

Ione students excited about science classes Heppner Elementary holds awards presentation

By Cathy McCabe

Ione Middle and High school students are getting more excited about their science classes these days. Teachers Duane Neiffer and Gary Hunt have teamed up and are taking great strides in keeping their students enthusiastic about what they are learning in science. They are demonstrating to students that what they learn in the classroom is easily used in the real world by inviting people to their classes to share their occupations, accomplishments and passions.

On Wednesday, Nov. 24, Ione/Heppner alumnus Todd Sherer visited Ione schools. Sherer was invited by his former science teacher, Duane Neiffer, to enlighten the students at Ione High School on the finer points of falconry.

Sherer graduated from Washington State University with a Ph.D in molecular biology and currently works for the University of Oregon, but his real passion is falconry. Sherer has been a licensed falconer for 15 years and a master falconer for eight years.

Falconry is the art and sport of training birds of prey, mainly falcons, hawks and buzzards, for hunting. The main objective of the falconer is to train the bird to return to the fist when called and then to train the bird to hunt with the falconer. Falconry is considered a sport because it is a type of hunting and an art because of the interaction with the bird and the interpretation of the bird's behavior.

Sherer has raised a total of 12 birds—two Harris hawks and 10 falcons. He brought with him to the classroom a five year old Harris hawk named Wyatt and a one year old Peregrine cross gyrfalcon named Jordan.

Students learned that the birds are kept in large pens (mews) that are constructed in a barn. Each bird eats one full quail per day. The birds must eat the entire quail as it is imperative that they ingest the bone and feathers to help with the digesting processes. The birds are hooded during travel and when Sherer shows them to audiences for their own safety.

The time that is needed to successfully train and care for these birds is enormous. Sherer admitted to taking at least one hour per day and perhaps three hours per



day on the weekends to work with his birds.

The students also learned about the very lengthy process of getting started in falconry. It is against the law for any person to hold and handle any bird of prey without a license. This person must take a written exam on biology, training and veterinary aspects of raptors. This is to protect the birds and the sport from abuse. Next the person has to find someone with a falconry license to sponsor them. The sponsor will aid in the training aspects and acts as a mentor for a two year period. Then it is necessary to provide a suitable facility which may be physically inspected by a member of the Fish and Wildlife Department. After the license has been secured, the person can trap their first raptor. The first bird must be an American kestrel or redtail hawk.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the presentation. Elementary

students were also invited to the classroom throughout the morning to see the birds and actually had the opportunity to pet the hawk, Wyatt.

Additionally, Sherer took one of the high school classes out on a hike to show the students how he, his dog and his bird, Wyatt, work in conjunction with each other to hunt. Although the hawk was unable to find a rabbit, the students were really amazed by the hawk when it returned to the fist. Mark McElligott was surprised when Wyatt came to the fist. The hawk immediately sensed the absence of the glove and didn't dig its talons into Sherer's arm. Camie Burright was most impressed with the way the bird and the dog worked together during the hunt. Adam Neiffer thought that "the presentation was a good learning experience and fun."

The entire lesson was a huge success for the Ione science department.

Mustang boys dropped by Condon

By Rick Paulus

The Heppner Mustangs varsity boys basketball team lost to the Condon Blue Devils for the second time this year to finish second in the Condon Christmas Tournament.

The Mustangs came out cold in the first quarter of the final game, and trailed 21-6 after one and 43-20 at halftime. The Mustangs did outscore the Blue Devils 33-23 in the second half, but it wasn't enough as they lost, 66-53.

Ryan Matteson led the Mustangs with 12 points, 10 in the third quarter, and had three steals. Stefan Matheny scored eight points, had six steals, five rebounds and two assists. Craig Scott scored eight points, had three steals and two blocked shots. Blake Knowles grabbed eight rebounds, had three steals and two assists.

The Mustangs had a much easier time getting to the championship game by romping over the Prairie City Panthers, 79-37.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 9-2 early lead and a Matteson steal and assist to Scott led to a 19-8 lead after one.

There was no letdown in the second quarter as the Mustangs got seven points from Matteson and six from Michael McCabe. Brian Rust hit a turnaround shot

from 17' at the buzzer to give the Mustangs a 43-17 lead at halftime.

The Mustangs finished out the game strong, getting eight points from Scott in the fourth quarter to easily win going away.

