

Spring sports schedules released

A preliminary spring sports schedule for Heppner and Lone High schools has been released.

Following is the tentative schedule for varsity baseball, softball, tennis and track.

Heppner Junior High School's sports schedules were not available at press time.

IONE HIGH SCHOOL

Tennis

(meets are for boys and girls unless otherwise noted)

Tuesday, March 30-Wahtonka at Lone, girls only, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 2-Lone at Sherman County, 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 3-Wahtonka Tourney, girls only, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, April 6-Condon at Lone, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, April 9-Lone at Echo, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 10-BMCC tourney at Helix, 9 a.m.

Friday, April 16-Lone at Athena-Weston, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 17-Sherman Tourney, boys only, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 20-Lone/Hood River at Wahtonka, girls only, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 23-Lone at Helix, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 24-Umatilla at Lone, 1 p.m.

Thursday, April 29-Helix at Lone, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, April 30-Echo at Lone, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, May 7-Athena-Weston at Lone, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 8-Lone vs. Umatilla at Pendleton, Jvs, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, May 11-Lone at Condon, 4 p.m.

Friday, May 14-District tournament, Tri-Cities Court Club, 9 a.m.

Saturday, May 15-District Tournament, Tri-Cities Court Club, 9 a.m.

Track

Tuesday, March 30-Lone at Umatilla, 3 p.m.

Friday, April 2-Cherry Festival at Wahtonka, The Dalles, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, April 6-Lone at Condon, 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 10-Lone at Umatilla, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 13-Lone at Umatilla, 11 a.m.

Saturday, April 17-Condon Invitational, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 20-Lone at John Day, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 23-Lone at Umatilla, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, April 27-Lone at Heppner, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 30-Goldendale Invitational, 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 8-Big Sky/CBC meet, Condon, 11 a.m.

Friday, May 14-District 2A, 3A meet, Hermiston, time TBA.

Saturday, May 15-District 2A, 3A meet, Hermiston time TBA.

Friday, May 21-State meet, Monmouth, time TBA.

Saturday, May 22-State meet, Monmouth, time TBA.

IONE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Track

Friday, April 2-All league meet at Umatilla, 1 p.m.

Friday, April 9-Lone at Umatilla, 2 p.m.

Friday, April 16-Lone at Heppner, 2 p.m.

Friday, April 23-Pendleton Invitational at Sunridge, Pendleton, 2 p.m.

Friday, April 30-Lone at Umatilla, 2 p.m.

Friday, May 7-Lone at Umatilla, 1 p.m.

HEPPNER HIGH SCHOOL

Varsity Baseball

(Heppner and Lone)

Saturday, March 27-Pendleton JV at Heppner, 1 p.m., doubleheader.

Tuesday, March 30-Umatilla at Heppner, 3 p.m., doubleheader.

Saturday, April 3-at Sherman County, Moro, 11 a.m., doubleheader.

Friday, April 9-at Dufur, 3 p.m., doubleheader.

Friday, April 16-at Pendleton JV, 5 p.m., doubleheader.

Tuesday, April 20-Stanfield at Heppner, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 24-at Pilot Rock, 10 a.m., doubleheader.

Tuesday, April 27-at Weston-McEwen, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 1-Condon at Heppner, 11 a.m., doubleheader.

Tuesday, May 4-at Umatilla, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 8-at Stanfield, 11 a.m., doubleheader.

Tuesday, May 11-Pilot Rock at Heppner, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 15-Weston McEwen at Heppner, 11 a.m., doubleheader.

Tuesday, May 18-at Condon, 4:30 p.m.

FEMA denies school bus request

Morrow County School Superintendent Chuck Starr told the school board at their regular meeting March 8 that FEMA has denied funding for protection for Boardman students in the event of a chemical accident during the Umatilla Army Depot's planned chemical weapons incineration.

The request for six buses for the students or over-pressurization for the schools was denied.

According to Starr's report, the incinerators will not begin until Morrow County signs off that all safety measures are in place and the county won't sign off until the superintendent is satisfied that the 950-plus students are protected.

The board also approved "option A" for the 1999-2000 school calendar with the following dates: August 25-27 teacher inservice/work days;

August 30-students begin school (pre-Labor day start); September 6-Labor Day holiday; November 11-Veteran's Day holiday;

November 15-conferences, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; November 25-26-Thanksgiving holiday; December 23-January 2-Christmas break (1-1/2 weeks);

January 14-teacher inservice day; January 17-Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday;

February 21-President's Day holiday; March 20-24-spring break; April 3-conferences, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.;

May 29-Memorial Day holiday; June 2-last day of school for students; June 5-6-teacher inservice/work days.

