

Two Mustangs win district wrestling championships

Four Mustang wrestlers will compete in the OSAA state championships at Portland's historical Memorial Coliseum on February 24 and 25, including two district champions. Overall, the number of wrestlers Crane and Enterprise brought to the district tournament was insurmountable for Heppner, and the team finished third of 11 teams for the third time in the last four years. Ten of the 12 Mustang competitors brought home district medals.

Heppner had three district finalists for the first time in team history, sophomore Jared Lemmon, senior Garrett Gibbs and junior Tim Nelson. All three entered the tournament as the number two seed after having lost to the number one seed in a previous meeting.

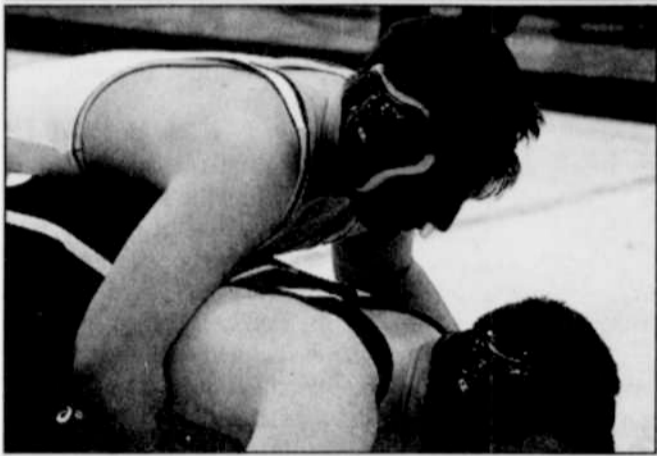
After a scoreless first round in the 120-pound finals bout, Lemmon burst free on a lightning quick escape in the first fraction of a second of the second round. That one-point, split-second move proved to be the difference between district champion and runner-up. Lemmon held his opponent scoreless for the remainder of the match to become the first Mustang to win two district titles.

Gibbs' district

championship followed a completely different script, but a familiar one for the senior who competed in four different weight classes ranging from 182 pounds to 285 pounds during the season. After five and a half minutes of several lead changes, and a score at 9-9 with 25 seconds left in the match, he pinned Joseph's Matthew Staigle to claim his first district gold medal and trip to state at 182 pounds.

Nelson gave his Enterprise opponent a tough match and was leading 4-2 late in the second period of the 220-pound championship bout before being reversed and pinned. It will also be his first trip as a competitor to Memorial Coliseum.

The Mustangs' fourth state qualifier, Treston Maben, took the hardest route possible to state. Maben, seeded second going into the tournament, lost his first match to unseeded Josh Higginbotham from Enterprise. Maben battled his way through the consolation bracket to again face Higginbotham for the consolation championship. This time he won by fall. Because Maben hadn't faced the loser of the championship match during the tournament, his third place finish earned him a wrestle-



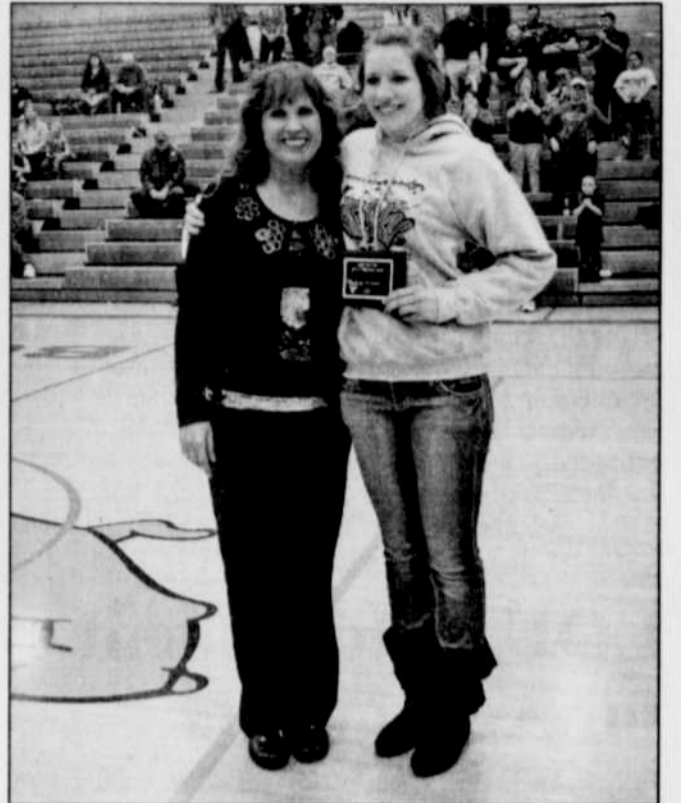
Top: Jared Lemmon faces off against an opponent during the district finals. Lemmon won a district championship and a slot in the state finals. Bottom: Garret Gibbs wrestles his opponent into submission and himself into a district championship. -Photos by Jeremy Lanthorn

off for a state berth against Cody Davis from Crane. Maben came out on top of a wild 18-16 score with the entire gym of spectators, coaches and wrestlers on their feet nearly drowning out the final whistle.

Six other Mustangs brought home medals by

placing in the top six of their individual weight class as follows: Alex Smith, 3rd; Wade Matthew, 4th; Kaytee Burghard, 6th; Earl Propher, 3rd; Andrew Bara, 5th; and John Propher, 6th. Jesse Boyd and Jacob Moses also competed for Heppner.

