

Heppner Opens State Tourney Play Today

Winner of District Playoffs To Meet Knappa in First Game

By Larry Mollahan
The Heppner high school Mustangs, winners of the district 6-B basketball tournament at Maupin Saturday night, left Wednesday morning for Salem and will play their first game of the state playoffs tonight at 7:30 against Knappa. If they get over this hurdle they will meet the winner of the Prairie City-Harrisburg game Friday night at 8:45.

This is the third trip the Mustangs have made to the state tournament in as many years and will come up against the top B schools of the state including Powers, Malin, Mill City, Harrisburg who took top honors last year, Prairie City, Enterprise and Knappa.

Takes Maupin Series

For the third time in three years the Heppner Mustangs have won the District 6-B basketball tournament. The first game was with St. Mary's of The Dalles and Heppner downed the Gaels 53 to 36 Thursday afternoon. Coming against Culver Friday evening the Mustangs experienced no trouble in winning 49 to 42. In the final game Saturday night Heppner won what generally was supposed to be a close game from Maupin, 51 to 26.

Three Mustangs received all star honors, those going to Jerry Hagwood, Skip Ruhl and captain, Dick Kononen.

A pleasant surprise was the awarding of the sportsmanship trophy to Heppner. With the largest rooting section at the tournament, Heppner fans, students and cheerleaders are to be congratulated.

A contributing factor in Heppner's winning of the tourney was that every man on the team was a potential point maker. Usually a team has one star, bottle him up and you have the game half won. With Heppner, if a team let go one man to guard another it just meant two more points for the Mustangs.

Cocher Larry Downen had the team confident, in perfect shape and in a winning mood.

In the first ten seconds of play against St. Mary's it was evident to the crowd of one thousand or over that Heppner was out to win.

Pulling into a 31 to 25 lead at the half Heppner demonstrated beautiful ball handling, hawking and dribbling.

Dick Kononen, Larry Downen's field marshal, played an excellent game, working play after play through the key. Using a slow approach and blurring execution play that left the stands breathless, Heppner was ahead all thirty two minutes of play.

Kononen put in 19 points for Heppner topped only by John McCormick, St. Mary's star who made 21.

Heppner scoring: Kononen 19, Grabill 2, Jensen 3, Beamer 4, D. Piper 2, Ruhl 10, Hagwood 13, Culver, Clipped.

Culver was no match for the win hungry Mustangs. Heppner moved relentlessly into a 25 to 12 lead at the intermission time. It was only after the bench came into the game that Culver cut down the margin to seven points.

Jerry Hagwood was one point ahead of Bob Grabill and Dick Kononen with 11 points for high point man. Neil Beamer was rebounding and controlled the boards practically the whole game for Heppner.

Heppner scoring: Kononen 10, Grabill 10, Jensen 1, Beamer 8, D. Piper 3, Ruhl 6, Hagwood 11. Maupin Loses Final

Again Heppner was on the big side of a winning score. Saturday found Heppner in a faceoff with the Maupin Redside for the Championship.

Bob Grabill was a game stopper every time he went into the air and dropped in 30 foot jumpshots for 15 points.

Skip Ruhl the fastest man on the Heppner squad was like a fox with the ball if the Maupin

guards made a slow or sloppy pass, there would go Ruhl and pounce on it and be down and under for two points.

Ron Paulson 6'7" Maupin center was rendered practically helpless by a type of zone where the tall center was lucky to get his hands on the ball at all and if he did he was immediately surrounded by a high jumping trio of Kononen, Beamer and Grabill. Paulson succeeded in making only two points while the night before he dumped in 16 against Moro.

Heppner scoring: Kononen 8, Grabill 15, Beamer 10, Ruhl 8, Hagwood 10.

State Tournament

The high school student body gave their team a big sendoff Wednesday morning for Salem where the Mustangs will play Knappa Thursday afternoon. Knappa according to reports has two 6'4" cagers and the rest of the team range on down to six foot.

A large number of fans, parents, and students are planning on attending the games.

O'Harra Named Conservation Head

New officers of the Heppner Soil Conservation district elected at a meeting Tuesday night at the county agent's office include Newt O'Harra, Lexington, chairman; Donald Peterson, Ione, vice chairman and Raymond Lundell, Ione, treasurer. N. C. Anderson is secretary of the organization.

A report of the annual convention of the national association of soil conservation districts at San Diego, Calif., was given by John Wightman, delegate from the Heppner district.

A total of 12,197 acres of conservation surveys, 1,450 feet of stream channel and 1,500 feet of irrigation ditch engineering surveys were completed in the district during January and February, the progress report showed.

