

Hoop Champions Point for State



JON O'DONNELL, senior captain of the Heppner Mustangs, accepts district champion trophy at La Grande Saturday night from Joe DeMarsh of Moro, district chairman. DeMarsh is superintendent-principal of Sherman County High School. (HHS Photo).

Mustangs Draw No. 1 Sutherlin

(Also See Page 4 and Page 1, Sec. 2)

Carrying the banner of the Greater Oregon League and District 7 A-2, Heppner High's Mustangs will leave Sunday for the State A-2 Basketball Tournament at Coos Bay, playing there for the second straight year and for the third time in five years. The tournament, in the Marshfield High gym, runs from Monday, March 17, through Wednesday, March 19.

The Mustangs, who won the district championship in close, hard-fought victories over Vale's Vikings, 49 to 47, and Wahtonka's Eagles, 51 to 50, will face Sutherlin, last year's state champions and district 6 standard bearers this year, in a first round game at 3:30 Monday.

This will follow the opening game at 2 p.m. which pits Myrtle Point, generally ranked No. 2 in the state behind Sutherlin, against Dayton. Myrtle Point represents district 4 while Dayton is district 2 champion.

In the evening at 7:30 Creswell, district 5, meets Newport, district 3, and at 9:15, Vernonia, district 1, faces Gladstone, district 8.

Players will leave Heppner at 8 a.m. Sunday, together with members of the pep club and pep band, coaches and managers. The school will send two buses, and Principal Dick Carpenter said that about 50 in the pep band and pep club are expected to make the trip.

The school ordered 60 adult reserved seat tickets for supporters who plan to drive down, and Principal Carpenter said Tuesday that only a few were left. Those planning to go who have not obtained tickets should contact him. Cost for a season ticket is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for students.

This year the team will stay at the Pony Village Motor Lodge, and the pep club and pep band will be housed in the Bayshore Motel.

Broadcasts Scheduled
For those fans who cannot attend, Heppner's tournament games will be broadcast through the Heppner TV, Inc., cable system, coming over Channel 3, with audio only. The Heppner games will also be broadcast over Radio Station KUMA, Pendleton. The first will be at 3:30 Monday. If the team wins, the second game will be at 7:30 Tuesday night. If it loses, it will play probably at 2 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.

The players and students traveling by bus will have lunch in Salem and the contingent will arrive in plenty of time for the Mustangs to work out in the big Marshfield High gym between 7 and 8 p.m. Sunday night.

Sutherlin isn't a big team but probably ranges a bit taller than the Mustangs. The five starters are 6-4, 6-2, 6-2, 6-0 and 5-10. Among the big scorers for the team are Dave Chandler, Mike Vermeer and J. D. Leafgren, the latter one of the smaller men on the squad.

Boys in Good Shape
Coach Bob Clough said that all his boys are in good physical condition for the tournament. (Continued on page 8)

Farm Bureau Slates Meeting

Interest in the Morrow County Farm Bureau was reactivated at a meeting Monday evening at the home of Herman Blettell, acting chairman.

Plans were made for an important meeting for members and other interested persons on Friday, March 21, at 8:00 p.m. in the office of Morrow County Grain Growers in Lexington.

Special guests for the meeting will be Cliff Wright, director of organization for Oregon Farm Bureau, and Waldron Johnson, 2nd vice-president of Oregon Farm Bureau, both of Salem. They will discuss measures which are currently before the Oregon legislature, including sales tax, property tax relief, farm labor laws, inheritance and estate problems, irrigation and wells, income tax reforms, and others of general interest. They will seek to gather information from farmers in this area to use in lobbying on the measures, in the best interest of the farm organization. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Letter Requests Willow Creek Aid

County Judge Paul Jones told the Chamber of Commerce Monday that Congressman Al Ullman has written him urging that he plan to come to Washington, D. C., in late May to appear at appropriations committee meetings in the interests of the Willow Creek dam project.

