

# Heppner wrestlers shine at Grant Union tournament with two first-place finishes



Zachary Brown throws an Elgin wrestler. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti



Landon McMahon seeks to pin an opponent in John Day. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti

Heppner High School wrestling had a busy weekend, traveling to John Day, Hood River and Pasco.

Friday, Jan. 24, the boys, girls and junior high wrestling teams traveled to John Day for the Grant Union boys' and girls' tournaments.

The event drew a large crowd of wrestlers and spectators, filling the gym and overflow areas to watch matches on eight different mats throughout the day.

Coaches often found themselves scrambling from one mat to another as Heppner wrestlers competed in rapid succession on the three mats designated for the high school wrestlers.

Zachary Brown and Landon McMahon each secured first place in their weight class, while Journey Cavan-Harris earned second place in her weight class for the girls.

On Saturday, January 25, 2025, the teams split up, with the girls traveling to Hood River for the Hood River Valley Girls Invitational, and the boys heading to Pasco for the Chiawana Duals.

The Hood River Invitational featured 33 teams, while the Chiawana Duals saw participation from 16 teams.

Full results are as follows:

### Grant Union

For the boys, Zachary Brown (157) took first place with 20 team points, winning three matches by fall, including a 1:40 vic-

tory over Kaleb Winn from Burns and a forfeit over Conner Wilson.

Landon McMahon (285) also earned first place with 18 team points, winning four matches, three by fall, including one in just 21 seconds, and a forfeit.

Conner Wilson (157) placed second with 14 team points after winning two matches by fall but losing to Brown.

Nickolas Wenberg (165) earned third place with seven team points, securing two falls but facing tough losses.

Owen Guerra (175) also placed third with seven team points, winning two falls after initial losses.

Jaime Cavan (190) placed third with 13 team points, including a tech fall victory over Alexander Rexroad.

Hayden McMahon (144) finished fourth with nine team points after losing most of his matches but earning one by decision.

Lane Critchlow (285) placed fourth with three team points, mixed with forfeits and losses.

Kaden King (165) struggled and placed fifth with no team points, facing losses and forfeits.

In the girls' division, Journey Cavan-Harris (135) placed second with 14 team points after winning two matches by fall but losing in a decision to Lilly Collins.

Emilia Cavan-Harris (170) placed third with seven team points, winning one match by decision but losing in the later rounds.

Sarah Munkers (170) placed fourth with three team points, winning one match by fall but suffering losses.

Loren Trujillo (115) placed fifth with no team points, struggling through losses.

Harlee Cotton (120) placed sixth with three team points, facing tough losses.

### Hood River Valley Girls Invitational

Heppner placed 24<sup>th</sup> with 39 team points.

Keeley Nairns (190) finished fourth with 13 team points, securing wins by fall and decision but losing in the third-place match.

Loren Trujillo (115) placed sixth with 12 team points, winning two matches by fall but losing in the fifth-place match.

Journey Cavan-Harris (135) placed eighth with seven team points after a rough run of losses by fall.

Emilia Cavan-Harris (140) also placed eighth with five team points, winning one match by fall but losing later.

Sarah Munkers did not

place, earning two team points.

### Chiawana Duals

Heppner finished Pod 3, guaranteed third place.

In Match 1, Heppner lost to Eisenhower 39-27, with wins by Nickolas Wenberg, Owen Guerra and Jaime Cavan.

Match 2 saw Heppner defeat Southridge 36-35, with standout victories from Conner Wilson and Landon McMahon.

In Match 3, Heppner lost to Richland 47-30, but Guerra, Cavan and McMahon won their matches.

In the Consolation 2 Semifinal, Heppner triumphed over Prosser 45-27, with key falls by Wenberg, Guerra and McMahon.

In the consolation first-place match, Heppner defeated Sunnyside 39-33, securing the top spot with wins from McMahon, Wilson, Wenberg, Guerra and McMahon.

These performances showcased Heppner's strong individual and team efforts.

## Laura Torres Selected as Newest MCHD Board Member

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"I don't think it's fair to staff," Kilkenny added. "And I'm really concerned about that, and I don't really want to participate in demoralizing our staff."

Kilkenny also said that the comments had had demoralizing effects across all the health district staff, and she didn't believe staff should be discussed in public meetings at all.

"I don't think the staff should be targeted, or even discussed, at the meetings," agreed board member Donna Rietmann. "If the public has a problem with us, and wants to discuss us and what we're doing that they don't like, I'd like to hear it."

Health district CEO Emily Roberts added that the health district could open itself to risk of civil liability regarding some comments. Roberts also said some comments had been made that she felt compromised patient privacy.

Ezell and Munkers agreed that the board needs to control the nature of public comment and reign in anything insulting or defamatory. Ezell suggested having a sign-up sheet with clear guidelines for those wishing to speak.

"At the end of the day, we need to hear from our public," Ezell said.

The board agreed on the need for a sign-in sheet for speakers' names and topics, a limit of one speaker per

topic and public comments guidelines written on the sign-in sheet or a separate information sheet. They also reached a consensus on moving public comment to the end of the meeting.

However, no formal action was taken on Monday. The MCHD board has been discussing the proposed changes in meetings throughout the county but hadn't yet met in Irrigon, and Kilkenny said they would hold a meeting in Irrigon before making any changes.

Meanwhile, health district staff will present a draft of the proposed changes for the board's consideration at the February meeting in Irrigon.

In other business at the meeting, the MCHD board of directors:

- approved a new contract with CORA due to a change in billing processes;

- approved two new and two continuing appointments for medical staff privileges;

- discussed and approved two amendments to the medical staff bylaws; and

- learned of adjustments to the 2025 board calendar—February's meeting will be in Irrigon and March's in Lexington, while the meeting places for Irrigon and Lone will change to the Irrigon library and the Lone Fire Hall.

The next meeting of the MCHD board of directors will be Feb. 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Irrigon library.

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### Seniors Matter February Menu

**Feb 4** - Pork and Hashbrown Casserole  
 Buttered Carrots  
 Dessert

**Feb 11** - Mini Pizzas  
 Garden Salads  
 Dessert

**Feb 18** - Beef Stroganoff over Mashed Potatoes  
 Green Beans  
 Dessert

**Feb 25** - Tacos on a Plate  
 Dessert

**Feb 12** - Vets Meal  
 Chicken Pot Pie, Peach Cobbler

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# HEPPNER MUSTANGS HOST

## Bank of Eastern Oregon Invitational

Saturday, February 1st, 2025

Heppner High School Gymnasium

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### Senior Night!!

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