Spirit of Basketball awards given



Cathy Halvorsen (L) presents the Jason Halvorsen "Spirit of Basketball" award to female winner JoAnna Patton (R) of the Lone Lady Cardinals. The male winner was Jake Wells of the Horizon Christian Hawks. -Photo by Paula Emmel

Lone pep band honored at districts



Above: The gym was ecstatic when the Lone pep band played. The spectators especially enjoyed drummer Justin Estabrook, who recently joined the pep band. Top to bottom (L-R): Drums, Justin Estabrook; tuba, Gorge Aguilar; trumpets, Oscar and Joel Peterson, and Maggie Flynn; trombones, Robert Baker and Kaitlyn Garrett; keyboard, Yvonne Morter; tambourine, Melinda Morter; clarinet, Erin Heideman; saxophones, Donna Thompson and Karsen Rios; Bass/electric guitar, Austin Morter; and trumpeter and band leader, Jordan Bemrose. Below: Band members receiving the trophy for the entire band are (L-R): Gorge Aguilar, Austin Morter, Justin Estabrook, Yvonne Morter and, in front, Melinda Morter. -Photos by Paula Emmel

Ione players receive awards



Several members of the Ione basketball teams received First Team and Honorable Mention awards during district finals in Hermiston. Top Left: Big Sky Districts Awards Honorable Mention winners Lucas Jobes and Steven Holland. Bottom Left: Big Sky Districts Awards First Team winners Shadow Kendrick and JoAnna Patton. Above Left: Big Sky Districts Awards First Team winner Zac Orem. Above Right: Honorable Mention winners Makenna Ramos, Lacey Thompson and Stacey Halvorsen. -Photos by Paula Emmel

Road bowling returns on St. Pat's

Heppner's Irish Road Bowling event will draw the St. Patrick's Day weekend celebration to a close on Sunday, March 18. Participants in this event will gather on Sunday afternoon before the 1:37 p.m. activity commences. Participants must be 18 years or older.

This Irish sport that dates back to the 1600s was played in America by the Irish troops in West Virginia during the Civil War. In recent years, a resurgence of interest in the sport has developed in both Ireland and the United States. Heppner's event has gained popularity since it was first offered in 2006, and entries are limited (maximum of 17 teams), so interested persons should pick up entry forms at the Chamber of Commerce office, fill them out and return them with payment as soon as possible.

Teams of two to

four members compete over a course of approximately one mile by tossing the iron-and-steel "bowls." The bowls weigh 28 ounces and are slightly smaller than a tennis ball. The team that completes the course with the fewest tosses wins.

Each participant must pay \$5 to play. The purse is then divided, with half going into the St. Patrick's weekend fund and half being divided among the top three teams. Names of the winning team's members will be added to the trophy that is on display in the window of Peterson's Jewelers.

The starting point of the course will be on Balm Fork Road. Spectators are welcome at the event but are cautioned to remain a safe distance from the action; the bowls are heavy and have been known to break bones in unfortunate situations.

Ione 4-H field trip



Top: Ione 4-H Food and Clothing Club members with Conagra Lamb-Weston production manager Jim Quam and plant manager Neal Flyg, who both helped give the 4-H members a tour of the plant. Bottom: Another stop on the 4-H tour was Auntie Ida's Quilt Shop in Hermiston. (L-R): Jan Mayer, Project Linus coordinator for Umatilla/Morrow County; Morgan Orem; Emily Rea; Junior Sewing Club Leader Rebecca Jepsen and Austin Carter. They all made one or more colorful polar fleece blankets to donate to Project Linus. Some of the blankets will be given to the Morrow County Sheriff's Office to give out to abused children. -Contributed photos

Lady Cards receive sportsmanship award



The lone girls' basketball team received the roving banner for 2012 Big Sky Sportsmanship Award. (L-R): Emily Holland, Charlette Burghard, Lacey Thompson, Dominika Senkerikova, Lauren Garrett, Stacey Halvorsen, Jaqueline Juarez, Makenna Ramos, Shannon Metcalfe, Mary Rietmann, JoAnna Patton, Jasmine Verduzco and Shadow Kendrick. -Photo by Paula Emmel

Ione girls, boys make academic all-state top 10

The Ione girls' basketball team finished second academically of all 1A schools in the state, qualifying for the Dairy Farmers of Oregon Academic All-State top ten.

The girls had an

average GPA of 3.85, finishing second only to the Adrian girls' basketball team with a 3.90 GPA.

In other girls' results, St. Paul and Triad tied for third with a 3.82 GPA. Elkton was fifth; Country Christian, sixth; Umpqua Valley Christian, seventh;

Wallowa, eighth; Damascus Christian, ninth and C.S. Lewis Academy, 10th.

The Ione boys' basketball team also made the cut, tying for 10th place with Life Christian, each with an average 3.59 GPA.

Triad took first in the boys' category with a

3.83 GPA. North Clackamas Christian was second; Damascus Christian, third; Country Christian and Southwest Christian in a tie for fourth; Umpqua Valley Christian, sixth; Dufur and North Lake in a tie for seventh; and Wallowa, ninth, with a 3.6 GPA.

Due to the Morrow County Fee schedule order No. OR-20-2011 as of January 1, 2012 the Morrow County transfer stations will increase their fees 20% for removal of waste. Due to inflation of annual operating cost and other expenses beyond our control.

Morrow County would like to encourage and remind you the free disposal of latex and enamel paints, computers, computer towers and televisions free of charge. Remember residence are still allowed to dump the large appliances and household items such as refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, washer/dryers, water heaters, mattresses, sofa, loveseats and lounge chairs free of charge. Thank you. North end Transfer Station, 69900 Frontage Lane, Boardman, OR. 97818. South end Transfer Station 57185 Hwy 74, Lexington, OR. 97839. Both hours of operation 9:00 - 4:00 Saturday and Sunday. Any questions or concerns may be addressed to (541) 989-9500.

