

# Cardinals stampede into unfamiliar territory

By Anne Morter

As the lone girls stampede into this week's state tournament in Baker City, they are treading on unfamiliar ground. These girls, who have never made it to a district tournament, much less a state meet, enter the weekend as the Big Sky League's undisputed number-one team and as the state's top-ranked Class B girls team. Heady stuff for a bunch that didn't even make it to the district tournament last season.

What turned last year's slightly better-than-average team into dominant force in the Big Sky League (and hopefully the state) this year? Some say the writing was on the wall last year when local farmer, Dana Heideman climbed off his tractor to take the reins of the struggling program. His first move was to tag the five juniors on the squad as starters. What he discovered was basketball chemistry...with a few rough edges. Heideman inherited a group of talented girls and the girls got a coach who preached defense and teamwork—and meant it. His other secret is the lucky lifesavers he dispenses before each game, a tradition that continues this year. The combination has been successful also due to the obvious mutual respect between coaches and athletes.

Last year Heideman and the Lady Cardinals produced a respectable record and the first winning season the Cards had seen in a while but missed out on a trip to the district tournament on the basis of "auzi" points. During last year's cold snap, lone was forced to cancel several games, and with no time to make them up, the district had to resort to the theoretical "auzi" system where each win or loss has a point value attached. Unfortunately, when all the tallying was done, the Cards came up short, but you get the feeling that the missed opportunity has been etched in their minds as a goal for this year.

This year Heideman is no longer the rookie high school coach and his starters are seasoned seniors. The bench is stronger too with a crop of talented sophomores and a stable



Coach Dana Heideman

of lightning-quick freshmen, all nipping at the heels of the seniors for playing time. In addition, the girls are playing with a new confidence and determination unknown to them last year. Heideman claims the main reason for the improvement was the team's participation in a local summer league. Somehow or other, he convinced the girls to climb out of their wheat trucks or send their babysitting charges home early and report to the gym for evenings of hot sweaty summertime basketball. The sweat paid off as they played about ten games against the likes of Hermiston and Pendleton—and won. They also took fourth place out of fifteen teams at an AAU tournament in Yakima where the teams came from mostly larger towns from all over Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Success breeds confidence and that confidence has been quite evident this season.

The Lady Cards started the year winning and ended the year winning big. They cruised to championships in the Morrow County and Condon Tournaments before suffering their only loss of the season to cross-league nemesis Wheeler of Fossil in early December. The three-point overtime loss set up a stand-off between the two teams for top-dog status in the league. By the time Wheeler came to town on February 2, the Lady Cardinals had made some changes in their offense and souped up their defense to send the Falcons home with a 21-point defeat. The teams were matched again in the first round of the district champion-

ship. Once again, the Cardinals outran and outshot their opponents for a 27-point victory.

The season saw the Lady Cardinals march their way up the rankings to occupy the top spot in the latest Class B girls basketball poll. The pre-season poll found them ranked a pleasant number six. The two subsequent listings placed them in the number three slot behind Alsea and Wheeler. The Cards disposed of Wheeler in person and Alsea (near Corvallis) self-destructed on its own, failing to qualify for the state tournament. While the coaches and the team are enjoying this status, they are certainly not dwelling on it since the poll doesn't mean much once the state tournament cranks up.

Since their district triumph, coach Heideman says the girls have been practicing hard but "the waiting game is tough. At this point in the season, we've done about all we can do. Now we just have to stay sharp." He says the girls are all healthy and ready to go but they are a bit nervous about this new experience. "They don't know what to expect," says Heideman.

Whatever happens in Baker City, this group of girls will be able to remember this season as a special one. They have combined their talents to go farther in post season play than any other girls team in lone High School history has gone. And while it might be uncharted territory for them, the lone Lady Cardinals look like they belong here.

# Third times the charm

By Scott Johnston

The Fillies met up with the Riverside Pirates in the final match of the district tournament. Riverside beat Stanfield 40-17, to gain a spot in the final game. Heppner beat their Morrow County rivals for the third time this season and earned a spot in the regional tournament March 2 and 3.

