

Cardinals take first place at Condon tournament

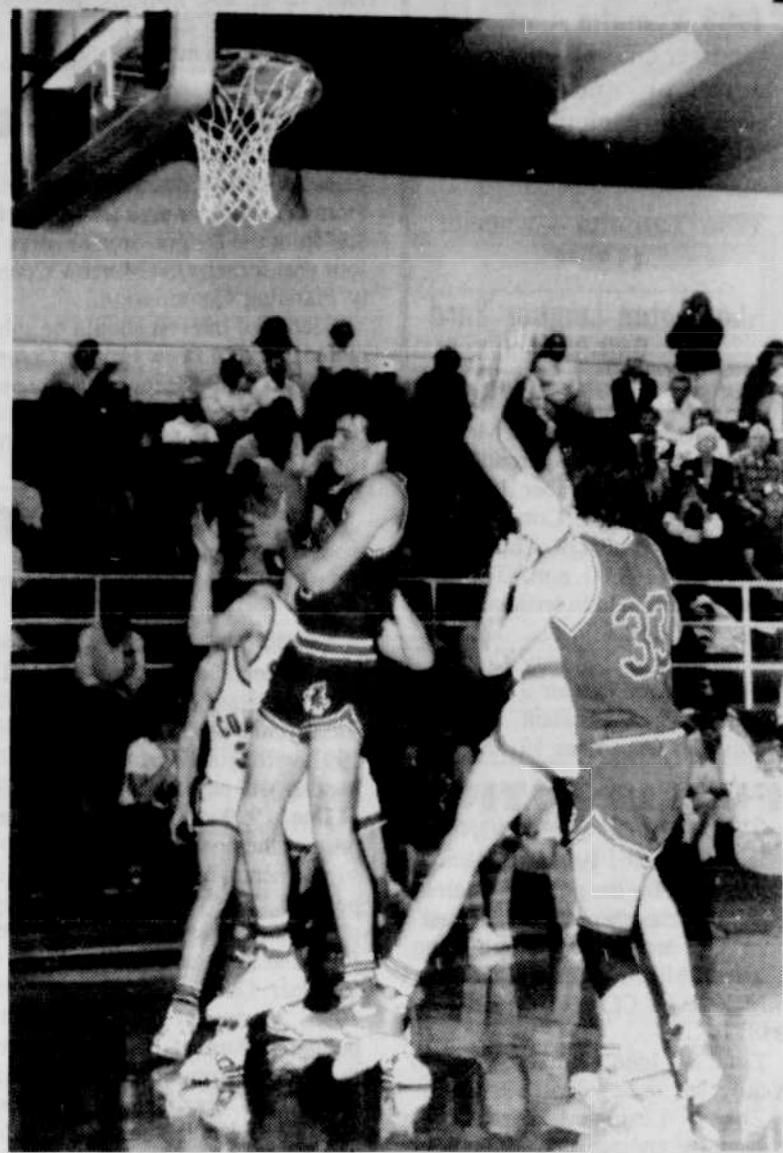


Photo by Pam Minster

Ione player grabs rebound in Condon Tourney

By Anne Morter
The Ione Cardinals sewed up first place in the Condon Christmas Tournament last weekend, defeating job defending Wheeler's Chris Craig, holding him to just 11 points. LaRue also said that Eric Orem came off the bench with a good defensive effort. "The subs are doing a heck of a job for us," he added.

On Saturday evening the Cardinals put away the defending state champion, Condon Blue Devils, 72-60, to win the championship.

The first quarter was played almost even, ending with a score of 18-16. In the second quarter, Condon cranked out 22 points to the Cards' 13 to take the lead 38-31 at the half. After halftime, the Cardinals picked up their rebounding and turned up the defensive pressure to get back in the game. At the end of the third period, the Cards held a 49-46 advantage and went on to outscore the Blue Devils 23-14 in the fourth quarter for the final margin.

Mike Garrett led all scorers with 25 points. Gabe Garcia added 17 and David Wagenblast chipped in with

14 points. Garrett pulled down 21 rebounds and Deacon Heideman added 11 but the Cards were out rebounded by Condon, 45-52. Garcia and Wagenblast each had four assists and Garcia nabbed four steals followed by Deacon Heideman with three.

The Cards kept their turnovers low in the game, turning the ball over only 17 times, a number that coach LaRue calls "tremendous. I could settle for 17 turnovers a game," said LaRue.

From the field, the Cardinals shot a respectable 39 percent making 28 of 72. From the line they hit 11 of 18 for 61 percent.

