

## Cardinals squeak out win over Mustangs

**By Rick Paullus**  
The lone Cardinals squeaked out a win over the visiting Heppner Mustangs varsity, 62-61, on a late shot by Aaron Brown with seven seconds left, in a non-league boys' basketball game on Tuesday, Dec. 5. The Mustangs' record dropped to 1-and-2 on the young season as they are still trying to get in basketball shape.

The Mustangs took a 17-13 lead after one, getting 10 points from Michael McCabe, and still led 31-26 at halftime.

Ione closed the gap to 49-46 and the Mustangs still had the lead and the ball with less than 30 seconds left but turned it over on a jump ball to set up Brown's heroics.

Joe Papineau led the Mustangs with 15 points and nine rebounds. McCabe finished with 14 points and dished out two assists. Blake Knowles had eight

points and six rebounds. Chip Piper finished with six points and five rebounds. Stefan Matheny dished out three assists and had two blocked shots. Craig Scott had two steals.

Brad Burright led the Cardinals with 24 points, followed by Brown with 18.

The Mustangs are off until Friday, Dec. 15, when they will play Helix in the first round of the South Morrow County Tournament. Ione will take on Joseph in the other game, with the third place and championship games on Saturday, Dec. 16.

**Statistics**  
Heppner: 17, 14, 18, 21 - 61  
Ione: 13 20 16 - 62  
Heppner: (61) Joe Papineau 6 3-6-15, Michael McCabe 4 5-7-14, Blake Knowles 4 0-0-8, Chip Piper 3 0-0-6, Stefan Matheny 2 0-0-5, Craig Scott 1 3-4-5, Ryan Matteson 1 1-2-4, Brian Rust 1 2-2-4, 22 14-21 61.  
Three-pointers: Matheny, Matteson, McCabe.  
Ione: (62) Burright 11 2-4-24, Brown 6 5-12 18, Neiffer 3 1-2-7, Rea 2 0-0-5, Morgan 1 2-2-4, Bennetto 2 0-0-4, Fabian, Haguewood. 25 10-20 62. Three-pointers: Brown, Rea.

## Mustang 'C' team boys beat Ione

**By Rick Drake**  
The Heppner Mustang "C" team boys beat Ione, 41-26, at home on Monday, Dec. 11, to improve to 2-and-0 on the year. The Mustangs will host Riverside on Thursday, Dec. 14, with the girls' game starting at 5 p.m. and the boys following.

The Mustangs got four points from Adam Bergstrom in the first to take a 12-4 lead and went on to lead 19-7 at halftime.

The Cardinals stayed with the Mustangs in the third, but Heppner got five points from Conor Kilkenny in the fourth to extend their lead to the final score of 41-26.

Kilkenny led the Mustangs with 12 points and Bergstrom finished with six points. Josh Winters, Brian Smith, Tanner Britt and Matt Young each finished with four points. Koby Rea led the Cardinals with 13 points.

**Statistics**  
Ione: 4 3 7 12 - 26  
Heppner: 12 7 7 15 - 41  
Ione: (26) Rea 5 3-15 13, Neiffer 2 2-2-6, Tworek 2 0-0-4, Hunt 1 0-0-2, Campbell 0 1-2 1, Tullis 0 0-4 0, Doherty, Collins, Thompson, Bergstrom. 10 6-23 26. Three-pointers: none.  
Heppner: (41) Conor Kilkenny 4 4-9 12, Adam Bergstrom 3 0-2-6, Josh Winters 1 2-2-4, Brian Smith 2 0-2-4, Matt Young 2 0-0-4, Tanner Britt 2 0-0-4, Zack Skaggs 1 0-0-2, Justin Botefer 1 0-0-2, Judd Shepherd 1 0-0-2, Adam Wight 0 1-2-1, Christian Möller, Ben Turrell, Darin Skaggs, Kiel Naims, Zack Whalen. 17 7-17 41. Three-pointers: none.

## HHS JV boys down Cardinals

**By Rick Paullus**  
The Heppner Mustangs' JV boys outscored the visiting Ione Cardinals, 28-9, in the second half to come out on top, 60-36, on Thursday, Dec. 7. The Mustangs remained unbeaten at 3-0 on the young season with the win.

