

Wrestler pinning opponents, awards

By Duran Bobb
Spilyay Tymoo

Brandon Bailey stands 5 feet 4 inches. But don't let that fool you.

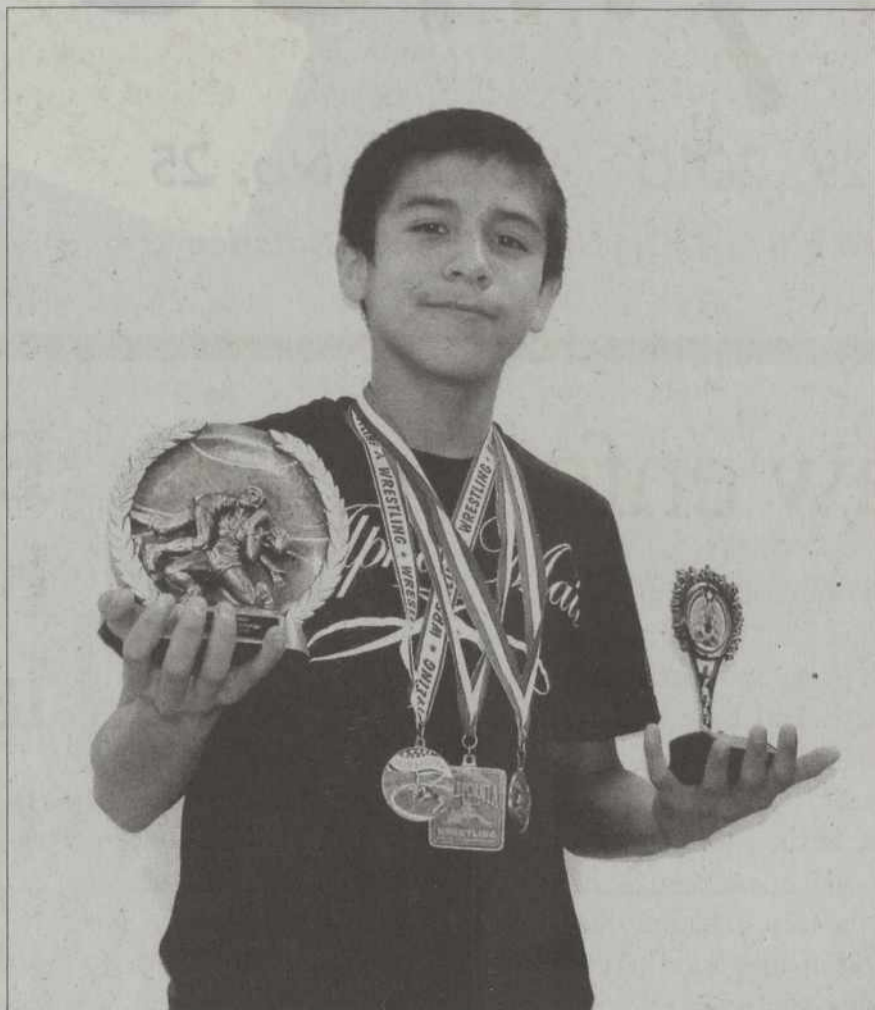
Recently, a friend of the family in his 30s was teasing Brandon about wrestling. Brandon, 13, who has won 20 medals and 5 trophies so far in wrestling, had no problem pinning the friend.

"I started wrestling when I was about 10," Brandon says. "When I lived in California, I was involved with a traditional game called Sticks. It's a competitive sport, very rough. Sometimes people can get hurt, because at one point of the game they yell out, 'Lockup!' That's when you drop the sticks and start to wrestle."

"They don't have the traditional powwows like we do here," his mother Rosanna said. "Instead, they have the traditional dances and the game, Sticks. Brandon used to play against some of the bigger boys, and he would win. One day he asked me if I thought wrestling would help him play better. I told him try it."

So Brandon sought the help of a good friend named Orion.

