

# Distance events expected strength of Heppner thinclads

**By Ashley Conklin**  
Five junior boys will lead the Heppner boys' track team while the girls track team will be looking for their strength in the distance races to carry them this season.

Back will be junior Trent Harrison and sophomore Cathy Martin who represented the Mustangs at the state track meet in the 3000 meters last season.

Harrison finished 11th at the state meet a year ago with a time of 9:53.6 Bryan Padberg, a freshman, also looks to be a promising prospect in the distance races. Martin set the school record in the 3000 last season with a time of 11:52.7. Martin also set freshmen class records in the 800 and 1500 as well.

Also back is junior Wayne Wilgers who set the sophomore class record in the high jump a year ago with a leap of 6'2 1/2". Wilgers, despite the late start he got due to basketball, already is jumping over six feet in practice.

Two more juniors, Scott Buschke and Jason Palmer also return. Buschke, who competes in the high jump and the triple jump held the sophomore class record in the high jump at 6'0" last season before Wilgers broke that mark. He also holds the freshman class record. Palmer com-

petes in the shot put and discus, but excels in the discus placing fifth in the district meet a year ago.

Seniors Lana Reid and Missy Gates will be called upon to give the thinclads added depth in the distance races. Reid is a three year letter winner while Gates lettered as a freshman.

The girls' team won the district championship last season but lost seniors Janelle McElhany, Jodi Padberg, and Stephanie Payne to graduation.

"Sherman County will be the favorite to win the girls title," said head coach Dale Conklin in his 17th year of coaching track at Heppner, either as assistant or head coach. (Brent Eggers, in his third year, will serve as the assistant coach.) "But we should finish in the top three at district. I think we are two or three girls short of repeating as district champions."

Payne finished second in both the 100 and 200 meter dashes at the state meet a year ago. Sophomore Kim

Sager returns to try and fill Payne's shoes.

McElhany competed in the hurdles in her four years at Heppner. Filling her spot this season will be senior Kim Wright and junior Dorothy Hays.

Running the hurdles for the boys will be senior Chris McLaughlin, a three year letterman. McLaughlin was in the top 50 in the state last year in both the 110 meter high hurdles and 300 meter intermediate hurdles.

Junior Ashley Conklin, a newcomer will handle most of the long and triple jumping duties for the boys team and is jumping better in practice this year than he did all of last year.

Sophomore Jason Dougherty returns and along with freshman Barney Lindsay provides depth in the jumping events while leading the boys team in the sprints.

Also adding speed to the team will be Marty Brannon (senior), Scott Jones (sophomore), and Jim Brosnan (freshman).

Junior Stacey Kennedy, another returner and freshman Jill Conklin will be counted on the give the thinclads needed points in both field and running events.

Sophomores Kim Bond and Shannon McLaughlin will put the shot, discus, and javelin.

Also on the girls' team are distance runners Michelle Beck and Nance Wright, both freshmen.

While the girls' team were district champs last season the boys placed 13th out of 15 schools with 10 1/2 points.

"We will be much improved as far as the boys' team just because we have more people," explained Conklin. "Umatilla and Wahtonka (The Dalles) will again be favorites in the boys race, but we should finish in the top five."

"At this point it's hard to predict how many people will advance to the state meet," said Conklin. "Some people get injured while others come through at district."

Those who finish first or second at the district meet automatically advance to the state meet plus those who meet the state qualifying standard. For years the state qualifying standards have been ridiculously high but not anymore according to Conklin.

"For instance the qualifying standard in the boys' high jump was lowered from 6'3" to 6'1"," he said. "That mark is something both of our high jumpers should be able to reach."

Heppner's first track meet will be a triangular meet on Tuesday, April 1 at Milton-Freewater. Other teams at the meet will be Elgin and Mac-Hi.

"We will be anything but ready for our first meet due to the late basketball season," said Conklin.

"However, there's an extra week in the season and that will more than balance everything out."

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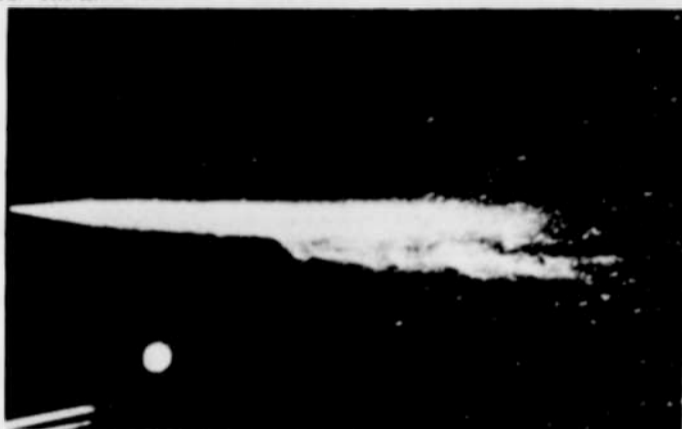
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**Comet reports** from pg 1  
fer. To locate the comet, they scanned the lower ten degrees of sky east of Sagittarius through binoculars. The glow tails off to the south and up in the sky directly away from where the sun comes up, he said, "we had an enjoyable time."



The famous Halley's Comet photo taken at the Lowell Observatory on May 13, 1910 while the tail of the comet covered about 45 degrees of the sky.

"Although Newton had tentatively concluded the paths of comets were parabolas, Halley soon decided those of the comets he was studying were ellipses. The difficulty was only a tiny fraction of a comet's orbit was observable. These frustrating fragments were barely enough, or simply not enough, to permit a distinction between a parabola and an ellipse. Halley's mathematics indicated ellipses to him, but what he needed for solid experimental proof was a recurrent comet, since only an elliptical path could bring a comet back to the sun periodically; on an open-ended path it obviously would not be seen again.

"After a good deal of laborious trial and error, backing and filling, and midnight oil by the barrel, he found at least one such comet, one that he himself had seen in 1682, although his observations of it had been rather casual. More data on the appearance... strengthened Halley's hunch the comet he had seen in 1682 was the same reported for 1607, which in turn should be the same comet as that reported for 1531. One comet, three appearances. But he had a good deal of work ahead of him. He would have to extrapolate his puny fragments of curving path into the full ellipse, stretching hundreds of millions of miles into space and back again, estimate the comet's ever-changing velocity, calculate the effect of Jupiter's and Saturn's massive gravity on its orbit, and determine the position of the earth at the time of its predicted return.

"All this he did, but, with what must have been an overgenerous helping of chagrin, he soon realized the comet could not return until he was more than a hundred years old."

from "Edmond Halley and his Comet," by Louis Baldwin, Maverick Publications, Bend, Oregon. Excerpt and Photo reprinted by permission.

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**Business Seminar**  
from pg 1

Business will be held in the college's Hermiston Center located in the Radelco Building from 7 to 10 p.m. Cost of the series is \$40.

Starting a business in the home is a national trend," according to Tom Hampson, director of The SBDC. Many would-be entrepreneurs are trying their new business ideas out on their customers from the comfort of their own residence."

Instructor Mike Palmblad, of Hermiston, will provide participants with the basic information of feasibility, marketing, recordkeeping, and taxes for a business-operated out of the home.

Persons wishing more information on the series may call the small business center at 276-6233 or come into the Hermiston Center to sign up.

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