A rematch is scheduled at Ione on Thursday, Dec. 14 with the girls' game starting at 5 p.m. and the boys' game following.

Ione led 13-12 after one and trailed only 32-27 at halftime thanks to Billy Gates' four three-pointers in the second quarter. Brad Adams scored seven points in the second to help the Mustangs take the lead.

Kevin Drake scored eight points, including two three-pointers, and Chuy Elguezabal

scored six points in the third as the Mustangs outscored Ione, 16-5, to take a 48-32 lead into the fourth.

Drake led all scorers with 15 points, followed by Elguezabal with 14 and Adams with 13. Gates finished with 14 points to lead the Cardinals.

**Statistics**  
Ione: 13 14 5 4 - 36  
Heppner: 12 20 16 12 - 60  
Ione: (36) B. Gates 5 0-0-14, K. Morgan 3 2-3-8, Z. Fabian 2 0-0-5, A. Rietmann 2 1-4 5, C. Krebs 1 0-0-2, B. Gutierrez 1 0-0-2, P. Neiffer 0 0-2-0, K. Rea 0 0-1-0, J. Hunt, M. Radie. 14 3-10 36. Three-pointers: Gates (4), Fabian.  
Heppner: (60) Kevin Drake 6 0-0-15, Chuy Elguezabal 4 6-9 14, Brad Adams 5 3-7 13, Donald Adams 1 2-4-4, Sam Van Liew 1 1-2 3, Brian Rust 1 1-3 3, Brad Bowman 0 3-7 3, Luke Murray 1 1-2 3, Jon Bennett 1 0-0-2, Leland Rill 0 0-0-0. 20 17-34 60. Three-pointers: Drake (3).

## Mustang varsity girls come up short against Baker City

**By Molly Rhea**  
The Mustang varsity girls squared off with the 3A Bulldogs from Baker City on Friday, December 8, but came up short, losing 45-52. The Bulldogs were the GOL district champions last year and this season's squad features seven seniors.

Heppner trailed throughout the game, as many as 14 points in the second quarter, but never let up, battling back to within two points at the close of the third period. It was an exciting game with both teams playing tight defense and aggressive offense.

Shelley Rietmann led the Mustangs with 19 points, while Lacey Matteson scored 10 points, scooped seven boards and dished out four assists. Marissa McCabe pulled down 10 rebounds and blocked three shots.

Coach Dana Reid said she was pleased with the effort, "This was a great preseason game. We went up a stronger team and never let up."

Teams from Ione, Helix and Joseph will be in town this weekend, December 15 and 16, as the Mustangs host the South

Morrow County Tournament. Games will start at 3 p.m Friday with the Heppner girls' team playing Helix, followed by the Heppner boys against Helix. The Friday evening games feature contests between the Ione and Joseph teams. The consolation round starts at 1 pm on Saturday with championship action to follow.

On Tuesday, December 19, all four JV and varsity Mustang teams will take the court when Heppner hosts the Condon Blue Devils.

Condon's girls were last season's 1A State Champions, and always prove to be strong pre-season competition.

**Baker** 15 16 6 15 - 52  
**Heppner** 12 13 10 10 - 45  
**Baker City (52)** Warner 3 1-2 7, Kuchenbecker 1 1-2 3, Landstrom 5 0-0 13, Parks 2 0-0 4, Moutsandies 1 0-0 3, Hull 11 0-0 22, Hill, Rino, Gyllenbery, Taylor. **Totals 23 2-4 52.**  
**Heppner (45)** Barber 2 4-5 9, Elguezabal 1 3-6 5, Matteson 3 2-4 10, McCabe 1 0-0 2, Reitmann 7 5-8 19, Patton, Bailey, Carlson. **Totals 14 14-23 45.**  
3-point goals Baker 4 (Landstrom 3, Moutsandies), Heppner 3 (Matteson 2, Barber). Rebounds Baker 27, Heppner 33. Total fouls Baker 20, Heppner 9.

## Heppner JV girls lose to Baker

**By Molly Rhea**  
Heppner's junior varsity girls had a frustrating Friday, December 8, when they tried to match up against the Baker City JVs, losing 22-61.

The Bulldogs' press frustrated the Mustangs throughout the game, along with their general quickness and superior size.