Matteson scored a game-high 17 points and had four steals. McCabe had 14 points, five rebounds and five steals before spraining his ankle in the third quarter. Scott finished with 10 points.

The Mustangs' record now stands at 2-4 in the pre-season.

Statistics:
Game One
Prairie City: 8 9 13 7 - 37
Heppner: 19 24 19 17 - 79

Prairie City: Workman 7 0-0-14, Sanowski 4 0-0-9, McLean 2 1-3-5, Bebb 2 1-9-5, Paul 1 0-0-2, Flynn 0 2-4-2, Duncan, Adams, F. Voight, Sallins, Jackson, Winegar. 16 4-16-37. Three-pointer: Sanowski.

Heppner: Ryan Matteson 6 3-5-17, Michael McCabe 7 0-0-14, Craig Scott 4 2-2-10, Stefan Matheny 2 5-7-9, Blake Knowles 4 0-0-8, Joe Papineau 2 3-4-7, Brian Rust 3 1-2-7, Clint Bellamy 0 3-4-3, Chip Piper 1 0-0-2, Sam Van Liew 1 0-0-2, 30 17-24-79. Three-pointer: Matteson (2).

Game Two
Heppner: 6 14 16 17 - 53
Condon: 21 22 14 9 - 66
Heppner: Matteson 5 0-2-12, Scott 3 2-2-8, Matheny 3 1-3-8, McCabe 3 0-0-6, Piper 2 2-2-6, Knowles 2 1-4-5, Papineau 1 2-8-4, Van Liew 1 2-2-4, Bellamy 0 0-0-0, Rust 0 0-0-0, 20 10-23-53. Three-pointer: Matteson (2), Matheny.

Condon: T. Carmine 8 3-7-19, Smith 6 0-2-12, Gawith 5 1-2-10, Allen 4 0-0-8, Shaffer 2 1-3-6, Barnett 3 0-0-6, R. Carmine 1 1-3-3, Bednar 0 1-2-1, Lantis, Selby, LaRue, Dufey. 28 7-19-66. Three-pointer: Shaffer.

Mustangs get first win, beat Echo

By Rick Paulus

The Heppner Mustangs boys varsity used a huge first half to get their first win of the season at the expense of the Echo Cougars by a score of 76-36.

The Mustangs held a 23-10 lead after one and a 44-17 lead at halftime. Heppner came out flat in the third quarter, getting outscored 13-8, but turned up the tempo in the fourth to win going away.

Michael McCabe had his second big game in a row, scoring 24 points to lead the Mustangs. McCabe scored 12 points in the first and all eight of Heppner's points in the third. He also dished out four assists. Blake Knowles scored 17 points and grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds. Joe Papineau scored 10 points and had six steals.

Statistics:
Echo: 10 7 13 6 - 36
Heppner: 23 21 8 24 - 76
Echo: Munoz 6 2-2-15, Seeger 4 2-3-11, Brown 2 0-1-4, Fife 1 1-2-3, Hiatt 1 0-1-2, Campbell 0 1-2-1, Spike, Urenda, Belyea, Wallis, McMahon, Cearn. 14 6-

11-36. Three-pointer: Munoz, Seeger.
Heppner: Michael McCabe 9 5-6-24, Blake Knowles 7 3-5-17, Joe Papineau 4 2-6-10, Ryan Matteson 2 3-4-8, Craig Scott 4 0-0-8, Stefan Matheny 1 2-2-4, Sam Van Liew 1 1-2-3, Clint Bellamy 0 2-2-2, Chip Piper, Brian Rust. 28 18-27-76. Three-pointer: Matteson, McCabe.

JV boys

By Rick Paulus

The Heppner Mustang JV boys basketball team evened their record at 2-2 by beating the visiting Echo Cougars, 54-34, on Tuesday, Dec. 7.

After a fairly even first half, the Mustangs outscored the Cougars 30-14 in the second half to win going away.

Chip Piper led a balanced scoring attack with 13 points; Brad Adams scored 12 and Brian Rust ended up with 11.

Statistics:
Echo: 8 12 10 4 - 34
Heppner: 16 8 16 14 - 54
Heppner: Chip Piper 6 1-1-13, Brad Adams 4 3-4-12, Brian Rust 5 0-0-11, Justin Wood 3 2-4-8, Sam Van Liew 2 0-2-4, Kevin Drake 2 0-0-4, Brandon Young 1 0-0-2, Brad Bowman. 23 6-11-54. Three-pointer: Adams, Rust.

