

Heppner Lion's Club resurfaces Mustang HS Track

A couple of years ago some community-minded Lions Club members started kicking around the idea of resurfacing and enlarging a grossly inadequate Heppner High School track.

Heppner Lions John Edmondson and Dave Harrison worked out the dimensions and told club members the track need to be lengthened 10 yards on one end and 18 yards on the other, including removal of five yards of the rock hillside to the south. Jim Wishart and Larry Mills were named co-chairmen and the Heppner Lions Club didn't realize the scope of the project they were undertaking.

The end result is a facility

worth thousands of dollars to the Morrow County School District—a facility that promises thousands of hours of use by future generations of students and a facility that will probably become the hub for all Heppner High School field sports. The Lions terminated their initial phase of building the basic track structure with the erection of a beautiful hand made and painted wood sign this spring.

The 5x8-foot sign, solid pine boards glued and finished by Ed Hiemstra and lettering hand-painted by Jim Wishart, marks the Lions Club involvement with the track and sets the standard for the future community involvement in

developing a sports complex. Lions members are quick to point out the project was completed with thousands of hours of donated labor, materials and equipment from throughout the community, by many people who were not Lions.

It started the first day when the Lions asked Heppner rancher Dick Wilkinson to use his dozer and earth-mover to trim that five yards from the south hillside. Wilkinson took a good look at the hillside and informed the Lions of the task ahead in moving the rock and filling the necessary low areas.

Wilkinson and his equipment were joined by others

owning heavy equipment and trucks—including Pat Patterson, then county roadmaster "Doc" Sherer, Jim Phegley, Bert Corbin, Pat Cutsforth, Morrow County Grain Growers and others—all busy moving earth and rock for the next several weeks. Columbia Basin Electric furnished several pieces of equipment and also brought in a couple men to help blast part of the rock hillside.

Once leveled, Lions members began daily ritual of going to the track to pick rocks—thousands and thousands of rocks—from the future track and infield surface. Feeling they were winning the battle with the rocks, Lions began hauling in sand from north of Lexington as a base material, dragging and packing the sand, picking up more rocks.

Ready for the beginning of the end of the project, the Lions called on Shockman Brothers Construction Company of Hermiston to assist in laying a concrete curb around the new 400-meter infield. Shockman Bros. donated the cement and some 200-man hours later, the curb was finished allowing decomposed granite to be brought in to finish the track surface prior to the 1978 track season.

Wilbur and Violet Gourley donated the granite from a pit that they own on Willow Creek and volunteer labor and machinery went to the site. The Lions did more leveling, more packing and more rock picking.

The finishing touches were added when Earth Carpet owner Eric Anderson of Ione donated 80 tons of turf to lay over the infield and volunteers again rallied to complete the effort.

"We couldn't have done it without the help of the many individuals and businesses that came forth so readily with manpower, materials and equipment," said co-chairman Wishart, "and the Lions want to take this opportunity to publicly thank everyone who helped."



Braves, Dodgers battle for, Top spot in Little League

Little League action is continuing this week with the Braves holding on to first place trailed by the Dodgers, Giants and Angels.

Braves 11 Angels 10

The Braves improved their win-loss record to 5-2 with a victory over the Angels, 11-10. Keith Kennison hit a two run single in the bottom of the sixth inning to cap the win for the Braves. Stan Sporseen went three for four for the Braves and Greta LaRue singled and doubled for the Angels.

Giants 5 Dodgers 3

On Wednesday night, Travis Hyatt pitched a three hitter and posted ten strikeouts to defeat the Dodgers, 5-3. Kevin Teeman was two for four at the plate and scored two runs for the Giants.

Travis Hyatt collected two rbi's while Earl Taylor, Steve Crewse and Cam George claimed the only Dodger hits.

Dodgers 9 Giants 6

On Friday, June 1, the Dodgers dumped the Giants 9-6. Giant pitchers gave up seven walks in the game.

Royal Adams was two for three for the Dodgers.

Steve Crewse and Todd Lindsay pitched the win with Crewse getting nine strikeouts. Travis Hyatt was three for four with a home run in the second inning.

Dave Green had two doubles for the Giants.

Sat., June 9, 3:30 p.m.

Braves vs. Angels at Condon

3:30 p.m. at Heppner

Giants vs. Dodgers

Mon., June 11, 6:00 p.m.

Giants vs. Angels at Condon

Tues., June 12, 6:00 p.m.

Braves vs. Dodgers

Wed., June 13, 6:00 p.m.

Angels vs. Giants

Thurs., June 14, 6:00 p.m.

Dodgers vs. Braves

Angels 6 Braves 5

The Angels scored two runs in a wild throw in the bottom of the sixth inning at a game played in Condon June 1 to nip the Braves, 6-5.

Greta LaRue was the Angel's big hitter with a single, triple and home run. Tom Hammen and Jason

Mullineaux went two for three for the Braves and excellent fielding turned in by both sides, holding the score down.

There were seven strikeouts in the game.

Tourney draws 48

The Morrow County Educators' Golf Tourney drew 48 to the greens Friday at Willow Creek Golf and Country Club. Golfers from Morrow and Umatilla County competed for tourney honors. Gordon Fjeld, Hermiston, tied with Ted Murray, Pilot Rock for low gross.

Fjeld won the chipoff and a green jacket for the honor, provided by Frank Bashour Sporting Goods, Portland.

Dick Lowry was third low gross for the men with a score of 67 and Pat Edmondson shot an 84 to win women's low gross. The low net resulted in a four way tie.

