

Cheerleaders to hold community pep assembly



L-R: HHS cheerleaders Cheryl Conklin, April Rollis, Sheila Dunaway, Amy Brownfield, Kim Johnston, Bev Haugen, Shelly Huth, advisor Joyce Hughes (center).

The Heppner High School cheerleading squad is putting on a community pep assembly Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at the high school gym. The assembly is to get community spirit up for Friday's district playoffs in which the boys and girls basketball teams are competing.

"The girls have changed a couple of their routines to get ready for district," says Cheerleader

advisor Joyce Hughes.

The cheerleaders have been busy this year raising money for their uniforms and practicing for games. To raise money the girls have put on a taco feed, sold pizzas, sold advertising for the Gazette-Times and the district programs, sold cupcakes at colt basketball, and are planning a fund raiser on St. Patrick's Day. They still need to raise about

\$800. The booster club bought the pom poms for the girls.

"The girls have practiced hard," says Hughes. "They have their good and bad days just like everyone else but have improved alot this year. They need moral support and encouragement just the same as if they were a team out on the basketball floor, because that's what they are, a team."

Dance team gets ready for district



Heppner High School Dance Team performs at all home games.

The nine-member Heppner High School dance team is working real hard this year, says advisor Michelle Warburton, hoping for a first place finish in the dance contest at the district basketball playoffs this Friday in Pendleton.

"Last year they got a standing ovation," says Warburton, "but

didn't win anything. There was some controversy over that. They want to win it real bad this year," she says.

The dance team consists of nine members: Alecia Tarnasky (captain), Sherry Bingham (co-cpt), Donita Sharp, Kara Ansotegui, Nikki Sweeney, Sarah Britt, Staci

Grabeel, Roberta Luciano and Olivia Gavin. The girls practice about an hour and a half to two hours per day, and learn a new routine every week.

For those who want to see the girls perform at district be at the halftime of the girls game in Pendleton Friday. The girl's game starts at 1:30 p.m.

Mustangs win last league game

By Jeremy Maddern

The Heppner Mustangs walked away with a vital conference win over the Wasco County Red-sides at home in the last game of the season Saturday, Feb. 22. The 65-59 victory lifted them to third place in the Columbia Basin Conference and more importantly staled a first round meeting with powerhouse Weston-McEwen in the District tournament this com-

ing weekend.

The Mustangs had problems early in the game as they trailed 12-10 after the first quarter. Down by two the Mustangs hoped to keep the game under control and they did as the Red-sides had a slim four point margin going into the half. The Mustangs were having problems against Wasco County's zone defense but made adjustments at the half and

exploded for 28 points in the third quarter.

The Mustangs had a 12 point lead going into the critical fourth quarter. Heppner seemed to have complete control of the game but saw the Red-sides scrap and claw as they closed in on the Mustang lead. The Mustangs held on to their lead and left the gym with a 65-59 win.

Len Britner led the Mustangs with 19 points and seven rebounds. Jason Britt distributed the ball well with 10 assists and chipped in 10 points. Scott Coe turned in a solid performance with 11 points. Heppner finished the regular season in third place with an 8-4 record in league play.

Heppner plays Wasco County in the first round of the District Tournament Friday, Feb. 28 at 3:30 p.m. in the Pendleton Convention Center.

Two-Trackers to begin program

The Two-Trackers will begin their spring program this Sunday March 1. The group will meet at 2 p.m. at Kate's Pizza for a business meeting. Members should bring 50 cents to help pay for the pizza and rootbeer. Everyone is also urged to attend as new officers will be elected and programs discussed.

Fillies down Wasco

By Jeremy Maddern

The Heppner Fillies picked up some momentum heading into the District Tournament in Pendleton with a 48-35 victory over the Wasco County Red-sides in their last league game of the season.

The Fillies had some trouble early scoring a miserable four points in the opening period. Heppner held the Red-sides to four points as they were slow to start also. The tempo picked up a little in the second quarter as the Fillies outscored the visiting Red-sides 12-11. The Fillies were plagued with 12 turnovers in the first half and were fortunate to be up by one.

Heppner kept gaining momentum in the third quarter as they shot over 50 percent from the field and increased their lead to

31-25 going into the fourth and final quarter. The Filly spark was two three pointers by sophomore Jodi Johnston to help the Fillies go into the fourth quarter with some momentum. The Fillies kept the pace up and ran away with the game.

Head coach Mark Dowdy emptied his bench and watched his girls win impressively after a very slow start. Jodi Johnston led the Fillies with 12 points and Holly Eckman turned in a spectacular performance with eight points, 16 rebounds and seven assists.

The Fillies ended the regular season in second place with a 10-2 league record. They open up the District Tournament held in Pendleton at the Convention Center, at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28 against the Pilot Rock Rockets.

Accreditation officials to visit HHS

Heppner High School will have an accreditation visitation from the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, March 3-5, according to HHS principal Steve Dickenson.

Dickenson said that the school has been a member of the organization since 1924. The school is accredited every year, but this is the first on site accreditation visit since 1978.

The school will be evaluated by a series of guidelines to which high schools must conform with regard to their curriculum offerings. HHS will be evaluated in general areas of philosophy and goals, curriculum, the school and community characteristics, auxiliary services food, custodial services and transportation services, guidance services, learning media (library), school facilities, school activities programs, school staff and administration; and specific curriculum areas of vocational and agricultural education, business education, driver's education, language arts, foreign language (Spanish), health education, home economics, mathematics, music, PE, science, social studies, special education, technological education (industrial arts), visual arts and career education.

The school will be evaluated by a team comprised of around 20 teachers from Morrow and Umatilla counties. Team leader is Hermiston High School principal Rick Barber.

Dickenson said that he and his teaching staff have done extensive preparation and self evaluation in anticipation of the accreditation visit. Following the visit the

school will receive a verbal exit interview, followed up by a written report.

Student leaders will make name tags, coordinate refreshments and act as hosts and hostesses for the accreditation team.

Elks plan for St. Pat's

An Elks planning meeting for St. Pat's activities has been scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 27 right after lodge. Both men and ladies are urged to attend.

Mustangs & Fillies

Let's go to Regionals!

Good Luck at District!

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