

# Mustangs win district, 6 go to state



Heppner thinclads shown in the process of qualifying for state tourney are Sam Myers (top), heading for a win in the intermediate hurdles; Maureen Healy (right), at the finish line of the 440; and Richard Schmidt, straining his way to a school record in the long jump.

The Heppner Mustangs galloped away with the District 7-A boys' track crown during competition at Boardman and Condon last weekend, racking up a series of school, meet, and personal records in the process.

Six Mustang boys qualified to compete in 16 events during this weekend's state championship meet at Portland's Lewis and Clark College. Accompanying them to the state meet will be Heppner's Maureen Healy, the lone Mustang qualifier in the girls' division.

Heppner topped a field of 12 competing high schools to win the district meet, ending up a whopping 49 points above second-place Weston-McEwen. It was the first district championship for the Mustangs since 1974.

"I think we have a real shot at placing very high at the

state meet," said Heppner coach Dale Conklin, "especially if we get the kind of performance we got out of these kids on Saturday." Conklin said telephone checks with other class-A coaches reveal that the Mustangs' times and distances logged at the 7-A are in many cases as good or better than those recorded by other qualifiers for the state.

The Heppner qualifiers were holding twice a day training sessions this week to keep in shape for the state showdown.

"The kids were sky-high after Saturday," said Conklin. "All of them performed to their potential—not only those going to the state. We racked up more points this meet than ever before."

Nearly all the six qualifiers scored personal bests to win berths at the state meet.

Heppner's Sam Myers beat state record holder Brandt Bannister of Weston-McEwen in the intermediate hurdles to set a district meet record. Mustang Richard Schmidt's long jump leap during the district meet smashed a school record by seven inches. Maureen Healy's preliminary qualifying time of 61-79 seconds in the 440 set a new district meet record. The list goes on.

Heppner weightman Marty Smith earned two slots at the state meet, winning first place in the shot put with a 47 foot 3 1/2 foot effort and by taking top honors in the discus with a hurl of 139 feet 8 inches. Field artist Richard Schmidt qualified for three events, clearing the bar at a neck-bending 6 foot 5 inches to win the high jump, soaring to his record-setting first in the long jump at 21 feet 11 inches, and placing second in the triple jump with a leap of 43 feet 4 1/2 inches.

Brian Marlin's third-place 20 foot 4 3/4 inch leap in the long jump and third place 42 foot 10 inch showing in the triple jump exceeded state standards to send him to the upcoming meet. Dan Nix qualified with a 4:28 second place finish in the 1,500 meter run and a 9:44 showing in the 3,000 meter to place second. Sam Myers district record setting win in the intermediate hurdles, clocked at 40:42, earned his trip to the state. David Piper qualified with a 6 foot 4 inch leap in the high jump to place third.

Ione's youthful boys' squad—consisting entirely of freshmen and sophomores—had nothing to be ashamed of in its eighth place district finish. Jerry Rietmann and Leslie Thompson finished one-two in the pole vault, each soaring 19 feet 7 inches to qualify for the state meet.

The Cardinals' third state meet qualifier, Robin LaRue, earned his berth by besting the state standard in the 110 high hurdles, with a 15.97 third-place finish.

Other local boys' division competitors earning points at the district meet were Jim Parker of Heppner, fifth in the discus; Dennis Peck, Heppner third in the javelin with a 105 foot 7 inch toss; Marty Smith, Heppner sixth in the javelin; Robin LaRue, Ione, fifth in the high jump at 5-6; Jim Parker, Heppner, fourth in the shot with a 44 foot 1 inch toss; Todd Sherer and Scott Sherer, Heppner, third and fourth in the 1,500 meter at 4:35 and 4:37.

Heppner's Myers took third in the 440 and 53.48; Todd Sherer took sixth in the 880; teammates Scott Sherer and Larry Palmer placed fourth and sixth in the 3,000 meter; the Heppner 440 relay team took fourth, despite a respectable 46.82 finish, followed by Ione in sixth place with 47.68. Heppner's 1,600 meter relay team placed third, only 1.1 seconds behind the winning Weston-McEwen entry. Ione came in sixth in the same event.

In girls' division action, individual scoring points included Diane Holland, fourth in the javelin, followed in sixth place by Janet McElligott of Ione. Kellie Hammond of Heppner came in sixth in the shot put. Maureen Healy earned her state high jump berth with a 5 foot 3 inch leap to take first in the district, and qualified for the long jump with a first-place bound of 17 feet 3 inches. Heppner's Hol-

land was sixth in the discus. Lisa Meyers of Ione came in fourth in the 880, followed by Heppner's Geri Grieb in sixth. Healy took third in the 220 in 26.84 seconds, while Mustang teammate Laurie Harrison scored fifth in the 220 low hurdles.

Less than one second separated fifth place Heppner from sixth place Ione in the 440 relay. Ione placed 6th in the girls' mile relay.

Heppner placed fifth in the overall girls' standings at the meet, with Ione finishing ninth and Riverside tenth.

Oregon Trail was the top girls' team, followed by Sherman County and Weston-McEwen.

In the boys' division, Heppner was followed by Weston-McEwen in second, and Umatilla in third. Other teams competing were Sherman County in fourth, followed by Helix, Wasco County, Condon, Ione, Sherman County, Riverside, Pilot Rock and Umapine.

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For More Information  
Bob Ployhar 676-9649

## Trout stocked for season opener

The first of three plantings of legal size trout took place Tuesday at Cutsforth Pond, Willow Creek and Rhea Creek, in time for the area's stream trout fishing season opening on Saturday morning.

Trout plantings at the three Morrow County sites will include mainly fish in the 8-12 inch category, according to an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife spokesman.

Angling at Penland Lake has been fair to good, the spokesman said, adding that 25,000 fingerlings were released at the lake last week. The fingerlings should grow to legal size in about three months.

The Zone Seven stream trout fishing season opening was delayed until May 20, to allow young steelhead to complete their migration. Zone Seven includes Umatilla National Forest and much of the surrounding area.

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