

School District holds public budget hearing

The Morrow County School District held a public hearing, but nobody showed up.

District board members, budget committee members and administrators held a hearing Monday night March 27 in lone before an empty room to further explain the district's budget problems, discuss solutions to the problems and answer questions.

The district, facing funding reductions because of Ballot Measure 5 and the state school funding formula, has indicated that they will cut teachers and programs and eliminate all extra-curricular activities county-wide. The district has a bond measure before the voters which would fund classroom construction, remodeling and repair of school buildings. Superintendent Chuck Starr earlier said that if the bond measure did not pass it would be necessary to cut more programs and more teaching positions to pay for repairs and remodeling and state mandated requirements.

At the meeting, Starr said that he had been asked why the board had not considered closing the lone High School and retaining the elementary school as a cost-saving measure. Starr said that the school generates money for the district through the small school correction formula. If the high school were to be closed, it would cost proportionately more because some teachers and staff overlap duties at the high school and elementary school. He also said that if lone students were bussed to Heppner, Heppner High School would probably lose their small school status, which would result in a further loss of small school correction funding.

Starr outlined why it takes more money for rural Morrow County School District to operate than a more consolidated district. Overlapping of teachers affects costs, he said. For example, a single school with 25 students in a single physics class would require one teacher, compared to three high schools in Morrow County, each with varying enrollment and each requiring a physics teacher. Starr said that the expense of the county is also a factor, contributing to

greater transportation costs for regular classes as well as extra-curricular transportation for three schools in three different sports leagues. Riverside, Heppner and lone schools each belong to a different league and travel different directions for sports activities.

Starr told the group that delegations of Morrow County residents who have traveled to the state legislature have made a difference in terms of legislators' understanding of the funding required of rural schools and proposed state fun-

ding decisions.

Other items of discussion included: school funding projections; the school board's directive to enter into negotiations to contract bussing services, which is expected to save the district money and which Starr maintains would require the district to save approximately \$1 million if the district decides to buy back buses at the end of the contract period; and funding for the school lunch program, which the district is striving to make self-sufficient.

lone, Heppner compete at Track meet

lone and Heppner boys and girls track teams participated Saturday April 1 in the 20 school Heppner/Umatilla invitational track meet held at Umatilla.

The highest scoring team was the lone girls, who totalled 50 points to nail down sixth place in the meet. lone boys took 13th place, Heppner girls, ninth, and Heppner boys finished in 16th place.

lone girls placers: Triple jump first-Melissa McElligott 34-2½; Javelin fourth-Suzy Heideman 91-11 7/8; Long Jump sixth-Anna Dombrowsky 13-7½; Shot fourth-Heideman 30-2; sixth-Becky Picknell 29 5½; Discus Katie Garrett 81-2½; 100 fourth-McElligott 14.0; 400 Lonee Anderson 1:10.97; 100 hurdles fourth-Heideman 19.29; sixth-Kara

Miller 20.18; 200 sixth-McElligott 30.51; 300 hurdles seventh-Stephanie Hague-wood 56.98; 3,000 eighth-Marie Tworek 14:51.7

Heppner girls placers: High Jump second-Tracie Dickenson 5-0; 1,500 seventh-Nicole VanEtta; 100 hurdles Dickenson 20.73; 3,000 fourth-VanEtta 13:32.84

lone boys placers: Pole vault fifth-Rodney Ehermantraut 8-6; 6 Mark Orem 8-6; High jump sixth-Joe Bacon 5-6; 400 relay-7 48.48; 100 hurdles third-Jered Ashbeck 17.84; 800 eighth-Jake McElligott 2:23.09.

Heppner boys placers: Triple jump fourth-David Michael 37-6½; seventh-Damien Wilhelm 36-8½; Long jump seventh-David Michael 18-1½; Shot eighth-Chris Sykes 36-3; Discus seventh-Chris Sykes 111-5; 400 third-David Michael 55.38

WCCC Golf

WCCC Ladies April 4

Flight A: low gross-Juanita Martin; low net-Neoma Bailey; least putts-Carol Norris and Luvilla Sonstegard; long drive-Anita Boyer; long putt-Cam Wishart.

Flight B: Low gross-Karen Thompson and Karen Wildman; low net-Bernice Lott; least putts-Suzanne Jepsen and Lynnea Sargent.

Flight C: low gross-Joyce Dinkins; low net-Bebe Munkers; least putts-Cam Wishart.

Heppner lose to Pendleton JV's

The Heppner Mustangs had a busy week playing Milton-Freewater, Elgin, Pendleton and Dufur the week of March 25-April 1.

The Mustangs were without most of their starting infield Saturday, March 25 against Mac-Hi due to spring vacation, and lost 22-1. Heppner's lone

FFA chapter well represented at State



FFA members l-r: Mike Alldritt, Willie DeBoer, Frank Martin, Brent Wright, John Qualls, Zane Martin; front-Dodie Givens, Mandi Gutierrez, Toni Kemp, advisor Bill Umbarger

The Heppner FFA Chapter was well represented at the State FFA Convention held in Hermiston during spring break. Representing the chapter at the convention were Mike Alldritt, Willie DeBoer, Frank Martin, Brent Wright, John Qualls, Zane Martin, Dodie Givens, Mandi Gutierrez, Toni Kemp and Bill Umbarger, FFA advisor.

