



Swimmers claim 15 titles at 2015 Columbia River Conference finals

By ADAM LAPIERRE
News staff writer

Hood River Valley High School varsity swimmers claimed 15 district titles Saturday on their way to a commanding performance at the 2015 Columbia River Conference swimming championship at the Hood River Aquatic Center.

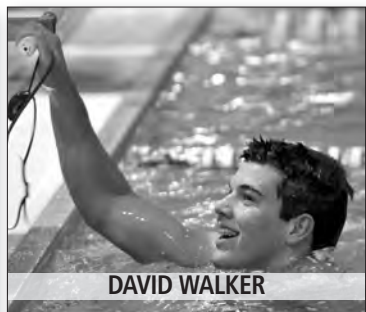
The HRV girls won the team title with 186 points, with Pendleton in second (143 points), The Dalles in third (108 points) and Hermiston last (60 points); the HRV boys (178.5) were a close second to Pendleton (189.5) and ahead of The Dalles (62) and Hermiston (51).

The result means coach Keith Ebbert will accompany 17 swimmers (including alternates) to the OSAA 5A championships Feb. 20-21 at Mt. Hood Community College, a number he's very satisfied with.

"We had a fantastic meet," said Ebbert, a fourth-year coach for the Eagles. "The kids performed a lot better than I was expecting. This is



KYLIE WEBB



DAVID WALKER

by far the largest contingent of kids and the highest number of events that we've been able to bring to the state meet."

One thing about the final scores, particularly with the boys team result, is that Pendleton had nearly twice as many swimmers as HRV. "They had a lot more swimmers in the pool than us, but in terms of points-per-person, we were much higher," Ebbert said.

With the top finisher in each event qualifying for next weekend's state championships, the Ea-

gles won 15 of the meet's 22 events, thus leaving just six openings occupied by swimmers from the rest of the conference.

Earning top honors on the girls team, Dhani Freeland won two individual events (100 freestyle and 100 backstroke) and helped secure the winning 200 medley and 400 freestyle relay teams. Kylie Webb and Allison Burke each won two individual events and swam on one winning relay team. Free-

Please see SWIM, Page A8

HRV at Columbia River Conference championships

Girls

1st: Hood River, 186; 2nd: Pendleton, 143; 3rd: The Dalles, 108; 4th: Hermiston, 60

■ 200 medley relay: 1st, Dhani Freeland, Kylie Webb, Yasmeen Ziada and Caitlyn Fick (1:59.62)

■ 200 IM: Kylie Webb, 1st (2:16.13); Yasmeen Ziada, 2nd (2:30.32)

■ 100 freestyle: Dhani Freeland, 1st (53.50), new district record

■ 100 backstroke: Dhani Freeland, 1st (1:00.87); Annika Martinez, 5th (1:22.55)

■ 400 freestyle relay: 1st, Caitlyn Fick, Allison Burke, Courtney Castaneda, Dhani Freeland (3:57.89)

■ 200 freestyle: Allison Burke, 1st (2:06.74); Jocelyn Pedrotti, 3rd (2:18.22); Mackenzie

Booth, 5th (2:36.93)

■ 100 butterfly: Yasmin Ziada, 1st (1:06.74); Courtney Castaneda, 3rd (1:10.48)

■ 500 freestyle: Allison Burke, 1st (5:39.21), New district record

■ 100 breaststroke: Kylie Webb, 1st (1:12.42)

■ 200 freestyle relay: 2nd, Caitlyn Fick, Allison Burke, Yasmeen Ziada and Kylie Webb (1:49.21)

■ 50 freestyle: Courtney Castaneda, 3rd (27.07); Caitlyn Fick, 4th (27.20)

Boys:

1st: Pendleton, 189.5; 2nd: Hood River, 178.5; 3rd: The Dalles, 62; 4th: Hermiston, 51

■ 200 medley relay: 1st, David Walker, Stan Ocheskey, Carlos Galvez, Trey Schilling (1:46.66)

■ 100 butterfly: Carlos Galvez, 1st (57.78)

■ 200 IM: David Walker, 1st (2:14.41)

