

Bleacher Seats

With Robb Rush



Ione High School—Class B Oregon State high school champions. Kind of has a nice ring to it, doesn't it?

What started out as a mere dream when practice started is now in fact a reality. Champions—the word says it all. The team, the student body, the teachers, and—vicariously through association—even the fans can carry the title proudly. And in Ione's case, each participant in the football effort richly deserves the name.

The game Saturday was a championship game. What more can you ask for? Two powerful undefeated teams. Two teams playing their hearts out. Two teams who played the whole game down to the last 15 or 20 seconds before either side had a real ally in the clock, and the final outcome only starting to become apparent in the final six seconds. Two teams who played the whole game with only two points difference in the final score. Two teams who played different styles of football, each as effective as the other. It was a championship game.

I would have written the preceding no matter who won the football game. The game was one that when it was over, each side could look back and be proud of what they did. And also be assured that the fans would be proud of them as well.

MacLaren came to Ione with some outstanding credentials. They were used to rampaging up and down the football field behind a maverick buffalo disguised as fullback Terry Evans, rolling up 50, 60, or 70 points in the process.

Along with the punishing offense came a punishing defense. Why, one game, the Hawks actually allowed the opposition to score 14 points. In short, they scored a lot and didn't get scored on. Kind of one way, but very successful.

Enter the mongoose. What MacLaren didn't expect when they came to Ione was an encounter with a finely tuned, versatile, smart, well-coached, cool, scoring machine and an equally qualified defensive unit.

On paper it didn't look too good for the Cardinals. The Hawks came complete with a definite size advantage, with two of their team members being scouted by major colleges. These advantages were offset by the Cardinals' greater team speed, more versatility, and the quality of qualities (I know it's corny, but very appropriate) true grit.

It takes a lot of grit for Treve Peterson (if he weighs 135 it's with pads and all) to take on 208 pounds of full steam one-to-one in the open field. And what about Glen Grebs? The Hawk noseguard was staring Glen in the face every offensive play. The noseguard—211 pounds. Glen Grebs—155 (I think that's pumped up also). Glen did a good job keeping the defensive man out all day, and that's grit! Grit, guts, fortitude, moxie—call it what you will, it is what Ione football was all about Saturday afternoon.

It is hard to pinpoint the turning point or key play during the game. Some say that it was the initial score when Kevin McCabe ran in for a touchdown. Some say it was Dennis Stefani's diving tackle down the sideline. Some others say it was holding on fourth down and taking over the ball. Some votes go to the fumble recovery that Stefani converted into a 30 yard pass completion to Danny McElligott as an outstanding example of staying with the play and making something of nothing.

I lean towards the extra points. The touchdown totals were the same—it was only the extra points that were different. Whether it was the Cardinals' ability to convert more tries, or their ability to stop the Hawks one more time, the end result was the same two points.

In reality, maybe there was no key play—just a total concentrated effort.

I want to mention the members of the Cardinal football team who did not get to see a lot of action this year. I credit them with a lot of the Cardinal success. A team does as well in games as it does during the week in practices. The non-starters are an important cog in the Ione football machine, helping to prepare the starters for the coming game. You did well. You can't be any better than champions.

Here's to Coach Meyers and Coach LaRue. They have the faith and the ability to teach and spread the word. Their attitudes rub off and it shows. After all, their students are champions.

Ione vs HHS Friday

Cardinal netters will have tough act to follow

With only two days of practice behind their belts, the Ione Cardinals hoop squad may have a rough time getting its act together for Friday's season opener against Heppner.

Members of the Cards' state championship football team make up the backbone of Ione's basketball team. With the football season ending only last Saturday in a 30-28 win over MacLaren, basketball has not exactly been foremost in the minds of most of the players recently.

Football team members who will take part in the basketball program were given until Wednesday to rest, leaving them only two days of practice. Several non-footballers, mostly underclassmen, did hold workouts earlier in the week.

"It'll be a little difficult for the opening game," admitted head coach Del LaRue. "I imagine they'll be a little rough."

Fresh from a gruelling—but perfect—football season, the basketball Cards "will be in condition, I'm not worried about that. But football conditioning and basketball conditioning are two different things," LaRue said.

On the positive side, "we ought to still have some momentum" from the winningest football season in recent Cardinal history, the coach noted. "The kids are still high from last week."

Last year, Ione netters started the season slow, then came on strong to finish

second behind Arlington in district tournament action. LaRue predicted that the Honkers, who went on to take the state crown last year, would be the team to beat again this season.