Heppner had a slim, 13-10 lead after the first quarter and increased its lead at the beginning of the second quarter to seven points before the Pirates battled back to close the gap to just a single point at halftime.

The Fillies came out strong in the third quarter as they outscored the Pirates, 16-6, and took a 39-28 advantage into the final period. Hepp-

ner put the game out of reach in the final quarter as the Fillies outscored the Pirates, 23-11.

Jennifer Currin, who was named Tournament KUMA's Most Valuable Player, led the Fillies with 18 points, seven steals and seven re-



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Angie Currin makes pass during Riverside game

bounds. Nikki Brisbois had 14 points and eight rebounds for the Fillies. Kim Stookey also added 14 points.

After the game the CBC All-Star teams were announced. Nikki Brisbois was named to the first team and Jennifer Currin was named to the second team.

The Fillies, 15-7, now play the Grant Union Prospectors this Friday in Pendleton. The Prospectors are 17-5 and the second place team out of District 8. The Fillies and Prospectors will play at 1:30 p.m. at the Pendleton Armory.

If the Fillies win, they will face the loser of the Weston-McEwen Imbler game, with the final state playoff berth up for grabs.

Heppner	13	10	16	23	62
Riverside	10	12	6	11	39

Heppner (62) Brisbois 4-6-8-14; J. Currin 7-18-4-5-18; A. Currin 2-3-0-0-4; Stookey 4-11-6-6-14; Palmer 1-3-1-4-3; Johnston 1-1-0-0-2; Tucker 0-0-1-2-1; Brownfield 1-3-0-0-2; Eckman 0-1-0-1-0; Greenup 1-2-2-2-4. Totals 21-47 20-28 62.

Riverside (39) Morgan 3-7-0-0-6; Suter 1-5-2-4; Evans 5-10-0-3-10; Short 3-7-0-0-6; Wetzel 1-3-1-3-3; Vandeventer 0-2-2-4-2; Hellberg 3-4-0-0-6; Olson 0-1-2-2-2; Seal 0-1-0-0-0; Trader 0-4-0-0-0; Ammons. Total 16-44 17-14 39.

# Pirates stage comeback

By Marty Suter

The Pirates came back from a tough loss to Umatilla the previous weekend to stage a homecoming blow-out against the Stanfield Tigers.

The Tigers made only one field goal in the first period, and the score at the half was 58-13.

All members of the varsity team scored with the exception of Matt Andreason who is still recovering from a leg injury. He is expected to see action at the Regional play-offs.

Scott Timms, senior wing, made 43 points breaking an existing River-

side record of 42. Bill Byrd scored 12 points, Jason Lipe, 11 and Mike Tallman 10.

Aifala Ama led the Tigers with 19 points.

Riverside	23	35	29	21	108
Stanfield	2	11	10	27	50

Riverside (108) Tallman 2-4-4-6; Dike 3-2-2-8; Hill 0-3-5-3; Larson 2-2-4-6; Timms 16-8-9-43; Hobbs 2-0-0-4; Byrd 4-4-7-12; Meyers 3-0-0-6; Lipe 4-3-5-11; Hyder 1-0-0-2; McDonough 0-3-4-3. Totals 38-28-40-108.

Stanfield (50) Swanson 1-0-0-3; Moore 1-1-2-3; Ama 9-1-4-19; Graybeal 1-0-0-2; Crafton 8-0-2-17; Polick 2-0-0-4; Collingsworth 1-0-0-2. Totals 23-2-8-50.

3-point goals—Swanson 1, Crafton 1, Tallman 1, Timms 3. Fouled out—Polick. Total fouls Stanfield 25, Riverside 9.

# Five Pirates named to CBC All Stars

By Marty Suter

Five Pirates, two boys and three girls were named to the Columbia Basin Conference All-Star Basketball team Saturday, in an awards ceremony following the championship games.

Shanna Evans and Marty Suter earned spots on the CBC girls second team, and junior April Morgan received an honorable mention.

Pirate boys' co-captains Scott Timms and Mike Tallman were named to the first team and honorable mention.

The Riverside pep band won the Bateman award for the best pep band at the tournament, and the Pirate Cheerleaders received the girls' sportsmanship award.

