-yard touchdown pass to Abraham.

After a Dallas fumble to open the second half, Central took a 21-6 lead after a 29-yard touchdown pass to Jesse Cable.

A 3-yard touchdown run by Jaret Stewart at the end of the third quarter pulled Dallas to within 21-14.

"I was a little disappointed in our play in the first half, to be honest," Jackson said. "In all of our losses, we've watched some pretty good performances mixed with some less-than-stellar performances. Finding that consistency is what we are looking for."

Central improved to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in Mid-

Willamette Conference play.

The Dragons fell to 2-3 overall and 0-2 in MWC play.

Central will host Crescent Valley Friday at 7 p.m. The Raiders defeated Silverton 33-13 on Friday.

"We're going to see one of the state's best athletes at any level in Talanoa Hufanga," Hedrick said. "He's a special football player that makes plays that none of us are used to seeing. We will do our best to slow him down. They have other threats to watch for. On top of that, it's Homecoming."

Dallas will host South Albany Friday at 7 p.m.

"It's going to be a physical game," Jackson said. "They run the ball well out of a couple formations. It's a big week for everyone. We'll come out and fight and see what happens."

Notes: Central MVP: Hunter Chase. Offensive Player of the Game: Peter Mendazona. Defensive: Isaiah Abraham. Special Teams: Robert Deleon.



Dallas running back Brycen Grillo (34) sprints past a host of Central defenders.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer



Central quarterback Peter Mendazona (10) throws a pass on Friday night.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer



Central receiver Keegan Goodrich (26) looks to escape a tackle.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

## Nading: WOU men ranked 16th

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"My sophomore year, my wrestling coach told me I should go out for another sport during the spring," he said. "He told me it would be good for me."

Nading chose track and field. Before long, he fell in love with distance running.

"It's his fault," Nading said, smiling.

He was able to run and wrestle through high school, but as the end of high school neared, Nading knew he had to make a choice. Ultimately, running provided something that he couldn't pass up.

"There's nothing like the feeling of moving fast," Nading said.

Since arriving at WOU in 2016, Nading has had a significant impact, including a 10th-place finish at the 2016 GNAC Championships, and was part of the distance medley relay team that won a national title at the Indoor Track and Field Championships last spring.

"To go from watching Western compete and thinking, I want to be there, to being a part of the relay team a year later, it was cool to go from dreaming about it to living it," he said.

That success has spread to the cross-country season.

Nading finished seventh overall at the San Francisco Invitational on Sept. 21, WOU's second runner behind David Ribich, who placed first overall.

The Wolves had five runners finish in the top 20 in that race, and was ranked No. 16 in the NCAA DII Coaches' Poll on Sept. 27.

Nading credits the culture that



Dustin Nading (240) finished seventh at the San Francisco Invitational.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WOU ATHLETICS/Itemizer-Observer

Johnson has built.

"Every day you do a workout, you are aware that I get to decide how much I achieve," Nading said. "You realize that you're running as much for your teammates as yourself. That you won't just be carried along. Success doesn't just happen."

The team aspect has been key.

"A lot of teams have a top individual or two individuals who are really good," Nading said. "If you want to be really good, you have to be solid through your top seven runners or your top nine. When you run as a team, you realize 'I'm not out here by myself.' My teammates have the same goals as I do and that gives you a

sense of greater purpose."

The Wolves will compete at the Wes Cook Collegiate race on Oct. 14 in Salem before making final preparations for the GNAC Championships on Oct. 21 in Bellingham, Wash. WOU will host the NCAA Division II West Regional on Nov. 4.

"The whole team is excited moving forward," Nading said. "Everyone realizes how much conference and regionals means if we want to continue our season. We are well aware what it will take to compete at regionals. ... The pain and discomfort is going to come. It's about staying focused, knowing you can do it, and going out there and actually doing it."

### WESTERN OREGON ROUNDUP

## Volleyball drops a pair of road matches

Itemizer-Observer staff report

BELLINGHAM, Wash. — Western Oregon University's volleyball squad dropped a pair of road matches last week. The Wolves fell to Simon Fraser 22-25, 25-22, 25-17, 25-16 on Thursday and to Western Washington 25-11, 25-17, 25-14 on Saturday. Alisha Bettinson had 19 kills against Simon Fraser. Mariella Vandenkooy had a team-high 10 kills against Western Washington.

Western Oregon (5-8 overall, 1-5 Great Northwest Athletic Conference) played at Concordia Tuesday after press time. WOU hosts Montana State Billings Saturday at 2 p.m.

