

Ione Cardinals fall in home opener

By Anne Morter
The Ione Cardinals fell in their home opener, 45-61 to the Spray Eagles on Dec. 19. Despite rallying to within three points, Ione couldn't muster enough points to pull ahead of the Eagles.

Ione got down in the first quarter as Spray jumped out to a 21-10 lead. The Cardinals staged a small rally to outscore the Eagles 18-15 in the second quarter and went to the locker room at half time trailing only by eight, 28-36. In the third quarter, the Cardinals fought to within three points before mistakes and turnovers caused the lead to widen. Again the Cardinals pulled to within six points in the fourth quarter before they were forced to foul in an attempt to regain possession of the ball.

Rod Martin of Spray scored a game-high 19 points. Martin was one of four players from Dayville who recently joined the Spray squad since their school was unable to field a team. Ione's Mike Garrett, returning from a bout of illness and still not playing at 100 percent, was the Cardinal's high scorer with 15

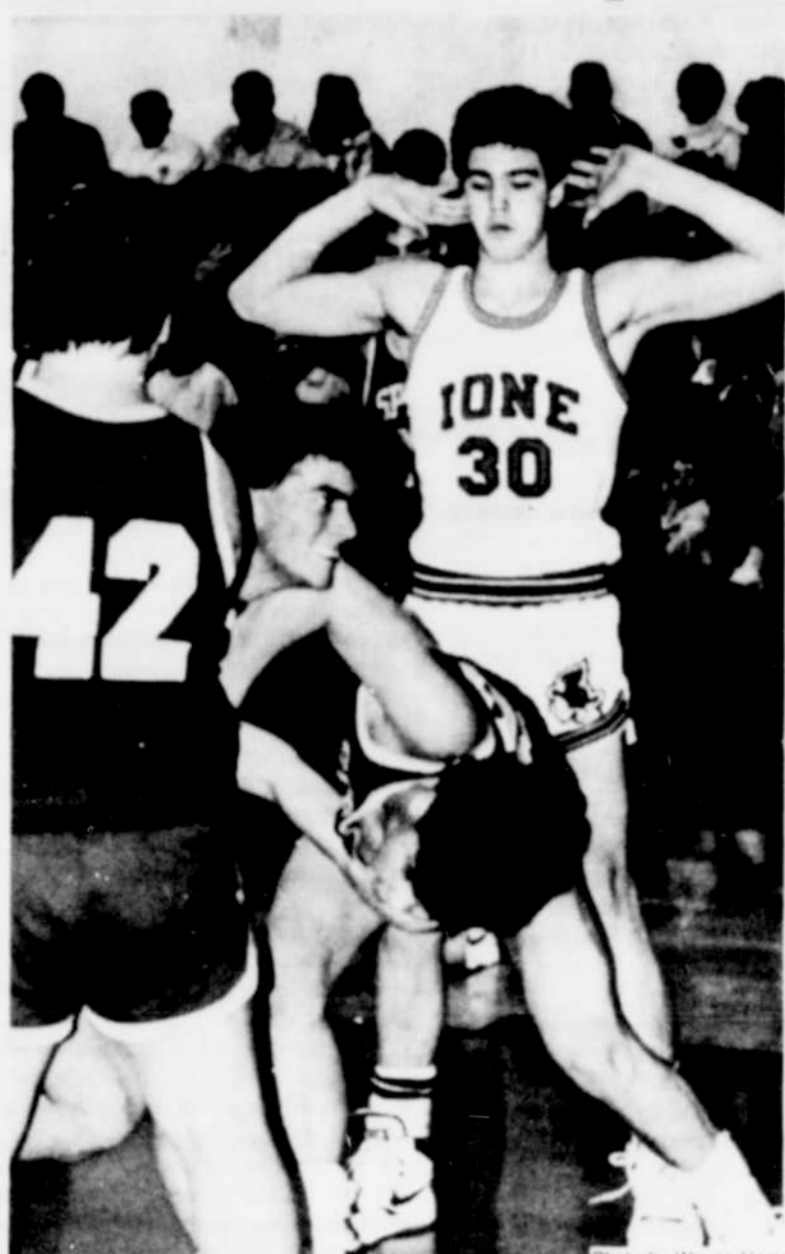


Photo by Wayne Harris
Jim Davison wrestles with Spray player for ball in Ione's home opener against the Eagles. Deacon Heideman (30) stays out of the way.

points. Jim Davison added 11 and Gabe Garcia chipped in 10 for the Cardinals. Spray held a 22-18 advantage in rebounding. Davison led the Cardinal rebounding effort with six boards and Mike Garrett led in the assist department with five.

Coach Del LaRue said his team played much better than previous weeks, but they have a long way to go, especially when it comes to keeping the ball under control. He said that Spray had a very quick team

with state tournament experience. They returned most of their state tournament team and added the Dayville contingent to put together a good team. Even so, he said the Cardinals were able to stay in the game and give the Eagles a better game than the final score indicates.

League play opens on January 5 at Helix for the Cards. Coach Del LaRue is looking forward to having Mike Garrett back in full force for that game.

Ione girls varsity leave Huskies behind

By Anne Morter
The Ione girls Varsity basketball team ran their season record to 5-1 with a decisive 61-39 victory over the Sherman County Huskies in Ione on Dec. 19. The Lady Cards ran off ten straight points in the first quarter and used an effective press to quickly leave Sherman County behind.

