

## HHS tracksters to compete in state meet this weekend



photo by Dick Snider

Jody Padberg sprints for Heppner's 400-meter relay team that qualified for the state meet.

It's on to the Class A State Track Meet in Portland this weekend for five girls and two boys as the Heppner High School tracksters more than made their presence felt at the District 7-A meet at The Dalles last weekend.

The five girls led their teammates to the first ever district championship for HHS girls. The team scored in 13 out of 15 events to earn a 21-point victory over the second place team. The girls failed to place in only the discus and 400 meter run.

Team scores for the girls were Heppner 83, Sherman County 62, Wahtonka 61, Weston-McEwen 52, Wasco County 35, Condon 34, Stanfield 30, Echo 29, Riverside 27, Umatilla 22, Arlington 12, Helix 12, Dufur 3 and Wheeler County no score.

Qualifying for the state meet in their events were Sherry Clement, shot put; Pam Orr, javelin; Stephanie Payne, 100, 200 and long jump; Jodi Padberg, 800, and, the 400-meter relay team; of Janelle McElhany, Padberg, Orr, and Payne.

Added to the outstanding performances of the girls were the surprising efforts of the two boys who also qualified for the state meet. They were John Moyer in the triple jump and John Martin in the 800 meter run.

"It certainly has been both a successful and rewarding

season," said Head Coach Dale Conklin. "We set a season's goal for the girls to win the district championship and they did just exactly that. We were a bit apprehensive early in the year about the boys but those two juniors really came through."

All but the 400 relay were second place efforts with the relay team collecting a first place finish with a school record of :52.8. Clement also earned a school record in the shot put with a throw of 34'2 1/2".

Payne turned in a lifetime best effort in the 200 meters with a :26.6 clocking. She was edged at the tape by last year's runner-up in district and state, Arleta Reese of Echo. Payne's distance of 16' 1/2" in the long jump equaled her best in that event.

Moyer set a personal best in the triple jump with his leap of 41'5" and Martin ran his best ever in the 800 with a time of 2:04.

Others also had personal bests. McElhany equaled her school record in the 100-meter hurdles with a :17.5 time, good for fifth overall; Melinda Eubanks threw 31'9" in the shot put for fourth place; and Alex Lindsay jumped 18'8" in the long jump, which earned him a spot in the finals but he did not place. Chris McLaughlin ran :19.6 in the high hurdles but did not place.

Orr ran a season's best in

the 300-meter hurdles with a clocking of :49.2, a third place finish.

Lana Reid added to the girls effort with a sixth place finish in the high jump and collected fifth in the 3,000-meter run. The 1,600-meter relay team of Nancy Martin, McElhany, Orr and Padberg earned fourth with a 4:33.3 clocking.

Wes Marlatt completed scoring for the boys with a sixth place finish in the shot put.

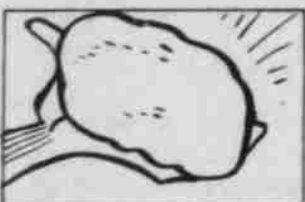
Finalists in the field events but not placing were Anne Murray in the shot put and javelin, Lindsay in the triple jump and Moyer in the long jump. Each had placed in the top eight in preliminary action to make the finals.

Joanna Bown competed in the 100 and 200 meters, but did not qualify for the finals. Others not qualifying for the final events included Nancy Martin, 400; Lindsay, 100 and Moyer, 100. McLaughlin just missed making the finals in both hurdle races.

The final team scores for the boys were: Wahtonka 109, Helix 75, Ione 70, Sherman County 56, Riverside 49, Umatilla 41, Arlington 27, Echo 26, Pilot Rock 22, Heppner 21, Wheeler County 12, Condon 10, Stanfield 4, Wasco County and Dufur had no score.

"Each person going to the state track meet has a very good chance of placing in the top six," said Conklin. "It will take some super efforts because this is the best in the state and everybody is out to do well."

Payne, Orr, Clement and Moyer will compete in field event finals on Friday while all running events slated for Friday are preliminaries with the finals to be staged on Saturday. The meet will be held at Lewis and Clark College in Portland.



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## C.B.C. baseball game score tied



Heppner batter gets hit against Riverside

Heppner and Umatilla both took good shots at winning their Columbia Basin Conference baseball game at Umatilla Saturday afternoon, but both ended up as losers to the weather after being tied 8-8 in the top of the fifth inning.

The game had not been rescheduled as of Tuesday. The Mustangs had been embarrassed earlier in the week by Riverside, losing 16-0 on May 3.

The Umatilla game was of the nip-and-tuck variety, being tied three different times.

Heppner started off with a run in the first inning when Stan Sporseen singled and scored on Tom Hamman's

double, but the Vikings answered with a run of their own in their half of the inning.

Umatilla erupted for four runs in the third inning to take a 5-1 lead, but the Mustangs came back with four runs in the fourth to tie the game back up. All four of the runs were unearned, said Coach Brent Eggers.

However, the Mustangs couldn't hold the Vikings at bay, giving up three more runs in the bottom of the fourth.

Singles by Sporseen, Jim McConnell, Jeff Orr and a two-run double by Rick Riehl brought in three runs for Heppner in the fifth to knot the score again at 8-8.

Jay Hayes relieved starter McConnell as the Mustangs pitcher and shut down the Vikings in the fifth. Then with one out and a man on first base for Heppner, the rains came and sent the teams home.

The recently dormant bats for Heppner had come to life again, as the Mustangs ripped eight hits, with six different players getting a hit.

Hamman and Sporseen led the way by going 2-for-3 at the plate. The two hits lifted Hamman's batting average to .417.

Eleven of the 15 Heppner outs were via strikeouts as the game went just five innings since Riverside was ahead by more than 10 runs.

Heppner also committed eight errors in the game.

The Mustangs will host Stanfield in a league counter Thursday at 4 p.m. Heppner is now 1-5 in league and 4-8 overall.

"I was really happy with our performance," said Eggers of the Umatilla game. "Our bats finally woke up again and we played pretty good defense."

The Riverside game was a different story, as the Pirates' Dang Pratt fired a no-hit, no-run game at the Mustangs.

"We acted like we didn't even want to be out there," said Eggers. "We really helped Pratt out by swinging at bad pitches, too."

## Over the Tee Cup

A Ladies' Play Day was held at Willow Creek Country Club May 3. The results follow:  
Low Handicap's: Low Gross - Vicki Sime 37, low net

putts - Deena Starr 16.  
A fun day will be held June 17 and ladies are asked to invite a guest, a club spokesperson said.

Wanda Willis 25, least putts - Lois Hunt and Marilyn Bigalow 14.  
High Handicaps: low gross - Barbara Cutsforth 46, low net - Dorothy Hawkins 25 and least

For the rest of the year the women's club will have two flight plays: 18 holers will have 40 handicaps and under. The rest will play nine holes, she said.

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