Option A was favored by 138 teachers, administrators, classified employees, advisory board members and confidential employees, compared to 73 favoring Option B, which called for a post-Labor Day start, 1-1/2 weeks at Christmas and June 8 as the last day of school for students.

In other business, the board approved the extension of probationary and contract status licensed employees as presented and recommended by the administration for the 1999-2000 school year.

Accepted as a second reading and approved the staffing proposal for inclusion in the 1999-2000 budget. The proposal calls for: two new teachers and a .6 part-time office assistant at A.C. Houghton Elementary to accommodate growth;

a .6 part-time office assistant at Sam Boardman Elementary; a .2 part-time office assistant at Lone Elementary School; a .3 part-time office assistant at Lone Middle/High School; one new teacher at Columbia Middle School to accommodate growth;

and one new teacher and a .6 part-time custodian at Riverside High School, with one educational assistant at the Irrigon Learning Center.

Extra duty additions include two head cross country coaches for RHS, HHS and IHS; an assistant volleyball coach at RHS; and an assistant softball coach at RHS.

Increased costs for the teachers, office assistants, education assistants and custodians amounts to \$246,000. A breakdown is as follows: teachers-4x\$44,300=\$177,200; office assistants-

1.7x\$19,200=\$32,500; educational assistants-1x\$17,500; and custodians-.6x\$32,400=\$19,400.

Current licensed staff, in addition to the principals includes: A.C. Houghton (K-5)-16 teachers, 5.5 specialists, 1 counselor; Sam Boardman Elementary (K-5)-20 teachers, 5.5 specialists, 1 counselor, 1 assistant principal; Heppner Elementary (K-6)-14 teachers, 3.7 specialists, .5 counselor; Lone Elementary (K-5)-5 teachers, 1.4 specialists, .5 counselor; Lone Middle/High School (6-12)-9 teachers, no specialists or counselors; Columbia Middle School-20 teachers, 1 specialist

(educational resource center) plus one temporary; Heppner Middle/High School (7-12) -16.6 teachers, .8 specialist (educational resource center), 1 counselor; Riverside High School (9-12)-22 teachers, 2 specialists (ERC and English as a second language) plus one temporary, 1 counselor, 1 assistant principal and 1 registrar; Boardman and Irrigon alternative schools-one teacher each; Heppner alternative school-.5 teacher.

Accepted and adopted ESD resolutions for 1999-2000.

Approved a request from the Lone International Club for a trip to Italy during spring break. All funds were raised by the students.

Heard a report from the superintendent concerning teen tobacco use. While the district supports the goal of prevention of teen tobacco use, they oppose the method, which is a sting operation on local businesses, according to a school board brief.

Discussed as new business that guidelines for senior trips will be developed and presented to the board for consideration, with seniors making trip requests to the board in the fall.

Accepted as a first reading - "Administering" Injectable Medications to Students" with action to be taken at the April meeting.

Declared district vehicles as surplus for sale or trade.

Heard a school funding report for the 1999-2000 biennium.

Accepted resignations from: Doreen DeBoard from a special ed assistant position at SBE as of March 18; Darlene Fulmer from an education assistant position at Boardman Learning Center, effective April 1;

Approved employment/transfer for: Rose Dirksen, transfer and promotion from ed assistant at the Boardman Learning Center to office assistant at RHS; Poul Murtha, extra duty contract to serve as CMS assistant track coach.

Approved the extension of probationary and contract status licensed employees as presented and recommended by the administration for the 1999-2000 school year.

Heard a curriculum report from Gary Olsen, Bill DeLong and Chuck Matteson who gave a presentation on the operation of the learning centers in the district.

Heard an appeal from a parent concerning student unexcused absences.

Heard a request from an Lone parent concerning transportation for baseball.

In executive session considered collection bargaining issues, reviewed current litigation, reviewed recommendations on licensed employees and considered recommendations on a new superintendent.

Announced the following dates: April 5-parent/student/teacher conferences, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; April 6-first meeting of the Heppner Elementary School principal selection committee at HES, 7 p.m.; April 12-board meeting, Lone High School, 7:30 p.m.

At their Feb. 8 meeting, the board:

Approved the Heppner High School senior trip request to Disneyland.

Heard a report from Chuck Starr concerning an update on school funding. He said that funding is not adequate to maintain current services, much less fund increased staffing needs or school improvement efforts.