CBC champion Pirates will be in action at the regional basketball tournament March 2 and 3 in Pendleton.

# Riverside can't keep early lead; loses to Tiger-Scots

By Marty Suter

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, the Riverside Pirates jumped out early with 10 first-quarter points by Shanna Evans, but Weston-McEwen controlled rebounding and couldn't be stopped in the second half.

Riverside went cold in the second half, letting Dawn Shepard and Joy Glidewell shoot from the inside and draw fouls from Riverside. The Pirates led Weston-McEwen score 16 unanswered points and were left in the dust.

Shepard and Glidewell each six feet tall and forward Colby Cummings, 5' 10", combined to score 21 of Weston-McEwen's 23 second-quarter points.

Riverside slimmed the Tiger-Scots lead to seven points with two minutes left before a basket by Shepard and a pair of free throws by

Kami Albert put the game out of reach.

"I'm glad we came down here to play. We showed that we can compete after our loss to Stanfield," said coach Dirk Dirksen.

April Morgan was benched with a cut knee. She will be back for the 7A tournament Friday.

Shepard led Weston with an all-time high of 27. Evans scored 20 points to spur Riverside.

Riverside	15	6	6	13	40
Weston-McEwen	9	23	8	13	53

Riverside (40) Suter 3-2-4-8; Evans 9-2-3-20; Hellberg 2-0-0-4; Wetzel, Short 2-1-3-5; Seal 0-1-3-1; Olson 1-0-0-2; Ammons; Vandeventer. Total 17-6-13-40.

Weston-McEwen (53) Leullian 1-2-4-4; K. Albert 3-2-2-6; Shepard 12-2-6-27; Hansell 0-2-4-2; Brody 0-1-2-1; Glidewell 3-2-3-8; Cummings 1-3-4-5; Juan; C. Albert; Kirk. Totals 20-14-29-53.

3-point goals—Shepard 1. Fouled out—Brody. Total fouls Riverside 16, Weston-McEwen 15. Technical foul—Suter 1.

# Three to represent RHS at Citizen Bee Contest

By Marty Suter

Riverside High School will have three representatives at the regional Citizen Bee contest March 31 in LaGrande.

Last year's regional winner, Jim Meyers, will join classmates, Steve Connor and Randy Beard at the contest. Senior Steve Larson is an

alternate.

The Citizen Bee contest requires knowledge of U.S. History, government, economics and current events.

Cash prizes are awarded to the top three finishers at regionals with the top six progressing on to the state competition.

# Mustangs defeat Eagles 65-39 for second place berth at regionals

By Bob Krein

On Saturday, February 24, the Heppner Mustangs faced the Wahtonka Eagles. The game would decide who would advance to the Regional Tournament as the second-place team and who would go home.

The Eagles were 11 and 10 in season play and were coming off a big win.

The game started out fast-paced and the Mustangs had the advantage early on. The Mustangs' defense shut down Doug Kirchhofer, the CBC's third leading scorer, who made 37 points the night before. He shot only 4-18 from the field. Meanwhile Slater Mitchell and Russell Britt were blistering the nets as they combined for 37 of the Mustangs 39 halftime points.

The Mustangs hung on to a 26-point win, 65 to 39.

The Mustangs were lead by Slater Mitchell who scored a career-high 29 points shooting 14 for 17 from the field and ripping down 20 rebounds. Britt scored 20 points, pulled down 10 boards and dished out five assists.

Britt also received the KUMA Tournament 'Most Valuable Player' award. Britt and Mitchell were named to the CBC All-Star team. Britt made first team honors and Mitchell received second team honors.

The Mustangs will advance to the regional tournament this Friday and Saturday. Friday the Mustangs will face Grant Union Prospectors from John Day at 3 p.m., in a loser out game at the Pendleton Armory. The winner will advance to Saturday's game.

Heppner	24	15	15	11	65
Wahtonka	15	8	8	8	39

Heppner (65) Devin 2-8-2-2-4; B. Pedro 1-3-0-0-2; Mitchell 14-17-1-2-29; Britt 8-20-3-3-20; Krein 0-1-0-0-0; C. Pedro 0-2-0-2-0; Pettyjohn 2-2-0-0-4; J. Britt 0-2-0-0-0; Osmun 1-4-0-0-2; Connor 0-1-0-0-0; Rathburn 1-3-0-0-2. Totals 29-63-6-9-65.

