

HHS students recognized for achievement



Front l-r: Sarah Cimmiyotti, Lindsay Waterland, Jon Hanna, Joe Healy, Randy VanEtta, Jeremy Cimmiyotti; middle-Robyn Struthers, Tina Chinen, Beth Cookston, Renee Devin, Char Coe, Holly Eckman, Shawna Morris; back-Tiffanie Munkers, Heather Ripple, Jossie Evans, Toni Cutsforth, Len Brittner, Rick Koffler.

Students at Heppner High School were recognized for the Blazer Avia BASIC Improvement Certificates for recognition of academic or behavioral improvement.

The Portland Trail Blazers, AVIA Group International and Bank of America believe that a lot can be done to correct the student dropout problem if our youth are given extra incentives to strive for educational excellence, said a press release. They also believe that businesses should support their community. Because of this, they have joined forces to present the "Blazers/AVIA Scholastic Improvement Concepts" (BASIC) program.

Program activities kick off in September and run through the spring. Student participation is acknowledged through special recognition certificates and other materials provided to teachers for distribution. When the program was initiated in 1984, it included a writing segment and an improvement segment. A reading segment was added in 1986. To date, more than half a million students have been involved in one or more segments.

This segment is directed at students in kindergarten through 12th grade. It was developed to provide teachers and counselors with a way to give students an extra "pat on the back" for academic or behavioral improvement.

The program consists of four phases. Each teacher/counselor can nominate three students per phase for special recognition. All nominated students receive a special recognition certificate that is presented by the classroom teacher. Students within a 1.5 hour driving radius of Portland will have the opportunity to win tickets to a Blazers home game. All other nominees will have the chance to win Blazers memorabilia or merchandise.

Students nominated were: Bethani Cookston, Robyn Struthers, Matt Hoobing, Len

Brittner, Joe Healy, Jon Hanna, Tina Chinen, Jeremy Cimmiyotti, Lindsey Waterland, Sarah Cimmiyotti, Holly Eckman, Toni Cutsforth, Randy Van Etta, Rick Koffler, Jossie Evans, Jeremy Watson, Shawna Morris, Heather Ripple, Renee Devin, Char Coe and Tiffanie Munkers.

In recognition of BASIC's 10th anniversary, all students

nominated during each of the four phases of the 1993-94 BASIC Improvement segments will be entered in a drawing to attend the BASIC 10 Year Celebration Jam. Three hundred students from around the state will be invited to the Oregon Convention Center on Saturday, April 16 for a special fun-filled day planned in their honor.

Vikings end Mustang playoff hopes 35-13



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Jim Tellechea (34) has to work hard to bring a Viking down

Revenge is a powerful motive and the Vale Vikings used it to take a 35-13 victory over the Heppner Mustangs Saturday, November 13 in the first round of the state 2A championship playoffs at Vale.

The game was billed as a rematch of the 1992 state championship game which the Mustangs won 24-12, but the game itself bore little

resemblance.

Vale jumped out of the starting gate early on the cold, windy afternoon in Malheur County. The Vikings scored the first two times they had the ball.

Cory Maag, a 5'10" 180 lb halfback, opened the game with a 29 yard run. Junior quarterback Matt Jacobs hit tight end Larry Ramirez with a 35 yard completion to the Viking two yard line and Maag burst over from there for the touchdown. Brian Keller added the first of five pats for a 7-0 Viking lead with 9:51 remaining in the first quarter.

Vale scored again five minutes later on a 66 yard drive. Maag was the beneficiary of some sloppy Mustang tackling as he gained 49 yards on only five carries. Jacobs finished the drive with a one yard plunge for the touchdown. The pat made it 14-0 with 4:25 left in the opening period.

The Mustangs settled down and stopped Vale on their next three drives. The defense was led by safety Rick Koffler, cornerback Kevin Payne, end Jeff Botefuhr and safety Len Brittner.

