

Heppner girls win South Morrow County tournament



By Molly Rhea

The Heppner girls raced past 1A Helix and Ione to win their own South Morrow County Tournament, December 15 and 16. The Mustang squad frustrated their opponents throughout the weekend with their strong defense, superior rebounding and poise.

In the Friday afternoon kickoff game, it appeared the Grizzlies had already started their winter's hibernation as the Mustangs bolted to a 20-4 lead in the first quarter and never looked back, outscoring Helix in every period.

Shelley Reitmann led the scoring attack against Helix with 15 points and Lacey Matteson added 11 to pace Heppner. As a team, the Mustangs shot 47 percent from the field.

In the Saturday championship game, the Mustangs plucked and roasted the Cardinals, 58-28. Again Heppner had a hot hand, shooting 53 percent from the field, with every Mustang contributing points to the total.

Matteson led the scorers with 17, nine of those coming from behind the three-point line. Reitmann made 12 points with 100 percent shooting, and Marissa McCabe added 10 to the bottom line.

"I am pleased with the way the team played this weekend," commented coach Dana Reid. "The girls maintained their focus and worked our game." Reid went on to say that the Mustangs have out-rebounded their opposition in every game this season. This weekend the Heppner gang outdid themselves, scooping more than twice as many rebounds for a two game ratio of 63 to 29.

The Joseph girls forfeited their

Friday game, but showed up in time to get taken, 52-48, by Helix in the consolation game.

The junior varsity Mustang girls saw action on Tuesday, December 19, when the Condon teams came to town while the varsity sat out due to over-scheduling of the girls' varsity Blue Devils. The varsity will have another chance to whip up on Condon the last weekend of the year.

The varsity teams will be on the hardwood again for the Oregon Trail Tournament in Pendleton, December 29 and 30. The other teams slated to participate are Condon, Enterprise and South Wasco County.

Helix 4 5 7 4 - 20
Heppner 20 9 16 8 - 53

Helix (20) Purcell 3 0-1 6, Seely 2 2-6 6, Sallee 0 0-1 0, Bennett 1 0-0 2, Williams 0 0-1 0, G. Deutschlander 1 0-0 2, Campbell 1 0-0 3, Sorey 0 1-2 1, Cox, Smith, Scott, D. Deutschlander.
Totals 8 3-11 20.

Heppner (53) Kempas 2 0-2 5, Barber 3 1-2 7, Elguezabal 2 0-0 4, Matteson 4 0-0 11, McCabe 4 0-0 8, Patton 1 0-0 2, Reitmann 7 1-2 15, Carlson 0 1-2 1, Bailey. **Totals 23 3-8 53.**

3-point goals: Helix 1 (Campbell) Heppner 4 (Matteson 3, Kempas). Rebounds: Helix 16, Heppner 36. Total fouls: Helix 10, Heppner 18. Fouled out - none.

Ione 8 5 7 8 - 28
Heppner 18 7 19 14 - 58

Ione (28) D. McElligott 3 1-2 7, Peck 6 2-4 14, Thompson 1 0-2 2, Halvorsen 1 0-0 3, Powell 1 0-0 2, Heagey, S. McElligott, N. McElligott, Krebs.
Totals 12 3-8 28.

Heppner (58) Kempas 1 0-0 2, Barber 1 3-4 5, Elguezabal 1 1-2 3, Matteson 7 0-1 17, McCabe 4 1-2 10, Patton 0 1-3 1, Bailey 1 1-2 3, Reitmann 5 2-2 12, Carlson 1 0-0 2, Smith 1 0-0 2.
Totals 22 9-16 58.

3-point goals: Ione 1 (Halvorsen), Heppner 5 (Matteson 3, Kempas, McCabe). Rebounds: Ione 13, Heppner 27. Total Fouls: Ione 13, Heppner 14. Fouled out - none.

St. Patrick's Christmas pageant

On Sunday, Dec. 17, the St. Patrick's Parish hall was filled with angels, shepherds and sheep composing a living manger scene.

The annual potluck and pageant had the pre-school through junior high Sunday school students perform an adaption of the book "Hey Mr. Angel". The long poem was directed by Bill Kuhn.

Music for the program was arranged by Faith Healy and the pre-school performers were directed by Nova Sweeney.

Over 100 parishioners attended the event.

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Ione Site Council meets

By Debbie Radie

The Ione Site Council met on Dec. 13. Council officers were elected as follows: chairman, Marlene Pointer; vice chair, Cindy Burright; secretary, Darlene Marquardt; reporter, Debbie Radie.