"He inspired me, because he showed me how to do a lot of moves that they didn't even teach in wrestling club," Bran-



Duran Bobb/Spilyay

Brandon Bailey, 13. To date, he has won 20 medals and 5 trophies for wrestling. Inspired to become better at the traditional game of Sticks, he found a passion for wrestling.

don said. "He was my ex-teammate, and he told me that I could do it. Orion went on to nationals in Kentucky.

Brandon poured his heart and soul into perfecting his new moves, and went on to win second-place for his age-group his second year and eighth place last June in the California State

Championship.

"I almost think that he doesn't have this sense of accomplishment," his mother said. At home there is a photo of Brandon in his wrestling stance, surrounded by his medals and trophies.

"One time when he was going to the state competition, he

came home from practice and told me he was going to baseball practice. I told him no you're not, you're going to State for wrestling! I think he had to learn that not everybody out there gets to go to State."

From California to Oregon, the awards keep coming in.

His first year wrestling, Brandon won 2 first-place awards, 2 second-place, and 1 third-place award. During his second year, he was undefeated up until the championship match in the California State Tournament.

"It was exciting to see him come back during his second year and beat all these people that have been wrestling for half their lives," Rosanna said.

Brandon's latest award came from the match last week in Madras. Since he started this year, he has three first-place trophies and two first-place medals.

He has also won medals and trophies from Redmond, Prineville, and Culver.

"My mom, dad, and sisters are my biggest inspirations," Brandon said. "I'm in the eighth grade now, my favorite subject is science. But I love to wrestle, and mom and my family are always there to cheer me on, no matter if I win or lose. They're always there to tell me that I did a good job!"

Elvis bash slated

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. And those who love Elvis Presley will have an opportunity to show their love for The King at the upcoming Elvis Birthday Bash.

This event, hosted by The Prevention Coalition, will be from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011 at the Warm Springs Community Wellness Center.

Organizers are hoping for a good turnout of impersonators and residents to watch them. People watching the impersonators compete also will serve as judges.

This Elvis event will offer a variety of categories in which impersonators can compete, including different age categories and a place for "Elvas" (female Elvises) to show off their burnin' love for Elvis.

There will categories for look-a-likes, sing-a-likes and

dance-a-likes. And there will be prizes for category winners.

Healthy snacks also are going to be served. Elvis's favorite snack won't be available—fried peanut butter and banana sandwiches.

The coalition's event after the Christmas Lights Parade drew hundreds of tribal members to the community center for food and fun.

The group focuses on bringing families together as a way to prevent drug abuse, gang activity, suicide and other ills people on the reservation may face.

Coalition members will meet next at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2011 in the main conference room of the Community Counseling Center. New members and volunteers are welcome to attend. Call 541-553-3205 for details.

— Terri Harber

Veterans information Jan. 13 at High Lookee

There will be a Veterans Information Fair from 2-6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 13 at High Lookee Lodge.

