

## Willow Creek Symphony to present two concerts



Willow Creek Symphony.

The 50-member Willow Creek Symphony has planned two concerts this week. The first will be a young people's concert for area school children pm Thursday, April 13, from 9:30-10:15 a.m. at the Heppner Elementary School auditorium. Heppner students in grades three to six and students from Fossil and Long Creek Schools will attend.

The school program will include a special "meet the orchestra" section as well as narration about the musical selections.

The Willow Creek Symphony's Spring Concert will be held on Friday night, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Heppner Elementary School auditorium.

The program will include the same pieces that were played at the school program. A variety of musical selections, from classical to blues to contemporary, will be featured.

The Willow Creek Symphony now has some 50 musicians, ranging in age from eight to 70. The group has grown considerably in numbers this year, partly because of an increased number of Heppner area violin students and also because the group has drawn in players from other areas. Several players are coming from Long Creek. The Long Creek School District provides busing so that these students can participate with the larger Willow Creek

group. Other players come from Hermiston, Pendleton and as far away as Touchet, Washington.

The Willow Creek Symphony is directed by R. Lee Friese of Athena, who is also the conductor for the Inland Musicians NW Orchestra. The assistant conductor is Anthony Marks of La Grande. Both conductors also give music lessons in Heppner on Fridays. Friese is available for violin, cello and bass lessons, while Marks teaches saxophone and clarinet students. They each help the symphony in their areas of expertise.

The concerts are free to the

public. These events are sponsored by the Arts Council of Morrow County and funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. Additional funding has come from a grant by the Morrow County Commission on Children and Families and through donations from Waste Connections, Inc. (operators of the Finley Buttes Landfill), and Wesley and Diane Hickey (of Tidewater Barge).

The Willow Creek Symphony is also planning patriotic concerts, July 1-2. Anyone interested in joining the group for rehearsals may contact Myrna Van Cleave at 676-5448.

## Mustangs split with Dufur

By Rick Paullus

Pitching was the name of the game as the Heppner Mustangs and Dufur Rangers split a doubleheader on Friday, April 7, in Heppner with the Rangers taking the first game, 1-0, and the Mustangs winning the second, 4-2. The Mustangs record now stands at 5-6 in non-league games.

The Rangers scored a run in the top of the first and made it stand up the rest of the way.

The Mustangs threatened in the fourth as Nick Anthony led off with a double and moved to third on a single by Stefan Matheny. After Matheny stole second, the Mustangs had runners on second and third with nobody out but couldn't push across any runs.

Dylan Pettyjohn pitched an excellent game, striking out 14 and allowing just three hits, but the Rangers' Luke Lindell was just as good, giving up two hits and striking out nine.

In the second game, the Rangers took a 1-0 lead in the first again on a home run but the Mustangs finally got on the board, scoring three runs in the second inning.

Travis Bellamy led off with a double, then Allan Gribkov and Zac Fabian walked to load the bases. Mark McElligott then laid down a perfect bunt for a single pushing across the tying run. Matheny

then scored two more with a single and the Mustangs had a 3-1 lead.

The Rangers got within 3-2 in the sixth, but the Mustangs got that run back in their half of the inning. Mike Ferguson walked, went to second on a Matheny single and moved to third on a passed ball. Ferguson then scored as Michael McCabe got on by an error.

The Rangers then threatened in the seventh, getting runners on first and second with one out, but Matheny got the next batter to fly out. After a time out, first baseman Stanley Cutsforth sneaked in behind the runner at first and Matheny made a move to first to pick the runner off to end the game.

Matheny allowed just two hits while striking out eight for the complete game win.

Matheny helped himself out by going two for three with two rbi and McCabe had three stolen bases and an rbi.

**Statistics**  
 First game  
 Dufur 100 000 0-1 3 1  
 Heppner 000 000 0-0 2 0  
 Luke Lindell and Lane; Dylan Pettyjohn and Stefan Matheny. W-Lindell. L-Pettyjohn. 2B-Nick Anthony (H) 3B-none. H-none.  
 Second game  
 Dufur 100 001 0-2 2 3  
 Heppner 030 001 x-4 5 1  
 Lance Lindell, Woods (6) and Lane; Stefan Matheny and Allan Gribkov. W-Matheny. L-La. Lindell. 2B-Travis Bellamy (H), Lu., Lindell (D) 3B-none. HR-Woods (D).

## Lex to hold budget meeting

The Town of Lexington will hold a budget meeting on Monday, April 17, at 7 p.m. at the town hall.

## Local students earn degrees from Wash. St.

The following students earned undergraduate degrees from Washington State University following the fall 1999 semester.

Lindsay Harle, Heppner received a B.A. in education; and Tara Eakin, Ione, received a B.A. in criminal justice.

This is a continuous meeting for the upcoming 2000-2001 budget. The meeting is open to the public.

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## Youth group to raise money for MS walk



Front row: Kiel Nairns, Elizabeth Orwick, Jeff Currin and Pastor Dick Metz. Back row: Leland Rill, Gail Hughes, Kelly Straley, Kyler Lovgren, Danielle McDowell, Molly Turrell and Claire Anderson.

The newly-formed Heppner Lutheran Episcopal Youth Group has put together a team to raise money for the upcoming MS Walk in Heppner.

The youth group invites the public to walk or volunteer to fight against the disease of Multiple Sclerosis on Saturday, April 15. The walk begins at 9 a.m. with registration at All Saint's Episcopal Church and finishing at All Saint's with a

brunch cooked and served by Bob and Aloha DeSpain and their crew.

