

# Ione Cardinals remain number one in league

By CRAIG GUTIERREZ

The Ione Cardinals pulled out two wins this weekend, both games ending with one-point differences. The Cardinals also brought their league record up to 5-1 and remain the number one team, as they defeated the Wheeler Co. Falcons by one in regulation play, 62-61.

The Cardinals came out of the locker room showing no enthusiasm whatsoever but things were to change very rapidly. The Cardinals scored the Falcons by 11 in the first quarter 23-12. Ione was led by Donnie Taylor's 10 points which he collected well against Wheeler's tall timbers of 6'3", 6'2" and 6'2" middlemen. Ione also out rebounded the Falcons by one, led by Donnie Taylor's seven boards for the night.

In the second quarter, Ione was out scored by the Falcons 16-13 behind Scott Marler's eight points. The Cardinals went into the locker room with a slim eight-point lead.

In the second half, Ione rallied and brought their lead to 12 points. Roger Morter and Craig Gutierrez each ripped a pair of hoops for four points apiece as they out scored the Falcons 14-10. B.J. McInnes and Jason Shaffer collected four points apiece to lead the Falcons in scoring for this quarter.

The fourth and final quarter was as dramatic as the birds of Ione could allow and still mark one up in the winning column. The Falcons rallied and out scored the Cardinals 23-12, but to no avail. With less than one minute to go in the game, Wheeler Co. took the lead from Ione, 59-58. On Ione's next possession, Gutierrez was fouled and collected the first one and then Wheeler Co. called time-out.

# Ione takes Echo in overtime

By CRAIG GUTIERREZ

The Ione Cardinals will not be denied as they showed why they are number one in the Big Sky League Standings Friday night at Ione. The Cardinals took it to the Echo cougars, who before that night, were tied for second place with the Arlington Honkers. The Cardinal Cards beat the Cougars in an offensive battle that ended in overtime with a score of 64-63.

In the first quarter, Ione brought out the guns and racked up 23 points. Roger Morter and Craig Gutierrez led the team in the first period scoring with six points apiece, followed by Patton and Taylor with four each. Ione's bench was the key factor in the game as they came on the floor and took over the controls with excellence. The score at the end of the quarter was 23-16.

In the second quarter, Ione didn't let up as they again stuck it to the Cougars. Craig Hams came off the bench to do a superb job on the boards, and with the ball as he collected six points in the quarter to aid the Cardinals to a halftime score of 44-32. Howard Leavitt and Randy McCabe were also players who had a key part in Ione's victory.

In the second half, the Cardinals were losing momentum and the Cougars were collecting it as they outscored Ione by four, 14-10. Pat Siefert added six of his game high 31 points in this quarter to narrow Ione's 12 point lead to eight.

The fourth quarter was all Echo as they came to within two with five seconds remaining when Andy Saylor dumped in a 22 footer with nothing but net touching the ball. With Saylor's last seconds score, the game went into overtime with the score tied at 59 apiece.

The overtime was three minutes but the Cardinals rallied. Echo scored first as Saylor again ripped the nylon from 15 feet out to lift them by two over the Cards. Ione gained possession and Taylor answered from within the key



Don Taylor goes up for two against Wheeler Co.

When the game resumed, Gutierrez collected the second free throw to bring the lead to Ione's side of the clock, but the Falcons' Scott Marler sank a five-footer on their next possession and regained the lead, 61-60. The Cardinals couldn't answer this time and Ione called time-out on the possession. The Cardinals came out with a half court trap and Denny Starr fouled Scott Marler, who missed the free throw. Ione got the rebound and Wheeler Co. knocked the pass out of bounds with eight seconds remaining. Ione in bounded the ball and was looking at a full-court press and finally got the ball over the line and to Donnie Taylor with four seconds on the clock. Taylor couldn't get a shot and passed to Gutierrez who took a

20 footer for two with no time remaining which took the score to 62-61, Ione.

Coach Del LaRue had these words to say about the game "It was kind of the same situation as last night. It was an excellent win for us. They were two of the best teams in the league. The wins weren't pretty, but we were glad to get them both."

Ione: 23 13 14 12-62  
Wheeler: 12 16 10 23-61

Ione: 21 20-28-62  
Wheeler: 25 11-16-61

Ione: Taylor - 14, Gutierrez - 14, Patton - 15, Starr - 4, Morter - 10, Hams - 4, Meyers - 1.

Wheeler: S. Asher - 14, M. Asher - 12, Marler 14, McInnes - 12, Shaffer - 9.

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# Heppner stomps Stanfield Tigers, takes 66-60 win

By GLENN SMITH

Friday, Jan. 21, the Heppner Mustangs rallied to stomp the Stanfield Tigers 66-60. The Mustangs got an early lead in the game and maintained the tempo throughout.

Brent Eggers, coach for the Mustangs was happy with the turnout. "It's nice to win on the road anytime. It was a good game for us with the kids staying out of foul trouble and playing under control. We still aren't as disciplined as I would like to see us though."

Heppner had a chance to break open a wide, 11-point lead at the end of the first half, but because of mental errors the Tigers were able to cut the

Mustangs' lead to three. Undaunted, Heppner rolled back in the second half to widen the lead and win the game.

"We handled the pressure at the end of the game a lot better than they did," Eggers commented. "And we need that intelligence at the end of a game if we are going to win consistently."

In the league standings the Mustangs are hanging in there despite playing a tough part of their schedule at the very beginning of the season. So far, Pilot Rock leads the league at 6 and 0, Weston-McEwen and Umatilla are four and two while Heppner is two and three.

Eggers went on to say "It looks like most of our games are going to be close." He was pleased with the players staying out of foul trouble and he is looking forward to this playing a key part in the upcoming games; a rematch with Umatilla on Friday and a first time square off, with Wahtonka on Saturday. Both games will be played at home and are to begin at 7:30 p.m.

"Our defense has slipped and we're trying to re-emphasize that," Eggers stated. "Umatilla is a key game and we need to play under control while keeping the tempo. Wahtonka is a big team. Although they are one and four in the league, they are a good team. We need to stop their big guys, Walters and Biers. In this game as in most of our games, we will have a height disadvantage but we have the ability to win!"

# Hams leads Jr. high girls to victory

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

Behind the 14 points of Deena Hams and 12 of Sandi Wright, the Ione junior high girls won their third game of the season with a 31 to 20 score over the Condon Blue Devils last Thursday, Jan. 20. They now stand 3 and 3.

Ione inaugurated the game by taking a 9-4 first quarter lead.

In the second stanza, Condon hit for six points and the Cards added four. The half-time count was 13 to 10 in Ione's favor.

The Cardinals out scored the Devils 10 to six during the third period, increasing their advantage to 23-16. Ione made the concluding count 31 to 20 in the fourth quarter by chalking up eight points, while Condon added four.

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Ione was led by Hams and Wright in scoring and Patty McElligott provided the other five points.

For the second game in a row, the Cardinals were a poor 14.3 percent from the foul line connecting on one of seven attempts. The Devils; however, did not go to the charity stripe throughout the game.

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## STATISTICS

	FG	FT	R	F	T	P
Jay Hayes	2	1	4	2	5	
Tom Huston	3	2	2	3	8	
Mark Way	2	1	2	3	5	
Jeff Orr	13	1	12	2	27	
Mike Currin	6	5	14	4	17	
Marty Britt	1	0	0	2	2	
Rod Cole	1	0	2	1	2	

## STATISTICS

Condon	4	6	6	4-20
Ione	9	4	10	8-31

Condon - Unavailable.

Ione - Hams 14, Wright 12, McElligott 5.

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