Here is Ione's basketball schedule for the 1978-79 season:

- Dec. 1—Heppner at Heppner—6 p.m.
- Dec. 2—Ukiah at Ukiah—4 p.m.
- Dec. 9—Powder Valley at North Powder—4 p.m.
- Dec. 15—Heppner at Ione—6 p.m.
- Dec. 16—Condon at Condon—4 p.m.
- Dec. 19—Condon at Ione—4 p.m.
- Jan. 5—Echo at Ione—4 p.m.
- Jan. 6—Arlington at Arlington—4 p.m.
- Jan. 12—Umapine at Ione—6 p.m.
- Jan. 13—Dufur at Dufur—4 p.m.
- Jan. 19—Helix at Helix—4 p.m.
- Jan. 20—Wheeler Co. at Ione—4 p.m.
- Jan. 26—Echo at Echo—4 p.m.
- Jan. 27—Arlington at Ione—4 p.m.
- Feb. 2—Cascade Locks at Ione—4 p.m.
- Feb. 3—Cascade Locks at Cascade Locks—4 p.m.
- Feb. 9—Umapine at Umapine—7 p.m.
- Feb. 10—Dufur at Ione—4 p.m.
- Feb. 16—Helix at Ione—4 p.m.
- Feb. 17—Wheeler at Fos-sil—4 p.m.

Ione's girls basketball schedule is the same as the boys, with the exception of a girls-only Dec. 5 game at Riverside at 6 p.m. Ione girls also will not play during the two contests against Umapine.

Columbia-Blue golf assn. slates tourney

The Columbia-Blue Senior Golf Assn. established a seven-game tournament series for the coming year during a meeting last week at Boardman's Willow Run Golf Course.

The association also re-elected current officers to their same positions for the 1979 golf season.

Re-elected were Cy Perkins, Hood River, president and

tournament director; Carroll Hollen, Condon, vice president; Clair Pennens, The Dalles, treasurer; Ron Clark, The Dalles, secretary.

Tournament action for 1979 is scheduled for The Dalles

Country Club on April 9; Goldendale Golf Club, May 14; Milton-Freewater Golf Course, June 11; Willow Run, Boardman, July 9; Willow Creek Country Club, Heppner,

Aug. 13; Husum Hills, White Salmon, Sept. 10, and Pendleton Country Club, Oct. 8.

Tournament director for the Heppner leg of the tourney is Clint McQuarrie.

Radio coverage to be given CBC basketball action

Columbia Basin Conference basketball action will be broadcast live over Radio KUMA-FM on Fridays and Saturdays throughout the conference season, the Pendleton station announced this week.

In addition to the conference season games, the FM station will carry three pre-conference contests.

KUMA sports director Greg Smith said the Pendleton station has wanted to broadcast more Class A games in recent years, but was unable to do so due to commitments to Pendleton High and Oregon State sports programs. With the advent of the station's FM band, however, Columbia Basin basketball coverage became possible.

Smith said it was hoped that play-by-play coverage during the coming basketball season would expose more people to talent in the Columbia Basin Conference, thus helping to boost attendance during post-season tournaments.

In Heppner, KUMA-FM, 107 on the FM frequency, is carried over the city's cable TV system.

Here is the schedule of

games to be broadcast by KUMA:

- Dec. 2—Weston-McEwen at Enterprise
- Dec. 19—Riverside at Pilot Rock
- Dec. 21—Pilot Rock at John Day
- Jan. 5—Weston-McEwen at Pilot Rock
- Jan. 6—Riverside at Heppner
- Jan. 12—Umatilla at Weston-McEwen
- Jan. 13—Weston-McEwen at Heppner
- Jan. 19—Heppner at Umatilla

- Jan. 20—Pilot Rock at Sherman
- Jan. 26—Pilot Rock at Wahtonka
- Jan. 27—Riverside at Oregon Trail
- Feb. 2—Oregon Trail at Heppner
- Feb. 9—Weston-McEwen at Oregon Trail
- Feb. 10—Heppner at Weston-McEwen
- Feb. 16—Riverside at Condon
- Feb. 17—Pilot Rock at Weston-McEwen

Fall Sports Awards

Story and photos of winners of athletic awards announced during Tuesday night Fall Sports Desserts at Heppner and Ione high schools will appear in next week's issue of the Gazette-Times.

Bill Bellamy

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DIST. 55

DIST. 55 Voting

I would like to thank all of my supporters who helped with the campaign. The campaign was long and tiresome, but enjoyable thanks to the support and effort on your behalf.

I would strongly encourage any suggestions from the people of district 55 concerning State and Local business. My home address is Rt 1 Box 85 C Culver, Oregon 97734. My home phone number is 546-3322 or you can call me at school at 546-2251. I will let you know what my number will be in Salem as soon as it is known.

Looking forward to working for you.
Bill Bellamy

	Bellamy	Bennett
Morrow Co.	1352	744
Gilliam Co.	607	298
Sherman Co.	742	252
Wasco Co.	483	358
Jefferson Co.	2265	1215
Clackamas Co.	1724	2121
Linn Co.	471	662
Marion Co.	432	527
Total	8076	6177

Christmas Lighting Contest

• Residences • Churches

Judging Will Be Sunday, Dec. 17

Send Entry Form Before Dec. 15

Yes, I Wish To Have Our Display Judged In The Christmas Lighting Contest

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please mail entry to Chamber of Commerce,
P.O. Box 1232 Heppner, Or 97836

Business Directory

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