Discussion began with the teachers' work session last Friday where the building staff goals were discussed and it was decided to concentrate on language arts and math. Specific focus will be measurement, units and tools and numeration (decimals, fractions and estimation). There was discussion of why those particular areas were lowest. Ione students seem to be better at high level math than they are on the easier basics. There was concern that some things might have to be left out in order to focus on bringing up those specific skills. It was assured that the students will get other subject matter too, but that the state standards must be addressed. A teachers' report will be made at the next meeting on the progress of students and staff on these goals. Discussion included refreshments being offered on the day of the test.

It was noted that the majority of last year's eighth grade students passed the 10th grade benchmark last year when they took the test. With the new rules, the eighth graders who passed the 10th grade benchmarks last year will not be required to take the test and pass again in their 10th grade year. This will be the first group of students to benefit from this new rule.

The principal's report included information regarding an alcohol and drug conference in Eugene. The conference included information about new alcohol and drug policies that will be implemented in most districts.

The student-lead conference training provided information about how to do student-led conferences. In such conferences, the student sits down with the parent and teacher and leads the conference, including information about the student's past and current academic activity and goals.

The Law Conference by COSA provided information on updated laws about current issues, including contract bargaining, special education, teacher evaluation and teacher pay.

Principal Mike Stuart reported that the board work session went

well and the board decided to present a bond levy to the public this spring which, if it passes, will fund new buildings and maintenance on existing facilities.

The council heard about student awards and recognition. Since the last meeting, Shelby Krebs won the silver medal in the state of Oregon, going to the state finals in the Wendy's Heisman competition. Caitlin Orem won the .Hoby Award (Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership). Four juniors placed high enough in the PSAT to compete in the Merit Scholarship.

Jim Swanson reported that the park district approved their portion on the pool funding project and will give more details at a later meeting.

Current total school enrollment is 152. The senior class is very large. The kindergarten class this year and the one projected to come in next year are much smaller groups. The decision to combine kindergarten and first grade for next year will be made on numbers. It has not yet been decided, nor will it be until late summer.

OSSOM was discussed. A large number of students have indicated a willingness to participate and parents would like to see this program grow. A report will be made at the next meeting.

Holiday schedules were discussed. The decision for the two weeks off at Christmas was made by the district due to a population of students on the north end who leave the area for a lengthy period of time over the holidays. According to bargain contracts, both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are holidays. Because New Year's Eve falls on a Sunday, it means an additional day off on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The VIP program was discussed at the elementary school. Mike Stuart was praised by the teachers for his attention to the students and teachers. The council's meeting time was changed and meetings will now start at 5:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month. Current members are Steve Schaber, Darlene Marquardt, Marlene Pointer, Debbie Radie, Anita Orem, Arlynda Gates, Jim Swanson, Mike Stuart, Dean Robinson and Kathy Halvorsen.

Mustangs fall to Eagles, finish 2nd in tourney

By Rick Paullus

The Joseph Eagles hit 15 of 21 free throws in the fourth quarter to take first place in the South Morrow County Basketball Tournament by beating the Heppner Mustangs, 70-63, on Saturday, Dec. 16, in Heppner.

The Mustangs had rallied to tie the game at 41-41 on a three-pointer by Craig Scott going into the fourth quarter, but couldn't keep up with the Eagles who led by as many as 12 points in the quarter.

The Mustangs got to the championship game by defeating the Helix Grizzlies, 66-27, on Friday, Dec. 15.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 13-4 lead after one in Friday's game, stretched it to 28-6 at halftime and were never threatened as everyone scored at least two points.

Michael McCabe led the Mustangs with 13 points. Blake Knowles had nine points, six rebounds, four steals and four assists. Stefan Matheny had eight points, three steals and three assists. Craig Scott had seven points and four steals. Ryan Matteson had seven points, including a three-pointer, and three assists. Brian Rust grabbed six rebounds, Joe Papineau had five rebounds, and Brad Adams had three steals.

The Eagles hit three three-pointers and converted a three-point play at the buzzer to grab a 20-13 lead after one in the championship game. Papineau scored four points and Scott, five, including a three-pointer for the Mustangs in the quarter.

Scott scored on a nice pass from Sam Van Liew who then hit a free throw to narrow the gap to 20-16 to open the second quarter. Scott hit a long jumper and McCabe had a steal and a lay-in to make it 22-20, but the Eagles extended their lead to 31-24. Matteson hit a long jumper and Knowles made a free throw, but the Eagles still led 33-27 at halftime.

