

## WINTER SPORTS UPDATE

## Tigers teams make La Grande proud at district, state

The winter sports season has been an exciting one, producing high placements in the League and another OSAA State Championship title for the Tigers. LHS Athletic Director Darren Goodman has the team rundown to give Tiger fans.

Starting off with the victories were the swimming teams. “Leading champions---boys and girls swimming teams won districts,” said Goodman.

The boys’ basketball team are GOL champs and placed first on Saturday at Marist Christian in Eugene in the first round. Girls’ basketball team finished second place in GOL, and they have a home game against Cascade.

“Boys’ swimming team finished fourth in the State and girls’ swimming team finished third in the State,” he added.

The wrestling team won a huge team victory. “We won districts with 11 or 12 champions, a record at the districts and qualified 19 people for the State meet. We won the State title on February 29, so we are the 2020 4A State Champions,” said Goodman.

Congratulations to Coach Klel Carson, his staff and a great team of wrestlers. During the State tournament in Portland, the team scored a total of 261 points to pin down the championship title. Last time the wrestling team brought home an OSAA State Championship title was about 1996, Goodman said.

There were four individual wrestling championships won: seniors Gabe Shukle, Parker Robinson, Chris Woodworth, and sophomore Braden Carson. Robinson and Woodworth had won first place for



**BOTTOM ROW** from left to right: Brycen Penaloza, Cole Shafer, Bella Gulzow, Delia Gulzow, Ryley Weimer, Luca Willins, Landon Perry. **SECOND ROW** from left to right: Lamar Langidrik, Ryan Jones, Eli Bisenius, Domick Carratello, Weston Durfee, Rogan Willins, Braden Carson, Umed Ibodulloev, Parker Robinson. **THIRD ROW** from left to right: Coach, Walt Anderson, Jarrett Armstrong, Brody MacMillan, Alex Kehr, Nathan Reed, Keith Oswald, Cole Isaacson, Noah McIlmoil, Jared Isaacson, Ryan Stubblefield. **FOURTH ROW** from left to right: Braxton Bisenius, Spencer Gerst, Gabe Shukle, Joel Rogers, Lincoln Clark, Chris Woodworth, Henrik Luik, Coach Klel Carson.

the second year in a row.

“We’re having a great year so far,” said Goodman. “To win State titles in football and wrestling is incredible, and we’ve had great success in the GOL with many league titles. I’m pleased with the way our teams are representing the school.”

Goodman joined LHS as athletic director in 2018 and supports a great team of Tiger coaches. “I’m doing my best to support the coaches and kids and give them what they need to be successful. We have a good group of kids.”

Most of you have undoubtedly seen the stories and the photos flying around on social media for the incredible accomplishment our LHS wrestlers and coaching staff have achieved. I want to extend my personal congratulations to them and their families for the culmination of years of hard work and dedicated efforts to make this dream come true.

It was a pleasure to watch them compete this season and during the championships at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland on Feb 28/29. They represented our school and our community very well, and every athlete on the team, every coach on staff, should be very proud of what you’ve accomplished.

We had several individual champions, many top place finishers, and a team championship to cap off a dominant 19-20 season. We also had our first girls wrestler place at the state tournament, with Delia Gulzow placing 4th.

**LHS Principal Brett Baxter**