Adequate Funds Seen To Continue Tri-County Rain-Making

The continuation of cloud seeding in the county was assured at a meeting last week of the directors of the Tri-County Weather Research and interested ranchers at Heppner when \$4,000 was obtained to finance rain-making operations from March 1 through June.

Collections had been adequate in Gilliam and Sherman counties to continue the program but Morrow county has been behind in its payments. Operating cost is \$1,000 per month per county and group has a contract with the Weather Modification Company of Redlands, Calif.

Directors of the Tri-County organization from now on will be on a cash basis. If case payments didn't cover the contract, ranchers would have their money refunded or payments pro-rated.

The hail program operated out of Condon last year is being continued on a separate basis by Gilliam county ranchers who felt that the operation had been very successful in protecting the area from hail.

The cloud seeding had been started in 1950 by the three county group but was discontinued last December.

Directors attending the meeting were Delbert Emert, Ralph Crum, both of Ione; Harold Van Buskirk, Echo; George Wilson and Dean Pinkerton, Sherman county; George Wilson of Kent is president of the organization.

CEREMONIAL PLANNED
A Camp Fire Ceremonial for Camp Fire girls and Blue Birds of Heppner will be held Sunday, March 13 at 3 p. m. at the Masonic Temple, it was announced this week.

Anyone interested in the Camp Fire program is invited to attend.



HEPPNER MUSTANGS basketball squad who last week took district honors and today open play in the state B basketball tournament at Salem. They are front row, left to right, Lowell Lee Turner, Jim Hayes, Lyle Jensen, John Piper, Jerry Hagwood, Skip Ruhl. Back row, Coach Larry Downen, Bob Grabill, Neil Beamer, Dick Kononen, Delbert Piper, Nelson Connor, manager.

Immunization Clinics Set For County Schools

Immunization clinic for school and pre-school children will be held in all county schools, Dr. A. D. McMurdo, county health officer and attending physician, announced this week.

Clinics will be held at monthly intervals during March, April and May for the completion of the immunization series. Signed permit slips from parents must be presented at the time of immunization for all school children, Dr. McMurdo emphasized.

The immunizations offered and recommended for children of all ages are:
Smallpox—every five years, all ages.
Diphtheria-tetanus combination—for all school age children six through 15 years. A booster every three years after first series which requires two injections a month apart.

Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough combination—for pre-school age, booster one year after first series, then every three years. First series requires three injections a month apart.
Typhoid—all ages, booster every year after first series. First series requires three injections a week or more apart.

Immunization materials are not furnished by the state board of health this year, so a small charge of 25 cents for smallpox, 25 cents for the diphtheria combination and 50 cents for typhoid will be made.

Following is the schedule for all county schools and both school age and pre-school children will be taken at those times.

Heppner and Hardman—March 15, April 12, May 10 at 9 a. m. at Heppner school.
Irrigon school—March 29, April 14, May 12 at 9 a. m.
Boardman school—March 29, April 14, May 12 at 1 p. m.
Ione school—March 22, April 19, May 17 at 9 a. m.
Lexington school—March 22, April 19, May 17 at 10:30 a. m.

Rate Increases at Hospital Announced

The hospital board announced today that a rate increase will be put into effect at Pioneer Memorial hospital on March 15. It is being made to bring the hospital's charges up closed to the Oregon standard hospital rates, but will still be somewhat below the state scale.

The new rates will be \$12.50 per day for a two-bed semi private room; \$11.50 for a 4-bed ward; and \$16.00 for a private room. This compares with \$15.25, \$13.75 and \$16.75 as the standard rate schedule.

It was also announced that the new wing is completed and furnished and already is nearly full, and that an open house in the new unit will be held on May 8 in connection with National Hospital week. At that time free chest X-Rays will be given and the building opened to public inspection.

Roy Gill of London, Kentucky, has been visiting at the home of his cousin and family, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. George.

Thomas N. White Of Ione Taken by Death Here Saturday

Funeral services were held for Thomas Nelson White, 75, Tuesday at 10:30 a. m. in the Ione Community church with Rev. Alfred Shirley officiating. Oliver Creswick of Heppner sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and in a Garden, accompanied by rs. E. M. Baker. Pall bearers were Sam Esteb, Walter and Noel Dobyns, Lewis and Elmer Ball and Roy Lindstrom.

Mr. White was born in Dot, Washington, in the Roosevelt community, November 16, 1879 and died in Ione March 5. He had lived in the Roosevelt area until 1936 when he and Mrs. White moved to Idaho and Walla Walla. They had lived in Ione for the past 10 years.