**AZUSA PACIFIC PULLS AWAY FROM WOLVES:** Azusa Pacific scored 24 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to pull away from Western Oregon's football team 48-17 on Saturday.

The Wolves led 7-3 after the first quarter, thanks to a 5-yard



Fenumiai

rush from tight end Caleb Tingstad. Azusa Pacific answered in the second quarter with a pair of touchdowns to take a 17-

10 lead into the half. The teams traded touchdowns in the third quarter. Quarterback Phillip Fenumiai scored first in the second half, tying the game at 17. Azusa Pacific would score the final 31 points of the game to secure the victory. WOU (1-4 overall, 0-3 GNAC) plays at Simon Fraser Saturday at 1 p.m.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER FALLS IN DOUBLE OVERTIME:

Western Oregon's women's soccer team lost to Seattle Pacific 2-1 in double overtime on Saturday. Amber Whitmore gave the Wolves a 1-0 lead in the first half, scoring in the 23rd minute. The Falcons scored the equalizer in the 84th minute. Seattle Pacific did not allow a single WOU shot over the final 65 minutes of play, and the Falcons scored early in the second overtime to earn the win. Western Oregon (1-7-1 overall, 0-4-1 GNAC) also lost to Concordia 3-1 on Sept. 26. The Wolves play at Central Washington Saturday at 11 a.m.

### DALLAS ROUNDUP

## Volleyball downs South Albany

Itemizer-Observer staff report

ALBANY — Dallas' volleyball team swept South Albany 25-14, 25-18, 25-8 on Sept. 26. Tristin Savage recorded 15 kills and eight blocks to lead the Dragons.

Dallas lost to Lebanon 25-18, 24-26, 15-25, 25-13, 15-10 on Thursday.

Savage had 16 kills and eight blocks.

"The defense played solid against a very aggressive offensive team," coach Shana Lavier said.

The Dragons (7-8 overall,



Savage

lays plays at Corvallis Thursday at 6 p.m. before hosting Silverton Monday at 6 p.m. The Dragons play at Central on Oct. 11 at 6 p.m.

Dallas entered the week in fifth place in the league

3-5 Mid-Willamette Conference played Crescent Valley Tuesday after press time. Dal-

standings.

"The second half of the season is huge for us," Lavier said. "We need to get more wins to improve our overall power rankings."

### BOYS SOCCER FALLS TO MILWAUKIE:

Dallas' boys soccer team lost to Milwaukie 3-1 on Sept. 26. Midfielder Michael Davison scored for the Dragons. Dallas opened league play at Lebanon Tuesday after press time. The Dragons host Crescent Valley Thursday at 4 p.m. and Corvallis Monday at 4 p.m. The Dragons play at Silverton on Oct. 11 at 6 p.m.

### CENTRAL ROUNDUP

## Girls XC places sixth at Woahink

Itemizer-Observer staff report

FLORENCE — Central's girls cross-country squad finished sixth at the Woahink Lake XC Invitational on Saturday.

Senior Bailie Hartford took 12th overall, finishing the 5,000-meter course in 20 minutes, 53.55 seconds.

Diana Nye placed 22nd in 24:46.61; Naomi Vega finished 28th in 22:08.07; Beatriz Trujillo took 55th in 24:11.63; and Bethanie Altamirano finished in 57th in 24:18.10 to round out the Panthers' scoring runners.

The boy team placed seventh. Junior Jonathon Brown took 23rd in 17:56.10. Jaime Cantu finished 42nd in 18:38.40; Rufus Schrader and Jaydon Aydelotte placed 47th and 48th in 18:45.60; and Caylen Thomas took 60th in 19:05.80.

Central will compete at the Harrier Classic on Saturday. Varsity races are scheduled to begin at 12:40 p.m.

**BOYS SOCCER CLOSSES OUT LEAGUE PLAY UNDEFEATED:** Central's boys soccer team de-

feated Mountainside 4-0 on Thursday to close out non-league play with a 6-0-1 record.

"We hope to keep this momentum going and keep playing as a team," coach Joe Orozco said. "If we continue to do this, it will take us a long way."

Central opened Mid-Willamette Conference play against Silverton Tuesday after press time. The Panthers play at South Albany Friday at 7 p.m. before hosting Crescent Valley Monday at 6 p.m. and Lebanon Oct. 11 at 4 p.m. South Albany went 6-1 in non-league play and Crescent Valley finished 5-1.