

HHS tracksters show talent early in season Mini-park needs finishing touches

Heppner High School tracksters have started off the 1985 season demonstrating a surprising show of talent especially the girls after participating in two track meets.

The girls have picked up two consecutive wins in the process capturing a triangular meet Tuesday, April 2, against Elgin and Mac-Hi at Milton Freewater and the Condon Invitational last Saturday.

Team scores last Saturday were Heppner 118, Wahtonka 46, Culver 45, Dayville 26, Wasco County 25, Riverside 24, Arlington 22, Long Creek and Prairie City 21, Ione 20, Dufur 19, Stanfield 18, Spray 16, Wheeler County 5, Mitchell, Monument 4, and Condon 0.

"We are a little short on numbers this year," said head coach Dale Conklin. "But what we lack in numbers we make up for in talent and hard workers."

The boys, currently down to six, are especially in short numbers. Great hopes are that Junior Jim Storm will be back with the group in another week. "But, they are hard workers and showing tremendous improvement," said Conklin.

Three have already turned in personal records in the two outings with Chris McLoughlin turning in an 18.0 time in the high hurdles and 47.1 in the intermediate hurdles. Both are great improvements over last year.

Sophomore Jason Palmer is finding his own this year in the discus with a throw of 118'6" last Saturday for a third place finish, the highest for a Heppner boy. He is also improving in the shot put and should be a competitor in that event the rest of the season.

Scott Buschke found how tough competition can be as he cleared 6-0 in the high jump, good only for a fifth place effort. "Breaking that six foot mark is an important breakthrough for him for the rest of the season," commented Conklin.

Jason Dougherty, Wayne Wilgers and Trent Harrison are all participating in track for the first season at HHS and each is showing some talent. Dougherty long-jumped 18-5 last Saturday and is improving in the sprints. Wilgers jumped 5-8 at Mac Hi but missed the Saturday meet as did Harrison who turned in a 4:54 performance at 1500 meters and shows good promise once he gets some running experience.

"Although it is a small group, they are a good group to work with. They are cooperative, listen and work at whatever task. If they stick with it, each will be an outstanding trackster," Conklin added.

Everyone knew the girls would be talented, but Conklin had hoped the turnout would be a little larger. "We only scored four points in the field events last Saturday. That is our glaring weakness," said Conklin.

But the girls showed their class by winning eight of ten running events. The seniors are providing the bulk of the talent with two juniors and a pair of freshmen getting their share of the ribbons.

Janelee McElhany has been winning the hurdles races consistently and Conklin feels she is going to get better. Stephanie Payne has state bests in the 100 and 200 yard dashes as she has won in times of 12.9 in the 100 and 26.8 in the 200. Tiffany Lawson has been contributing in the sprints and Jodi Padberg in the 800 with a pair of wins. Nancy Martin has been hampered with illness in the early going this spring.

Missy Turner is showing great things in the 200 and 400. Last weekend she defeated the defending state champion from Prairie City in the 400 meter run. Lana Reid is much stronger running the distance races this year and will be a threat at 3,000 meters. Her best so far is 12:45.5.

Cathy Martin is the surprise of the season showing strength in the 1500 meter run and 800 run. Classmate Kim Sager ran 13.7 in the 100 last Saturday.

Others contributing greatly to the Heppner wins have been Stacey Kennedy in the 400 and intermediate hurdles, Shannon McLoughlin and Cherrie Hager in the discus and shot put. Freshman Kerri Thompson is running sprints.

Payne was awarded the high point trophy at Condon last Saturday for her wins in the two sprints and anchoring both relay teams. She had 25 points while teammate McElhany was right behind with 22 1/2 points.

Both relay teams have been doing very well, but Conklin noted he is not sure who will ultimately make up the sprint relay team as he has been experimenting. The 1600-meter relay team looks like it will be made up of Turner, Lawson, Padberg and Payne.