McCabe opened the third

quarter by hitting a three-pointer and getting a steal and lay-in to cut the Eagles' lead to 33-32. Knowles hit a short jumper to tie the game at 36-36. McCabe hit two free throws and Scott hit a three-pointer with 35 seconds left to tie the score at the end of three.

Scott and McCabe hit jumpers to tie the game at 45-45 before the Eagles went on an 8-0 run. Matheny hit a long jumper and McCabe hit two free throws to cut the lead to 55-49, but the Eagles stretched their lead to 61-49. A three-pointer by Scott cut the lead to 68-62 with 27 seconds left, but the Mustangs could get no closer.

McCabe led the Mustangs with 20 points, four steals and two assists. Scott hit eight of 12 from the field for 19 points and had two steals. Papineau grabbed 12 rebounds, six offensive, and scored nine points. Knowles had six points, seven rebounds and two assists. Matheny had six points, six rebounds and two steals.

The Mustangs' record now stands at 2-3 in the pre-season. They played Condon on Tuesday, Dec. 19, and will have a rematch against the Eagles in Joseph on Friday, Dec. 22.

Statistics:
Game One:
Helix: 4 2 9 12 - 27
Heppner: 13 15 19 19 - 66
Helix: (27) N. Parker 5 0-0 10, Patterson 3 0-0 9, Scott 2 1-1 6, J. Parker 1 0-0 2, Brown 0 0-2 0, Pankratz, Campbell, Aguilar, Schwartz, Clayton, 11 1-4 27. Three-pointers: Patterson (3), Scott.
Heppner: (66) Michael McCabe 5 3-4 13, Blake Knowles 4 1-2 9, Stefan Matheny 4 0-0 8, Craig Scott 3 1-2 7, Ryan Matteson 2 2-2 7, Chuy Elguezabal 3 0-1 6, Chip Piper 1 2-4 5, Sam Van Liew 2 0-0 4, Brian Rust 1 1-2 3, Joe Papineau 1 0-0 2, Brad Adams 1 0-0 2.
27 10-17 66. Three-pointers: Matteson, Piper.
Game Two:
Joseph: 20 13 8 29 - 70
Heppner: 13 14 14 22 - 63
Joseph: (70) Steen 9 13-16 31, Wells 4 5-8 15, Stroup 2 4-6 8, Baynes 3 0-0 6, Lathrop 2 0-0 6, Nall 2 0-0 4, Williamson, Butterfield, 22 22-30 70. Three-pointers: Wells (2), Lathrop (2).
Heppner: (63) McCabe 6 7-9 20, Scott 8 0-1 19, Papineau 3 3-4 9, Knowles 1 4-6 6, Matheny 3 0-0 6, Matteson 1 0-0 2, Van Liew 0 1-2 1, Piper, Rust, Adams, Elguezabal, 22 15-22 63. Three-pointers: Scott (3), McCabe.

State football picks announced



Craig Scott Blake Knowles Michael McCabe Stefan Matheny

Craig Scott, a running back for the Heppner Mustang football team, has been selected to the all-state first team.

Scott is a senior at Heppner High School this year.

Blake Knowles, also a senior at HHS, was chosen for

two second team spots-tight end and defensive line-and third team kicker.

Junior Michael McCabe was named to the second team as a running back and junior Stefan Matheny was selected as a second team defensive back.

7th grade boys finish at 5-5

The Heppner seventh grade boys' basketball team finished up the season strong in their tournament on Saturday, Dec. 17.

Going into the tournament at 5-5, they were matched against Columbia. "That was there best game of the season," said coach Tim Van Cleave, speaking of the first game against Columbia.

Kyle Carlson had a good game and was high point man at 14 points. "The team came out very sharp and got off to a good start. There was good ball movement and good teamwork," Van Cleave said.

They won the game against Columbia, which next put them up against Stanfield.

Stanfield was the number-one team in the league, who went 8-1 on the season.

Heppner got off to a very slow start in the first half, and were down 16-6.

In the second half, they slowly chipped away at the lead until they had several opportunities to tie the score at the end of the game.

J.C. Sherritt had his best game of the season and kept the Ponies in the game.

The Heppner Ponies ended the season at 6-6.

Extension hours

The Oregon State University Extension Office in the Heppner Hardware (Coast to Coast) building will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26, and on Monday, Jan. 1.

For more information regarding this closure, contact the office at 676-9642.

GD's Restaurant & Lounge, Heppner
will be closed for Christmas Day

RJ's Steak House & Lounge, Lexington
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