"I was happy with the win," said LaRue, calling it a good team effort. On defense, he commended Ryan Halvorsen for holding Condon's Brian Johnson to 21 points. "He did a heck of a job," commented LaRue. He also noted that Eric Orem played some strong defense backing up Halvorsen.

"I was pleased with all of our kids," LaRue said. "If I was picking the All-Star team, all five of our players would have been on it," he added.

Wheeler in the first round and upending the host school in the championship game. In addition to the championship trophy, the Cards had two players, Mike Garrett and Ryan Halvorsen, named to the All-Star team. The Cardinals now boast a 3-1 season record.

On Friday, the Cards downed Wheeler 72-65 but not without putting the fans on the edge of their seats first. Ione came out gunning in the first quarter, leading 27-11 at the end of the period. In the second quarter, Wheeler started to fight back and the Cards couldn't get their shots to fall. Despite this lapse in momentum, Ione took a 40-33 lead to the locker room at halftime. After the half, point guard David Wagenblast was

forced to sit out due to foul trouble and the Cardinal offense sputtered. They held a slim one point margin entering the final period and in that quarter, Wheeler took its first lead of the game 59-57. After a few lead changes, the Cards turned up the defensive pressure and pulled away for the victory.

Mike Garrett was high scorer for the Cardinals with 28 points. Gabe Garcia added 16 and Ryan Halvorsen had 14. Eric Todd of Wheeler was the game's high scorer with 29 points.

The Cardinals held a 39-32 rebounding edge over the Falcons with Mike Garrett leading the attack with 15. Garcia had five steals and eight assists to pace the Cards. In the assist department, he was aided by Ryan

Halvorsen with five and David Wagenblast with four.

The Cardinals shot a hot 48 percent from the floor, making 29 of 60. From the free throw line, they only managed 12 of 23 for 52 percent.

"We played pretty well," said coach Del LaRue, although the lapse in the second and third quarter did concern him. "We got the shots that we wanted but they just didn't fall." LaRue commended Mike Garrett and Gabe Garcia for their good performances. Garrett led in scoring and rebounding while Garcia led in assists and steals, and shot 54 percent from the field. Defensively he said that Ryan Halvorsen did a great

4-H News

Crazy Cookers

By Jake McElligott, Reporter
The first and second year members of the Crazy Cookers met Monday, December 3. Members cooked clam chowder, fruit salad and home made crackers. After eating officers were elected. They are: co-presidents Kara Miller and Nathan Rietmann, secretary-Jamie Perez, news reporter-Jake McElligott. Leader Nancy Miller said that the rest of our meetings will probably be at 5:45.

Crazy Cookers

By Becky Wagenblast, reporter
On December 4, the Crazy Cookers older members met at the Ione high school home-ec room. There were nine members present. They made clam chowder, home made crackers and fruit salad. They all tasted good. Leaders Nancy Miller and Maryan McElligott, showed the group how to make pie crusts. The members made them and some baked their crusts. The next meeting will be held Jan. 8.

Lady Cards take win over Helix, lose Condon tournament

By Anne Morter

The Ione Lady Cardinals finished a busy week of basketball with a non-conference win over Helix Dec. 4 and two losses at the Condon Christmas Tournament Dec. 7 and 8. Their season record stands at 2-3.

On Tuesday, the Cards dispatched Helix, 41-25, in a game where eight Cardinals scored and playing time was spread equally.

The Lady Cards led 8-4 at the end of the first quarter and lengthened that lead to 17-8 at the half. In the third quarter Ione outscored Helix 13-4 to put the game out of reach, and cruised to the win.

Kari Morgan was the leading scorer for the Lady Cards with 10. Wendy Anderson, Brandi Ball and Danielle Stefani added six points each. Morgan had eight rebounds and Anderson had seven but the Cardinals were beaten badly on the boards by Helix and their 6'0" center. Kari Morgan grabbed seven of the Cardinals' 17 steals and two Cards, Brandi Ball and Crystal Minster, had two assists each to pace Ione.

The Cardinals shot 32.7 percent from the floor making 18 of 55 and a paltry 28.6 from the free throw line, making just four of 14. Helix shot 10 of 46 for 21.7 percent from the floor and 29.4 percent (five of 17) from the line.

"We played pretty well," said coach Dana Heideman. "Eight people scored and everyone contributed." He was also happy with the Cardinal's press and that they had cut down on turnovers.

The wins were harder to find at the Condon Christmas Tournament where the Lady Cards lost to Wheeler on Friday evening and then to the Goldendale JV team on Saturday.

On Friday, the Cardinals played the Wheeler Falcons tough before finally falling, 35-42. Wheeler, currently the number one ranked team in the state Class 1A, couldn't shake the pesky Cardinals until the final minutes of the fourth quarter when the Cardinals were forced to foul.

