

Begay wrestling in state championships

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

You could say Blaine Begay is tough.

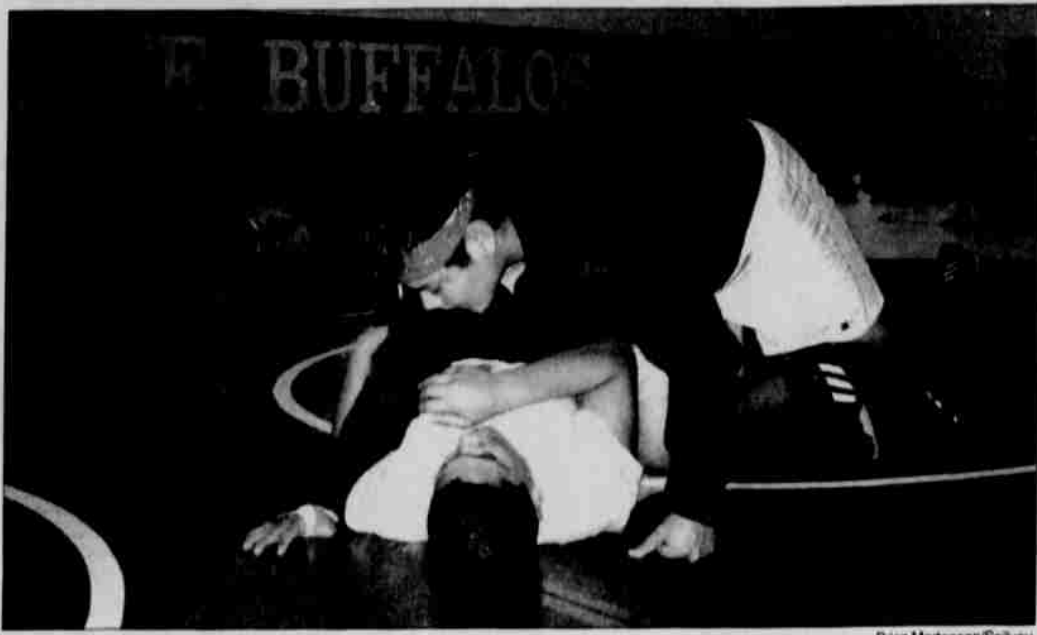
He broke his collarbone while riding a horse at age two.

Before he turned 10 years old, he lost his right thumb while team roping.

Bearing the broad shoulders of one who alternates between physical high school sports during the school year and the rodeo arena in the summer, Begay spends his winters on the wrestling mats for Madras High School.

This weekend, Begay competes in his second OSAA-U.S. Bank Class 3A State Wrestling Championships in the 275-pound (heavyweight) division. He won the Tri-Valley League championship in his weight class, winning both of his matches at the league meet in Gladstone last Saturday.

As the new Tri-Valley League champion, he comes into the state meet as almost a seasoned veteran, amassing a 26-8 record



Madras junior Blaine Begay, top, practices against teammate James Rodriguez last week.

this season and having already experienced the three-ring circus atmosphere of the state tournament last year.

"Last year, I was pretty nervous. I was back after a year or two off from wrestling, and I was pretty nervous," he said of his state meet experience last year. "I think it made me overcome some fears."

The state meet for all three high school classes, 4A, 3A, and 2A-1A, convenes at the Pavilion at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem these days, but up until last year, the state meet was held at the Portland Memorial Coliseum. Thousands of fans, hundreds of wrestlers, and mats and matches all over the floor of the arena create a fre-

netic atmosphere.

Begay said he's glad to have gotten a chance to compete there last year with a year of experience. "It's a pretty good feeling, going in there, in a big arena, with all those mats, waiting around to warm up, hopping around, getting ready for the match," he said.

See **BEGAY** on page 8

MHS bowlers place third at district meet

Two players are from Warm Springs

By Selena Boise
Spilyay Tymoo

The Madras High School boys bowling team placed third at the district meet at Lava Lanes in Bend Jan. 29.

