

Heppner teen headed to national Make It With Wool contest

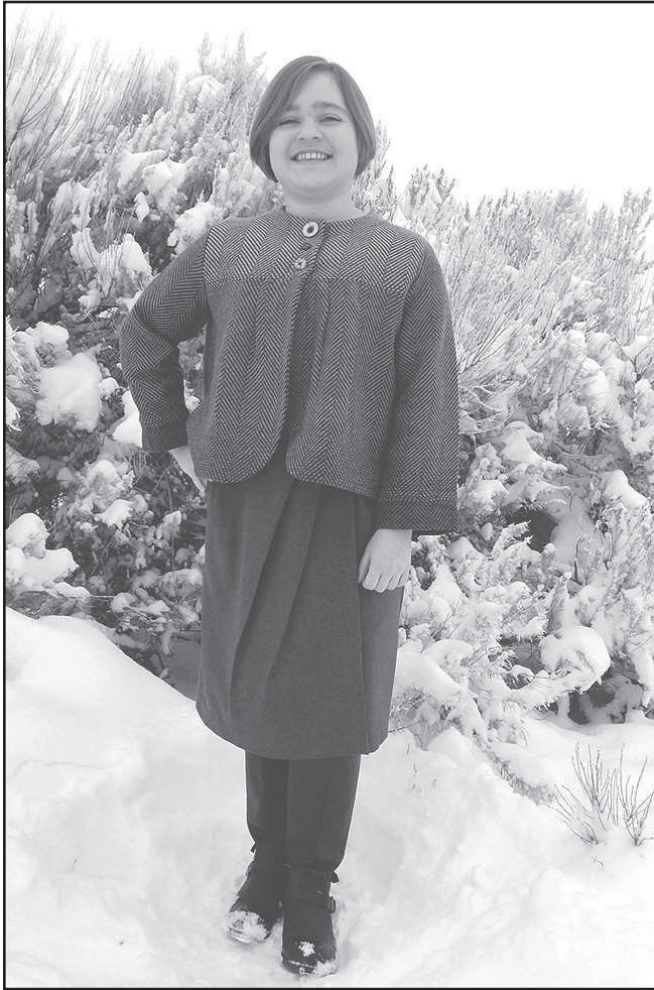
Hannah Palmer of Heppner will soon be headed to Denver, CO to compete in the national finals of the 69th annual Make It With Wool fashion show.

The contest will take place Jan. 26-28 at the Marriott City Center in Denver. Contestants from 37 states will be competing for prizes sponsored by the American Sheep Industry.

To qualify for the national event, Hannah won first place out of 10 contestants in her age division at the Oregon Sheep Growers Association's Make It With Wool competition held Dec. 3-4 in Corvallis. Hannah modeled a lined wool jacket, skirt and wool scarf that she made for the event. The contest requires that wool garments, either sewn or knitted by the contestants, must be made using 100 percent wool, or a fabric blend of at least 60 percent wool.

The Junior (ages 13-16) and Senior (ages 17-24) division winners won various prizes, the biggest of which was an all-expense-paid trip to compete in Denver. There also were adult and pre-teen sewing categories with other awards.

Hannah, who is 14 years old and an eighth grader at Heppner Jr./Sr.



Heppner girl Hannah Palmer, pictured wearing the outfit she made out of wool, is headed to the national Make It With Wool contest in Denver this month. -Contributed photo

High, is the daughter of Jason and Jennifer Palmer of Heppner. She has been in 4-H sewing for the past four years. This was her first year to compete in the Make It With Wool Contest. Her outfit will be judged on both its sewing construction skills, and during the

runway show. Anyone is welcome to enter the annual state competition, and new categories are being added. More information can be found at the Oregon and national Make it With Wool Facebook pages.

Small Mustang team shows big heart at Jo-Hi event

Heppner/Ione battled the winter weather to wrestle at the Jo-Hi tournament in Joseph over the weekend. Seventeen teams from Oregon and Idaho competed in the two-day event. Heppner/Ione finished 11th as a team although only three wrestlers scored team points.

The Mustangs had two wrestlers qualify for the finals on Saturday night.

Trevor Antonucci easily defeated his first two opponents from Joseph and Culver to face Shane Lund from Enterprise in the finals. Lund is currently the fourth-ranked wrestler at 113 pounds, being a returning district champion and a fourth-place finisher at state in 2016. The first period ended with no score with both wrestlers fending off each other's shots. Lund managed a takedown to take a 2-0 lead late in the second period. Lund scored a reversal in the third round and Antonucci gave up a penalty point to make the

final score 5-0 in Lund's favor.

Heppner/Ione's other finalist was senior Cord Flynn. Flynn earned a spot in the finals by a pin and technical fall on his first two opponents, setting up a finals match with Jaiden Jones from Culver. It would be a rematch of the 2016 195-pound state finals bout where Jones came out with the state championship medal. The wrestlers are ranked number one and number two in their weight class, Jones being number one.

The match started right up with fast action as each wrestler took turns shooting and defending, covering the entire mat area. Jones scored a takedown in a scramble but Flynn escaped in about a second. Jones's next takedown put Flynn to his back, giving Jones a 6-1 lead as the action carried the wrestlers out of bounds. On the restart Flynn was out again within seconds. Flynn shot a double leg

and dropped Jones to his back as time ran out in the first period with Flynn now ahead 7-6. Flynn started the second period on top and quickly returned Jones to his back with a cradle that finally ended in a pin after more than a minute's struggle when Flynn transitioned to a suffocating head and arm. The win advanced Flynn's season record to 15-0, including wins over number-one ranked wrestlers at 4A and 2A, and added another gold medal to his rack.