The convention culminated a full year's activities for the FFA. Highlights of the convention included the conferring of the State FFA Degree on 124 members, selection of the State Proficiency Awards in 29 areas, election of the new state FFA officers, recognition of individuals and organizations who helped the FFA the past year, participation in state contests, involvement of members on selection committees,

motivational speakers and tours to various ag related businesses and operations in the area.

Three members from the Heppner FFA chapter had received the state FFA degree, the highest degree that can be conferred by any state association. Members receiving the degree included Brent Wright, Zane Martin and John Qualls. Martin was also selected as Star State Farmer. This award is given to the individual who represents all of the qualities that an outstanding FFA member should possess. The individual is selected from six nominations by the state officers or members who have or will receive their state degrees. Brent Wright was also nominated to receive this award.

Martin was also the State Beef Proficiency award winner. His project was selected

because of the outstanding progress he achieved with his purebred and commercial cow/calf sales project. The award is not based on the size of the project, but how well the member understands the economics and the efficiency of production of the operation. Martin plans to continue to increase his project and eventually develop an extensive embryo transplant program.

Other members of the chapter participated on selection committees and served as courtesy corps members at the various sessions. Dodie Givens placed third in the state photo contest sponsored by the Oregon State Collegiate FFA. "All in all the Heppner FFA is very proud of the accomplishments of its members, and sincerely appreciates the community support that helped us become successful in our many activities," said an FFA spokesperson.

Heppner lose to Pendleton JV's

The Heppner Mustangs hosted Pendleton JV's Friday, March 31 in what was supposed to be a double header but lost game two due to darkness. The Mustangs lost the first game 1-2 and were down 3-4 in the second game at the fourth inning.

Donnie Pointer started on the mound for the Mustangs and had good defensive play by the fielders. Pendleton scored in the second inning when Minthorn hit Phelan in. Their other run came in the fifth when Brown scored Wyatt.

Brian Koffler was the solo run for Heppner in the third inning.

Heppner	000	100	0-1	11
Pendleton JV	010	010	0-2	11

Rosselle and Brown; Pointer and Hanna. W-Rosselle, L-Pointer, HR none.

In the nightcap Eric Schonbachler got on base with a hit followed by Zumwalt with a fielder's choice. Jon Hanna scored Zumwalt with a double and scored himself on a passed ball. Chris Dickenson scored Chad Skroch for the third run in the second inning.

Pendleton scored all four runs in the second inning with sophomore Eric Schonbachler on the mound. Schonbachler struck out six in the short game and allowed only one hit.

Heppner	200	0-3	4 3
Pendleton JV	040	0-4	3 1

Johnson and Hunkapiller; Schonbachler and Hanna. W-Johnson, L-Schonbachler, HR none.

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Mustangs beat Elgin in double-header

The Mustangs beat the Elgin Huskies in a double header 10-0 and 9-6 at home last Tuesday, March 28. Senior Chris Dickenson led the Mustangs on the mound with 13 strikeouts. Dickenson was 3-3 at the plate with a two-run home run in the second inning, the first for the Mustangs this year. Rod Zumwalt who was 3-3 at the plate, hit a solid double in the first inning sending Eric Schonbachler to third. Dickenson hit a single scoring Zumwalt and Jon Hanna earned an RBI with a sacrifice. Dan Burnside and Zumwalt both scored off Dickenson's home run in the second inning. Brian Koffler scored off Zumwalt's third double for the day in the fourth and Chad Skroch hit a single home run in the fifth. Zumwalt and Dickenson both scored off Jon Hanna's double in the sixth ending the game with the 10-run mercy rule.

Heppner	330	112-10	11	1
Elgin	000	000	0	2 3

Dowd, McClure (4) and Allen; Dickenson, Hanna (6) and Hanna, Zumwalt (6) W-Dickenson, L-Dowd. HR Heppner Dickenson, Skroch.

In the nightcap the Mustangs

run came in the first inning when senior Jon Hanna scored junior Rod Zumwalt. Hanna and Zumwalt were the only Mustangs to get a base hit off the Pioneers.

Heppner	100	0000	-1	15
Mac-Hi	060	1(11)2	x-20	17 2

Coiner, Pointer (4) Schonbachler (5) and Hanna, Zumwalt (5); Watts and Parker, W-Watts, L-Coiner, HR none.

had to come from behind to win as the Huskies jumped to an early 4-2 lead and hung on until the fifth inning. Chad Skroch started on the mound for Heppner and Kirk led off with a home run on the second pitch of the game for Elgin. Dickenson and Jon both had RBIs for the Mustangs in the first inning scoring Schonbachler and Zumwalt.

The Huskies kept the Mustangs quiet until the fifth inning when Heppner began their rally. Zumwalt scored on a wild pitch and Dickenson scored on a walk. Donnie Pointer hit a double scoring Hanna and Trent Hughes and Skroch scored on a fielders choice giving the Mustangs the lead 7-5. Heppner's other two runs came in the sixth when Dickenson scored off a sacrifice by Hughes and Hanna scored off a passed ball. Ryan Nevala and Hanna both had a hit for the Mustangs, while Jim Garret, Dan Burnside and Hughes all had sacs.

Heppner	310	010	1-6	8 7
Elgin	200	052	x-9	3 1

Brad Allen, Justin Kirk (6) and Appleton; Skroch and Hanna W-Skroch, L-Allen. HR Elgin Kirk.

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