Brooke Rust played well, pulling down several offensive rebounds and putting them back

up to score six points for the Mustangs. Stefanie Hansen also netted six points. Jesse Kempas consistently displayed aggressive, tenacious defense in spite of the lopsided score.

The next contest on the schedule for the JV Mustangs is Tuesday, December 19, as they start out the action at 3 p.m. as all four JV and varsity teams in action against the Condon Blue Devils.

## Heppner JV girls lose to Ukiah

**By Molly Rhea**  
Heppner Junior Varsity girls opened their season on November 30 with an aggressive attack against Ukiah's varsity, but were unable to contain the Cougars' key players, losing 29-38.

Stefanie Hanson led the Mustang scoring with six points. Heppner had a balanced offensive effort with eight of 10 players putting points on the

board.

Ukiah's Susan Barber led all scorers with 20, Maiko Yamaashiro added 14 for the Cougars.

**Ukiah** 4 7 11 16 - 38  
**Heppner** 0 6 8 15 - 29  
Heppner - Marcy Miller 2 1-1 5, Sheena Shank 1 0-02, Nikki Sisk 1 0-0 2, Danielle Loosley 2 0-0 4, Chantea McCaulay 2 0-2-4, Stefanie Hanson 3 0-0 6, Brooke Rust 2 0-0 4, Kelsey Greenup 0 2-3 2, Tiffany Mathmey, Lorena Penturf.

## Birthday party to benefit kids



**Kelsie Fox with donated toys**  
Is it just visions of sugar plums, or do Morrow County kids seem especially kind and giving-not to mention innovative-this Christmas?

Instead of a regular birthday party this year, 10-year-old Kelsie Fox decided to have a party to benefit kids who may not be as fortunate this Christmas. She said she got the idea from watching a Fox Family television program and the idea fit right in with her December birthday.

Unbeknownst to Kelsie, two

other girls had planned the same thing on the same day-December 8-and were featured in last week's Gazette. "I had no clue that Ione girls were doing it," said Kelsie, who is a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary School.

On Monday, Dec. 11, Kelsie donated a whole pile of toys, including Barbies, games, a football and a Teddy Bear, to the Heppner Neighborhood Center.

Kelsie, the daughter of Lori and Kelly Fox of Heppner, will celebrate her 11th birthday on December 17.

## Gun Club holds first winter shoot

**By Sandi Day**  
The Morrow County Gun Club (MCGC) held their first shoot of the winter on a chilly Sunday December afternoon. Plenty of shooters braved the cold wind and shot anyway.

Mark Schlichting had 24 of 25 at the 16-yard line, followed by Jeff Cutsforth with a 23 and Harvey Childers, Barry Munkers and Curt Day, all with 22. At the

20-yard handicap line, Harvey Childers took first with 23 of 25, Curt Day shot a 20, while Barry Munkers and Jeff Cutsforth each had 17 of 25. Harvey Childers won both the Annie Oakleys shoots.

MCGC will shoot again on Sunday, Dec. 17 at noon and will then break until Sunday, Jan. 7, when they will begin league shooting.

## Ione plans town-wide open house

The annual Ione Christmas Open House is planned for Wednesday, Dec. 20, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Businesses and organizations participating include the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Wheatland Insurance, Ione Market, Beecher's Restaurant, MCGG,

Ione City Hall, Ione Public Library, the Woolery House, the Ione Post Office, Jordan Elevator and Ione Repair/Auto Parts.

The open house will feature Christmas goodies, door prizes and "great chances to visit," said an organizer.

## Court discusses plowing parking lots for snowmobilers

**By Doris Brosnan**  
At a brief session on December 6, the Morrow County Court discussed the plowing of parking lots for snowmobilers, clarifying that when snow plows are in the area, they will plow the lots.

With representatives of the Morrow County Fair Board, the court opened the one bid on the doors for the Wilkinson Building. Noland Doors of Hermiston submitted two options, so the board will examine them and decide which to accept.

The court heard from representatives of the Watermaster's Office about budgetary needs in that agency. The court explained that the county is also facing financial problems and that those will be continuing over several years. Judge Tallman explained further that each department is being asked to make a budget cut.

Public Works Director Burke O'Brien reported that the department is diligent in attempts to re-inspect work sites after project completion. He said that the crew is working on ditches and on sanding in Clark's Canyon. The date has agreed to handle county road sanding and snow-plowing from Hawkines to Pine City and Upper Little Buttercreek to Highway 74. The County, in return, will keep the state highway from Ruggs to Gooseberry. The County will also keep Sunflower Flat to Grant county open.

The Court also took the following action:

- approved two road permits: Centurytel on Sandhollow and Umatilla Electric Cooperative on Washington Road;
- approved five tax refunds;
- approved computer materials for the Computer Department and Behavioral Health;
- accepted the resignation of a board member of the Baker/Morrow County Partnership and Regional Investment Board;
- accepted a grant from the Department of Human Resources for the County Health Department;
- approved a resolution in the matter of appointing an authorized representative for Behavioral Health;
- approved a resolution in the matter of approving the regional diversion plan for the Central and Eastern Oregon Juvenile Justice Consortium;
- declared an emergency and approved Ordinance MC-C-3-00 in the matter of adopting a procedure for submitting an application for compensation arising under provisions of Section 18, Article 1 of the Oregon Constitution as amended by Ballot Measure 7.

## Jerry Healy elected statewide electric co-op vice president

The Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association Board of Directors has elected Jerry Healy as vice-president of the association.

Healy, who lives in Heppner, is manager of Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative in Heppner.

Other officers elected to the board are Russell Green, president (manager of West Oregon Electric Co-op in Vernonia); and Jeri Nelson, secretary/treasurer (vice-president of Lane Electric Co-op

in Eugene).

The remaining board members are David Crowell, (chairman of Blachly-Lane Electric Co-op in Eugene); and Bryan Wolfe, (director of Umatilla Electric Co-op in Hermiston). Officers were elected following the 57th annual meeting of the ORECA members.

The ORECA is a trade association representing 17 rural electric cooperatives who provide services to over 250,000 Oregonians in 32 of the 36 counties.

## Chess Club started at Heppner Elementary



**Luke Basile matches wits with teacher Jannie Allen**

On Mondays after school, and Tuesday and Thursday mornings before school, bishops, knights, kings and queens are found everywhere in Mary Ann Elguezabal's classroom at Heppner Elementary School.

Elguezabal started a Chess Club around the first of November and the number of players has grown to 54, with new people coming in each week. Several community members donated chess boards and pieces to get the club going and as the number continues to grow, more are needed.

Many adults have been helping out with organization, advice to players and encouragement, and more are welcome to attend. Adam Doherty, Missy Cutsforth, Kelly Holland and Mike Armato have all served in those capacities, but it's Elguezabal that has the attention of the group

when she claps her hands five times and the chess players respond with two claps of their own.

Elguezabal asked students the first day if they considered themselves beginners, intermediates or advanced players of chess. Beginners are often found playing with the most advanced players, with lessons taking place throughout the game. Elguezabal says that she is still learning to play chess and appreciates those young chess masters who are willing to give advice and assistance in a patient manner.

Young people in Chess Club don't just learn about how to play chess, they learn how to be good sports whether they win or lose, how to encourage and coach new and younger members, and how to shake hands, look an opponent in the eye and say, "Good game."

**December 15th - Friday**  
**Toy Dinner.** Bring in a new, unwrapped toy and receive a free dinner. (The toys will be taken to the Neighborhood Center for distribution to the Heppner, Lexington and Ione areas for the holidays.) Dinner starts at 6 p.m.

**BINGO BACK ON WEDNESDAYS STARTING AT 7:00 p.m.**

**HEPPNER ELKS 358**  
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

**Don't Miss This!**  
**Treasures & Trinkets LAST CHANCE SALE**  
Nice, affordable Christmas gifts for all!  
Hurry in now... last raffle drawing on December 22nd  
Main Street, Heppner (across from motel); open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. everyday

## Heppner JV girls defeat Ione

**By Molly Rhea**  
Heppner's junior varsity team handily defeated Ione's JVs on Thursday, December 7. The Mustangs outscored the fledgling Cardinals in every period, winning 32-18.

"The girls played well as a team," commented JV Coach Ron Brisbois. Kelsey Greenup led the Mustangs' charge with nine points and Stefanie Hanson chipped in seven.