Ione boys' 'C' wins final game

The Ione boys' 'C' team won their final game versus the Umatilla JV team, 40-32, at Ione on Saturday, Feb. 8.

"This was our best all around fame," said coach Jim Swanson. "Eleven out of 12 kids scored and everyone contributed all they could. Mike Radie had an outstanding game, along with Arthur Ekstrom with his rebounding and Cody Bergs tom hitting two three-pointers. I was really proud of them.

Radie made six points and had 10 rebounds, eight assists and five steals. Bergstrom scored six points and had one rebound, one assist and one steal. Ekstrom made five points and had eight rebounds, one assist and one steal. John Collin also added five points, two rebounds, one assist and one steal. Cayle Krebs scored four points, made five rebounds and one steal. Curtis Thompson also made four points and added two rebounds. Jeff Hunt added three points, four rebounds, two assists and three steals. Taylor McElligott made two points, three rebounds, one assist and one steal. Tyler Raible made two points, three rebounds and one steal. Til Tullis also made two points and added two rebounds and one assist. Tim Doherty made one point, one rebound, one assist and one steal and Gene Ball chipped in one rebound and one steal.

Ione had 25 turnovers, compared to Umatilla's 13.

Mustang girls' 'C' team shows grit

By Molly Rhea

Since the Heppner girls' 'C' team schedule is officially in the books it is high time to publish a little news about their season.

With 26 girls out for basketball this season coaches were able to form three teams, varsity, junior varsity and 'C' team. Since most basketball teams need eight to 10 players, each of these teams have "floaters", girls that move between teams to fill in as back-up in needed positions.

This year's C team consisted of eight players: two sophomores, Blake Allstott and Jessie Woodward, who functioned as co-captains and lead insurgents throughout the year, and six freshmen. The coach and the girls all learned a lot and for the most part, had a great time in the process.

Two of the freshmen, Blair Keithley and Cara Kennedy, floated up to JV throughout the season, with Allstott, Woodward and Terra Wilson dressing down for the final four JV away games.

Being the "low team on the totem pole" both boys' and girls' 'C' teams have the unenviable distinction of 6 a.m. practice. Contrary to what the coach expected, these girls consistently showed up well before the appointed hour, ready and willing to put themselves through an hour-and-a-half of sweat-filled drills.

This team was consistently tenacious and had a never-quit attitude. Their worst game had to be at Spray where their varsity-laced team beat the Heppner girls, 64-31. If you were watching the game and weren't privy to the scoreboard you would have thought the tally was very close. The girls never let up and refused to let down. Their coach was never more proud of them.

At wing and point guard, freshman Terra Wilson was the leading scorer, averaging 13 points, three steals and six rebounds per game. She also ended the season with 15 assists to her credit. Terra always seemed to be able to get to the right spot.

Blair Keithley suffered a severe ankle sprain early in the season and had to sit out two games. She returned to the team with an even stronger resolve, earning the nickname "The Animal" due to her relentless rebounding and strong inside play. Keithley averaged six points, 2.8 steals and 9.6 boards per game. In the 11 games she participated in, Blair led the team with 16 assists.

Until late in the season, Jessica Wainwright came off the bench as the versatile sixth man. With her height (5'9"), speed and unmerciful defense she could go in for any position; with her endurance she could be left in almost interminably. Wainwright averaged 2.5 points, three steals and 4.8 rebounds per game.

Jessie Woodward started at post all season, averaging 2.5 points, three steals and 3.5 rebounds per game. Every week Jessie showed more confidence and aggressiveness under the basket.

Cara Kennedy functioned as a court leader playing point guard. Her tough defense often put her in foul trouble. Cara averaged 3.27 points, 2.82 steals and 2.62 rebounds per game. She played through injuries until being sidelined for the final two games.

Emily Bergstrom came off the bench as a strong post player. Emily displayed an excellent eye for the court, to scope out the open man or potential weakness in the opponent. Her passes were like bullets; most people admired the intended receiver for being brave enough to catch them. Bergstrom finished the season strong, demonstrating an ability to drive to the basket and not let the defense rattle her. Emily averaged three points, 1.5 steals and 3.5 rebounds per game.

