

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, NOV. 9
Volleyball: Western Oregon at Alaska Anchorage, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV. 10
Men's basketball: GNAC/PacWest Challenge: Saint Martin's vs. Fresno Pacific, 5 p.m. Point Loma vs. Western Oregon, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 11
Football: OSAA Class 1A state playoffs, quarterfinals: No. 6 Falls City at No. 3 Camas Valley (at Roseburg High School), 1 p.m. Simon Fraser at Western Oregon, 1 p.m.

Men's basketball: GNAC/PacWest Challenge: Saint Martin's vs. Point Loma, 5 p.m. Fresno Pacific vs. Western Oregon, 7:30 p.m.

Volleyball: Western Oregon at Alaska Fairbanks, 8 p.m.

Women's basketball: WOU/Hampton Inn D2 Shootout: Saint Martin's vs. California State, San Bernardino, noon. Dixie State vs. Western Oregon, 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOV. 12
Women's basketball: WOU/Hampton Inn D2 Shootout: Saint Martin's vs. Dixie State, noon. California State, San Bernardino vs. Western Oregon, 2 p.m.

Schedules Subject to Change

QUICK HITS

Highburger named Player of the Week

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon University linebacker Bo Highburger was named the Great Northwest Athletic Conference's Defensive Player of the Week for football.

Highburger recorded 15 tackles against Azusa Pacific on Saturday.

The game was the fourth time Highburger registered 10 or more tackles this season.

The Wolves host Simon Fraser Saturday at 1 p.m.

Cross Creek men's club results

DALLAS — Cross Creek's men's club results for Oct. 31:

Low gross/low net
 Gross: 1 (tie), Ben Talon-Kayne and Bill Karjala, 37; 3, Lee Gamaney, 39.

Net: 1, Denny Klassen, 32; 2 (tie), Al Fahlman and Steve Albin, 34; 4 (tie), Darrel Smedstad and Ed Johnson, 36.

Bowling league results

DALLAS — Cherry Pickers win first quarter with 24-8 record.

High Scratch Game Men: Steve Clapper 244.

High Scratch Game Women: Debbie Cates 180.

High Scratch series Men: Steve Clapper 622.

High Scratch Series Women: Doris Stefani 500.

High Handicap Game Men: Cecil Maginn 255.

High Handicap Game Women: Jeanne Buhler 263.

High Handicap Series Men: Dennis Woitte 680.

High Handicap Series Women: Judy Reid 696.

Dallas Glow Run sees increased fundraising

DALLAS — The Dallas Glow Run raised \$8,500 for the Dallas Christmas Cheer Fund.

That total is about \$500 more than 2016.

The Dallas Christmas Cheer fund provides assistance to families in need in the Dallas area.

The Glow Run attracted hundreds of runners and walkers that embarked on a 3.1-mile course.

The event also featured a costume contest, food and entertainment.



WESTERN OREGON ATHLETICS/for the Itemizer-ObsERVER

Western Oregon University senior David Ribich (590) took first at the NCAA Division II West Region race on Saturday.

COLLEGE CROSS-COUNTRY

Wolves advance to nationals

Ribich wins individual title, men's team places third

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

MONMOUTH — From the moment the season began, Western Oregon University's men's cross-country team had this race circled.

The Wolves knew a top three finish in the team standings at the NCAA Division II West Region race on Saturday meant a trip to the national championships.

Led by an individual title from senior David Ribich, Western Oregon edged out Simon Fraser in a tie breaker to take third.

"Oh man, it was surreal," Ribich said. "Everything

Women's cross-country

• Western Oregon University's women's cross-country team placed 17th at the NCAA Division II West Region race on Saturday. Senior Kennedy Rufener earned all-West honors after a 12th place finish. Rufener finished the 6,000-meter course in 21 minutes, 32.8 seconds. Rufener earned an individual invitation to the NCAA Div. II National Championships on Nov. 18.