The Cardinals pressed the entire game forcing the slower Huskies to turn the ball over 47 times. The taller opponents had trouble handling the ball and getting around the Ione defense. Ione held a ten-point lead at halftime, 28-18. In the third quarter the Cards outscored the Huskies, 21-10, and never looked back.

Leading a balanced Cardinal scoring attack was Mary Cupps with 16 points. Other players in double digits were Jo Cupps with 13, Linda Morter with 11 and Kari Morgan with 10. Mary Cupps led the Ione squad with 11 steals. Ione out-rebounded the taller Huskies, 40-30, led by Jo Cupps with 14 boards.

Ione coach Dana Heideman says his team played much better than in their last outing. Shooting accuracy improved dramatically with the Lady Cards making 44 percent of their shots from the floor and 62 percent from the free throw line. Heideman said his team played well and he was especially pleased with their efforts on the press. He did express concern that the Cards weren't able to capitalize on enough of their fast break opportunities.

Ione kicks off the league season on January 5 at Helix and then plays Sherman County on January 6. Coach Heideman says he is not discounting the home court advantage and figures the league-opening weekend to be a good test for his team.



Photo by Wayne Harris
Jo Cupps goes up for shot against Sherman Co. The Cards won the game 61-39.

Ione girls JV takes Sherman Co

By Anne Morter
The Ione girls JV team marked two in the win column last week with a 33-30 thriller decision over Sherman County on Dec. 19 and a 41-28 victory over Heppner on Dec. 21.

The Cardinals relied on a full-court press, pressure defense, and a rebounding advantage to defeat their opponents. Both games were played in Ione.

Against Sherman County, the Cardinals pushed their way to a 13-9 advantage at half-time. The third quarter found several starters in foul

trouble and the Cards were unable to pressure the ball with the press as usual. The Huskies outscored the Cardinals 15-7 in that period and led 24-20 entering the final quarter.

With one minute left in the game, the score was tied at 30. The Cardinals turned the ball over, pressed, got it back, then turned it over again. Once again they pressed and stole the ball. This time Chris Bedortha got a shot off, made the basket and was fouled in the process. She added the free throw to give Ione the

final 33-30 advantage.

Amy Pointer of Ione had a game-high seven points. The Cardinals held a 37-31 rebounding advantage against their taller opponents with Chris Bedortha pulling down eight and Wendy Anderson grabbing seven. Crystal Minster led Ione with 12 steals.

In the Heppner game the Cardinals ran into a quicker team, a team that was harder to trap with their press. The game was close all the way until Ione was finally able to pull away for good in the fourth quarter.

The Cardinals and Fillies traded baskets and the lead throughout the first half. Ione led 10-8 at the end of the first quarter and held the same two-point advantage at the half. The Cards stretched their lead to four points in the third quarter before going on a fourth quarter scoring rampage to outdo the Fillies 16-7. The final score was 41-28.

Sophomore Kari Morgan put together an exceptional game with 21 points, 18 rebounds and six assists. Ione out-rebounded Heppner 31-18.

The next contest for the junior varsity will be a rematch with Sherman County in Moro on January 6.

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IMS take 1st win from Echo

By Heidi Orem
The Ione Middle School boys basketball team got their first win of the season against the Echo Cougars, 33 to 25, after their depressing loss to the Heppner Ponies eighth grade

team who are coached by David Gunderson, 73 to 15.

The lead scorer and one of the lead rebounders was Aaron Heideman, with 13 points and 11 rebounds. Jason Proudfoot was the other lead rebounder with 11 rebounds and 10 points.

The Ione Middle School girls basketball team lost to the Echo Cougars, 28 to 20. April Taylor was the lead scorer with eight points and was the second highest rebounder with five rebounds. Jamie Lovett was the lead rebounder with nine boards.

Both teams were scheduled to play Helix on Dec. 16 but the game was cancelled due to icy roads. Their next game will be January 6, against the Echo Cougars.

Willows Grange has Christmas dinner

The Willows Grange held their dinner at the Grange hall on Friday, Dec. 15. Around 50 people were present.

Lecturer was Helen Crawford. Children who took part were Adrian and Luke Swanson, Kory and Karl Morgan, Mandy Gutierrez, Nathan Rietmann and Allison Halvorsen. Santa came and visited with the children and candy was passed out to all.

Cleta Walters from The Dalles won the quilt raffled off by the grange.

Mildred Eubanks and Dot Halvorsen received their 50 year

Heppner Frosh lose to Ione

By Pete Pearson
The Heppner Freshmen lost to Ione's JV team 59-43 Thursday, Dec. 21. The Freshmen, only five deep, had to try to stay in the game and save energy for the fourth quarter.

At halftime Ione led 26-10. In the third quarter the Freshmen closed the gap to 32-28, but that was the closest they got for the rest of the

game. As Pete Pearson drove the lanes, on his way to nine assists and 15 points, Kevin Kilkenny worked inside to get a personal game high and led all scorers with 16 points.

The Heppner Freshmen's next game will be against Riverside, January 4 at 6 p.m.

Bergstrom named to dean's list

Michael Bergstrom, Heppner, has been included with 335 students on the fall quarter dean's list at Oregon Institute of Technology. Inclusion on the list required that a student attain at least 3.30 grade point average out of a possible 4. Bergstrom is studying diesel power technology.



It's official. 1990 will be a winning year. Hope all your goals are met with success.

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