Coming out for basketball for the first time since her Colt days, Jenny Whalen demonstrated strength and resolve. She was easily the most improved player as observers could watch her skills, along with her confidence, increase every week. Jenny was never afraid to question what she was told, but then, when she received an answer, never failed to attempt whatever was requested. Jenny worked hard each and every practice and was an inspiration for everyone.

Blake Allstott was a true team leader in never quitting. She never wanted to come out of the game, even when it became very difficult. When Kennedy, one of our starters, was out with an injury for their last two games the decision had to be made to play with just seven, or ask a JV player to fill in our roster. The captains decided and the team agreed that they would rather finish the season as a team, and risk dropping the final two games, rather than have help and more possibly win. They did lose the final two games, by four and two points respectively, but in doing so they won their coach's respect forever.

The 'C' team finished with a record of four and nine. Many of those in the loss column were quite close; several of those losses were most likely the fault of an inexperienced coach.

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Elks Most Valuable Students selected

Shelley Rietmann

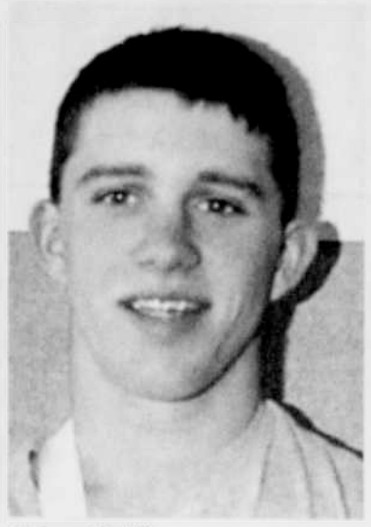
Heppner High School senior Shelley Rietmann and Ione High School senior Adam Neiffer have been selected for first place for the Heppner Elks Club Most Valuable Student Scholarship contest. They each won a $700 scholarship.

Rietmann and Neiffer competed against students from Condon, Baker city, Enterprise, LaGrande, Pendleton, Milton-Freewater, The Dalles, Hood River and Hermiston in the district contest at the Milton-Freewater Elks Lodge on Feb. 10. Rietmann won first place in the district girls' contest and will advance to the state contest set for Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Cottage Grove Elks Lodge. She received $1,600 for her first-place district finish and will represent the Northeast District Elks at the state contest.

Seniors Sam Van Liew, HHS, and Kristina Powell, IHS, received second place in the local contest and earned a $300 scholarship and Colin McElligott, IHS, and Meghan Bailey, HHS, earned third place and a $200 scholarship.

Rietmann is the Heppner High School student body president and is active in OSSOM, the Wild Horse Club, Outdoor Club, National Honor Society and 4-H. She also participates in volleyball, basketball and softball. The daughter of Mark and Tami Rietmann of Heppner, she plans to major in biology in college.

Neiffer was a member of student council his freshman and junior years and is active in National Honor Society, the



Adam Neiffer

International Club, his church youth group and 4-H. He was an Outdoor School counselor and Peewee Basketball student coach and participates in football, basketball and tennis. He is the son of Duane and Linda Neiffer of Ione.

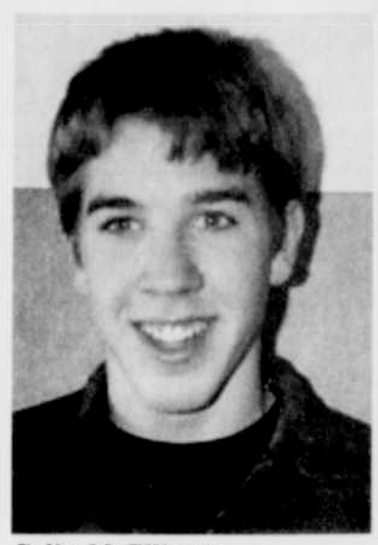
Van Liew was secretary/treasurer in student government his freshman year and was active in FFA, 4-H, Campus Life, National Honor Society, the Pep Band, Drama Club, Outdoor Club, OSSOM and the Wild Horse Club. He also participated in football, basketball, golf and track. He is the son of Dan and Sandra Van Liew, Heppner.

