

# Lady Cards take first in tournament Ione takes Christmas tournament

By Anne Morter

The Ione Lady Cardinals won two close games to claim the championship of the Condon Christmas Tournament last weekend in Condon. On Friday, they squeezed out a one point victory over Umatilla and then came back to down Condon by two on Saturday. April Taylor was named to the Tournament All-Star team.

The Lady Cardinals realigned their defense at the end of the first quarter against Umatilla Friday night, Dec. 11, switching to full court pressure, to get back into the game. Trailing 21-26 at halftime, the Cards started to wear the Vikings down in the third period, holding them to just four points. Down the critical fourth quarter stretch, Melissa McElligott made six of her 10 points and Randy Wise came off the bench to hit a couple of crucial buckets.

Three Lady Cards shared team scoring honors. Crystal Minster, April Taylor and McElligott each had 10 points in the game. Umatilla, with two six foot girls on the roster, used their height to claim a slight rebounding advantage, 32-27. Minster paced the Cardinal rebounding effort with six while Taylor and Jamie Lovett added five each. Ione nabbed 20 steals, ("that's where we won the game," noted coach Dana Heideman), led by McElligott with five.

Both teams shot fairly well with Ione hitting 18 of 44 from the floor for 44 percent and the Vikings making 15 of 40 for 38 percent. At the line, the Lady Cards shot seven of 11 for 64 percent while Umatilla made 12 of 24 for 50 percent.

"I still haven't figured out how we won that game," commented Heideman. He noted that the early change in defense kept the Vikings out of their half court offense and "that's where they were killing us."

On Saturday, Condon lost their second big post player in this young season, leaving the door open for the Lady Cards. Condon's Michelle Wilkins went down with a knee injury late in the first half, and without her to break the press, the Lady Cardinals were able to make their press more effective. Trailing 8-18 at the half, Ione was able to start getting the ball inside to Jamie Lovett, who scored 13 points in the second half. A 21 point fourth quarter effort put Ione out front for good, 41-39.

Lovett was the game's high scorer with 18 points. The Lady Cards dominated the boards 40-24, led by Melissa McElligott with 14 and Lovett with 12. April Taylor and Crystal Minster each had four steals and Taylor had four assists to pace the team.

The shooting from the floor was fairly even with Ione making 13 of 38 for 34 percent and Condon hitting 14 of 43 for 32 percent. At the line, the Lady Cards struggled, hitting just 13 of 30 for 43 percent. The Blue Devils were eight of 15 for 53 percent.

"We made about as many mistakes as you can make and still win a game," noted Heideman. Nevertheless, it was still a big win for the Lady Cards. Noting that the Blue Devils were weakened without their post player, Heideman said "We were able to attack their weakness in the second half. We used our quickness to wear them down."



Lady Cards battle Blue Devils



Jason Halvorsen (44) goes for shot against Condon

scorer with 16 points, 12 of those coming from three point range. David Wagenblast added 13 and Jared Ashbeck had 12. The Cardinals used their height advantage to command the boards 50-31. Aaron and Deacon Heideman each had 13 rebounds and Ashbeck added 11.

Ione had shooting woes from the field, hitting just 18 of 58 for 31 percent. They fared better at the line, making 16 of 24 for 67 percent while Umatilla managed just nine of 30 for 32 percent. "That really helped us," commented coach Del LaRue.

Turnovers were the key to the championship game against Condon on Saturday according to LaRue. The Cardinals racked up 29 steals using a press that the Blue Devils had trouble negotiating. The game was tight through the first quarter with neither team shooting very well. A second quarter spurt helped the Cards widen the lead to 30-19 by halftime. The lead stayed in the 10-11 point range on into the fourth quarter, where it was stretched to as much as 20 at one time. The final margin was 12 points, 66-54.

Jim Logan was again high point man with 14 points. Deacon Heideman chipped in 11 and David Wagenblast added 10. The Cards grabbed a small rebounding advantage, 38-34, led by Aaron Heideman with 10.

Ione still had trouble shooting, hitting just 25 of 71 from the field for 35 percent and 13 of 23 for 56 percent from the free throw line. Condon didn't fare much better from the floor where they made 20 of 55 for 36 percent. They had more success at the line where they hit 10 of 15 for 67 percent.

Coach LaRue credited his team's press for the win. "We pressed and they didn't respond very well."

