

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24

Girls Basketball: Central at Dallas, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 25

Boys Basketball: Jewell at Falls City, 7 p.m.

Men's Basketball: Western Oregon at Alaska Fairbanks, 7:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball: Jewell at Falls City, 5:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball: Northwest Nazarene at Western Oregon, 7 p.m.

Wrestling: Dallas at Central, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 26

Boys Basketball: Silverton at Central, 7 p.m. Dallas at South Albany, 7 p.m. Crosshill Christian at Perrydale, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball: Silverton at Central, 5:30 p.m. South Albany at Dallas, 7 p.m. Crosshill Christian at Perrydale, 5:30 p.m.

Track and Field: Western Oregon at University of Washington Invitational (Dempsey Indoor), all day.

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

Men's Basketball: Western Oregon at Alaska Anchorage, 5:15 p.m.

Track and Field: Western Oregon at University of Washington Invitational (Dempsey Indoor), all day.

Women's Basketball: Central Washington at Western Oregon, 7 p.m.

Wrestling: Dallas at Farm City Invitational (at Hermiston), 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 30

Boys Basketball: Crescent Valley at Central, 7 p.m. Silverton at Dallas, 7 p.m. Crosshill Christian at Falls City, 7 p.m. Jewell at Perrydale, 7 p.m.

Men's Basketball: Concordia University at Western Oregon, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball: Central at Crescent Valley, 7 p.m. Dallas at Silverton, 7 p.m. Crosshill Christian at Falls City, 5:30 p.m. Jewell at Perrydale, 5:30 p.m.

Schedules Subject to Change

QUICK HITS

Western rising in coaches' poll

MONMOUTH — Riding an eight-game winning streak, the Western Oregon University men's basketball team continued its climb up the NCAA DII Coaches' Poll with a No. 9 national ranking, the NABC announced on Tuesday.

Western Oregon has compiled a 15-1 overall record and a 7-1 mark in GNAC play.

The team's lone blemish occurred more than a month ago with a setback at Western Washington on Dec. 2.

WOU was the only GNAC program represented in the top 25 through Western Washington received 13 votes in the poll to come in at No. 29 nationally.

California Baptist (12 votes), Cal Poly Pomona (10 votes) and Cal State San Marcos (3 votes) also received points in the poll to represent the West Region.

Ribich named athlete of the week

MONMOUTH — Opening the indoor season in record-breaking fashion, Western Oregon University's David Ribich was named the NCAA DII National Athlete of the Week by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTF-CCCA).

Ribich, the NCAA DII national champion in the 1,500-meter run last spring, placed second overall in the 1,000 at the UW Preview on Saturday with a school GNAC and NCAA DII record time of 2:21.38.

Ribich crossed the line within strides of Drew Windle, who competed at the 2017 IAAF World Championships in the 800 for Team USA.

The time shattered WOU's school record by more than seven seconds.

DALLAS BOYS BASKETBALL



Emily Mentzer/Itemizer-Observer

Jack Anderson (20) passes the ball to a teammate during the Jan. 16 game against Woodburn.

Dallas comes from behind for win

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Dallas boys basketball team ended a thriller against Woodburn with a season-high 83 points, beating the Bulldogs by 15.

The Dragons didn't start well, said guard Evan Courtney.

"We didn't play very good," he said after the game on Jan. 16. "I upped the defense and shots started falling more."

Woodburn started out

strong in the first half, leading 43-36, and Dallas struggled to keep up.

"Getting started, we had some difficulty," said Coach Trent Schwartz. "We made some adjustments. We were down 13 (at the half), took a time out, and took a swing. I'm proud of the kids for getting down 13 and coming back."

Guard Jack Anderson was on fire, making four three-pointers in the second half. He contributed a game-high 28 points. Courtney

scored 16, and guard Carter Weissenese added 11.

Anderson said the game felt good.

"It's always good with a W," he said. "I love the comeback."

Once baskets started falling, the crowd was on its feet as Dallas took a lead and never looked back.

"Once we got the defense going, they (Woodburn) got flustered, and we took advantage of that," Courtney said.

The energy of the crowd

and of his teammates kept him going strong, Anderson said.

The Dragons lost a close game to Lebanon Friday, 42-48.

Dallas boys ended the week 2-2 in Mid-Willamette Conference, 3-10 overall, and in fifth place in the standings. The Dragons hosted the Central High School Panthers Tuesday after press time in a Rivalry Week. They take on South Albany at 7 p.m. on Friday in Albany.

DALLAS WRESTLING



Treve Earhart

Dragons place second in tourney

Itemizer-Observer staff report

CRESCENT VALLEY — Thursday night, Dallas High School wrestling team (6-0 Mid-Willamette Conference) won over Crescent Valley in a MWC League Dual.

