



COURTESY PHOTO

Brody Davidson took first place at the Oregon Middle School Statewide Championships.

# DAVIDSON TAKES TITLE

## Mill City middle-schooler wins state high jump competition

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MILL CITY — Every year, hundreds of contestants descend upon La Pine for the annual Oregon Middle School Statewide Championships.

The meet features, not only some of the best athletes in the state, but in the country. For the small town of Mill City, having one of their own compete at the event has been a fascinating development.

Brody Davidson was an eighth grader

at Santiam Junior/High School and recently won the state high jump with a jump of 6 feet. That jump tied him for the second best in the country this year. The national high this year was 6-2 and Davidson has cleared 6-1 in the past.

“A couple of weeks before I got 5-11 and that put me in second place so I figured if I got 6-0 that I would go up to first,” Davidson said.

Track may be his best sport, but he is a three-sport star, also competing in football in the fall and wrestling in the winter. Being one of the best athletes in Mill

City, he will also battle for a spot on the varsity football squad at Santiam this year.

On the track, high jump is his best event, but he also competes in the 100-, 200- and 400-meter races.

“I was always running around the house, mainly because I got in trouble a lot so they had me doing laps,” Davidson said. “I was always a bit faster and (had) better conditioning than most kids.”

Davidson has worked hard to improve on the track and has stayed focused on his academics. He is also an honor roll student at Santiam.

“He’s actually been running for years and he’s been in several different track events and has raised money for other kids,” mother Kim Davidson said. “He

does really well in everything that he does.”

Next fall he will make the jump to high school and will hope to continue his ascent in the high jump. His hard work has paid off and he hopes to eventually win a state title and follow his dream of attending the University of Oregon.

“During those seasons its pretty intense because he has to eat right from the beginning of the day until the end,” Kim Davidson said. “He’s learned it on his own and he’s got that discipline of knowing when he needs to do stuff so he’s learning it,”

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Brody Davidson has high jumped 6 feet, 1 inch.