

WESTERN OREGON ROUNDUP

Men's basketball extends win streak

Itemizer-ObsERVER staff report
SEATTLE — Western Oregon University's men's basketball team extended its win streak to eight after defeating Saint Martin's 79-71 on Thursday and Seattle Pacific 83-79 on Saturday.



Omlid built a lead as big as 17 in the first half against Saint Martin's, thanks to a 19-2 run, before holding off the Saints in the second half. Tanner Omlid had a game-high 19 points to go along with six rebounds, two blocks and two steals. The Wolves built an 11-point lead at the half against Seattle Pacific before having to hold off a furious rally by the Falcons.

Omlid had 20 points and nine rebounds, while Vince Boumann added 20 points and five rebounds.

Western Oregon returns home to host Central Washington Thursday at 7:30 p.m. before facing Northwest Nazarene Saturday at 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL DEFEATS ALASKA FAIRBANKS: Western Oregon University's women's basketball team lost to Alaska Anchorage 85-53 on Thursday before defeating Alaska Fairbanks 74-54 on Saturday.

Savannah Heugly scored a game-high 20 points and grabbed 13 rebounds against Alaska Fairbanks. Shelby Snook added 18 points and Keyonna Jones scored 12 points.

WOU hosted Concordia Tuesday after press time. The Wolves host Montana State, Billings Thursday at 5:15 p.m.

FIVE SCHOOL RECORDS SET AT MEET: Western Oregon University's track and field team set five school records



Ribich finished with a time of 2 minutes, 21.38 seconds, and took second overall behind professional runner Drew Windle.

Van De Grift broke her own school record with a time of 2:54.23.

Dustin Nading and Nicole Maurmann set new records in the men's and women's 3,000. Nading finished the men's race in 8:11.67, while Maurmann crossed the finish line of the women's race in 10:08.94. Olivia Woods also broke a school record in the women's 600 with a time of 1:35.23.

The Wolves are off until Jan. 26-27 when WOU will compete at the University of Washington Invitational.

Turf check



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-ObsERVER
Jeff Davenport, of Mid-Valley Ford, presented a check for \$2,800 to Dallas Booster Club President Stephanie Earhart to go toward the Field Turf project. The project has raised \$541,000 in cash, pledges and in-kind donations.

DALLAS ROUNDUP

Wrestling squad defeats South Albany, places first at the Oregon Classic

Itemizer-ObsERVER staff report
DALLAS — Dallas' wrestling team defeated South Albany 42-21 in a Mid-Willamette Conference match on Thursday.

Kimberly Holgate (113 pounds), Ryan Bibler

(120), Dillon Stuhr (126), Kadin Thorsted (138), Colson Spencer (145), Cameron Redding (170), Cooper Hise (195) and Ashton Brecht (285) earned victories.

The Dragons also placed

first in the 5A bracket at the Oregon Classic on Friday and Saturday.

Dallas defeated Mountain View 39-23 in the first-place match.

The Dragons also defeated Ridgeview, Silverton, Mil-

waukie, Hood River Valley, Hermiston, and Sandy.

Dallas hosts Crescent Valley Thursday at 6 p.m. before competing at the Reser's Tournament of Champions on Friday and Saturday.

GIRLS BASKETBALL DROPS TWO: Dallas' girls basketball team opened Mid-Willamette Conference play with a pair of losses.

The Dragons fell to Corvallis 52-28 on Jan. 9 and Crescent Valley 62-34 on Friday.

Dallas (6-5 overall) has lost

four games in a row after opening the season by winning six of its first seven games.

The Dragons played Woodburn Tuesday after press time. Dallas hosts Lebanon Friday at 7 p.m. and Central Jan. 24 at 7 p.m.

CENTRAL ROUNDUP

Boys basketball defeats Lebanon, Woodburn in league openers

Itemizer-ObsERVER staff report
WOODBURN — Central's boys basketball team opened Mid-Willamette Conference with a pair of thrillers.

The Panthers defeated Lebanon 49-45 on Jan. 9 and Woodburn 46-44 on Friday.

Against Woodburn, Central found itself down by three with 40 seconds left.

Cody Kantola hit a pair of free throws, and Peter Mendazona blocked a Woodburn shot.

With under 10 seconds to play, Jesse Cable found a driving Brendan Lesmeister who hit a lay-up and a free throw to give the Panthers

the victory.

Lesmeister scored a team-high 17 points against Woodburn.

"I am very proud of them for the way they kept to the game plan and made in-game adjustments as we went forward," coach Tim Kreta said.

Lesmeister scored 17 points against Lebanon, while Mendazona added 16 points.

Central played South Albany Tuesday after press time. The Panthers host Corvallis Friday at 7 p.m. before playing at Dallas Tuesday at 7 p.m.

SWIM TEAM COMPETES AT CORVALLIS: Central's swim

team competed at Corvallis on Jan. 9.

Grace Holstad set new school records in the girls 100-yard butterfly (1 minute, 4.7 seconds) and the 500 freestyle (6:14).

Jillian Layton set a personal record in the 200 freestyle (3:24).

Fernanda Salas set a personal record in the 100 backstroke (1:51.81) and Amelia Angst set a personal record in the 100 freestyle (1:42.90).