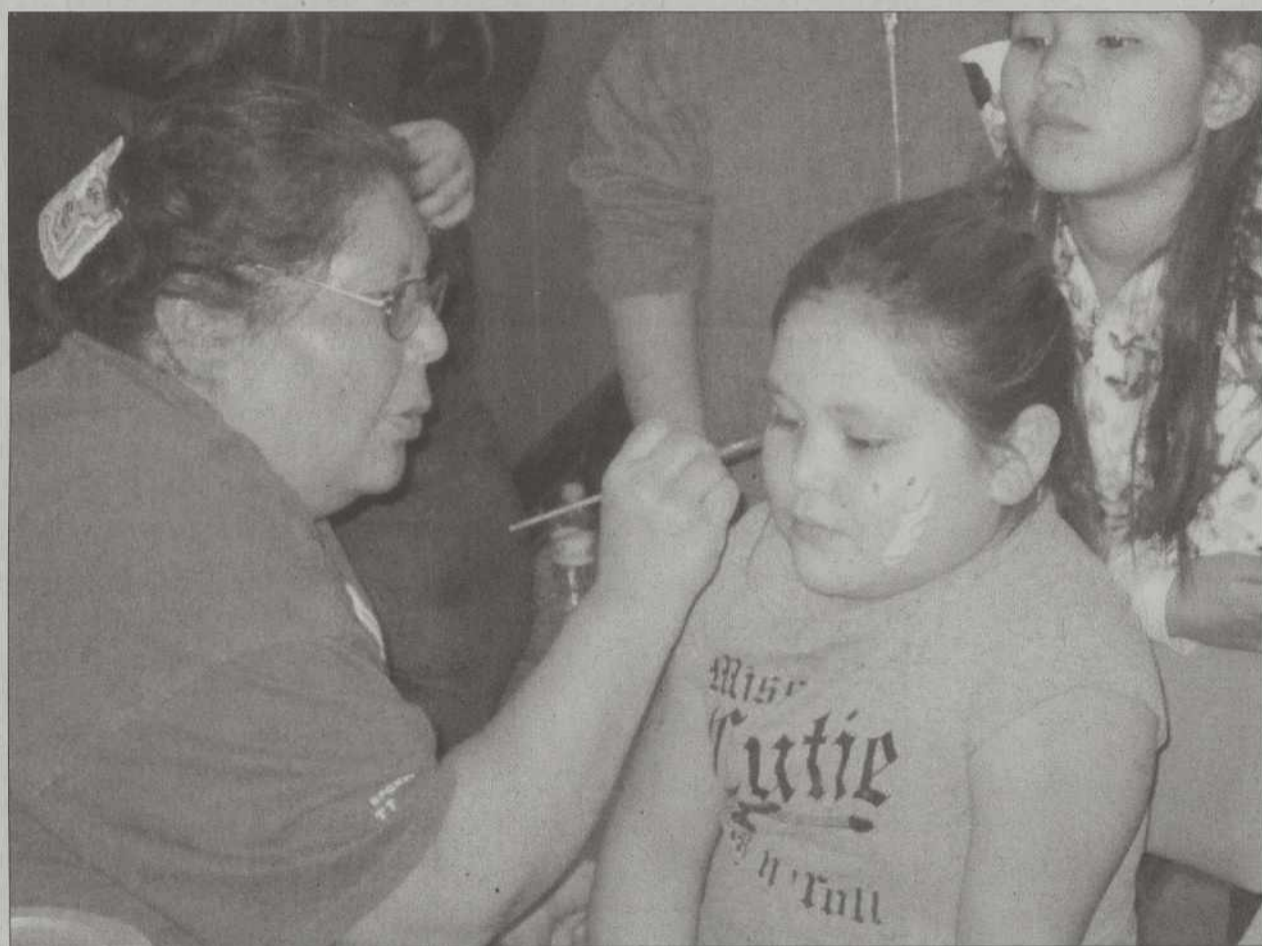
The Central Oregon Vet Center is hosting the information fair to help Veterans and their family members determine what benefits they may be eligible for.

Please come and talk with

Gary Hunter, team leader of the Vet Center; Shelia Danzuka, outreach therapist for the Vet Center; Patricia White, Jefferson County Veterans Service Office; Vio Vaeth, home care tribal services coordinator; and the home-based primary care staff from Bend's community based outreach clinic.

Check out the Spilyay Web site: wsnews.org

Craft Night



Yvonne Iverson/Spilyay

Warm Springs Elementary School hosted holiday craft night earlier this month. Activities included face painting with holiday themes.

Tribal scholarship workshop

There will be a tribal scholarship requirement workshop in January.

A subject of the workshop will be financial aid for college.

This workshop is for high school seniors, and new and returning college students.

There will be a free appli-

cation for federal student aid (FAFSA). Presentation by Richard Thompson, director, the College Place ECMC Foundation.

The workshop will be from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, Jan. 17 in the GED room, top floor of the Education Building.

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Tribe pursues sustainable forest approval

(AP) – The Coquille Indian Tribe hopes to gain at least credit for environmental integrity and perhaps higher prices for its lumber by earning certification for the management of its ancestral lands.

The tribe is pursuing approval from the Forest Stewardship Council, an international

conservation group.

Federal officials say the Coquilles are among a number of tribes currently pursuing such certification, including Warm Springs Tribe, Wisconsin's Menominee Tribe and the Hoopa Valley Indian Tribe of California.

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