The team will know by the end of this week if it will compete in the state meet.

The girls team competed and placed eighth in the final standings at the district meet.

The high school bowling teams prepare for competition by attending practice every week at Madras Bowl beginning the first of December.

Tina Heinrich and Christie Young, both of Madras, are the coaches, who help the team with form, ball control and consistency.

There are also helpers during competitions and volunteers who help out the team.

The team played in one other competition this season, but next year there are more.

The team prepares for the district meet each year, along with other competitions scheduled each year.

Members of the boys team are Mychal VanPelt, Joe Young, Robert Thomas, Cory Heinrich, Nick Hamilton, Jason Stewart, and Jakob Hair.

These bowlers return from last year.

Five bowlers actually compete at a competition throughout the year, and the team is allowed three alternates.

Madras Bowl' owner Christie Young said that there has been a bowling team from Madras High School for three out of the four years she has been in Madras.

Young said the high school doesn't yet recognize bowling

as a sanctioned sport, and the trophy the boys team won is on display at Madras Bowl, instead of in the high school trophy cabinet.

In preparation for next year, efforts to officially recognize bowling by the high school are in the works, as is information about the competitions the team was not able to participate in this year.

Next year the helpers during competitions and volunteers who help out the team instead of in December.

Two members of the boys team are from Warm Springs, Mychal VanPelt and Robert Thomas, Jr.

VanPelt is the son of Chet VanPelt and Rebecca Danzuka.

Robert Thomas Jr. is the son of Robert and Sheryl Thomas.

Both competed on the bowling team last year, and both bowl in the youth league after school on Wednesdays.



Robert Thomas Jr.



Mychal VanPelt

Athletes to compete in Australia

Charlene Moody, the Class 3A shot put champion from Madras High, is traveling this summer to Australia, where she will compete in an international track meet.

Moody qualified for the international competition by taking first place in the shotput at the 2004 Class 3A Oregon Track and Field Championships last May.

In Australia, Moody will compete in the shotput and the javelin categories.

Blaine Begay of Warm Springs is also competing in Australia. Begay is competing at the Class 3A Wrestling



Charlene Moody

Championships this weekend. It will cost close to \$4,000 to make the trip to Australia, and

the Moody family is planning fund-raisers to help cover the expenses.

A mini-powwow and a film night have been planned, both at the Simnasho Longhouse.

Dates for these events will be announced in the near future.

Moody is also selling raffle tickets. The winner of the raffle receives a trip to Australia to watch the international track and field meet.

Tickets are \$2. For information call 553-7014.

Moody is a senior at Madras High School and is hoping to attend Portland State University.

She has received about 30 letters of interest from colleges offering track and field scholarships.

Moody has been throwing the shot put since the seventh grade.

She has many track and field medals and ribbons won during competition. Moody has won Tri-Valley League titles in her event twice.

Moody also throws the discus.

She lives in Simnasho with her father and mother, Captain and Winona, and three brothers and one sister.

Little League meeting on Feb. 27

Parents and coaches meet this month to discuss the Warm Springs Little League season and sign-ups.

The meeting is scheduled at the Warm Springs Community Center Social Hall Sunday, Feb. 27, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Youth invited to dance competition

The Empeyrean Movement Dance Studio of Portland hosts auditions for anyone ages 15 to 22 for North Star, a dance company that seeks to spread cultural awareness by combining traditional Native American and contemporary styles of dance from noon to 3 p.m. Feb. 21.

The auditions are at Empeyrean Movement Dance Studio, located at 8208 North Denver Ave., in Portland.

The auditions are open anyone in the suggested age range with some understanding of

their own cultural heritage and who are able to communicate in front of groups of different ethnicity.

Candidates should have at least intermediate to advanced training in either Traditional Native American, Women's Shawl, Jingle Dress, Men's Grass, Fancy or Traditional, Hip-Hop, House, Jazz, or Lyrical dance styles. There is a \$5 audition fee. For directions to the Empeyrean Movement Dance Studio or additional information, call (503) 998-4288.

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