

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JAN. 11
Boys basketball: Perrydale at Falls City, 7 p.m.
Girls basketball: Perrydale at Falls City, 5:30 p.m.
Men's basketball: Western Oregon at Saint Martin's, 7 p.m.
Women's basketball: Western Oregon at Alaska Anchorage, 8 p.m.
Wrestling: Central at Corvallis, 6 p.m. Dallas at South Albany, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 12
Boys basketball: Central at Woodburn, 7 p.m. Crescent Valley at Dallas, 7 p.m. Falls City at Estacada, 7 p.m.
Girls basketball: Central at Woodburn, 5:30 p.m. Dallas at Crescent Valley, 7 p.m.
Wrestling: Dallas at Oregon Classic (at Redmond Pavilion), TBA.

SATURDAY, JAN. 13
Men's basketball: Western Oregon at Seattle Pacific, 7 p.m.
Track and field: Western Oregon at University of Washington Indoor Preview, all day.
Women's basketball: Western Oregon at Alaska Fairbanks, 2 p.m.
Wrestling: Central at Nick Lutz Invitational, TBA. Dallas at Oregon Classic (at Redmond Pavilion), TBA.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16
Boys basketball: Central at South Albany, 7 p.m. Woodburn at Dallas, 7 p.m. Falls City at Livingstone Adventist, 7 p.m. Perrydale at Oregon School for the Deaf, 7:30 p.m.
Girls basketball: South Albany at Central, 7 p.m. Dallas at Woodburn, 7 p.m. Falls City at Livingstone Adventist, 5:30 p.m. Perrydale at Oregon School for the Deaf, 6 p.m.
Swimming: Central at Silverton, 4 p.m.
Women's basketball: Concordia at Western Oregon, 7 p.m.

Schedules Subject to Change



Dallas senior Treve Earhart wrestles against Junction City's Zachary Holliday on Saturday morning.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

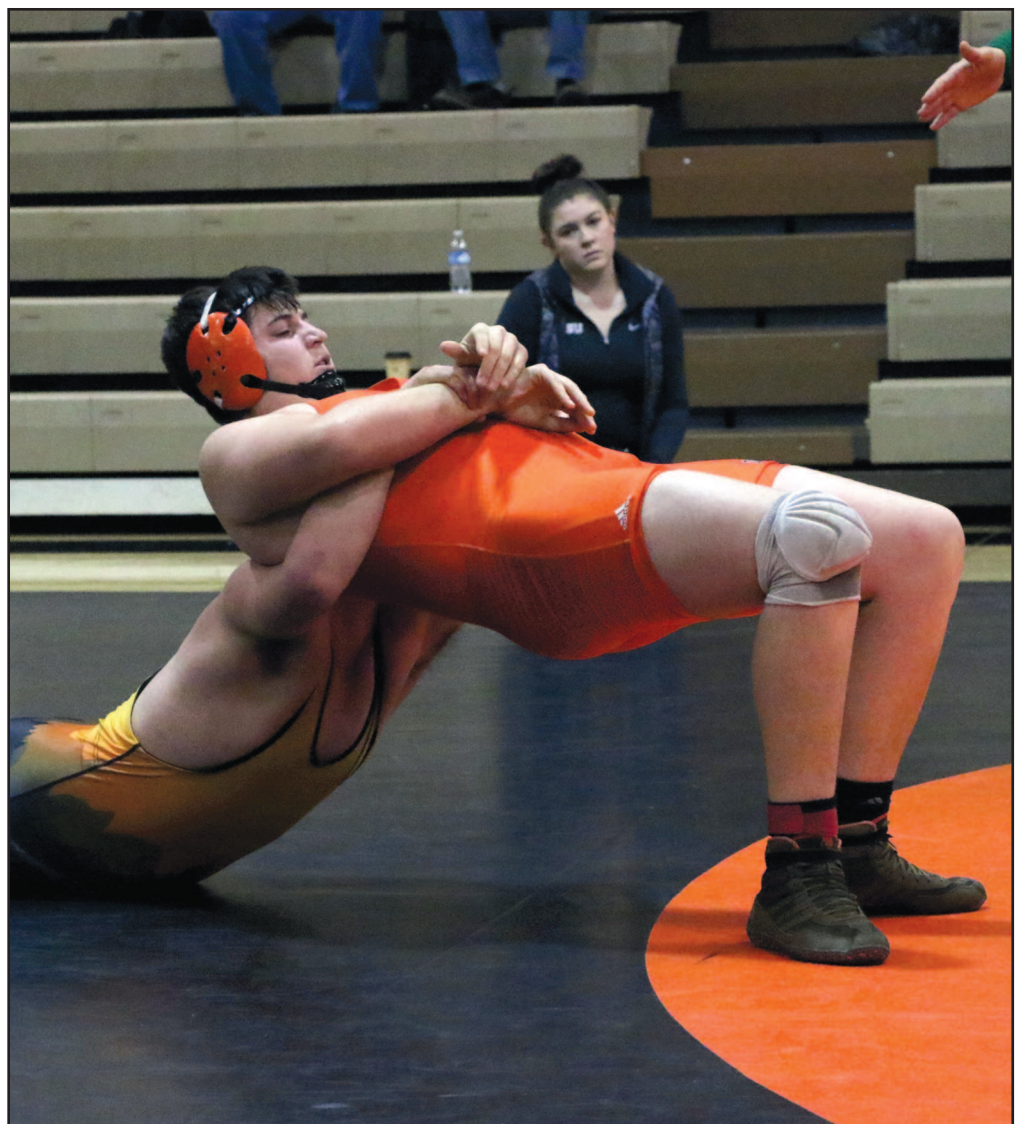
PREP WRESTLING

Wrestling expectations

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

DALLAS — Dallas' wrestling program has a history of excellence, and so far, the Dragons have lived up to that history. Dallas dominated the Brunner Invitational, placing first out of eight teams on Saturday. "It's awesome to get to wrestle in front of the community," senior Treve Earhart said. "For all our friends and families to not have to travel far to watch us, it's great and it's always good to win in front of the

