

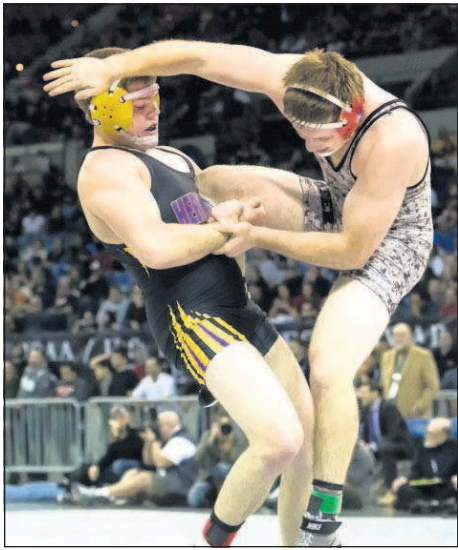
EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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1B

Prep Wrestling



MAIN: Hermiston's Andy Wagner reacts after beating Brawley Lamer, of Crescent Valley, to win the 5A wrestling title for 126-pounders Saturday at Veterans Memorial Coliseum. TOP LEFT: Hermiston's Bob Coleman (left) wrestles Cavin Gilispie, of Crater, on his way to as 5A state wrestling title. TOP INSET LEFT: Hermiston's John Henry Line (left) and Sam Colbray square off for the 195-pound final. BOTTOM INSET LEFT: Hermiston's Valen Wyse throws Tanner Earhart, of Dallas, to the mat during his victorious championship. BOTTOM LEFT: Hermiston's Brock McDonough (in black) pinned Oraslo Lopez, of Lebanon, Saturday in the semifinal round.

Staff photos by Kathy Aney

Hermiston wins 10th state championship

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

PORTLAND — For teams that consistently win, a question is often asked of them: Doesn't winning get old?

The answer is often "No, it doesn't." And the same goes for the Hermiston Bulldogs, who wrapped up their 10th, ninth in ten years and fourth-straight team title at the Veteran's Memorial Coliseum this weekend in Portland.

Four Bulldogs — Sam Colbray (195), Andy Wagner (126), Bob Coleman (182) and Valen Wyse (152) won state titles, and three other Bulldogs — Liam Tarvin (113), Brock McDonough (170) and John-Henry Line each were runners-up.

"Long season. A lot of work put in. A lot of sweat, tears. A lot of wrestling," first-year head coach Kyle Larson said. "(The state title) is the goal at

Bulldogs blow away the competition

Top 10 final team scores from the OSAA Class 5A wrestling state championships.

1. Hermiston.....	226.5
2. Churchill.....	137.0
3. Crater.....	137.0
4. Dallas.....	120.0
5. Lebanon.....	114.0
6. Redmond.....	110.5
7. Sandy.....	107.5
8. Hillsboro.....	78.5
9. Central.....	77.0
10. St. Helens.....	67.5

the beginning of the year, and you set goals, meet goals, meet expectations."

As ever, Colbray was humble in victory. He didn't pump his fist or raise four fingers. He was gracious and even-keeled.

"It's just another match, another day,

another wrestling tournament, another consecutive year," he said. "Just going out there with an arsenal and wrestling how you know how to wrestle."

Coleman was equally humble. "It feels like a lot of the stuff you've done is finally paying off, like all the hard work finally has some value," he said. "It's pretty nice to know you won Reser's and the state tournament. Call it luck, call it whatever."

Day one started slowly for the Bulldogs, but ended in a crescendo of pins that rocketed the Bulldogs up the standings. By the end of Friday's action, the Bulldogs had a 40-point lead and was in the driver's seat to bring home yet another banner. Shortly through the semifinals — through which Hermiston went perfect — the Bulldogs essentially wrapped it up. Hermiston had six wrestlers in the final rounds. Crater, the second-place team,

See TITLE X/2B

Colbray joins elite club



4x
STATE TITLIST

"It's just another match, another day, another wrestling tournament, another consecutive year."

— Sam Colbray, Hermiston senior 195-pounder

Moreno caps Mac-Hi career at top of podium

Pioneers place five; Holcomb third for Pendleton

By SAM BARBEE
East Oregonian

PORTLAND — Mac-Hi senior Gregory Moreno's last year wrestling for the Pioneers didn't get off to the greatest start thanks to a sprained ankle suffered in the team's first tournament going against Banks wrestler Twister McComas.

Moreno would have plenty of time to think about that first loss as he worked his way back onto the mats, and on Saturday in the last match of his high school career, the 285-pound Pioneer got to give McComas a little payback.

Moreno avoided injury this time and handed McComas a 3-1 defeat in the OSAA 4A wrestling state championships at Portland's Veteran's Memorial Coliseum.

It was his first state title after placing fourth last season.

"He came back in the biggest match of the year, and beat the kid



An exhausted Gregory Moreno, of Mac-Hi, receives congratulations from his coaches Saturday after winning his 3A state finals wrestling match in the 295-pound weight class at Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

tiebreaker.

Also placing for Mac-Hi were Riley Chester (5th, 132), Cole Skramstad (5th, 152), Alyxander Shaw (5th, 170) and Spencer Shaw (5th, 220).

Meanwhile in the 5A bracket, Pendleton's Morgan Holcomb could feel the pressure. A great deal, in fact.

The junior 145-pounder failed to place at last year's state tournament despite being the second-seeded wrestler at his weight. Entering this year's tourney, he was worried it would happen again.

"All I was worried about was placing because that didn't happen last year and I was seeded second," he said. "I'm glad I placed. Hopefully I can do better next year, you know, hopefully make it into the finals."

Fortunately for him, it did not. After losing by fall to Crater's Logan Meek, a match Holcomb was winning until a mistake gave Meek the leverage he needed to pin Holcomb, the junior rallied with two pins — the first in 14 seconds and the second in the third round — to finish as the third-best

See STATE WRESTLING/2B

who gave him his first loss of the year," Mac-Hi coach Chad Kilburg said.

Moreno almost didn't advance to the final, but a late comeback in the semifinals on Ian Johnson of

Hidden Valley propelled him.

Moreno was down 5-2 inside the final minute of the third period. Starting the round on top, he needed to either stick Johnson to win, or get a three-point near fall to force an

overtime. He got the three points, then pinned Johnson shortly thereafter with six seconds left.

He advanced to the semis after a 6-2 battle with Dylan Porter of Elimra that had to be settled with a