■ 200 freestyle relay: 1st, Trey Schilling, Andrew Rinella, Carlos Galvez and Stan Ocheskey (1:36.35)

■ 400 freestyle relay: 1st, Trey Schilling, David Walker, Andrew Rinella, Stan Ocheskey (3:39.76)

■ 50 freestyle: Trey Schilling, 1st (22.97)

■ 200 freestyle: Daniel Mears, 4th (2:08.62); Cameron Marquez-Villegas, 5th (2:10.04)

■ 100 freestyle: Stan Ocheskey, 2nd (51.99); Cameron Marquez-Villegas, 5th (58.04)

■ 100 backstroke: David Walker, 2nd (58.55)

■ 500 freestyle: Carlos Galvez, 2nd (5:35.32)

■ 100 breaststroke: Daniel Mears, 3rd (1:13.44)

Wrestlers fourth, sending four to state

Marquez, Shaner, Manzo, Jones finish in top-four for trip to state championships

By ADAM LAPIERRE
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Christian Marquez, Junior Manzo, Jason Shaner and Angel Jones are headed to the OSAA 5A State Wrestling Championships.

The four qualified for Oregon's "Big Show" by finishing in the top four at the 5A Special District 4 Championships held over the weekend at Hood River Valley High School. Marquez was the lone district champ for the Eagles, who were hoping to send more wrestlers to state but came up against stiff competition in the tough new special district that combined Columbia River Conference and Intermountain Conference schools for the state qualifier. Shaner and Jones both made it to the finals Saturday night but lost their last match to finish second - a solid result for the two light-weight freshman grapplers. Manzo, a junior, finished fourth to earn his first trip to the state tournament.

"I'm proud of our team," Coach Trent Kroll said. "I thought we competed with heart and determination this weekend."

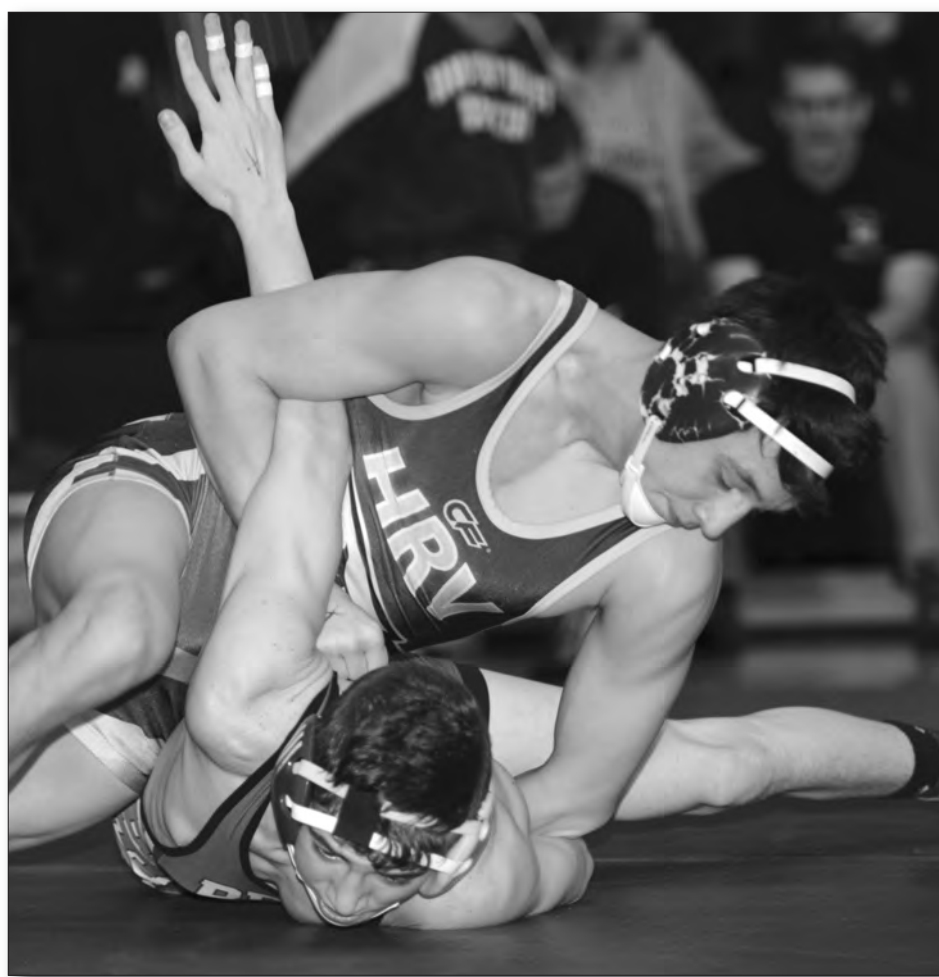
New this year, Oregon's district wrestling tournaments were divided between two weekends, with 4A and 5A wrestlers competing Feb. 13-14 and 1A/2A, 3A and 6A schools competing this weekend; dates will be swapped next year. For the four HRV boys, and the five HRV girl wrestlers who qualified for state the weekend before, that means two full weeks between competitions, which will likely be a mixed blessing for the athletes as they have ample time to fine-tune, rest and heal but will have to stay focused, in shape and on weight for an extra week.