Wheeler held a 14-7 edge at the end of the first quarter but their lead was cut to 19-15 at the half. In the third quarter, Wheeler started to get away, holding a 35-26 lead at the end of the period. In the fourth quarter, Ione scrapped back to within two points with two minutes to go, but their shots wouldn't fall when they really needed them. The Falcons pulled away for the final seven point margin.

Nancy Morter and Kari Morgan each scored nine points while Janie Cupps and Danielle Stefani added seven points each. Tracie Geer of Wheeler was high point for the game with 19 points. Geer, her sister, Stacie Geer, and her teammate, Robyn Meisner, accounted for 40 of the Falcon's 42 points. Rebounding was almost even for the two teams

with Wendy Anderson grabbing 11 and Kari Morgan and Nancy Morter pulling down nine each.

Morter dished out three assists and nabbed four steals to lead both those categories.

The Lady Cards managed just 25 percent shooting from the floor, making 16 of 64. At the line, where they only had six chances, they made just two for 33 percent. Wheeler shot 30 percent from the field, making 16 of 53 and 45 percent from the free throw line, making nine of 20. The free throws made the difference in the game according to Coach Heideman.

"We played a pretty good game," said Heideman, noting that his guards kept the Falcons from shooting three pointers and held Stacie Geer to just five points. "The game was really even most of the way," said Heideman. "We didn't shoot very well but that's been the story all year," he added. He commended Wendy Anderson for a good game, saying she was tough on the rebounds.

On Saturday, the Lady Cards fell to a tall Goldendale JV squad 37-44. Again the Lady Cardinals got close in the fourth quarter but failed to capture the lead.

The score was tied at the end of the first quarter, 8-8. By halftime, Goldendale held a five-point advantage, 19-14. The Cards were within three points at the end of the third quarter and again with three minutes to go in the game, but Goldendale stubbornly refused to give up the lead.

Kari Morgan led the Cardinals with 10 points. Brandi Ball added eight. Morgan also led in rebounds, pulling down eight. Nancy Morter had two assists and Crystal Minster had five steals to pace Ione.

The Lady Cards shot 16 of 66 for 24.4 percent from the floor and just four of 14 from the free throw line for 28.5 percent. Goldendale hit 17 of 49 from the floor for 34.7 percent and 10 of 25 from the line for 40 percent.

"The intensity wasn't there after playing Wheeler," said coach Heideman. He noted that Brandi Ball had a good game, shooting four of six from the field and grabbing five rebounds and also that Kari Morgan did a good job on the inside.

The Lady Cardinals next outing will be against Mitchell in Spray Saturday, Dec. 15 at 4 followed by a game in Heppner on Monday, Dec. 17.



Photo by Pam Minster

Lady Card looks for shot against Goldendale

JV Fillies make comeback but still lose by one 41-42

By Lisa Willman

On December 7, the JV Fillies played the Union Bobcats, losing 41-42 after making a great comeback in the last couple minutes of the game.

Heppner started out in the first quarter a little shaky but led the scoring 8-6. In the second quarter Union started pressuring the Fillies and the game became very fast-paced. With 5:17 left in the quarter both teams were in a one-on-one at the line. The Fillies, however, just couldn't make their foul shots count when it was needed. Union got hot, scoring several baskets to lead at halftime, 21-14.

Coming back from halftime Heppner slowed the ball down but was still having problems sinking any baskets. Near the end of the third quarter Heppner was behind by nine points and in foul trouble. Sara Greenup fouled out after scoring a total of six points and at the end of the third quarter was still behind 22-31.

In the fourth quarter, the game got good. Forty seconds into the quarter Toni Cutsforth made a layup on a fast break and then fouled out two minutes later. Two minutes after that

Heppner pulled within three points by playing better defense and moving the ball around to score. With 4:28 left in the game Heppner tied the score at 35. Two minutes left in the game and the score was tied again, 37-37. Jodi Johnston shot a foul shot and the Fillies moved ahead by one point. Union came back, made a layup and got fouled. They scored on the foul shot and led, 40-38. Tension mounted as it came down to the final 24 seconds. The Fillies were behind 38-42 but stuck together to finally pull within one point as the buzzer ended the game.

High scorer for the Fillies was Jodi Johnston with 10 points, eight steals, and four offensive rebounds. Teammate Jennie Ashbeck threw in nine points and made four offensive rebounds.

"In the first half we just didn't play well and Union's full court press and man-to-man defense made us very uncomfortable," stated coach Lana Orr. "We just couldn't handle the ball. However, in the second half the girls started playing as a team. We made a great come back effort. With a minute left we had several chances to score but the ball just wouldn't fall."

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