Accepted as a second reading and adopted a policy on alcohol or drug violations for clubs and organizations.

Heard a report from Starr on

the impact of the Kinzua Resources Mill closure on the school district.

Heard a report from Nate Arbogast on the district's Y2K readiness.

Recognized Ms. Doherty, SBE ed assistant for application of the Heimlich maneuver for a SBE student.

Accepted as a second reading and adopted changes to the elected advisory committee policy.

Accepted retirement or resignation for: Joel Stahl, ACH assistant custodian; Mark Bird IHS business teacher; Elaine Vandecar, CMS extra duty technology coordinator; Jean Strange, extra duty HHS assistant volleyball coach.

Approved maternity leave for: Colleen Cunningham, ACH ESL teacher from Feb. 1-March 12.

Approved a personal services contract for: Joel Stahl, ACH assistant custodian from March 1-June 30.

Approved employment for: Melanie Hall, one-on-one CMS

special ed assistant; Richard Thomas, CMS assistant custodian.

Approved extra duty contracts for: Benn Houk, CMS technology coordinator; Kelly Doherty, RHS assistant softball coach; Del LaRue, IHS head track coach.

Accepted a donation from Bob Kahl, VanMarter and Kahl Insurance for \$1,500 worth of used technology equipment to be used by schools for student training.

Approved an attendance variance for a student living in the Arlington School District to enroll in kindergarten at SBE for the 1999-2000 school year.

In executive session considered recommendations of superintendent candidates for interviews, planned the interview schedule and selected appropriate questions; reviewed student expulsions; and reviewed evaluations of probationary principals and assistant superintendent.

County criminal cases on the increase

According to statistics released by the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, criminal cases increased 15 percent in 1998 over the previous year, from 758 in 1997 to 873 in 1998.

The biggest percentage increase came in failure to perform the duties of a driver involved in an accident, which increased 367 percent. However numbers increased only 11 points, from three cases in 1997 to 14 cases in 1998.

Another large increase came in driving under the influence of intoxicants, a hundred percent increase, from 19 in 1997 to 38 in 1998.

Dogs creating a public nuisance was the next highest percentage increase in the county, at 73 percent, an increase from 15 in 1997 to 26 in 1998.

Unattended death investigations and arson and attempted arson both declined 50 percent, arson from four in '97 to two in '98, and unattended deaths from 14 to seven.

Criminal mischief and vandalism took a surprising nine percent drop between 1997 and '98, from 117 to 106. Criminal trespass, however, saw a 40 percent increase, from 15 to 21.

Burglary dropped five percent, from 85 cases to 80. Theft increased eight percent, from 108 to 117.

Criminal driving (reckless driving, driving while suspended or revoked) saw a 30 percent increase, from 10 to 13, although motor vehicle accidents were down by four percent, from 21 to 20. Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle increased 23 percent, from 17 to 21.

Assault/menacing/endangering increased 14 percent, from 71 to 81. One case involved attempted murder. Sex crimes, such as abuse and rape increased by only one case from '97 to '98, from 12 to 13, an eight percent increase. This year's sex crimes cases included one incident of Rape I.

Drug investigations, likewise, increased only by one, from 29 to 30, a three percent increase.

Incidents of missing persons increased 45 percent, from 11 to 16.

Morrow County Sheriff's Deputies increased fugitive arrests by 23 percent, from 77 to 95, and recovered one more item of stolen property or a vehicle than the previous year, from seven in '97 to eight in '98.

Miscellaneous cases saw a 32 percent increase, from 123 to 163. Minor in possession of tobacco and alcohol cases, included in the miscellaneous category, doubled from 12 in '97 to 25 in '98, an 108 percent increase. Also included in miscellaneous are restraining order violations which increased 33 percent from 12 to 16; insufficient fund checks which increased 21 percent from 34 to 41; and forgery which decreased 50 percent, from four to two.

The Sheriff's Office dispatched 427 calls to other agencies in 1998, down 140 or 25 percent from 567 calls dispatched in '97.

Calls dispatched are as follows: Boardman Police Department - down from 169 in '97 to 121 in '98, a 28 percent decrease; Heppner Police Department-up from 64 in '97 to 77 in '98, a 20 percent increase; Sherman County Sheriff's Office-down from 113 to 57, a 50 percent decrease; Gilliam County

Sheriff's Office-down from 56 to 40, a 49 percent decrease; Condon Police Department-down from 17 to 2, an 88 percent decrease; Wheeler County Sheriff's Office, down from 23 to 22, a four percent decrease; parole and probation, up from 34 to 71, a 109 percent increase; miscellaneous dispatches-down from 91 to 37, a 59 percent decrease.