"I'm looking forward to focusing and keeping our batteries charged for these two weeks of preparation as we go into the state championships," Kroll added.

Marquez, a senior and the defending 5A 126 pound state champion, blew through his competition to successfully defend his district title, although this year at 132 pounds. After a first-round bye, Marquez pinned his first opponent in the first round, won with a first-round tech-fall in the semifinals and finished with a first-round pin in the finals. Following the final match of the tournament, Marquez was one of two wrestlers (along with Sam Colbray of Hermiston) named the district's Wrestler of the Year, as voted on by coaches.

"It means a lot to me," Marquez said of the award, which he also received last year. "It makes me realize that the coaches are watching and thinking about me. It gives me

Please see WRESTLE, Page A8



DISTRICT CHAMPION

Christian Marquez (top) puts the hurt on an opponent in the 2014 5A Special District 4 Championships held over the weekend at Hood River Valley High School.

Marquez won the 132-pound title with two pins and a technical fall and was later named the conference's lower-weights Wrestler of the Year. Also pictured at left are (top to bottom) state qualifiers Junior Manzo, who was fourth at 132 pounds, Jason Shaner who finished second at 120 and Angel Jones, who was second at 106.

The four, and five members of the HRV girls team, will compete in two weeks at the OSAA State Championships at the Memorial Coliseum.

Photos by Adam Lapierre

HRV basketball continues quest for league title

Road game Tuesday was biggest of league season

With a 74-64 win Friday night at The Dalles, the Hood River Valley High School varsity boys basketball team is all but guaranteed an appearance in the 5A state championships; the mission now will shift from simply qualifying for a post-season to earning the best possible ranking going into the tournament, and from simply staying afloat in a rebuilding year to claiming the first Columbia River Conference title in team history.

Friday's win put the Eagles at 4-2 in the CRC. On the same night Pendleton defeated Hermiston 62-50, leaving the Eagles and the Buckaroos in a tie for first place.

HRV traveled to Pendleton Tuesday for perhaps the biggest game of the season for both teams (results were unavailable as of presstime), the winner of which will be in good shape to claim the CRC title. The team is also on the road Thursday at Pendleton and returns next week (Feb. 24) for the final regular-season game against The Dalles. The boys also have a non-league make-up game at home Feb. 27, 7 p.m. against Ridgeview.

Stats vs. The Dalles:

Skyler Hunter led the scoring with 24 points, including six three-pointers, three rebounds, three assists and two steals; Scottie Ziegner had 16 points, nine rebounds and five steals; Dallas Buckley had nine points and four rebounds, Noah Noteboom had eight points, two rebounds, two assists and two steals; Dan Keuchmann had five points; Austin Clark had four points, two rebounds and one steal; Kaydin Gibbs had two points; Brandon Campos and Andrew Roberts had one point each.