There is still time to register by calling 1-800-Fight MS or participants may register the day of the walk. Those signing up may walk as an individual or a team. Participating along with the youth group are teams from the Heppner Chamber and elementary and high school staff.

Those unable to walk can sponsor someone who is walking or volunteer before or during the walk.

Everyone is invited to "join the fun on April 15." For more information about the walk or to volunteer, contact Merilee McDowell, 676-5238; Bob and Aloha DeSpain, 676-5376, or George Nairns, 676-9970.

## Mustang softball team sweeps Rockets

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang softball team swept the visiting Pilot Rock Rockets in Columbia Basin Conference games, 4-1 and 6-2, on Saturday, April 8. The wins improve the Mustangs' record to three and one in league and five and seven overall with an important double-header at Nyssa this Saturday.

It was a scoreless game one when Marissa McCabe led off the fourth with a single and scored on San Juanita Elguezabal's double. Leah Denton grounded out to scored. Elguezabal, Jenni Patton reached on an error and scored as Charissa Gates got on by error. Nikki Sisk reached on another error to score Gates and the Mustang held a 4-0 lead.

The Rockets scored a run in the seventh, but the Mustangs

held on for the win.

Shelley Rietmann went the distance, allowing four hits, striking out three with just one walk.

The Rockets took a 1-0 lead in the second inning in the second game, but the Mustangs came back to tie in the third as Patton singled and later scored on a Gates' single.

In the fourth, McCabe singled, Elguezabal walked and Denton sacrificed both runners to second and third. Patton reached on an error to bring home both runs and give the Mustangs a 3-1 lead.

In the fifth, Jesse Gutierrez singled, McCabe reached on a fielder's choice and Elguezabal walked to load the bases. Denton then had a two-RBI single and Rietmann singled

to score the sixth run.

The Rockets added a run in the sixth but the Mustangs closed the door in the seventh to secure the win.

Rietmann pitched another complete game, scattering nine hits and walking just one.

Denton went one for two with two RBIs and Elguezabal walked three times, scoring twice.

**Statistics**  
 First game  
 Pilot Rock 000 000 1-1 4 4  
 Heppner 000 400 x-4 3 5  
 Barkley and Greene; Shelley Rietmann and Jesse Gutierrez. W-Rietmann. L-Barkley. 2B-A. Doherty 2 (PR). San Juanita Elguezabal (H); 3B-none. HR-none.  
 Second game  
 Pilot Rock 010 001 0-2 9 1  
 Heppner 001 230 x-6 5 1  
 Barkley and Greene; Rietmann and Gutierrez. W-Rietmann. L-Barkley. 2B-McLaughlin 2 (PR). 3B-none. HR-none.

## Ione teams handed losses

Ione tennis teams were handed losses on Friday, April 7. Both the men and women were defeated 3-4.

David Mansfeld fell to John Magana 5-8. Adam Neiffer defeated Aaron Brown 8-6 in a close match. "Neiffer made use of his quick reactions and Brown had a difficult time getting anything past Neiffer," said coach Cathy McCabe.

Derek Campbell lost to Shane Clifton, 4-8, and Aaron Tworek was handed a loss by Jessie Belyea, 3-8.

The doubles' team of Adam

Neiffer and Adam McCabe narrowly defeated John Magana and Aaron Brown 9-7. Neiffer-McCabe had a 4-1 lead and then Magana-Brown tied up the score and the match remained close thereafter.

Colin McElligott and Jeremiah McElligott lost to Shane Clifton and Jessie Belyea, 5-8.

Steve Crum and Karl Morgan easily defeated Carl Allstott and Ira Thompson, 8-1.

Jennifer Thompson lost to Jennie Lewis, 5-8. Caitlin Orem was defeated by Wendy Holben, 4-8, but turned around and

defeated Allison Allstott, 8-1.

Salli McElligott had a disheartening loss to Kim Holben, 8-9. Both girls were evenly skilled and had to play a tie breaker to determine the match. Tie breaker score was 11-13.

Samantha Wilhelm was defeated by Kayla Clifton, 1-8. Erin Crowell and Molly Barrow defeated Stacy Garcia and Sandra Gutierrez, 8-1. Allison Halvorsen and Shelby Krebs defeated Brisella Escalante and Sonora Martindale, 8-0.

## High school rodeo action listed

High school rodeo action shifted to southern Oregon this past weekend. The area was well represented at Roseburg, with several youth placing well.

Heppner's Ryan Matteson took the steer wrestling championship with a time of 4.75. Joe Irzyk of Sherman County finished fourth in the event with a 16.69.

Matteson teamed with fellow Heppnerite Blake Knowles for second place in the team roping with a 9.87.

Ione's Ann Shear placed in two events. Shear turned in a 16.233 in the barrel racing for sixth place and ran a 22.157 in the pole bending for ninth place.

Marne Wilkins, Condon, placed in two events also, turning in a 21.126 in the pole bending for fourth place and a 16.450 in

barrel racing for 10th place. Lacey Matteson, Heppner, placed eighth in barrel racing with a 16.346.

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**April 20th ~ Thursday**  
**FISHERMEN'S NIGHT:** Oysters, catfish and BBQ beef with all the trimmings. Prizes Galore! Drawing for a fishing rod and reel, color TV and satellite system and more! Get there early for tickets. Dinner starts at 6 p.m.

**April 22nd ~ Saturday**  
**Annual EASTER EGG HUNT:** preschool at the city park; grades 1-2 at the grade school lower field; grades 3-4 at Hager Park. Hunt starts at 10 a.m. SHARP! The Easter Bunny will be at the city park so have those cameras ready!

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