More Moisture

Week's weather brought 52 more inches of moisture but sunshine and hints of spring took over by the end of the week. Complete report from Don Gilliam, official observer, is as follows:

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	50	35	.14
Thursday	41	32	.33
Friday	40	31	.05
Saturday	40	27	—
Sunday	38	24	—
Monday	39	20	—
Tuesday	44	22	—

Kids Stage Sales, Services to Raise Money for Tourney

High school students are planning to offer sales and services to the public to help raise money to defray their expenses of going to Coos Bay. Here is the lineup:

PEP BAND
Boxed candy sale, Wednesday afternoon and evening and Thursday afternoon and evening.

Car Wash Saturday afternoon at Cal's Richfield.

Window Washing Saturday in the business district.

PEP CLUB
The band will also collect bottles Thursday to be sold.

Bake Sale Thursday at 2 p.m., Central Market.

Car Wash Saturday morning at Cal's Richfield.

Spring Vacation Set for Schools

Just in case anyone doesn't know it, next week—March 17-21—is spring vacation time in Morrow county schools, and both teachers and students will get a respite from the long winter's work.

Many from Heppner will head Coos Bay way for the state tournament now that the Mustangs have won a place. Others will have other plans for the time. School will resume in the county on Monday, March 24.

Port Completes 4,000 Acre Block

Final work of completing a 4,000-acre block of land in the Port of Morrow's waterfront industrial park was done Tuesday when members of the Port Commission took a deed to the office of Mrs. Sadie Parrish, county clerk, for filing.

This was the deed to lands acquired on trade through the State Land Board after years of negotiation and makes the 4,000 acres intact. Here to file the deed were Dewey West, president of the commission; Gar Swanson, treasurer; Larry Lindsay, a commissioner; and Rupert Kennedy of The Dalles, coordinator for the commission.

As now completed, the park land starts immediately east of Boardman and runs 4 1/2 miles east along the Columbia River with 16,000 feet on the navigation channel. The Union Pacific Railroad mainline and U. S. Freeway 80 North and Highway 730 traverse the property which provides excellent transportation facility. The Bonneville Power Administration grid also runs through the site and two railroad companies have added their property to the park.

Land Virtually Level
The industrial land is virtually level and the elevations are compatible to the Columbia River. The soil is a combination of sand and gravel with a light loam cover which is easily worked and provides good foundations, President West said.

The site provides a corridor between the 50,000 acre Navy practice bombing range and the Columbia River which may be used in the future to carry nuclear coolant waters, Columbia River water, railroads and other facilities as irrigation develops in the area.

The Port of Morrow was formed and funded in 1960-61 and several of its members elected to the original board. The present board is composed of West, Boardman, president; Oscar Peterson, lone, vice-president; Swanson, lone, treasurer; John R. Krebs, Cecil, secretary; and Lindsay of Lexington. Kennedy is agent and coordinator.

Interestingly, the commission acquired land and was twice removed from the Columbia waterfront in the last eight years. This was caused by the John Day Dam project and the formation of the Umatilla Wildlife refuge. Efforts of the commission to this time, however, are rewarded by the Port of Morrow owning one of the largest port waterfront industrial parks in the northwest.

Land was acquired from private and public owners, and portions were sold to the U. S.



MRS. LYLE (NEVA) MATTESON, for years one of the top salesladies for J. C. Penney Company, will observe her 25th anniversary as an associate in the Heppner Penney store this weekend. (G-T Photo).

In Nation's Top 10 for 10 Years

Saturday Event to Fete Neva For 25 Years Service to Public

It will be open house at Penney's in Heppner Saturday when friends and the public are invited to visit the store to honor Mrs. Lyle (Neva) Matteson, who has completed 25 years as an associate in the store.

Coffee and cookies will be served to all who come to extend felicitations.

New Hours Slated For Ski Course

New hours have been established for the Sunday operation of the Arbuckle Mountain ski course for the balance of the month of March, it is announced. The course will be open from 12:30 or 1 p.m. until 3:30 or 4:00 p.m.

Skiers have not been arriving until after noon or later. Fourteen inches of new snow was reported by last week-end, and there is an abundant supply of snow on the mountain.