Friday and Saturday, the Dragons traveled to Liberty High School in Hillsboro for the Reser's Tournament.

The tournament is comprised of the best teams regardless of classification, said Walt Markee.

"It's an open tournament, which means 6A, 5A, and all the other classifications compete against each other," he said.

Dallas took second overall with 152 points. Class 4A Crook County of Prineville

took the title with 192.5 points. Newberg came in third with 148 points.

This is the second year in a row Dallas has taken second place in this tournament, Markee said.

Treve Earhart (182 pounds) placed first in the tournament. Other individual placers were Joe Foster (third, 132), Haydn Millard (fourth, 113), Dawson Barcroft (third, 125), Ryan Bibler (fifth, 120) and Ashton Brecht (sixth, 285).

Earhart is the fifth Dallas wrestler to win this tournament.

Junior varsity finished third overall. Dylan Dupas, Jared Coxen, Luke Hess, Joe English, Colson Spencer, Dakota Aime, and Kadin Thorsted all placed.

DALLAS GIRLS BASKETBALL

Dallas turns over to Lebanon

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Last week was a tale of two games for the Dallas girls' basketball team.

They started the week defeating Woodburn 49-19 on Jan. 16, with Jordan Dippel leading the scoring for the Dragons with 17 and Makayli Laizure adding seven. As a team, Dallas pulled down 28 rebounds and got 21 steals.

Friday at home against the Lebanon Warriors (11-2 overall, 2-2 Mid-Willamette Conference), the tables turned.

"We had an opportunity to get some good things in on Tuesday (at Woodburn) and we knew this was going to be a tough one," coach Tim Ehlers said.

That proved true as the Warriors defeated Dallas 69-36. Lebanon is 2-2 in MWC play, but that includes two losses against two of the best teams in the league, Silverton and



Jolene Guzman/Itemizer-Observer

Makayli Laizure (2) drives against a Lebanon defender in Friday's game at DHS.

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Central splits games

By Herb Swett
For the Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — A shaky first quarter for Central's boys led to a 59-45 road loss to South Albany there Jan. 16.

The taller Rebels outplayed the Panthers most of the way, but Central outscored the host team 17-9 in the fourth period, in which the South Albany bench saw some action.

In the first quarter, the Rebels outshot and outrebounded the Panthers so thoroughly and kept up such a strong zone defense that they led 22-7 at the end of the period.

The Panthers (11-3, 3-1 Mid-Willamette Conference) improved somewhat in the second quarter, but the Rebels still outscored them, 17-13. Kaleb Kantola, who was to the top Panther scorer with 10 points, had 8 of them in the period. Kantola also had one of Central's three-point buckets in that quarter. Brandon Lesmeister was the Panthers' No. 2 scorer with 9.

Central had only 8 points in the third period, but its zone defense held the Rebels to 11.

Kantola started the fourth-quarter scoring with an outside shot that made the score 50-30.

A layin by Javier Cantu cut the South Albany lead by two more points.

Cody Baldwin and Brenden Dedek hit three-pointers in the final period. Dedek's was the last score of the game.

South Albany's top scorer was Jake Costello with 14 points. Jaden Guilford had 13 and Kyle Miller 12.

"We got hit with a ton of energy," Central coach Tim Kreta said. "It was the most points we've given up in the first quarter. Our kids are learning. We dropped one big one at the beginning of the year to Banks. I was proud of the way we played in the fourth quarter."

Central boys basketball downed Corvallis 59-56 in dramatic fashion Friday in a game that went to overtime.

"The kids were hoping to come out strong and make a stand to make up for Tuesday night," Kreta said. "Unfortunately, we did not come out strong. We found ourselves down by as many as 16 before going into the half down nine."

Central made up ground in the second half, making it a two-point game to begin the fourth quarter.

"Our guys did a great job communicating on screens and were able to defend their first look and hold them off to force overtime," Kreta said.

He said Central played strong defense, forcing Corvallis into difficult shots in overtime.

"We found ourselves up three with 4 seconds left and got the deflection we needed to have the clock run out," Kreta said.

The Panthers played Dallas on Tuesday after press time and host Silverton on Friday.

Panther kids end season well

Itemizer-Observer staff report

LEBANON — Panther Kids Wrestling concluded the season in Lebanon Saturday. Mason and Josiah Vela placed first. Roddy Alvarez placed second, while Liliana Alvarez, Easton and Sawyer Herbert, Casey Humphreys, Grady Lewis, Issac McBride and Tyanna H. placed third. Diego Pena took fourth place.

The season was from November through January. A few Talmadge Cougars wrestled in a bonus meet Saturday at the LaCreole Duals. Joey Pearson won all three matches. Nicolas Thomas, and Case and Jake Merrit had two wins. Trevyn Lilly had one win to finish the middle school season.