Leo Waite went 2-2 for the tournament at 126 pounds, winning two matches by fall to score team points and finish one win out from a place on the podium.

Charles Cason pinned an opponent from Enterprise in an exhibition match to pick up a non-scoring win.

Also competing for the Mustangs were Carson Brosnan, Jacob Wallace and Ethan Holmgren.

Mustangs take down Bobcats 58-34

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team won its home game against the Union Bobcats by a score of 58-34. The game with the Elgin Huskies was cancelled because of the wintery weather conditions.

Once again, the Mustang defense was the story of the game, holding Elgin to single-digit scoring in the first three quarters. Heppner jumped out to a 16-9 lead at the end of the first quarter and never let the Bobcats back into the game. The second quarter was an even better example of the ferocious defense that the Mustangs played as they held Union to only two points. Heppner scored 11 in the quarter to take a 27-11 lead into the locker room at halftime.

The Mustangs had their best offensive quarter of the game in the third as they put up 17 points and held

Union to only eight. That made the score of the game 44-19 as the final quarter started. Union outscored the Mustangs 15-14 in the fourth quarter but wasn't able to overtake them, and Heppner got the win by the score of 58-34.

Jake Lindsay led the team in scoring with 16 as he hit on four three-pointers in the game. He also had three rebounds and a steal. Nikolas Dias Martins also made four three-pointers on the night and totaled 12 points and two rebounds for the Mustangs. Caden Hedman also scored 12 points, and had three rebounds and two assists for the team. Logan Grieb had another good all-around game as he scored eight points and had 10 rebounds, three assists, one steal and a blocked shot. Kevin Smith had five points, three rebounds, one assist, a steal and a blocked

shot. Wyatt Steagall and Alex Lindsay had two points each in the game. Steagall also had four rebounds on the night. Kevin Murray had one point and eight rebounds while Coby Dougherty hauled down four rebounds. Beau Walters and Hunter Nichols each had one rebound in the game.

The Mustangs shot 38 percent from the field for the game and held Union to only 24 percent. Heppner also outrebounded the Bobcats 39-21 in the game.

That ends the pre-season schedule for the Mustangs, and they finished it with an 8-2 record. They now enter their conference schedule with a pair of away games this weekend. On Friday they travel to Stanfield to take on the Tigers and then they play the Weston McEwen Tiger-Scots on Saturday.

Winter storm deepens Red Cross blood shortage

Blood and platelet donors needed now

The American Red Cross is urging eligible donors throughout Pacific Northwest to give blood or platelets following the recent winter storm, which has compounded a severe winter blood shortage. Local residents will have an opportunity to help at a blood drive next Wednesday, Jan. 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 525 Gale St. in Heppner.

Snow and icy roads forced 16 blood drives to cancel in the Pacific Northwest causing more than 450 donations to go uncollected. Last month, nearly 100 blood drives

were forced to cancel across the country due to severe weather, resulting in more than 3,100 blood donations going uncollected. Overall, hectic holiday schedules for many regular blood donors and weather contributed to about 37,000 fewer donations in November and December than what was needed.

"The need for blood doesn't pause for severe weather - it's constant," said Neil Tosuntikool of the Pacific Northwest Red Cross Blood Services Region. "Right now, blood and platelet donations are being distributed to hospitals faster than they are coming

in. Eligible donors of all blood types are critically needed."

How to help

Eligible donors can find a blood donation opportunity and schedule an appointment to donate by using the free Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). The Red Cross is extending hours at many donation sites for more donors to give blood or platelets. Overall, the Red Cross has added nearly 200 hours to donation centers and blood drives across the country. Donation appointments and completion of a RapidPass online health history questionnaire are encouraged to help speed up the process.

Who blood donations help

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease may all require blood.

Morrow County Road Committee Meeting
will be held on
January 12, 2017 at 1:00 pm
in the Morrow County Bartholomew Upper Conference room, 110 N. Court St., Heppner, OR.

Chamber Chatter

Friday, Jan. 13 - Deadline for Nominations for Heppner Chamber's Annual Town and Country Community Awards event: Nomination forms and guidelines can be picked up at Bank of Eastern Oregon, chamber office, Heppner City Hall, Community Bank or the post office, or call the chamber office at 541-676-5536 for emailed copies. Nomination forms

must be received by Kuhn Law or chamber offices by Friday, Jan. 13. They can be scanned and emailed to heppnerchamber@centurytel.net or faxed to 541-676-5656.

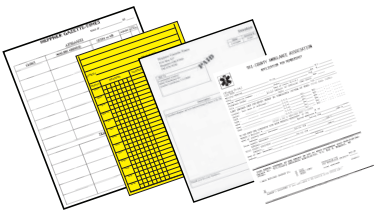
Monday, Jan. 31 - 3:15-6:30 p.m. - After-school program for local youth organized by the Heppner United Methodist Church: This program is for kindergarten through sixth grade

Activities include art, music, life skills and a family dinner. This program will be held on the last Monday of each month. Contact the Methodist Church at 541-676-9224 with any questions.

Thursday, Feb. 9, 6 p.m. - Heppner Chamber's Town and Country Awards at Morrow County Fairgrounds - 6 p.m. no host bar with 6:30 p.m. dinner.

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