Last Saturday's win at Condon marked the third consecutive team championship for the Heppner girls at that meet. Heppner is out to defend its team title this weekend at the Morrow County Invitational track meet at Umatilla. But, the locals will see stiff competition from a field of 20 schools that includes the best of eastern Oregon. In addition to local schools, five of always

strong Wapiti League will be present: Joseph, Enterprise, Wal-lowa, Elgin and Imbler.

The meet begins at 11 a.m. with field events. The running events are scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m.

This past Tuesday the locals competed in a four-way meet at Boardman and next Tuesday beginning at 3:30 p.m. with field events, Heppner hosts Riverside, Echo and Ione.

The 4-H mini-park is landscaped and needs a few finishing touches to be a truly attractive addition to Heppner according to Oregon State University Extension Agent Steve Campbell. The kids worked hard and are now in need of flowers to finish it off. If you would like to donate some flowers, or other plants, please call

the Morrow County Extension Service at 676-9642. They will be planted and can help in making this project truly complete.

The past support that the community has provided has been really appreciated. Everyone is encouraged to help finish the park up so the kids can get on to another project.

Chamber's immediate goal to participate in city cleanup

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD
At a special meeting of the Heppner Morrow County Chamber of Commerce board of directors on Friday morning April 5, members of this leadership group discussed goals it will work toward in 1985.

The matter of cleaning up and beautifying the city of Heppner was named the top immediate goal. It was happily noted that several other civic groups have already begun working toward this goal, such as the Lions Club with the painting of the fire station doors, the Boy Scouts with the erection of a new white cross on the summit of East Hill, and the fine work of the 4-H Leadership group in beginning a mini-park behind the hotel and across from the Heppner Bowl.

Birdine Tullis is contacting groups and individuals to whip up enthusiasm for this project. Since Morrow County has just entered its 101st year a strong cleanup and beautification effort here now will be proof of caring and of being willing to share in the effort to become a more attractive place.

Heppner's mayor and city council will cooperate in leading this spring campaign. A community meeting is set for Thursday, 7:30 p.m., April 11, at the City Hall to map out plans and confirm dates. Residents, business people and especially representatives of civic groups are asked to please attend this meeting.

Chamber of Commerce members, along with others, are offering to donate labor to help with painting,

cleaning, planting, etc.
The Chamber of Commerce directors named working with the area's special promotional events as their second priority. They will continue to see that strong support goes to the St. Patrick's celebration, to the County Fair and Rodeo and its parade, to all merchants' promotions and to the Pioneer Picnic on Memorial weekends.

Discussion of longterm goals centered on promotions that might draw not only more visitors, but also more permanent residents, especially elderly and social security persons, many of whom prefer small-town life to city hustle. Related to this older group is the settlement of hospital problems and the provision of more suitable living arrangements, such as possibly apartments in the old hotel. The chamber will work with the Heppner Economic Development Corporation on this goal.

This is the spring to really put forth best efforts to make this community become cleaner, brighter, more welcoming and attractive to all who live here and to any who come to visit and to see how the residents here really feel about this sharing and caring area.

What's Your Opinion



Question: "In your opinion, do you feel Heppner's new leash law will solve the nuisance dog problem?"
"I haven't seen a leash law that's worked yet," said Deane Seeger of Irrigon. "... unless they have a lot of money for a dog catcher."

Hospital Notes

Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner reports admitting and discharging the following patients during the past week:

Clara Flaiz, Heppner - admitted April 1, discharged April 5;
Delbert Emert, Ione - admitted April 3, discharged April 8; and
Fred Hoskins, Jr., Heppner - admitted April 4, discharged April 8.

The following patients were still receiving care at the hospital Monday:

Elva Ruhl, Heppner - admitted April 3; and
Richard Hendricks, Ione - admitted April 6.

Women's Aglow to meet April 18



The Heppner Women's Aglow Fellowship will meet Thursday, April 18 at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall in Heppner.

Guest speaker for the dessert fellowship meeting will be Patricia Grove of Hermiston. She will share her ideas about "How to be what the Lord desires for us to be as a wife, mother and homemaker."

Women of all denominations are cordially invited to come, said an Aglow spokesperson. Those who need a baby sitter may call 676-5471 to make arrangements.



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