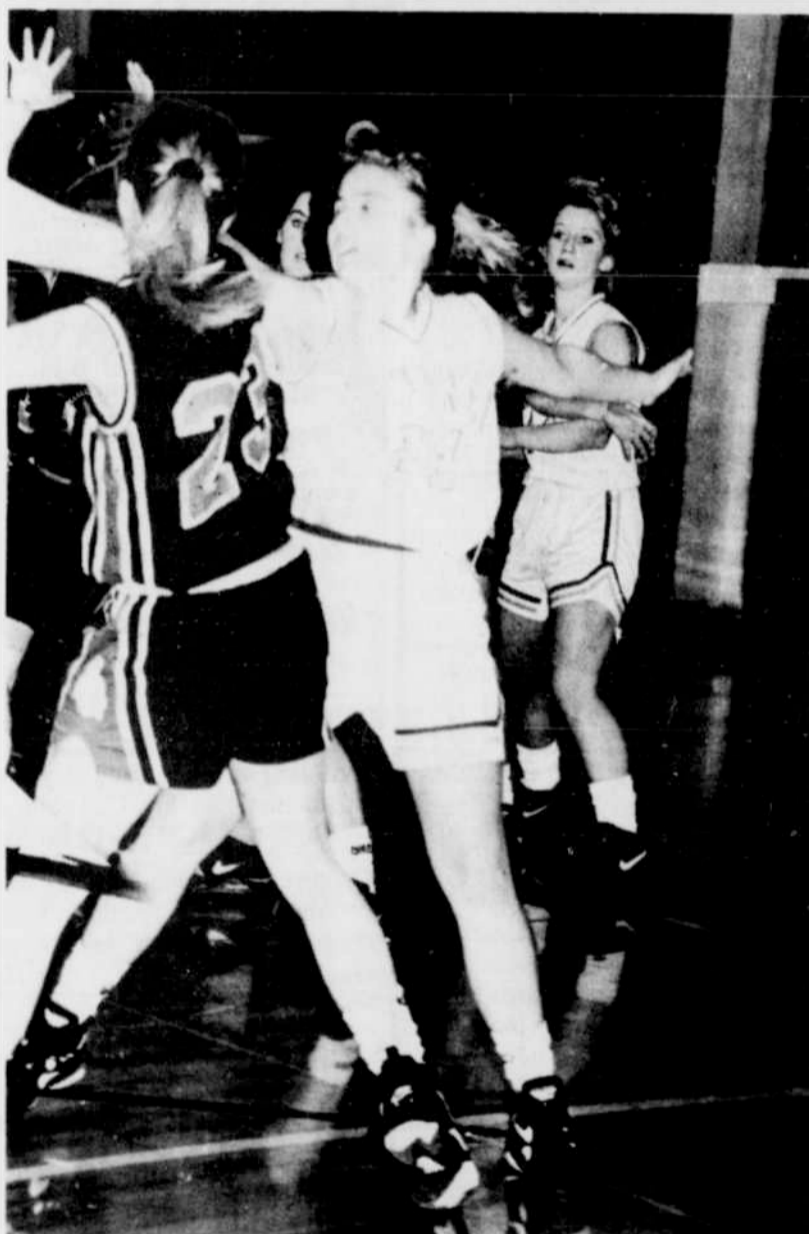
## Fillies open season with 47-35 win

By Jeremy Maddern

The Heppner Fillies opened the season with an impressive 47-35 win over the Enterprise Savages on the Filly home court Saturday, Dec. 12. The Fillies season was delayed by the state championship football game but showed no signs of that bothering them. The Fillies defense was outstanding as they caused 30 turnovers to just 16 of their own.

The Fillies jumped to an early nine to four lead after the first quarter of play. The Savages kept pace in the second quarter to trail 21-16 going into the half. The Fillies began to pull away led by Jodi Johnston who had 12 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. The Fillies used their up tempo offense to outscore the Savages 15-8 to take a 12 point lead into the fourth and final quarter. Enterprise was unable to dig themselves out of the hole as the Fillies cruised to a victory.

Kelsie Evans and Holly Eckman both chipped in 12 points along with Johnston's, for top point honors. Shelly Anderson led the Savages with 14 points. The Fillies beat the Cardinals 55-48 Monday night at Ione to keep their record to 2-0, and played Riverside Tuesday night, Dec. 14. Stats and scores for the J.V. Fillies game were unavailable.



Jodie Johnston guards Enterprise player

## Grange slates meeting

By Delpha Jones

The Lexington Grange will meet Monday, December 21 for a potluck dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Members are asked to bring things for the Ronald McDonald house. This is in place of the usual gift exchange. The program will be by the First Christian church Sunday school children following dinner.

## Christmas Open House



All Day  
Wed. Dec. 23rd

Bank of Eastern  
Oregon  
Ione Branch

Drop in for  
Christmas  
cookies & punch  
Door Prizes

For a warm  
and loving  
gift ...

Sweaters  
from

Isle of Cotton  
Saturdays &  
Pendleton

100% Wool &  
100% Cotton



Gardner's MEN'S WEAR  
193 N. Main, Heppner  
676-9218



OPEN SUNDAY  
12-4 P.M.  
\*Free gift wrapping  
\*Layaway available  
\*Exchanges gladly  
\*Cash refunds  
\*Free alterations  
\*Special orders



## Heppner Elk's Lodge #358 Says:

Invites our Members & Guests to the  
"Annual" Tom & Jerry Party and  
this years dance with  
"Top Hand" country band  
Hollomon's Special Recipe &  
Toy's For Tot's Dance  
(admission to dance: 1 toy - wrapped  
& tagged [ie: boy-4 yrs.] or donation.)  
All This On Dec. 19th JOIN US!!!!

"Cracked Crab Feed"-New Years Eve  
(tickets on sale now at lodge or ask an Elk)  
Complimentary Champagne  
Hors d' oeuvres (all evening long)  
Party favors  
Dance music by "Full Tilt Video"

Elk's Lodge will be closed  
Dec. 24th through 29th  
MERRY CHRISTMAS to all!

— This Saturday —  
Dance to the music of "Top Hand"

Don't Forget...Fine Dining As Usual  
Wed-Thurs-Fri...Lunch Buffet

Sign up for dance lessons "NOW"  
LIVE MUSIC

Heppner Elks 358  
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 N. Main