3-point goals Heppner 1-4. R. Britt 1-3; Devin 0-1. Wahtonka 1-11 McCall 1-7; Kirchhofer 0-4. Fouled out—none. Rebounds, Heppner 46 (Mitchell 20) Wahtonka 18 (Kirchhofer 8). Assists Heppner 10 (R. Britt 5) Wahtonka 8 (four with two). Steals Heppner 4 (four with one), Wahtonka 8 (Brittle 3). Turnovers Heppner 11, Wahtonka 9.

Heppner boys' co-captains Scott Timms and Mike Tallman were named to the first team and honorable mention.

The Riverside pep band won the Bateman award for the best pep band at the tournament, and the Pirate Cheerleaders received the girls' sportsmanship award.

CBC champion Pirates will be in action at the regional basketball tournament March 2 and 3 in Pendleton.

# Pirates take top seed in Regionals

By Marty Suter

The Pirates skipped the district tournament and automatically advanced to play the District 8A champions March 2 in Pendleton to determine the region's top seeds in the state class A tournament.

Riverside used their full-court press to ignite their fast break and jumped to a 17-point lead in the first quarter, but Weston-McEwen refused to give up. Mike Tallman sparked the Pirates with six of his 17 points in the first quarter.

"If you're going to rfm...you've got to press," said Ray Tracy. The Tiger-Scots rallied in the second and third quarter behind their lineup of mostly sophomores.

Bryan Pickard, a 6' 1" sophomore led the young team with 24 points and 22 rebounds. Weston-McEwen out-rebounded the towers of Riverside 39-30. "They (Weston-McEwen) played well. They came out with some defensive pressure," Tracy said. Riverside's lead was cut to nine several times in the fourth quarter before Scott Timms fired. Timms, who had six steals in the game, picked up the tempo to ice the game, by feeding Bill Byrd for a lay-in and Timms hit a three-pointer all in 30 seconds.

Riverside	25	10	12	24	71
Weston-McEwen	8	13	17	11	49

Riverside (71) Dike 1-0-0-2; Byrd 6-0-0-12; McDonough 3-3-4-9; Tallman 7-1-2-17; Timms 8-1-1-18; Larsen 1-0-0-2; Andreason 1-0-0-2; Meyers 2-1-2-5; Lipe 2-0-0-4; Hill; Hobbs; Hyder. Totals 31-6-9-71.

Weston-McEwen (49) Pickard 10-3-3-24; Bjorkland 2-0-0-4; Reger 5-0-1-11; Rainwater 1-0-0-2; Walters 2-2-3-6; Farrow; Pupo, Hearn, Shafer. Totals 21-5-7-49.

