

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Pirates fall to Joseph in second round of state playoffs

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

JOSEPH — Perrydale's volleyball team saw its season come to a close on Saturday.

The Pirates lost to Joseph 25-20, 25-15, 21-25, 25-15 in the second round of the 1A state playoffs.

"It was a different atmosphere," coach Denise Dickey said. "They had a little different style of reffing. We got called on a lot of ball handling errors with anyone who was taking the first ball and setting it. That's something we weren't used to seeing this side of the state. It took the first two sets to really adjust to that. We came back and won the third set, but Joseph had too much momentum."

The mix of a nine-hour drive, shorter warmup time (13 minutes compared to 20) and increased scrutiny from the referees put players out of their comfort zones.

Add in Joseph's talent, and the Pirates fell short.

"I wouldn't be surprised if (Joseph) was in the finals," Dickey said. "They didn't have a weak spot on the court. Usually, a team has a weak place, or a weak rotation. They were well-rounded. I would say they are the best team we played this year."

Perrydale swept Damascus Christian 25-13, 25-17, 25-14 in the first round of the state playoffs on Oct. 25.

"They came out on fire and played with a lot of confidence," Dickey said. "They probably had one of the best matches I've seen them play this entire season. It seemed like the kids couldn't do anything wrong."

But playing in the Casco League title match, the first round of the state playoffs and traveling across the state for a second round matchup — all in the span of a week — took its toll, Dickey said.

"I think, going forward, the girls will be better mentally prepared," Dickey said.

"I think it's more of the mental game we have to work on. We can't underestimate any team and traveling nine hours and playing three really important matches in a week, I think the girls had a little fatigue. I think they were a little worn out before they even started playing (against Joseph)."

The Pirates finished the season with a 23-7 record overall and 11-1 mark in league play.

Though Perrydale fell short of reaching the state quarterfinals in Redmond, Dickey said the Pirates should be proud of their accomplishments -- and excited for the future with nine players returning.

"I tried to tell the girls we still had a really great season," Dickey said. "I feel bad for the seniors because they didn't quite make it to Redmond, but we're right there. We are still a young team and I think the next couple years are going to be fantastic."



BRIAN EVANS/for the Itemizer-Observer

Alyssa Lux goes for a kill during the Pirates win over Damascus Christian on Oct. 25.

Dallas: Dragons face Bend on Friday afternoon

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The Dragons roared back, winning 20 of the final 25 points of the first set.

Dallas also rallied from deficits late in the second (23-18) and third (22-17) sets to complete the sweep.

"It was insane," senior Josie Smith said. "I know for me, moving from being on junior varsity as a junior to going to state as a senior is crazy."

Tristin Savage had 14 kills, while Hailey VanWell added 10 kills. Jose Smith had 10 total blocks.

"They don't want to be done," Lavier said. "They want to keep going. I know a

Volleyball

- Dallas defeated Crater 25-20, 25-17, 21-25, 25-22 in the state play-in round on Oct. 24.
- Tristin Savage had 11 kills and eight blocks. Maggie Blair added 12 kills. Emma Classen recorded 31 assists.
- Six Dallas players earned all-league recognition. Tristin Savage (middle blocker) and Emma Classen (setter) received first team all-Mid-Willamette Conference honors. Hailey VanWell, Maggie Blair, Mikayli Laizure and Emily May received honorable mentions.

lot of teams around the state, they are exhausted. Our girls aren't ready for this run to end."

Dallas has gone 14-5 over its last 19 matches.

Lavier hopes a secret weapon will help push Dallas over the top.

Friday will mark the Dragons' first trip to the quarterfinals since 1990, Lavier said.

Lavier played a role in ending Dallas' season that year.

"What's funny is the last

time Dallas played in the state tournament it was against my high school team, Henley," Lavier said. "We beat Dallas and ended up winning the state championship."

From the moment Lavier started coaching volleyball, she had a mentor, someone there to help her out whenever she needed it.

"We have our own secret weapon," Lavier said.

That weapon is Chuck Shannon.

Shannon coached for 25 years at Henley. He helped lead the school to three state titles (1990, '91 and 2001), three second-place finishes

and 20 Skyline Conference Championships.

"He's been an integral part of this program since I've been head coach here," Lavier said. "He's a great resource. He talks to the girls. He shows huge support. One of the all-time winningest coaches in Oregon history happens to be my old coach and mentor."

Players have taken advantage of having an added resource at their disposal, mostly during the early parts of the season. The lessons he shares sticks with them.

"He helps out with our volleyball camp during the summer," Smith said. "I

think what's cool about Chuck is he offers a different perspective. He sees things about our play that we might not necessarily have seen. He helps us in overcoming adversity."

Now, Dallas stands three wins away from an improbable state championship. The road will be tough, but don't expect the Dragons to lay down.

"Call it a Cinderella story, call it whatever you want," Lavier said. "The girls never gave up. No matter the score, they never lost sight of the goal, and now they're going to the state tournament."

PREP VOLLEYBALL

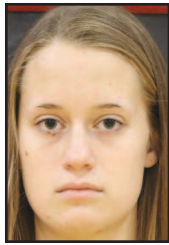
Panthers lose to top-seeded Summit in first round

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

BEND — Facing the top seed in the state, Central's volleyball team lost to Summit 25-19, 25-16, 25-20 in the first round of the OSAA Class 5A state playoffs on Saturday.

"Summit was a very good team, very seasoned," Panthers coach Claudine Mendazona said. "They had several contributors on offense. They passed really well and were able to run their offense for the majority of the match. They put us on the defensive a lot."

Senior Krista Omlid had 11 kills



Omlid

11 digs and two blocks during the match. Sophomore Sydney Nash recorded 17 assists and eight digs.

Summit advanced to the state quarterfinals on Friday against Hood River Valley.

Central earned a spot in the state playoffs after defeating Thurston 23-25, 25-18, 25-17, 10-25, 15-12 in the play-in round on Oct. 24.



Chavez

the girls knew they could if they got things done."

Omlid had 24 kills and 16 digs. Annika Riddell recorded six kills and three blocks; and Nash had 27 assists, 17 digs and four aces.

Elizabeth Chavez (libero) was



Riddell

named first team all-Mid-Willamette Conference. Nash (setter), Erin Cole (defensive specialist) and Riddell (middle blocker) received second team all-conference recognition, and Omlid (outside hitter) received honorable mention.

The Panthers finished the season with an 11-10 record overall and an 8-6 mark in league play.

Central will see three seniors

graduate from its varsity roster, but the experienced gained from returning players will be invaluable, Mendazona said, and could be a launching point to an even greater 2018 campaign.

"I think they see how important having that cohesion is," Mendazona said. "Not only being together as a team, but believing and trusting in your teammates. You have to have that when you play a team sport. These girls have been to the playoffs last year, and now this season. I think it's all about taking those little steps, progressing forward as they get older in the program."

WESTERN OREGON ROUNDUP

Wolves defeat Simon Fraser 2-1 on Senior Day



WESTERN OREGON ATHLETICS/for the Itemizer-Observer

Western Oregon recognized seniors Mai Kahuka and Meli Cortez on Saturday.

Itemizer-Observer staff report
MONMOUTH — Western Oregon University's women's soccer team defeated Simon Fraser 2-1 on Senior Day on Saturday.

Senior Meli Cortez scored the first goal of the match in the second half off an assist from junior Dacia Alexander. Cortez also scored in the 62nd minute. WOU opened the week with a 1-0 loss to Seattle Pacific on Thursday.

The Wolves finished the 2017 season with a 3-11-2 record overall and a 2-8-2 mark in Great Northwest Athletic Conference play, good for sixth place.

FOOTBALL FALLS TO TARLETON: Western Oregon's football team lost to Tarleton State 28-6 on Saturday.

Tarleton State jumped out to

a 14-0 lead before a 1-yard touchdown run by junior Caleb Tingstad brought the Wolves to within 14-6 in the second quarter. WOU was held without a score the rest of the way.

Quarterback Nick Duckworth finished the game with 235 yards passing. Zack Suarez recorded six catches for 69 yards and Devin Fortier had 14 rushes for 45 yards.

The Wolves (2-7 overall, 1-5 GNAC) host Azusa Pacific Saturday at 1 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL DROPS TWO: Western Oregon's volleyball team lost a pair of conference matches last week. The Wolves fell to Western Washington 25-12, 25-16, 25-15 on Thursday and Simon Fraser 25-17, 25-19, 25-17 on Saturday.

Alisha Bettinson had 13 kills against Simon Fraser to lead the Wolves. Bettinson recorded a team-high 11 kills against Western Washington.

WOU played Concordia Tuesday after press time. Western Oregon (6-15 overall, 2-12 GNAC) plays at Montana State, Billings Thursday at 6 p.m.

AZORR NAMED TO PRE-SEASON ALL-GNAC TEAM: Western Oregon women's basketball senior Sydney Azorr was named to the GNAC Pre-season All-GNAC team. Azorr averaged 10.0 points and 4.3 rebounds per game during the 2016-17 season. The Wolves finished 8-19 overall and 4-16 GNAC.

The Wolves played Lewis & Clark in an exhibition game on Sunday.

CROSS-COUNTRY TO HOST RACE SATURDAY: Western Oregon will host the NCAA Division II West Region cross-country championship Saturday at Ash Creek Preserve.

Races begin at 10 a.m. For more information: www.wouwolves.com.

Itemizer-Observer staff report
DALLAS — The Blue Dolphins Swim Team hosted the Halloween Invitational on Oct. 21 in the club's first sanctioned meet in at least 15 years.

The Blue Dolphins competed against teams from Tillamook, Stayton, Albany and Lincoln City.

The Blue Dolphins won the meet with a score of 802. Lincoln City was second

with 729.

Lonny Stork set two team records in the 11-12-year-old age category in the 50-yard backstroke (32.47 seconds) and 200 individual medley (2:37.76).

Sydney Alamein set a program record in the 100 butterfly (11-12) with a time of 1:11.20.

Full results are available online at www.polkiio.com. The Blue Dolphins Swim

Team is a nonprofit competitive swim team that practices at Dallas Aquatic Center. The squad is open to swimmers ages 18 and younger.

A free, two week trial peri-

od is open to any swimmer interested in joining the group.

For more information about the Blue Dolphins: www.bluedolphin-swimteam.org.