• Suzanne Van De Grift (89th, 23:01.8), Cassie McKinney (123rd, 23:38.8), Olivia Woods (143rd, 24:06.11) and Isabelle Tingelstad (156th, 24:22.5) rounded out the Wolves' scoring runners.

paid off. The last couple of years, we've had individual success. This shows we're more than a one-person wonder. We're all reaching that level and getting the job done." Clinching their spot

turned out to be more difficult than any of them could have imagined.

Ribich had one goal in mind prior to Saturday's 10,000-meter race: Stay patient.

"I knew I'd have to finish fast in order to succeed," he said. "A lot of times I make a move earlier and put a gap between me and some of the other runners. I needed to run a tactical race (on Saturday)."

Midway through the race, Ribich had the itch to be more aggressive, but teammate Dustin Nading kept him on task.

"I wanted to make a move at the 4,000-meter mark,"



Nading

Ribich said. "Dustin was a big motivator to stay patient and keep me on track. We trust each other enough to be able to tell each other what we need to hear."

Finally, with about 800 meters left in the race, Ribich started his kick, pulling away for first place in 29 minutes, 49.2 seconds.

"It was exactly how I pictured it would pan out," he said. "It was kind of surreal to me. When I made the move, it felt effortless in a sense and there was a sigh of relief that the plan worked."

See WOLVES, Page 13A

PREP FOOTBALL

Mountaineers headed to quarterfinals



RACHEL BEST/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Falls City's football team defeated Echo 58-20 on Friday night.

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

FALLS CITY — The Mountaineers aren't done climbing yet.

Sixth-seeded Falls City football team defeated No. 11 Echo 58-20 on Friday in the first round of the 1A state playoffs to advance to the quarterfinals against No. 3 Camas Valley Saturday at 1 p.m. at Roseburg High School.

"These eight guys have been playing together for six games now and are starting to gel pretty well," coach Laric Cook said. "The offensive line has been doing a great job for us, and our backs have hit the

hole pretty hard and fast. Then, we run play action because all you're thinking is we're running. The kids understand what we want, and they are playing at a high level."

A 13-yard run by Jeremy Labrado gave the Mountaineers an early 8-0 lead. Echo answered with an 84-yard touchdown pass to pull within 8-6 before Falls City broke the game open.

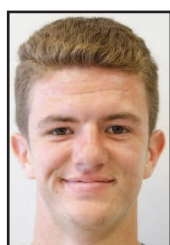
The Mountaineers added 36 points before halftime to take a 42-12 lead into the break and extended their lead to 58-12 before Echo scored its final touchdown with one minute left in the game.

See MOUNTAINEERS, Page 13A

PREP CROSS-COUNTRY

Dragons place eighth at state

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER



Bibler

EUGENE — For the first time in more than three decades, Dallas' boys cross-country team approached the starting line at the OSAA 5A state cross-country championships on Saturday at Lane Community College.

It didn't take long to realize that state was a different level of competition than anything they had experienced before.

"It was pretty intense," junior Trevor Cross said. "It was exciting. There are a lot of fast people there. Most races, I go out the same pace and I'm by myself, more or less. Maybe there's one or two other guys. At state, I go out and there are 10 guys ahead of me. There's a lot of

pressure." Cross placed 27th overall, finishing the 5,000-meter course in 16 minutes, 35 seconds,

helping the Dragons take eighth in the team standings.

Freshman Toby Ruston finished 40th in 16:55, followed by sophomore Gavin Grass (54th, 17:23); senior Ryan Bibler (64th, 17:45); freshman Dillon Stuhr (72nd, 17:57); junior Orion Knudson (83rd, 18:14) and sophomore Antonio Barrientos (85th, 18:23).

It was the first time a team from Dallas qualified for state since the 1980s.

See DRAGONS, Page 14A



ALICE BIBLER/for the Itemizer-ObsERVER

Trevor Cross placed 27th overall at state on Saturday.

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Central upset in first round

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

INDEPENDENCE — It wasn't the ending anyone on Central's boys soccer team was expecting.

No. 13 Marist Catholic upset the fourth-seeded Panthers 1-0 in the first round of the 5A state playoffs on Nov. 1.



Padilla

See CENTRAL, Page 13A