The girls 200 freestyle relay team of Ashley Gould, Emma Gheza, Jill Layton and An-nemarie Hasbrook took more than 25 seconds off its previous season best with a time of 2:35. The boys 200 freestyle relay squad of Daniel Glade, Robert Deleon, David Glade

and Isaiah Compton shaved off more than 39 seconds with a time of 1:44.

Central competed at Lebanon Tuesday after press time.

The Panthers travel to Silverton Tuesday at 4 p.m.

WRESTLING FALLS TO CORVALLIS: Central's wrestling squad lost to Corvallis 33-28 on Thursday.

Noah Worthington (113 pounds), Manuel Martinez (120), Ty Pearson (126), Brock Pearce (152), Chris Polanco (170), Corbin Sedlacek (195) and Caleb Sedlacek (285) earned victories.

Central competes at Silverton on Thursday and the Gary Seaney Duals Friday at 2 p.m. before hosting the Central Duals Saturday at noon.



COURTESY OF THE WOODBURN INDEPENDENT
Central Peter Mendazona brings the ball up the court against Woodburn on Friday night.

Panthers: Central has won four games in a row

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"I think our basketball IQ has grown," Chavez said. "We're seeing different situations and knowing how to react to them. Last year, we weren't prepared for certain situations. Now, we run through them and know

when this happens, we do this or that."

The Panthers now enter league play hungry for a league title, but players know that the road will be tough.

"We're definitely glad we are up there, and we do have conversations about it,"

Chavez said. "We kind of get big headed sometimes, then we're like, no, we need to stay focused."

Central has seen the dangers of when its focus isn't on point.

The Panthers' lone loss came against Stayton on

Dec. 20.

"The Stayton game was hard for us, but I think it was a good reminder," Chavez said. "It opened our eyes that we still need to work hard."

Central played South Albany Tuesday after press

time. The Panthers play at Corvallis Friday at 7 p.m. and at Dallas Jan. 24 at 7 p.m.

"Last year was a building year to get to know each other," Chavez said. "This year, we were able to pick up right where we left off. The coaches are really excited.

We've implemented things that have worked well in games. Confidence is key to the success we've had. ... It's super exciting, a great start for us, but we're making sure we're working hard, staying focused and not worried too much about our record."

FALLS CITY ROUNDUP

Boys basketball drops two of three

Itemizer-ObsERVER staff report
FALLS CITY — Falls City's boys basketball team defeated Willamette Valley Christian 73-31 on Jan. 9 before falling to Perrydale 59-50 on Thursday and Estacada 62-50 on Friday.

Stats were not available as of press time.

The Mountaineers played Livingstone Adventist Tuesday after press time. Falls City plays at Oregon School for the Deaf Thursday at 7:30 p.m., at Regis Friday at 7 p.m. and at C.S. Lewis Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The girls lost to Willamette Valley Christian

46-27 on Jan. 9 and Perrydale 38-13 on Thursday.

The Mountaineers played Livingstone Adventist Tuesday after press time. Falls City plays at Oregon School for the Deaf Thursday at 6 p.m., at Regis Friday at 5:30 p.m. and at C.S. Lewis Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Tip off



Perrydale's Cooper Butler and Falls City's Austin Burgess attempt to control the opening tip. Perrydale's boys basketball team defeated Falls City 59-50 on Thursday. Perrydale also defeated C.S. Lewis 48-46 on Jan. 9. The boys host Livingstone Adventist Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Perrydale's girls team defeated C.S. Lewis 51-6 on Jan. 9 and Falls City 38-13 on Thursday. The Pirates host Livingstone Adventist Thursday at 6 p.m.

HEATHER MILLER/for the Itemizer-ObsERVER

Dallas

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The swim team has shown him he can push his limits farther.

"It pushes me a lot more than when I swam alone," Garrison said. "But it's fun, exciting and enjoyable."

Coach Mark Maxwell has seen Garrison's dedication begin to pay off.

"He's seen some big im-

provements from his hard work," Maxwell said.

That dedication has come at a price — mainly some late nights finishing schoolwork after a tiring practice.

"The two hours taken out of my day cuts down on how much homework I have time for," Garrison said. "It's me staying up

until about midnight doing homework in order to swim."

But those sacrifices are minor.

"Yeah, it's worth it," he said. "Just being in the water, it's an enjoyable feeling."

The Dragons will compete at Taft Thursday at 4 p.m.

Dragons

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"Evan has the athleticism and the explosiveness to be a dangerous scorer," Schwartz said. "He's a really good athlete. If he gets his perimeter shot going and guys have to come out and guard him, that will open up his game even more."

But finding that success on a consistent basis has re-

mained elusive.

The Dragons played Woodburn Tuesday after press time and plays at Lebanon Friday at 7 p.m. before hosting Central Tuesday at 7 p.m.

"This is a key stretch," Schwartz said. "These are teams we need to beat if we want to get to the post-season."

Find a way to win, and Dallas will be off to a strong start to league play. Lose, and the Dragons could find their backs against the wall early.

"We know if we play to our potential, we could be a top three team in the league," Courtney said. "We have to come ready to win and ready to play."

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