He and Mrs. White celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on February 20. He was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Surviving are his wife, Edythe, three sons, Gordon, Wayne and Dale, all of Ione; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Jordan and Mrs. May Burckow both of Portland, and one brother, Horace A. White of Glenwood, Wash. Two sons, Omar and Loyal preceded him in death.

Creswick and Seuell Mortuary had charge of the arrangements with interment and graveside services in the Tahoma cemetery in Yakima with Shaw and Son in charge there.

Irrigation Prospects To Be Discussed

Most of Oregon's irrigation water users will have the opportunity to hear final water supply forecasts for 1955 along with suggestions as to the best ways of utilizing that water for crops in a series of regional meetings March 14 through April 7.

The meetings are a cooperative effort of the USDA soil conservation service, U. S. weather bureau, and the Oregon State college agricultural extension service, and experiment station.

Water forecasts are based on records of more than 100 measured snow courses, and include snowcover, soil moisture, reservoir water, precipitation, and stream flow, throughout the state.

The first meeting of the series, for the Umatilla-Walla Walla region of the state, will be held March 14, at Pendleton starting at 9 a. m.

Episcopal Church Sets Confirmation

A special weekend is planned for March 12 and 13 at All Saints' Episcopal church, it has been announced by Rev. John R. Reeves, rector.

A potluck supper will be held Saturday evening at 6:30 sponsored by the couple's club in honor of Bishop and Mrs. Lane W. Barton of Bend.

On Sunday all members and friends of the church are invited to a confirmation service at 11 a. m. which will be followed by a coffee hour and reception for the new members sponsored by the women's auxiliary.

William L. McCaleb has returned from a two months visit with relatives in Portland and other points in the valley.

Blakney Named To Fill Vacant Council Position

Phil Blakney, local druggist, was sworn in Monday night as a new member of the Heppner city council. He was appointed by mayor Mary Van Stevens to fill the unexpired term of Jack Van Winkle who had resigned the position early in January. Blakney will serve by appointment until the next regular election.

The council studied and passed to the third reading a franchise which would allow the Heppner TV, Inc., a corporate organization formed to install a cable television system in the city, to construct, operate and maintain a coaxial cable system within the city limits. The ordinance would grant them a 10 year franchise.

The ordinance will come before the group again next Monday for its third reading.

The council was read a letter from the engineering firm of Clark and Groff stating that the estimated cost of curbing and paving of several streets on the west side of town, which had been petitioned last fall, would run between \$2.75 and \$3.50 per front foot. Under the proposal corner lots would be assessed full charge for frontage and one-half the rate for depth on the side street.

The council had received petitions from residents along Gale, Center and Baltimore streets asking that the street improvement district be formed and the letter was in response to a request for an estimate of the cost.

Equipment Bid Awarded

The council received four bids for the purchase of a new tractor for the street department. The low bid of \$5,613.50 was entered by Empire Machinery company of Heppner and was accepted. The unit will include a tractor with a loading bucket, back hoe blade, ditcher and broom. Delivery is expected within about two weeks.

The group heard a discussion on inequities in the present water rate structure and the mayor appointed a committee to study the problem and report at the next regular meeting.

Camp Columbia Benefit Sale Set

An auction sale of every conceivable type of useful article for the benefit of Camp Columbia, the Boys Town of the West, at White Salmon, Washington, is planned for Saturday, March 19 at the old Heppner civic center building, it was revealed today.

The sale arrangements are being made by E. A. Westermeyer, Hermiston, who is a member of the camp advisory council, and it will be sponsored by all civic, fraternal and service organizations in the area, it was said. Donations of any type of useful article of value including clothing, groceries, old farm or other types of machinery, old wagon wheels, furniture etc., is being requested from residents of the area. Arrangements have been made to have the donations picked up where necessary and anyone having anything to give for the sale are asked to call either O. W. Cutsforth, Lexington, or Tom-A-Lum Lumber Company in Heppner. Col. Red Chamberlain of Hermiston will do the auctioneering.

The camp for which the benefit sale is to be held, was started by Major and Mrs. F. H. Blake several years ago as a home for homeless boys, most of whom are wards of a court. It is not tax supported and receives its only aid from numerous organizations in Oregon and Washington who have taken it upon themselves to aid Major Blake in his program to rehabilitate wayward boys.

The sale will start at 11 a. m. Saturday, March 19.

Curiosity Kills Cat

A cat at the Lexington airport didn't live long enough to let his curiosity do him much good.

Last Sunday a local flier entered his hangar at the field and found that a big stray cat had climbed up on a workbench to examine a heavy metal vise lying near the edge. The vise and the cat both fell to the floor.

The mistake the cat made was being on the bottom.



SALLY PALMER, Heppner high school senior who this week was named Valedictorian of her class.



