

Reyes wins state 3A wrestling title



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Willamina High School junior Jordan Reyes, left, hugs his brother Michael Reyes after Jordan won the Class 3A 106-pound weight class state title during the 2018 OSAA Wrestling State Championships held at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland on Saturday, Feb. 17.



Willamina High School junior Jordan Reyes, front, wrestles Cascade Christian's Ryan Vidlak during the finals of the 2018 OSAA Wrestling State Championships held at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland on Saturday, Feb. 17. Reyes won the match 3-0 and took first place in the Class 3A 106-pound weight class.

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

After two consecutive frustrating years of finishing second at the Oregon School Activities Association's state wrestling tournament held at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland, Grand Ronde Tribal member and Willamina High School junior Jordan Reyes finally won his final match of the year to take home a state title.

Reyes, wrestling at 106 pounds in Class 3A, defeated Cascade Christian's Ryan Vidlak 3-0 to win his first state championship.

"I've been working really hard for this," Reyes told the *Salem Statesman-Journal*. "For two years, I've lost in the state finals, so to be that close and not get your goal, it hurts. (This win) is indescribable. Just looking at my coaches and knowing how hard they've worked and how hard they've helped me, they deserve it, too."

On his way to the title, Reyes defeated Jessie Valles of Illinois Valley, Efrain Caldera of Nyssa and Russell Talmadge of Harrisburg all by pins.

Reyes' championship helped the combined team of Willamina and Falls City win the Class 3A wrestling team title.

Other Willamina wrestlers who did well included Keegan Cook, who won the 3A state title at 285 pounds; Noah Sickles, who finished second at 160 pounds; and Jordan Mode, who finished second in the 220-pound division.

Tribal member and Willamina freshman Moses Mercier finished fifth in the 113-pound division in his first high school championship event.

Tribal member Kaleb Reid also qualified for the state wrestling tournament for Willamina in the 138-pound 3A competition, winning his first match and losing his next two.

In addition, Tribal spouse and Willamina High wrestling coach Ariah Fasana, who is married to Tribal Court Administrator Angela Fasana, was named Class 3A Coach of the Year. ■



Willamina High School freshman Moses Mercier, left, wrestles Gervais High School's Alexys Zepeda during the Class 3A 113-pound weight class consolation semifinals of the 2018 OSAA Wrestling State Championships held at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland on Saturday, Feb. 17. The loss sent Mercier to the match for fifth or sixth place and he won fifth place due to a medical forfeit by Burns High School's Justin Winn.

West Valley Veterans Memorial Application

Name: _____ PH: _____
 Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 DOB: _____ Gender: Male / Female (circle) CTGR Tribal: Y / N (circle) If Tribal, roll# _____
 DOE _____ Place of Entry _____
 DOS: _____ Place of Separation _____
 Rank: _____ Branch: _____ Honorable: Y / N (circle)
 Deceased: Y / N (circle) DOD: _____ Place of Burial _____

*All applicants must submit a copy of their DD214. If applicant is deceased, a family member or spouse can submit a copy of their DD214. If you are a CTGR Tribal member please attach a copy of your Tribal ID. If you are non-Tribal please attach a copy of a bill/record with your name and address showing you had lived or now reside in Grand Ronde, Willamina or Sheridan. Please send application and all documents to: Grand Ronde Veterans SEB, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347. If you have any questions, please call Steve Bobb at 503-876-3118.

Deadline is March 15, 2018

Any applications received after March 15, 2018, will be kept on file for inclusion to the Memorial in 2019.