

Mustang Wrestling 2023 Wrap up

By Tylynn Cimmiyotti

The Oregon Trail County Championships saw the Heppner Wrestling teams in action on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at Echo. The boys scored 85 team points and secured the 5th place, while the girls also finished 5th with 41 team points.

Zachary Brown was the champion of his weight class (157) and earned 28 points for his team. He defeated all his opponents by pin. In the first round, he beat Nathaniel Connell from Hermiston. In the quarterfinal, he overcame Tugg McQuinn from Pendleton. In the semifinal, he prevailed over Masyn Linsey from McLoughlin. In the final, he dominated Aiden Murillo from Riverside.

Landon McMahon dominated the 190 division and contributed 24.0 points to his team's total. He advanced to the quarterfinals without breaking a sweat, thanks to a bye in the first round. There, he pinned Dakota Malin (Pendleton). In the semifinals, he faced a challenge from Xander Olman (Irrigon) but prevailed by decision. He capped off his impressive performance by defeating Josiah Moreno (Irrigon) with a fall in the championship match.

Owen Guerra was a force to be reckoned with in the 175 division, securing second place and 20 team points for his squad. He breezed through the bracket after getting a bye in the first round, he then took down Devon Wiltberger of Riverside in the quarterfinal, and Ethan Rangel of Ontario in the semifinal. He met his match in the final, however, as Isaih Trujillo of Imbler proved too strong and pinned Owen for the title.

Tyler Moore had a remarkable comeback in the 175 division, as he bounced back from a quarterfinal loss to win third place. He started his run with a pin over Santiago Olivas (Ontario) in the first round of the championship bracket. He then faced Isaih Trujillo (Imbler), who stopped him with a fall in the quarterfinal. Moore did not let that discourage him, as he dominated the consolation bracket with four more pins over Malaqie Covarrubias (Hermiston), Francisco Rangel (Ontario), Ethan Rangel (Ontario), and Rayshon McKim (Hermiston) in the third-place match. Moore's performance was impressive, but did not earn any team points for his school.

Despite not placing in their respective weight classes, **Conner Wilson** (165), **Kooper Miller** (215), and **Gino Gallegos** contributed to their team's overall score with their performances. Wilson earned 3.0 points, Miller added 6.0 points and Gallegos chipped in 4.0 points for the team's overall score.

Loren Trujillo (125) was the champion of her weight class and contributed 20.0 points to her team's



Lauren Trujillo pinning an opposing team member. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti



Sarah Munkers winning her wrestling match. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti



Connor Wilson throwing down his opponent on the mat. - Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti

total. She had a smooth path to the finals, getting a bye in the quarterfinals and pinning Abi Toombs (Echo) in the semifinals. The final match was a nailbiter, as she edged out Crystal Gutierrez (Hermiston) in a sudden victory with a 4-2 score.

Denisse Bracamontes (125) finished in fourth place and earned 4.0 points for her team. She advanced to the semifinals with a bye but faced a tough opponent in Crystal Gutierrez (Hermiston), who pinned her in the first match. Bracamontes received another bye in the consolation round, setting up for a match against Abi Toombs (Echo). Toombs proved to be too much for Bracamontes again, as she secured a fall in the second period and claimed the fourth-place medal.

Journey Cavan-Harris (135) had a mixed performance at the tournament, earning 4.0 team points but failing to reach the podium. She started strong with a pin over Milah Fincher (Union) in the quarterfinal but then faced two tough opponents from La Grande. Paige Allen stopped her in the semifinal with a fall, and Nakita Gonzales repeated the feat in the consolation semifinal.

Keeley Narins (190) fought hard but couldn't make it to the podium, earning 3.0 points for her team. She faced Maddy Armstrong (La Grande) in the quarterfinals and lost by pin. She bounced back in the consolation round 1, pinning Hailey Wright (Union) in a dominant performance. However, her run ended in the consolation semifinals, where Grace Aufdermauer (Umatilla) pinned her in a close match.

The Heppner boys' Wrestling team competed in the **Elgin Memorial Classic** on December 15th and 16th, 2023. The team faced some strong opponents and managed to score 68 points, earning them 8th place at the tournament.

Landon McMahon (190) secured a second-place spot and contributed 18.0 points to his team. He breezed through the first two rounds with byes and then defeated Alex Finley of Grant Union with a 10-5 decision in the semifinal. However, he met his match in the final, where Lucas

was pinned by Isaih Trujillo of Imbler.

Conner Wilson had a mixed performance, winning two matches but losing three. He started strong with a decision over Carson Weimer of La Grande but then fell to Gen Wintersteen of Elgin by pin. He bounced back with a fall over Derek Faulconer from Adrian but then lost again by pin to Ashtyn Irwin (Enterprise). In the 5th place match, he fought hard but came up short against Michael Corn of Nyssa, who edged him out by an 11-8 decision. Wilson finished sixth in his weight class but did not contribute any points to his team's score.

Despite missing out on a spot on the podium, **Hayden McMahon** contributed to his team's overall performance with a solid 4.0 points.

It was a festive day for the Heppner Girls' Wrestling team as they competed in the **Girls Christmas Tournament at Mac-Hi** on Saturday, December 16, 2023. The team showed their strength and skill as they wrestled their way to a third-place finish with 35 team points. The wrestling team had a strong performance at the tournament, with four wrestlers placing in the top four of their weight classes.

Loren Trujillo (120) showed great resilience and skill, bouncing back from a close quarterfinal loss to Sabrina Malcolm (Walla Walla) and winning three consecutive matches by fall, including a decisive victory over Dairys Pena (Riverside) for third place.

