

Little girls plan party to benefit Neighborhood Center

Stephanie Schuler and Jordan Peterson are turning seven years old, Jordan on December 17 and Stephanie on December 18. The girls are planning a party, but instead of the usual little girl party, they plan to celebrate in a unique way. They aren't asking for gifts themselves, but instead ask that those coming to the party bring donations of food, clothing or toys for the Morrow County Neighborhood Center.

Stephanie says that she got the idea from the Oprah Winfrey show. "That's what I wanted to do," she said. "And then we give them to poor kids."

Stephanie and Jordan, who giggle when they say they have been "friends since kindergarten", are both first graders. Stephanie is the daughter of Sharon Inskip, Heppner, and Mark Schuler, Redding, CA. Jordan is the daughter of Dan and Jessica Peterson, Ione.

Their party for the Neighborhood Center is planned this Friday, December 8, at 1 p.m. at the United Church of Christ, 395 Main St., Ione.

For more information, contact Jessica, 422-7034, or Sharon, 676-9166.



Jordan Peterson (left) and Stephanie Schuler

Mustangs finish second

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang boys' varsity basketball team lost to

Gilchrist Grizzlies, 82-72, in the championship game of the Willamette Valley 2A Tournament at Colton on Saturday, Dec. 2. The Mustangs, ranked sixth in the first state 2A poll, dropped to 1-1 on the year after beating the Catlin Gabel Eagles, 45-34, on Friday, Dec. 1.

Michael McCabe scored 10 points in the first quarter as the Mustangs jumped out to a 13-5 lead after one against the Eagles.

The Mustangs led 30-24 after three quarters and pulled away by hitting 13-17 free throws. Stefan Matheny hit 8-8 and finished with 14 points. McCabe ended up with 16 points, including a three-pointer. Blake Knowles pulled down 10 rebounds, Ryan Matteson, seven, and David Piper, six.

Knowles scored eight points in the first quarter against Gilchrist, but the Mustangs trailed 20-15 after one. McCabe scored 10 and Matteson, five, in the second to keep the Mustangs within 41-36 at halftime, but the Grizzlies took a 63-49 lead after three. Matteson hit four three-pointers in the fourth, but the Grizzlies held on for the win.

Matteson made five three-pointers for the game and finished with 23 points, pulled down seven rebounds and had three assists. Knowles had 14 points and nine rebounds. McCabe had 14 points and three steals. Chuy Elguezabal came off the bench to score eight points.

Statistics:
Heppner: 13 8 9 15 - 45
Catlin Gabel: 5 10 9 10 - 34
Heppner: (45) Michael McCabe 6 3-5 16, Stefan Matheny 3 8-8 14, Ryan Matteson 1 3-6 5, Blake Knowles 2 0-2 4, David Piper 0 2-2 2, Brian Rust 1 0-0 2, Brad Adams 1 0-0 2, Chuy Elguezabal 0 0-2 0, Craig Scott, Joe Papineau, Sam Van Liew. 14 16-23 45. Three-pointer: McCabe.

Catlin Gabel: (34) Gibson 4 6-8 14, Hatching 1 3-6 6, Richmond 2 1-2 6, Lin 0 3-4 3, Bagham 1 0-1 2, Faber 1 0-0 2, Nieh 0 1-4 1, Fletcher 0 0-2 0, 9 15-27 34. Three-pointers: Richmond, Hatching. Gilchrist: 20 21 22 19 - 82
Heppner: 15 21 13 23 - 72
Gilchrist: (82) Knotts 9 2-3 20, Haynes 4 11-12 19, Helm 6 4-6 18, Ernst 5 2-3 12, Smith 3 2-2 11, Page 1 0-0 2, Ke. Wertz, Ky. Wertz, 26 21-26 82. Three-pointers: Smith (3), Helm (2). Heppner: (72) Matteson 7 4-4 23, Knowles 6 1-2 14, McCabe 7 0-4 14, Elguezabal 3 1-2 8, Matheny 3 0-0 7, Papineau 2 2-5 6, Piper, Adams, 28 8-17 72. Three-pointers: Matteson (5), Knowles, Matheny, Elguezabal.

Chamber lighting contest

By Claudia Hughes

Will it be your street? The Heppner Chamber of Commerce is again launching the annual "Deck The Halls" lighting contest.

Gift certificates to be used at local Chamber merchants will be awarded in both indoor as viewed from the outside, outdoor and business categories. Columbia Basin Electric Co-op has volunteered to sponsor the awards.

In addition, "Heppner's Holiday Lane" will be named. Criteria for selection as "Holiday Lane" will be the street with the most participation.

Contest judging will occur sometime during the evening of Sunday, Dec. 17.

JV boys win two

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV boys' basketball team started out the year 2-0 by nipping the Pendleton freshmen, 60-57, on a 30' shot at the buzzer by Chuy Elguezabal on Tuesday, Nov. 28, and beating the Ukiah varsity, 45-35, on Thursday, Nov. 30.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 17-8 lead in the first against Pendleton as Brian Rust scored nine points. Pendleton came back to tie the game at 42-42 after three, but the Mustangs got six points from Brad Adams to pull out the close win.

Rust hit two three-pointers and finished with 17 points to lead the Mustangs. Brad Adams and Donald Adams each scored 10 points and Elguezabal finished with nine, including the game-winning shot.

Ukiah scored at the buzzer to tie the game at 14-14 at halftime and eventually took a 21-18 lead in the third. But Brian Hagewood came off the bench and scored four quick points off offensive rebounds to give the Mustangs a lead they never relinquished. Kevin Drake scored six points, including a three-pointer, and Sam Van Liew scored six points in the fourth as the Mustangs pulled away for the win. Van Liew finished with 14 points and Drake, 12. Luke Murray chipped in with seven and Donald Adams had six.

The JVs, coached by Ken Eckman, host Ione on Thursday in their next game.

Statistics:
Pendleton: 8 14 20 15 - 57
Heppner: 17 8 17 18 - 60
Heppner: (60) Brian Rust 5 5-12 17, Brad Adams 4 2-7 10, Donald Adams 5 0-0 10, Chuy Elguezabal 4 0-0 9, Luke Murray 2 0-4 5, Brad Bowman 1 1-2 3, Kevin Drake 1 0-0 2, Sam Van Liew 1 0-0 2, Jon Bennett 1 0-0 2, Leland Rill, Brian Hagewood. 24 8-25 60. Three-pointers: Rust (2), Elguezabal, Murray.
Ukiah: 7 7 9 12 - 35
Heppner: 8 6 16 15 - 45
Heppner: (45) Van Liew 6 2-5 14, Drake 4 3-4 12, Murray 2 3-4 7, D. Adams 3 0-0 6, Hagewood 2 0-0 4, Bennett 1 0-0 2, Bowman, Rill, Adam Bergstrom, Tanner Britt. 18 8-13-45. Three-pointer: Drake.

Large cast on stage for Christmas pageant



A large cast of children and adults will be on stage for the Willow Creek Valley Theater production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," to be presented Friday, Dec. 15, in Heppner at St. Patrick's Parish hall and Saturday, Dec. 16, at the Ione Grange Hall at 7 p.m.

As the play opens, Mrs. Armstrong, played by Phyllis Danielson, the managerial-type woman who chairs every activity in the parish, is in the hospital with a broken leg. This means another director for the Christmas play must be found, but the mothers of the parish played by C.J. Johnson, Ronda Helfrecht and Samarra Van Doon keep "passing the buck" to someone else. At last, in the role of the Mother, Terri Clay takes it

on, knowing she will need the help of her husband, Jay Straley, a solid family man.

On the day for casting the play, the rowdy, untutored children of the Herdman family who have never been in a church, appear because they have heard about free cookies there. The Sunday school regulars, played by Brianne Jones, Colton Helfrecht, Lane Wichman, Logan Just, Chance Raver, Kaylee Helfrecht, Lindsay Cutsforth, Sarah Johnson and Amanda Miles, hesitate to cooperate while the Herdmans volunteer for the main roles.

Then everyone wants to cancel the play, even the pastor, played by Dee Anna Waver, but the mother insists that they proceed. What happens after that provides for both laughter and tears from

the audience.

Throughout, a contrast of attitude toward the Herdmans is shown by the narrator Sarah Barrow as Beth and Jessica Heliker in the role of prim, proper, pain in the neck Alice who takes notes on everything negative during the rehearsals.

According to a spokesman, "This little play will add to the experience and the spirit of the Christmas season for all who attend it. People should mark their calendars now."

Babysitter training workshop offered

A "Babysitter Training Workshop" will be held at the Morrow County Extension Office on Thursday, Dec. 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The workshop is for youth, fifth grade and older (participants must be at least 11 years old) and is sponsored by the OSU/Morrow County Extension Service and the Morrow County Health Department.

Participants can expect to learn:

- What is expected of sitters.
- How to handle emergencies.
- Basic child care.
- Supervising children.
- Simple meals and snacks.

The cost for the workshop is \$5. Pre-registration is necessary by calling the Morrow County Extension Service at 676-9642 or 1-800-342-3664.

Ione school holiday program

The Ione Schools holiday program, for kindergarten through 12th grade, will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

The program, featuring K-3 music, grades four and five band, grades six-12 band and the nine-12 choir, is under the direction of teacher Darlene Marquardt.

Put a brick on your Christmas list

Do you have a brick on your Christmas list?

The Willow Creek Valley Assisted Living Corporation Board of Directors reminds everyone that the personally engraved bricks "make great holiday gifts." The brick pavers will be used in building a patio at a new assisted living facility which is scheduled to be built next year.

"We plan to break ground this spring," said a board member, "and the bricks are a great way to remember friends and loved ones."

Two paver sizes are available for sale and purchases will be tax-deductible through the corporation's nonprofit 501 C3 status.

A 4x8 inch brick with up to

two lines of printing is available for \$50. The 8x8 inch size has up to four lines of printing for \$100. Each line allows 15 spaces of letters and spaces.

Samples of the bricks, which are a "premium quality engraved and filled paver", are on display at Klamath First Federal.

"Bricks from the company we are using have been used to build facilities all across the country, including the Coors Field in Denver Colorado, and locally, at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center at The Dalles and the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center at Baker City," the spokesperson said.

Order forms are available at Klamath First Federal, Bank of Eastern Oregon and at Heppner City Hall.

Grange plans Christmas dinner

Willows Grange in Ione will hold their Christmas dinner and program on Friday Dec. 15, at 6:30 p.m.

Guests are asked to bring a salad or dessert to go with the turkey dinner, and bring a can of

food to donate to the Neighborhood food basket.

Children wishing to be in the program may bring their favorite poem, play a musical instrument or sing a song for the program.

Santa Claus will also be making a visit.

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WE ARE OPEN SUNDAYS FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!
December 10th, 17th and 21st

Gardner's Men's Wear
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Shoe Box Talk - N - Tops Fabric's Etc.
12 noon - 4 p.m.

Murray Drugs and Country Rose
12 noon - 4 p.m.

Heppner Hardware
12 noon - 4 p.m.

Peterson's Jewelers
12 noon - 4 p.m. and on Dec. 24th 12 noon - 3 p.m.