The department also handled 1814 non-criminal or service-type complaints over the past year, up eight percent from 1687 in 1997. In that category, they rendered assistance in 571 incidents, up eight percent from 529 in '97. They also checked out 189 incidents of suspicious circumstances, down 31 percent from 273 in '97. Towed vehicle calls were up 150 percent, from 68 to 170. Animal problems were up 26 percent from 118 to 149. Disturbances were down 19 percent from 105 to 85. Traffic problems were up 40 percent, from 73 to 103. Juvenile problems, however, were down 18 percent from 62 to 51. Other miscellaneous reports include: alarms-40 to 36, down one percent; ambulance assists, 19 to 47, up 147 percent; checking building or occupants, 15 to 14, down six percent; civil matters, 87 to 85, down two percent; delivering messages, 18 to nine, down 50 percent; hazards, no change at 11; noise abated, 40 to 49, up 23 percent; person, 23 to 25, up nine percent; unfounded calls, 71 to 42, down 41 percent; and other, 135 to 179, up 33 percent.

In addition, the office served 1597 civil papers, up from 1566.

Sheriff's office personnel drove 310,345 miles in '98, up from 308,755 and used less fuel. Fuel consumption was down from 17,612 gallons in '97 to 17,544 in '98. They also worked fewer patrol hours, from 1298 to 1224. Patrol court hours were also down from 236 to 192, as were patrol overtime hours, from 699 to 659.

Custody arrests were down from 240 to 217, as were total lodged, from 3429 to 2167. The sheriff's office lodged an average of 10 prisoners per day for both 1997 and 1998.

Applications for the 1999 Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant are now available. The pageant, to determine Miss Rodeo Oregon 2000, will be held in conjunction with the 1999 Crooked River Roundup June 24 - 27 in Prineville.

The pageant seeks women between the ages of 18 and 23 with a love of the sport of rodeo. Applicants must be unmarried. The winner of the Miss Rodeo Oregon Pageant will compete in the 2000 Miss Rodeo America Pageant held in conjunction with National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nevada.

For more information and applications, contact pageant director Judy Holliday at (541) 447-7324 or President Brett Muckey at (541) 924-9398 in the evenings.

Deadline for submitting applications is May 15.

Heppner directory now available

A directory of Heppner organizations and government agencies is now available to individuals moving to Heppner.

Columbia Basin Electric provides the directory to new customers as they sign up for service.

Many months ago, local organizations were informed that the directory was being compiled and were invited to be included by submitting information about their groups.

As another printing of the directory is being prepared, group leaders are again invited to submit information or to update the previous information that appeared in the directory.

Newcomers interested in social, religious and service organizations for youth and adults will need certain information: name of organization; purpose/projects; history; meeting frequency and location; dues/fees; size of organization and membership requirements; contact person(s) and telephone number(s).

Groups wanting to be included in the directory should submit their information to "Heppner Directory, 75950 Hwy. 74," or take it to the book store next to city hall. Information should be in by April 15.

Representatives of the Baker, Morrow, Umatilla, Union and Wallowa county commissions will meet on April 1 at 2 p.m. in La Grande to continue discussions of possible formation of a regional partnership (the "Big 5"). The meeting will be held at the Union County Board of Commissioners' offices located at 1106 'K' Avenue in La Grande.

Questions regarding the meeting may be directed to Joni Woodwell, GEODC, (541) 276-6745.

with one out. But the next two batters went down to end the rally.

The Mustangs drop to 0-2 on the year and face the Pendleton JVs on Saturday, March 27 at 1 p.m. at Heppner.

The Rangers jumped out to a 7-0 lead after two innings and coasted from there.

The Mustangs tried to rally as Shane Matheny hit a long single, Tim Dickenson singled and Allan Gribskov walked to load the bases

Statistics:
Dufur 250 110 1 104-1
Heppner 000 000 0 0-2
La. Lindell, Lu. Lindell (5) and Anthony, Tim Dickenson, Blas Elgezabal (2) and Allan Gribskov.
W-La. Lindell, L-Dickenson (0-1)

Rangers beat Mustangs

By Rick Paulius

The visiting Dufur Rangers used 10 walks and eight errors to beat the Heppner Mustangs 10-0 on Friday, March 19.

The Rangers jumped out to a 7-0 lead after two innings and coasted from there.

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Regional county meeting slated

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