Journey Cavan-Harris (130) dominated her semifinal match against Hazel Asmus (Walla Walla), pinning her opponent in the first match. She faced a tough challenge in the final against Katelyn Wiseman (Riverside), who managed to overcome Cavan-Harris by fall and claim the title.

Denisse Bracamontes (130) had a bye in the quarterfinal but fell to Wiseman in the semifinal. She also had a bye in the consolation semifinal, but could not secure the third place against Asmus, who pinned her in the second period.

Keeley Narins (190) had a rough start, losing by fall to Grace Aufdermauer (Umatilla) in the first round. However, she redeemed herself in the third round, where she pinned Sarah Munkers (Heppner) and earned second place.

Sarah Munkers (190) unfortunately lost both of her matches by falling to Aufdermauer and Narins, settling for third place.

A continuation of 2023 tournament stats will be in next week's paper.

Mustangs defeat Outlaws 64-56

Game against Knights to be rescheduled

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team only got to play one of their two Blue Mountain Conference games that were scheduled last weekend. The Mustangs defeated the Enterprise Outlaws on Friday 64-56 and then traveled to Irrigon to take on the Knights. The power in the gym went out as the girls' game was ending and coach Rosenbalm was at the whiteboard giving the boys team their final instructions. It was determined that the power would not be back on for some time and that the boys' varsity game would have to be rescheduled. In the game against Enterprise, the Mustangs were in a tight one for the first six minutes of the game with neither team leading by more than three points. Enterprise then took off with some inside the paint baskets from their 6'-4" and 6'-7" post players. The Outlaws' lead continued to grow, and they led at the end of the first quarter 23-13. Heppner scored the first six points of the second quarter and ended up taking the lead midway through the quarter 29-27. The teams continued to battle for the rest of the second and the Outlaws had a 38-34 lead at the half.

The Mustangs came out in the third quarter and quickly took the lead away from the Outlaws at 42-41. The lead never grew to more than three points until the final basket of the quarter by the Mustangs to give them a 48-43 lead entering the final frame.

Heppner kept up the full-court pressure on the Outlaws and quickly pushed the lead to nine points 54-45. Enterprise did cut the Heppner lead to five points at one point in the fourth quarter, but the Mustangs held strong and got the win by the score of 64-56.

Caden George had a big game for the Mustangs as he scored 29 points, had 3 rebounds, 3 assists, and 3 steals. Landon Mitchell filled up the stat sheet with 21 points, 6 rebounds, 4

assists, and 3 steals and he blocked a shot. Mason Orem scored 6 points, had 5 rebounds, 4 assists, and blocked 1 shot in the game. Cameron Proudfoot was solid in his play as usual, and he scored 5 points and had 3 steals for the team. Marty Medina scored 2 points and Thomas Bales had 1 point, 5 rebounds, 2 assists, and 2 steals for the Mustangs. The JV Mustangs won their game against Enterprise by a score of 38-25. A quick start by Heppner saw them lead 13-4 after the first quarter and then 20-14 at halftime. It was 26-18 at the end of three and then the Mustangs outscored the Outlaws 12-7 in the final frame to get the win.

A balanced scoring attack was led by Alakae Rodriguez with 10 points. Caylan Proudfoot was next with 8 and Tripp Stewart scored 6. Keaton Coiner finished with 5 points and Caleb George had 4. Logan Turner chipped in 3 points and rounding out the scoring was Mason Seitz who had 2.

The Junior Varsity boys were able to play their game in Irrigon and they came away with their eighth win in a row as they topped the Knights by the score of 52-50. A slow first quarter by both teams saw Irrigon have the lead 7-5. They also led at halftime by the score of 23-18. The second half of the game belonged to the Mustangs as they outscored the Knights 18-16 in the third quarter and 16-11 in the fourth to take the win by the score of 52-50.

Another balanced scoring night saw Alakae Rodriguez once again lead the team in scoring with 13. Caylan Proudfoot followed with 11 and with 9 points each were Caleb George and Logan Turner. Jackson Coiner torched the nets with two three-pointers to finish with 6 and Keaton Coiner contributed 4 points.

The Mustangs continue conference play this week with only one scheduled game. They will travel on Friday to take on the Stanfield Tigers.

SUBMIT NEWS, ADVERTISING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SEND US PHOTOS
START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION



Broker

Chris Sykes

541-215-2274



Discover peace and seclusion on this expansive forty-acre parcel boasting a fully functional two-bedroom, one-bathroom cabin. Embrace the breathtaking views of the mountains from the upper level's reverse living 640 square foot great room. In the summer, explore the property's ATV trails, while in the winter, delight in t snowmobiling or sledding with access to thousands of acres of National Forest Land located at the property's corner. LOP tags may be available for hunting enthusiasts, or simply relish in the opportunity to observe the abundant wildlife that frequently visits the property, including elk, deer, bear, and turkey. Enjoy the convenience of a private well with a backup valve-filled cistern, two natural springs, electricity, and internet access, ensuring utmost comfort and connectivity.
80439 Black Mountain Ln Heppner
MLS#:23425595

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

"EARS" OF EXPERIENCE

Ready to help with your hearing healthcare needs

600 NW 11th Street
Suite E-21
Hermiston, OR 97838

P.S. Ask us about our financing options! (541) 371-1900

Call Verna 541-371-1900

Offering complimentary hearing evaluation and/or to have your current hearing aids cleaned & checked, schedule today!

WWW.HEPPNER.NET
SUBMIT NEWS, ADVERTISING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
SEND US PHOTOS
START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION