



Local cowboy competes at NFR

Trevor Knowles bulldogs to 12th in world standings

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

LAS VEGAS — Grant County eyes were on Mt. Vernon rodeo bulldogger Trevor Knowles during this year's National Finals Rodeo.

Knowles, a 12-time qualifier to the NFR, headed to the Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas Dec. 3-12 in 10th place and finished 12th in the world after 10 rounds.

His NFR earnings totaled \$52,038.

An additional highlight for Knowles this year was winning the steer wrestling at the Calgary Stampede last July, taking home \$100,000.

In an interview with the Eagle earlier this year, Knowles said he plans to stick with steer wrestling.

"This is my job, so I'll stay with it for awhile until I feel I'm not competitive," he said.



Contributed photo
Trevor Knowles

Grant County hoops roundup Tiger boys hold 6-1 preseason record

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

HEPPNER — Grant County basketball teams were on the road last week in non-league competition.

The Class 2A Grant Union Prospector girls coach Mark Mosley was happy with their 50-20 win over Heppner.

The score at the half had Grant Union leading 29-11.

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Grant Union Prospector Kenzie Wilson (12) blazes a path with her teammates Heather Mosley (33) and Samantha Brock (3) in their Dec. 10 game against Crane.

Lady Prospectors hustle to POSITIVE START

GU girls look to build on last year's success

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — The Grant Union girls basketball team is making its list of goals — and checking them twice.

This season, the team hopes to host a first-round state play-off game and be among the "Final 8" in Pendleton.

The Prospectors showed they have what it takes, after reaching the state playoffs last year.

They lost that first-round contest to the Monroe Dragons, but the game was a nail-biter — Grant Union was ahead 29-28 in the final 2 minutes of the game but came up on the losing end.

Grant Union is off to a good start this year with a 4-1 non-league record.

The team is learning what it will take to reach the top from



Samantha Brock



Kenzie Wilson

head coach Mark Mosley.

"We have to have chemistry, play with passion and compete each play," Mosley said.

Mosley is in his third year coaching the team with assistance from Lisa Weigum.

Weigum coaches the junior varsity team, and Doug Sharp coaches the junior high team.

Right now, the varsity team is focused on honing its defense and transition offense, and Mos-

ley sees strength in the team's overall speed and senior leadership.

The team lost three seniors to graduation last school year, and this season, two seniors, Kenzie Wilson and Samantha Brock, are filling their shoes.

Wilson and Brock have been playing basketball together for about 10 years.

"This year we're hoping to push a lot farther than last year,"

Wilson said.

She added the growth of the program is giving her confidence.

"A lot of the girls came back from last year," Brock said. "And there's a consistency. Having coach Mosley for the past three years has helped with the team chemistry."

"Our goal is being first in league and making it to the state tournament," Wilson said.

Filling out the roster are one junior, five sophomores and two freshmen.

Three on the team are returning starters.

Grant Union will be up against Union, Imbler, Elgin, Burns, Enterprise and Cove in the Class 2A Wapiti League.

"Burns is favorite to win league, but overall top to bottom is not as strong as last year," Mosley said. "I expect Imbler and Enterprise to compete."

He said his team is playing the game well together.

"They're all very coachable, which makes my job enjoyable," he said.

GU wrestlers take on Calhoun Classic

Nyssa event includes 400 competitors

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

NYSSA — Grant Union wrestlers traveled to the Dec. 11-12 Calhoun Classic, competing with 21 other teams.

The tournament held at Nyssa High School had nearly 400 wrestlers participating.

Grant Union senior Andrew Copenhaver placed fourth at the meet after a tough match in the semifinals, losing 1-0 in the 3/4 match.

Sophomores on the junior varsity team also placed well.

Elijah Humbird placed second in his weight class, and Hadley Boethin placed fifth.

"Overall we wrestled very well in an extremely difficult tournament with mostly large schools," said head coach Andy Lusco. "The season is coming along nicely."

Grant Union varsity results:

Clay Johnson, 138, 1-2

Chance Ballou, 285, 1-2

Antonio Dancer, 145, 2-2

Andrew Copenhaver, 170, 2-2, placed 4th

Grant Union junior varsity results:

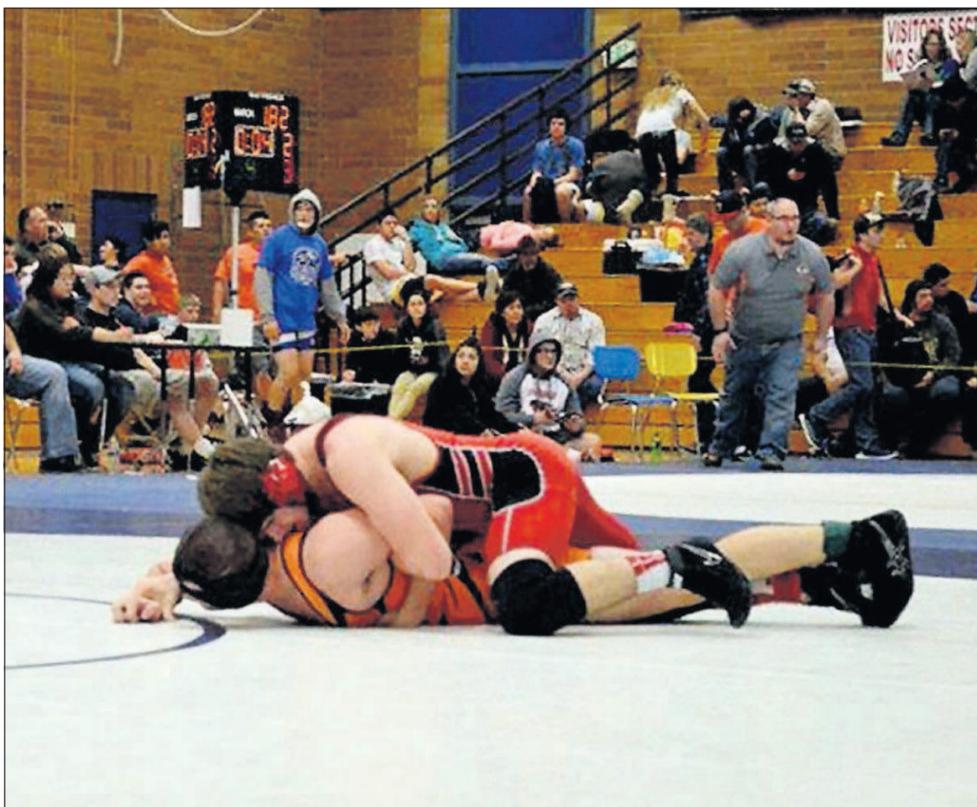
Garrett Lenz, 145, 1-2

Cameron Hallgarth, 160, 1-2

Jesse Paulson, 106, 2-2

Hadley Boethin, 195, 2-2, placed 5th

Elijah Humbird, 182, 2-2, placed 2nd



Contributed photo/Cindy Dougharity-Spencer
Grant Union's Andrew Copenhaver gets the upper hand with an opponent at the Calhoun Classic held Dec. 11-12 in Nyssa.

Grant Union football honors announced

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — Several Grant Union Prospector football players were named to the 2015 Wapiti League All Star Selection teams.

Jason Miller is head coach of the team and is also the school's athletic director.

Defensive backs

Wyatt Weaver, senior, First Team

Linebackers

Hayden Young, senior, Second Team

Andrew Copenhaver, senior, honorable mention

Defensive Linemen

Elijah Humbird, sophomore, First Team

Clayton Vaughan, senior, Second Team

Offensive Linemen

Dillon Maley, sophomore, First Team

Receivers

Garrett McConnell, senior, First Team

Cauy Weaver, sophomore, Second Team

Wyatt Weaver, senior, honorable mention

Running Backs

Hayden Young, senior, First Team

Quarterback

Wade Reimers, sophomore, Second Team