SALUTORIAN of the graduating seniors at Heppner high school is Patsy Wright.

Heppner High Names Top Honor Students

Two Heppner high school senior girls who have attained the highest scholastic averages during their four years were this week named valedictorian and salutatorian by school officials. They are Sally Palmer and Patricia Wright.

Miss Palmer, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Palmer, attained the top grade average of 96.5 percent and was named valedictorian. In addition to attaining the highest grade aver-

Heppner TV, Inc. Sets Rate Plan

Directors of the recently formed Heppner TV, Inc., this week announced a schedule of membership and monthly charges for residents and businesses who desire to be serviced from the cable system which the co-op plans to install within the city.

The basic charge for membership in the co-op is \$135 which will give the holder of the membership a vote in its operation and one hookup to the cable. The monthly charge varies from \$3.50 to \$5.00 per month plus tax.

Owner occupants of residences and renters will be charged \$3.50 per month plus 28 cents tax for each set. Additional sets will be charged \$1.50 plus tax, plus the actual cost of installing additional hookups. It was also pointed out that a person moving out of town may sell his membership within a limited 6-month period, or if moving within town, he will pay only the actual cost of the hookup transfer.

Apartment houses will have the same scale as above except that for additional hookups a charge of \$75 plus a tax of \$6.00 will be made and a monthly fee of \$3.50 plus 28 cents tax will be collected.

TV dealers will be charged \$6.00 per month plus 48 cents tax regardless of the number of sets displayed, and restaurants, taverns, clubs and bars will be charged \$6.00 plus tax.

A contract membership plan has been developed whereby a membership may be purchased for \$15 down and 12 monthly payments.

It was also announced that it is possible that an additional hookup fee will be charged to all who fail to subscribe to membership in the Heppner TV, Inc. until after the activated cable has passed their homes.

Mercury Does Abrupt About Face in Week

Morrow county residents were treated to just about every kind of weather that could be devised during the past week with the mercury setting a new low for the winter on Friday and near-record highs early this week.

Most of the county experienced the coldest nights of the winter last weekend when the official thermometer in Heppner recorded 9 degrees above zero early Friday morning. Other unofficial temperature readings were as low as zero in several locations.

On the heels of the cold weather, thermometers Sunday, Monday and Tuesday jumped many degrees with several reports of the mercury hitting the 70 mark during the day.

No general rain has fallen since the storm which followed the heavy winds of the previous week.

age during her four years of high school, she was a winner of the Odd Fellows United Nations Pilgrimage award in 1953, is a member of the National Honor Society, has been editor of the high school paper, The Hehisch; was named home-coming princess and queen, has held many class and club offices and has been active in girls' volleyball.

Miss Wright, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wright, earned a grade average of 95.2 percent for her four years at Heppner high school. Her other honors and activities include membership in the National Honor Society, being chosen home-coming princess and queen, numerous club and class offices, an active 4-H club member, and a member of the volleyball team.

The awards to the two top students will be presented to them at graduation and in addition to local awards, the valedictorian automatically becomes eligible for scholarships to state schools. As a rule the salutatorian is also given similar scholarship opportunities.

Umatilla Port Manager to Be C of C Speaker

Admiral Gordon Rowe, manager of the Port of Umatilla, will be the speaker at the annual banquet of the Heppner-Morrow county chamber of commerce next Monday evening, Ed Collison, chairman of the special banquet committee announced this week.

Admiral Rowe took over the position as manager of the Port of Umatilla in September of last year. He came from Seattle where he served on the port commission for six years, and as chairman of the commission for the past two years. He graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1917 and received his MS degree from Harvard University. He served in many capacities in the Navy in both World Wars in the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic theaters and was commander of several naval vessels and navy installations during World War II.

During his tenure at Seattle, Admiral Rowe was very active in effort to obtain equal positions for Oregon and Washington ports with California in relation to business with the Orient.

A full program is planned for the evening with the presentation of numerous special awards and reports of the year's activities of the organization. The first repayment of \$1,600 on the rodeo field lighting bonds will also be made at the banquet.

The banquet is scheduled to start at 7 p. m. with a social hour to start at 6 p. m.

RED CROSS OFFICE TO REMAIN OPEN

The downtown Red Cross drive office in the former telephone building will remain open for another two weeks, Jack Angel, drive chairman said today. It is being manned by volunteers from city church organizations. Returns have begun to come in, but it was emphasized that the drive is far from reaching its goal.

EXAMINER COMING

A drivers license examiner from the secretary of state's office will be in Heppner at the court house on Tuesday, March 15 from 9 a. m. to 2 p. m.