Ione Jr. High tracksters complete year's cinder track season

The Ione Jr. High School boys' and girls' track teams have completed their season under the coaching of Don Wooley and Barbara Adams. The boys' team competed in seven events with nine boys aged six through nine, traveled to two Junior Olympics meets and broke school records.

Denny Starr turned in a school record in the softball throw, with a throw of 229', 8". Craig Gutierrez hurled the shot put 38', 6" and the discus, 101', 7" while Craig Hams broke the school record in the long jump with a leap of 17', 10". Most of the records were set in the junior high track championships May 23 at Blue

Mountain Community College. In the same meet, Howard Leavitt won the high jump with a distance of 5', 2". The boys and girls placed third in the May Day meet at Arlington out of six teams.

Jim Jepsen was the team's long jumper, Jeff Key com-

peted in the 100-200 yd. relays, Howard Leavitt, 100 yd. high jump, Craig Hams, 200 yd. long jump, Randy Robb, high jump, Jeff Bailey, 200 yds. and Mark Meyers, 800 yd. dash and long jump.

In the girl's division, Patti Taylor, an eighth grader, qualified for the State Junior Olympics in the race walk, was active in the 100 yd. dash, hurdles, softball throw and long jump, Sharon Crowell competed in hurdles, softball and 100 yd. dash; Anne Murray was in the 100 yd. dash, long jump, softball throw and high jump, Karen Taylor, a sixth grader competed in the race walk, 100 yd. dash, long jump and 880 yd. dash and Jeanette Taylor performed in the 100 yd. dash, long jump and softball throw besides the 220 yd. dash.

Lady golfers slate tourney at WCCC

The annual Fun Day of the Willow Creek Country Club ladies will be held June 12 with coffee served at 8:30 a.m. and tee-off at 9 a.m.

Sharon Harrison and Linda Shaw are organizing the event and they invite all ladies who think golf might be a great summer activity to come out for a day of good fun, good food, and good company.

A person need not have played golf before to enjoy the play and have a chance at

various prizes to be awarded for skill and luck. Everyone is

invited—and membership is not necessary to participate.

BMCC programs start June 9

BMCC's golf instruction program for intermediate golfers is slated to begin Saturday, June 9 at 8:30 a.m. at the Willow Creek Golf and Country Club.

Persons wanting more information, may contact John Edmondson, the instructor or Nancy Brownfield, 676-5039, program coordinator.

Another class entitled "Expectant parents" will start July 18 and registration should be made with Ms. Brownfield.

Monday Morning Quarterback

By Jim Hackett

The Seattle SuperSonics claimed the World NBA championship Friday night in Washington, D.C. in the fifth game of their series with the Washington Bullets.

I was correct in my prediction that the Sonics would take the fourth game of the series but incorrect in forecasting an eventual Bullets victory. But I think the Sonics scored a lucky win and had the necessary breaks to win the long sought-after championship.

If D.C.'s Kevin Greavey had not injured his leg, and, Seattle Center Jack Sikma taken command, the game results would have been different. Several times during the playoffs, Greavey managed to pull the Bullets out of the clutch of defeat; this time, the Sonics were lucky.

Moving on to a totally different sport but more fitting the Eastern Oregon environment, I thoroughly enjoyed Sunday's conclusion to the three day junior rodeo. Rodeo watchers had plenty to see with 18 events and young rodeo participants directing their efforts and energies to performing well. It was interesting that Maureen Healy, a state track performer, excelled in the all-around competition. Tara Mahoney captured honors as junior all-around champion.

Rodeo is a family sport and Sunday's events saw brother and sister participants including the team roping of Tara and Trisha Mahoney, Heppner, Bill and John Hill, Klamath Falls and the barrel competition by junior girls, Cindy and Shelly Stroeber, Heppner.

The rodeo judges are using a new innovation this year. Instead of holding clock watches to determine the speed in the barrel racing an electric eye is set up on both sides of the course. When the riders gallop through the line, the electronic system digitally records the time. This is the first year in which the system has been used and as one rodeo official observed, it saves a lot of arguments.

Call-ropers in the boy's division had to contend with speedy animals in Sunday's competition and from time to time, Rodeo Announcer Joe Nichols wondered how many vitamins they had been fed.

On the sports front this week in a bike rodeo June 6 at Ione High School at 2:30 p.m. and Thursday, June 7 at the Heppner Fairgrounds, 2:30 p.m., sponsored by the Morrow County Juvenile Advisory Committee and local VFW Post.

Police officers will inspect each bicycle to determine whether it is safe and after the checking, there will be four skill tests. The event is open to bicyclists in grades 1-6.

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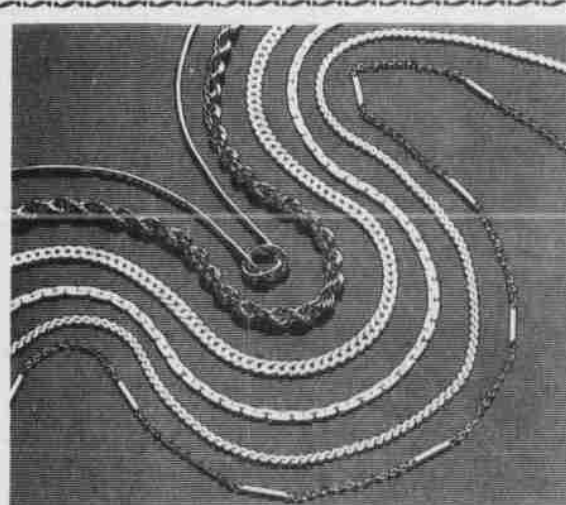
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