Operators ask the public to drive carefully on the road to the mountain because the plowed lane is narrow and snow is banked high on the sides.

Mrs. Matteson, who was born at Long Creek, is ranked as one of the best salespersons for the J. C. Penney firm throughout the United States. For 10 consecutive years she was among the top 10 in sales among associates across the nation.

She might still be in the top 10, if the company still followed the practice of naming the select list. The practice was discontinued when the firm started its credit system a number of years ago.

In both 1967 and 1964 Mrs. Matteson led the J. C. Penney zone in the small stores category for sales in the Dress Carnival, an annual event. The zone includes Oregon, Washington, California and parts of Idaho, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico. It is a rare occasion when she doesn't lead sales in the district on a monthly basis.

Under Nine Managers
During her 25 years in the Heppner store, Mrs. Matteson has served under nine different managers. In order they have been Blaine J. Elliot, now retired in The Dalles, 1 1/2 years; Jeff Carter, now in Ontario, four years; Richard Brunner, now in business in Seattle, 1 1/2 years; (Continued on page 8)



PRIZED DONATION to the museum here is this fine antique grand piano, the gift of Mrs. Juanita (Rietmann) Melena, formerly of Ione and now of Ontario. Mrs. Rachel Harnett, curator of the museum, stands beside the piano which was shipped around the Horn in 1852. (G-T Photo).

Piano That Made Trip Around Horn Given to Museum

An ornate square grand piano with mother of pearl keys is a cherished new addition to the museum here, having been donated by Mrs. Juanita (Rietmann) Melena, formerly of Ione and now of Ontario where she lives with her husband, W. E. Melena.

The piano, a Swedish make, was shipped via Cape Horn from

New York to Portland in 1852 by Joseph Sedlac (pronounced Sedlock), who had a music store near the Meier store on First street in Portland. He sold and rented musical instruments and taught piano and violin.

Sedlac died in Vienna of a heart attack. He had taken his oldest daughter there to further her education. Sedlac was a brother-in-law of Lewis Dozlar Gibson who acquired the piano and hauled it to Eugene by team and wagon. His home was on land now covered by the Fern Ridge reservoir.

Mrs. E. May (Gibson) Hartog, the youngest daughter, had the piano in her home in Portland, and in 1926 gave it to her niece, Mrs. Werner Rietmann (Juanita Gibson), now Mrs. Melena.

Daniels Urges Public To Attend Hearing

Supt. Ron Daniels of Morrow County Schools has issued an appeal for residents of the county to attend the school district budget hearing on Monday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the district office at Lexington.

"The reason I feel a special plea is necessary this year is that I consider our budget vote on April 7 to be a very critical election," he said. "A yes vote is important to us for several reasons. First is the fact that our teachers' salary schedule is \$350 below the average starting salary for teachers in Oregon. Our teachers agreed to accept this low salary schedule because they recognized the budget problems we might face. If the voters reject the proposed budget on April 7, it will add to the low morale that now exists in our schools.

"Perhaps 'low morale' is not the proper description, but our teachers are concerned about the school district future," he continued. "We required three elections last year before a budget was finally approved. This, coupled with our low salary schedule, will not only make it difficult to retain the teachers we now have, but it will be very difficult to hire suitable replacements for the teachers that do leave."

Daniels said that a budget defeat on April 7 would make the situation much worse.

"I am not asking voters to blindly accept the budget as it now stands, but I am requesting that they become acquainted with our proposed budget, and if they feel changes should be made, to appear at our budget hearing and request those changes."

"At the budget hearing Monday night the board and budget committee can change any item up to 10 percent so long as it does not increase the amount to be raised by taxes. "This means that it is possible to reduce the budget at the hearing, and I am certain that some budget reductions will be made at the hearing," the superintendent said.

"I would like to urge all interested parties to attend the budget hearing and voice any dissatisfaction you might have at that time," Daniels added. "If you do not approve of the budget as it now stands, please make your wishes known at the hearing and not by a 'no' vote at the election on April 7. A successful budget election on the first vote is of paramount importance for the good of education in Morrow county."