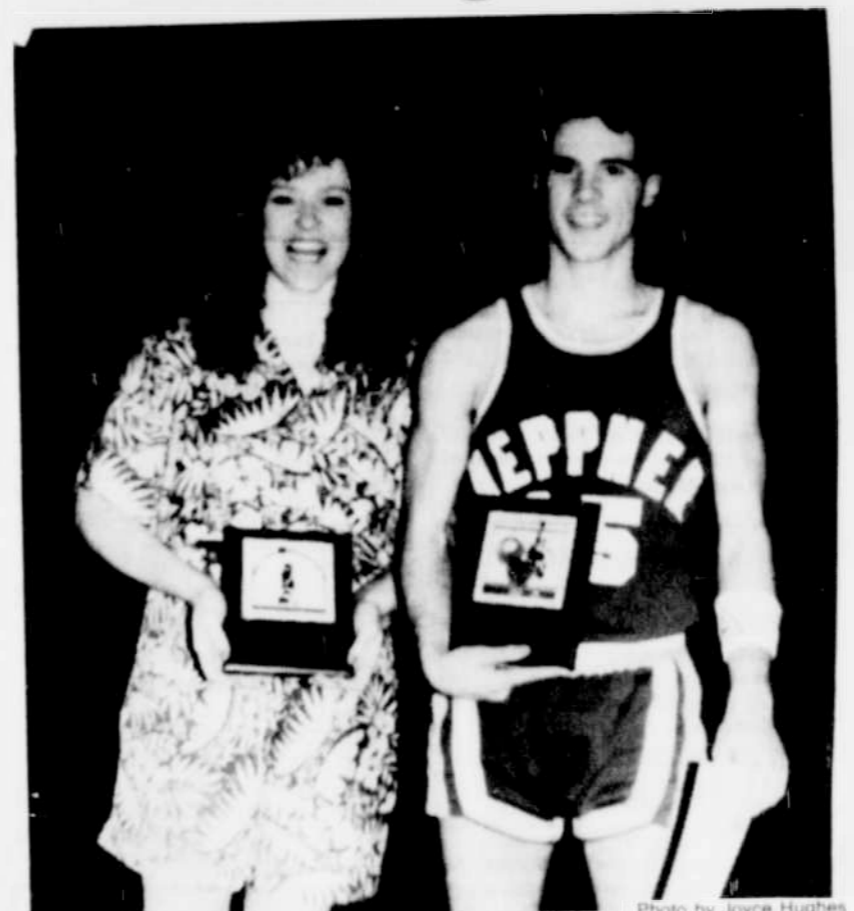


Photo by Joyce Hughes

Jennifer Currin and Russell Britt received the KUMA Most Valuable Player award.

# Riverside matmen take second at District

By Marty Suter

The Riverside Pirate Wrestling team did well in their first district competition at Elgin, January 16 and 17, earning second place with 127.5 points.

Elgin won the 10 team meet with 144.5 points and Crane was third.

Jim Kensey was district champ in the 98-lb. class with a 6-5 decision over Shawn Grandeen of Elgin.

Pirate Rudy Flores was second in the 168-lb class, losing 17-1 to Tony

Brown of Imbler. Both Kensey and Flores advanced to the State Class A Wrestling Championships at Western Oregon State College, Jan. 23-24.

Other Pirates placing at the district meet were: Jon VanGorder, Ben Cook, and Marco Reyes, third place; Fred Flores, Jon Horn and John McDonough, fourth place; Steve Sinor and Andrew Timpy, fifth place.

The Riverside wrestlers will move up to Class AA competition next year.

# Lady Pirates win one, lose one at district

By Marty Suter

The "third time was the charm" for the Lady Pirates in the opening game of the District 7A playoffs against the Stanfield Tigers.

Stanfield, who defeated Riverside

a week earlier, played without Valerie Winborne and Micki Svetich who had been suspended for disciplinary reasons, but April Morgan was back in the lineup for the Pirates.

# Lady Pirates fall flat at final home game

By Marty Suter

The Lady Pirates fell flat in their final home game, preview of the District 7A tournament opening game.

The Pirates were down 8-2 at the end of the first quarter and 21-7 at the end of the half. Sophomore Patricia Wetzel came off the bench in the third quarter showing a lot of hustle, but was unable to pump the rest of the team.

Riverside played without starter April Morgan who injured her knee. The Pirates were out-rebounded, 36-17, and out-shot at the foul line.

Shanna Evans led the Pirates with

12 points, and Marty Suter added 10.

Valerie Winborne and Micki Svetich led all scorers with 16 points each.

Stanfield	8	13	10	12	43
Riverside	2	5	12	9	28

Riverside (28) Ammons 0-1-2-1; Short 0-1-2-1; Vandeventer 0-0-1-0; Hellberg 1-0-3-2; Wetzel 1-0-1-2; Suter 3-2-4-10; Evans 5-2-4-12; Trader, Seal. Totals 8-6-17-28.

Stanfield (43) Chavez 4-0-0-8; Griffin 1-1-2-3; Svetich 3-10-12-16; Winborne 6-4-4-16; Hummel 0-0-1-0; Herd; Davis, Marcum, Cooper, Holcomb, Ena. Totals 14-15-19-43.

3-point goals—Suter 2. Fouled out—none. Total fouls Stanfield 17, Riverside 15.

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