home crowd." The Dragons went 4-0, defeating Junction City (67-9), Willamina (58-7) and Pendleton (65-6) before beating Milwaukie (60-6) in the first-place match. Dallas' finish on Saturday was the latest in a string of strong results to start the season. The Dragons are ranked third in Class 5A by the Oregon Wrestling Forum. Senior Treve Earhart is off to a 22-3 start, including three wins on Saturday, and is ranked first in 5A at 182 pounds by the OWF. See DALLAS, Page 11A



Dallas' wrestling squad won all four of its duals at the Brunner Invitational.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Brunner Invitational

- Dallas' wrestling team went 4-0 at the Brunner Invitational on Saturday.
- Dallas defeated Junction City, Willamina, Pendleton and Milwaukie.
- Cael Morrison (106 pounds), Haydn Millard (113), Ryan Bibler (120), Luke Hess (126), Dillon Stuhr (132), Joseph Foster (138), Jacob Jones (145), Isaiah McIntosh (152), Patrick Holgate (160), Nicholas Nelson (170), Treve Earhart (182), and Bryce Jordan (220) earned wins against Junction City.
- Millard, Bibler, Stuhr, Hess, Foster, Bryce Miller (145), Jones, Nelson, Earhart, Floyd, Jordan and Ashten Brecht picked up wins against Willamina.
- Kimberly Holgate, Millard, Bibler, Stuhr, Kadin Thorsten (138), Bryce Miller (145), McIntosh, Holgate, Nelson, Cooper Hise (195), Jordan and Brecht won against Pendleton.
- Morrison, Coby Rust (113), Bibler, Stuhr, Dawson Barcroft (132), Foster, Jones, McIntosh, Nelson, Devon Floyd (182), Earhart, and Brecht picked up wins against Milwaukie.

QUICK HITS

WOU basketball ranked No. 1

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon University's men's basketball team was ranked No. 1 in the NCAA Division II West Region Poll on Monday. The Wolves (13-1 overall) received three of six first-place votes. Cal Poly Pomona was ranked second and California Baptist was ranked third. Western Oregon plays at Saint Martin's Thursday at 7 p.m. and at Seattle Pacific Saturday at 7 p.m.

Wolves to hold alumni night

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon University's women's basketball team will host alumni night on Jan. 27. All former players are invited to attend. A reception will be held before the game at 5 p.m. with food and beverages. Each alumna will receive tickets to the game and be recognized by name on the court during halftime. To RSVP: www.wou.wolves.com/news/2018/1/3/womens-basketball-alumni-night-set-for-jan-27.aspx.

Registration open for Mighty Mites

DALLAS — Registration is open for Mighty Mites, a program open to kids ages 3 to 5 to learn the fundamentals for youth sports. Classes will be held every Saturday from Jan. 20 to Feb. 10 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Whitworth Elementary School. Cost is \$25 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is due by Monday. For more information: Sheila Peirce, 503-831-3562 or email to sheila.peirce@dallasor.gov.

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

Central enters league play hungry to contend

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

INDEPENDENCE — In each of the past two seasons, Central's boys basketball team took a 4-5 record into league play — leaving players looking for a breakthrough. "We've been that team that's .500 and trying to get that big win," coach Tim Kreta said. Not this year. The Panthers enter league play with an 8-2 mark and appear ready to challenge for a Mid-Willamette Conference title. "It's a big deal," junior Brendan Lesmeister said. "Knowing where you stand, the rest of the league is looking at you as one of those top teams they want to get after. We want to keep that high, and keep winning every game." Central is also getting healthy at an important time in the season.



Brendan Lesmeister returned from an injury for the Panthers' final two nonleague games.

LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER

Lesmeister missed the team's first eight games with a finger injury. He returned against Ashland and Hermiton. See CENTRAL, Page 11A

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Falls City grows up on the court

By Lukas Eggen
 The Itemizer-ObsERVER

FALLS CITY — Falls City's girls basketball squad has experienced some big swings.



Houghtaling

The Mountaineers opened the season with three losses before going on a five-game win streak, followed by a three-game losing streak after a 39-37 setback against Crosshill Christian on Friday. "We're learning to let go of our mistakes," junior Amara Houghtaling said. "That's definitely our biggest thing. It's challenging for us. We want to be perfect. But we have to remember to be successful, you're going to make mis-

Falls City

- Falls City's girls basketball team lost to Jewell 27-15 on Jan. 2 and Crosshill Christian 39-37 on Friday.
- Amara Houghtaling scored a team-high 13 points against Crosshill Christian. Emma Burgess added nine points and seven rebounds. Mack and Brittany Potts each grabbed nine rebounds.

takes and we can learn from them."

Falls City has a mix of players like Houghtaling, who have years of experience, and new players, some who have little to no basketball experience.

"I've seen a lot of growth," senior Brittany Potts said. "We have a new girl playing (basketball) for the first time. This is only my second year playing, so I'm still picking up things as well."

See FALLS CITY, Page 11A