■ HRV girls

Kelsey Wells had a double-double (15 points, 12 rebounds), Jestena Mattson scored 15 and Marlie Bloomster had eight Friday night in the HRV girls' matchup against The Dalles. The 55-44 loss was the sixth straight for the girls, who are winless in the conference with three games remaining. The team is at home this week with games Tuesday vs. Pendleton and Friday vs. Hermiston before going on the road to The Dalles Feb. 24 for its final game of the season.

SPORTS BRIEFS

HRV baseball fundraiser Feb. 21

Hood River Valley High School baseball is hosting its third-annual fundraiser dinner and selection auction on Saturday, Feb. 21 at Springhouse Cellar in downtown Hood River. Tickets are \$20, available at the door or in advance by members of the team. Proceeds from the event will go to support the HRV baseball program and improvements to its stadium and field. Entertainment for the event will include live music by the local band, Toy Gun Conspiracy.

Gorge Roller Girls host Feb. 28 bouts

The Gorge Roller Girls hit the track Feb. 28 in their second home double-header of the season. The bouts, at The Dalles Armory, pit the Gorge Roller Girls' two teams (All Stars and Mountain Ravens) against the Skagit Valley Roller Girls and Storm City's Shock Treatment.

In the first bout of the 2015 season last month, the sell-out crowd witnessed the Ravens' first bout against Hillsboro's Air Raid Roller Girls, with the Ravens losing (166-281). The All-Stars defeated Astoria's Shangaieda Roller Dolls 221-124.

Doors open at 4 p.m., action starts at 5 p.m. General tickets are available for \$10, students and seniors for \$5. Due to limited seating, purchasing tickets online ahead of time is highly recommended. For more info and tickets, visit www.gorgerollergirls.org.

HRV district results:

- 106, Angel Jones: 2nd, 2-1 (7-6 win, WBF, 11-2 loss)
- 106, Jessica DeHart: 6th, 1-3 (WBF, 12-1 loss, 3-2 loss, 7-4 loss)
- 120, Jason Shaner: 2nd, 3-1 (25-7 win, WBF, 23-8 win, WBF, 9-0 loss)
- 126, Sam Ahrens: 1-2 (5-4 loss, WBF, 6-1 loss)
- 126, Dylan Peterson: 6th, 3-3 (WBF, 13-8 loss, 14-1 win, WBF, 11-0 loss, 4-3 loss)
- 132, Christian Marquez: 1st, 3-0 (WBF, 16-1 win, WBF)
- 132, Junior Manzo: 4th, 3-2 (WBF, WBF, 7-4 loss, 19-6 win, 4-0 loss)
- 138, Jorge Ortega: 8th, 2-2 (WBF, 6-3 loss, WWBF, 6-5 loss)
- 138, James Estes: 5th, 3-3 (WBF, 10-4 loss, 15-10 win, WBF, 13-2 loss, 7-6 win)
- 145, Mario Medina: 0-2 (LBF, 12-3 loss)
- 152, Chris Castro: 8th, 1-2 (LBF, 7-2 win, 3-2 loss)
- 152, Chris Lane: 0-2 (LBF, 8-4 loss)
- 160, Ian Rand: 5th, 3-2 (LBF, 17-1 win, WBF, 13-5 loss, 9-3 win)
- 160, Jesus Gordan: 6th, 3-3 (WBF, 9-3 loss, WBF, LBF, 9-3 loss)
- 170, Steven Swafford: 5th, 2-2 (16-5 win, LBF, 7-6 loss, WBF)
- 170, Trystan Fisher: 0-2 (LBF, LBF)
- 182, Jordan Jones: 8th, 1-2 (LBF, WBF, LBF)
- 195, Alex Pedroza: 8th, 1-2 (LBF, WBF, LBF)
- 195, Mark Reyes: 5th, 4-2 (WBF, LBF, WBF, 10-6 win, LBF, 3-1 win)
- 220, Yorick Infante: 0-2 (LBF, 16-9 loss)
- 285, Justin Wilson: 2-2 (WBF, LBF, WBF, LBF)
- 285, Max Lane: 1-2 (LBF, 5-2 win, 5-4 loss)