Heppner got on the board in the second quarter with a 60 yard drive. Brittner used a double reverse for a 30 yard gain and halfback Kevin Payne did the rest of the damage. Payne carried the ball 12 yards to the one yard line, bouncing outside on an off tackle play. Koffler scored the touchdown, Brittner added the pat and with 1:51 remaining in the half the score was 14-7.

Chris Dickenson intercepted a Ramirez pass with 1:18 to go in the half but Jacobs returned the favor on a Koffler pass. The Vikings used the clock and their

Cards defeated at State 1A tourney

By Anne Morter

The lone lady Cardinals were eliminated after two matches at last weekend's State 1A Volleyball Championship Game held at Lane Community College in Eugene. The Cards were defeated by St. Paul in two games in their opening match on Friday and were eliminated from the consolation round the next morning by Butte Falls. The lady Cards finished the season with a 15-9 record.

After a four year absence from state tournament play, the Cards suffered from a bad case of the nerves as St. Paul, the defending state basketball champions, defeated them 15-10, 15-11. Serving problems plagued the Cards as they served just 74 percent missing 13 serves. According to head coach Greg Likens, the team played well once the ball was in play but "when we got back to serve, we had some problems."

Melissa McElligott was a force at the net, accounting for half of the lady Cards' hits. She was 15 for 15 in hitting with four kills.

Despite the loss, Likens said the girls played well and weren't intimidated by the powerful Buckaroos. "They were definitely beatable if it hadn't been for the serving," he said.

The next morning the lady Cards lost to Butte Falls in three games, 15-10, 13-15, 13-15. After winning the first game and leading the other two in the early going, the lady Cards became tentative in their hitting. "Instead of being aggressive, they went on the defensive and waited for the other team to make a mistake," commented Likens. Ione's serving improved to 90 percent but they still missed serves at the most inopportune times. "When we missed serves, it always seemed to be at the wrong

times," commented Likens.

Kim Bedortha had a great serving effort, 17 of 17 with 12 points and six aces. Mary Jane McCarty was perfect on 10 points with five points and three aces. April Taylor served nine of 10 with four points. The lady Cards had 20 aces in the Butte Falls game and a "phenomenal" two game total of 29.

At the net, Melissa McElligott once again dominated with 21 of 24 hitting and eight kills. April Taylor was six of eight with four kills. Jamie Lovett and Suzie Heideman each had three kills.

Likens said the whole state tournament scene was a good experience for the girls. "It was their first time there and they definitely had the jitters," he said. "I was very proud of the girls. They had a good season and were one of eight teams in the state that got to the playoffs."

Forest Health topic of Garden Club

"Forest Health in the Blue Mountains" was the subject for discussion presented by Janel Lacey at the Ione Garden Club meeting November 10 at the home of Leila Palmer.

Lacey is the resource planner for the Heppner Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest. She brought out the fact that

forestry is changing its techniques today and are emphasizing what is left on the ground in contrast to what is taken from it. In the last 90 years they have made many changes in management of the forests. Clear cutting was a common practice for many years. Now they are leaving islands of green in the open areas which is

allowing for better return to the natural state and better health for our forests. They are trying to combine some of the old methods of control of pests and disease with the new techniques such as using biological sprays, etc. Weeds, such as tansy, bullthistle and knapweed, are becoming a great problem. Forestry personnel are cooperating with the Morrow County Weed Control District to try to eradicate some of these. There is no blanket plan for the management of all the forests across the nation but a design or plan is set up for each specific forest, she said.

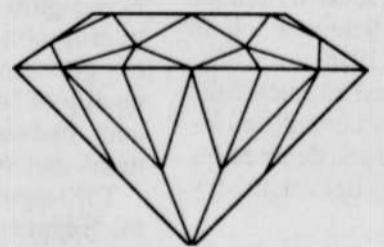
Special guest for the day was Elaine Belts, district director of the Blue Mountain #10 of OSFGC. The treasurer, Helen Martin, reported that the club had received a check for the local club's participation in Cycle Oregon VI.

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