By Sandi Day

Heppner Elementary School held their monthly awards assembly on Nov. 24 to recognize students for kindness, hard work and citizenship.

The assembly began with a fiddling recital from students of Peg Willis of Pendleton and a concert was put on by Seth Morgan, Kate Kendrick, Alex Carlson and Eric Jepson.

The awards started with PE teacher Jean Strange who announced winners from her class as follows: kindness, Daisy Victorio; hard work, Katherine Strouse; citizenship, Brian Rhode.

Ralph Werner's music classes winners were: kindness, April Drew; hard work, Charlene Houweling; citizenship, Brenda Victorio.

Sue Gibbs' fifth and sixth grade winners: kindness, Trish Fortner, hard work, Mikel Britt, citizenship, Casey Maben; special award, Gordy Wegwerth.

Jannie Allen's fifth and sixth grade winners: kindness, Mahaley Huddleston, hard work, Laurie Murray; citizenship, Quinn Peck.

Karen Smith Griffiths' fifth and sixth grade winners: kindness, Kyle Carlson; hard work, Colton Hanson and Riley Wight; citizenship, no winners this month.

Barb Orwick's fifth and sixth grade winners: kindness, Cody Ford; hard work, Robby Smith; citizenship, Sammy Burkenbine.

Karen Holland and Karen Haguwood's fourth grade winner: kindness, Katie Wegwerth and Eric Skaggs; hard work, Andre Rauch and Baillie Keithley; citizenship, Kelsey Wolff and Kate Kendrick.

Mary Ann Elguezabal and Cara Osmin's third grade winners: kindness, Kaylee Helfrecht and Rachael Alford; hard work, Jackie Saenz and Courtney Burford; citizenship, Chris Hickerson and Seth Morgan.

Joy Krein and Lea Calvert's second grade winners: kindness, Brent Eckman and Jonathan Hendricks; hard work, Jacob Gregory and Bryan Holland; citizenship, Jared Huddleston and Zach McCarl.

Sherry Matteson and Cherry Webber's first grade winners: kindness, Paula Saenz and Katie Tayloe; hard work, Amber Gray and Ian Murray; citizenship, Linday Cutsforth and Sarah Kendrick.

Karen Clough and Sharon Morris' kindergarten winners: kindness, Drew Brannon and Chance Raver; hard work, Sami Graves and Logan Wanous; citizenship, Shelayna Clement and MacKenzie Correa.

R & W Reading level one winners were also recognized by

Linda Shaw. Fourth grade winners were: Logan Anthony, Luke Basile, Cyde Coil, Aubree Just, Whitney Matthews, Ben McCarl, Andre Rauch, Kelsey Wolff, Lane Bailey, Jenna Bowman, Kelsie Fox, Jessica Heliker, Baillie Keithley, Kate Kendrick, Sean Murray, Kyle O'Brien, Megan Orr, Kendra Rayburn; fifth grade winner was Robbie Smith; sixth grade winners were Brandon Johnson, Katie Britt, Sammy Burkenbine, Matt Kenny, Terrence Parrett, Heather Yocom.

JV boys lose close one to Cardinals

By Rick Paulus

The Heppner Mustang JV boys basketball team lost a close game to host Ione Cardinals, 51-47, on Thursday, Dec. 9.

The Mustangs fell behind 16-9 after one but came back to trail by four at 27-23 at halftime. Heppner got within one after three, but the Cardinals held on to get the win.

The loss dropped the Mustangs' record to 2-4 on the year.

Brian Rust scored 12 points to lead the Mustangs, with Chip Piper adding 11. Brad Adams hit a three-pointer and added seven points.

Statistics:
Heppner: 9 14 15 9 - 47
Ione: 16 11 12 12 - 51
Heppner: Brian Rust 3 5-7-12, Chip Piper 4 3-4-11, Brad Adams 3 0-0-7, Brad Bowman 3 0-2-5, Kevin Drake 2 1-2-5, Justin Wood 1 2-4-4, Brandon Young 1 0-0-2, 17 11-19-47. Three-pointer: Rust, Adams.



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