Powell is a member of Drama Club, National Honor Society and the Ione Youth Group. She also participated in basketball and volleyball at Ione High School. She is the daughter of John and Ronda Powell of Ione.

McElligott is a member of the Ione Youth Group, OSSOM, Great AUK, International Club, Drama Club and St. William's Catholic Church and is senior class representative. He also was a member of the Ione High School football, basketball and tennis teams. He is the son of Jim and Eileen McElligott of Ione.

Bailey participated in volleyball and basketball, OSSOM, the Wild Horse Club, rodeo and 4-H. She was also a cheerleader and student council business manager. The daughter of Ken and Kaedene Bailey of Heppner, she plans to attend either the University of Idaho or Eastern Oregon University.

Sam Van Liew



Colin McElligott

Kristina Powell

Meghan Bailey

Mustang girls couldn't keep up with top-ranked Rockets

By Rick Paullus

They stayed with the Rockets for awhile, but the Heppner Mustang varsity girls went into a scoring drought in the second quarter and the top-ranked Pilot Rock Rockets took advantage, pulling away for a 74-33 win on Tuesday, Feb. 12, in Pilot Rock. The Mustangs trailed by four at 15-11 in the second quarter but the Rockets went on a 22-2 run to end the first half and a 23-5 run through the third and into the fourth to put the game away. The Mustangs' Columbia Basin Conference record fell to 7 and 6, and their overall record to 11 and 10.

Jodie Carlson scored on a pass from Shanna Rietmann to tie it at 2-2. Jesse Kempas made one of two free throws to make it 6-3, then Brett Barber hit a short jumper and Kelsey Greenup scored on a pass from Tylynn Smith to make it 8-7. The Rockets scored the next seven points to take a 15-7 lead after one.

Meghan Bailey hit two free throws to open the second and Carlson hit another jumper on a pass from Rietmann to make it 15-11, but the Rockets scored seven straight before Smith scored on a rebound basket. The Rockets went on their run to take a 37-13 lead.

Rietmann scored on a rebound to open the third but the Rockets scored 14 straight points before Carlson hit a jumper to end the third with the Rockets leading 51-17.

The Rockets had a 60-18 lead before Rietmann scored. Brooke Rust hit a jumper, Madison Bailey hit a three-pointer and Greenup hit a running jumper to make it 63-27. Rust had a rebound basket and Greenup hit two jumpers to finish out the scoring for the Mustangs.

Greenup led the Mustangs with nine points and pulled down five rebounds, with Rietmann adding four points, nine rebounds and two assists. Carlson had six points and six rebounds, Barber had five rebounds and Kempas had two steals.

The Mustangs hurt themselves with 36 turnovers.

Statistics

Heppner: 7 6 4 16 - 33

Pilot Rock: 15 22 14 23 - 74

Heppner-Kelsey Greenup 4 1-2 9, Jodie Carlson 3 0-0 6, Shanna Rietmann 2 0-1 4, Brooke Rust 2 0-0 4, Brett Barber 1 0-2 2, Madison Bailey 1 0-0 3, Tylynn Smith 1 0-0 2, Meghan Bailey 0 2-2 2, Jesse Kempas 0 1-2 1, Stefanie Hanson, Nikki Sisk. 14 4-9 33. Three-pointers: Madison Bailey.

Pilot Rock-Jobes 5 4-6 14, McLaughlin 7 0-0 14, Mitchell 7 0-3 14, Doherty 4 0-3 9, Kinkead 1 4-4 6, Vogler 1 3-4 6, Krosting 3 0-0 6, Robles 2 1-2 5. 30 12-22 74. Three-pointers: Doherty, Vogler.

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Lady Cards down Dufur

The Ione Lady Cardinals defeated Dufur on Friday, Feb. 15, to try for the second seed spot at the state 1A basketball tournament.

The Cardinals trailed Dufur 8-9, at the end of the first quarter and then took the lead near the end of the second quarter for a score of 17-15 at the half. Both teams were equally matched in the third quarter as well, with Ione leading with a scant three points, 26-23. The Cardinals pulled out all the stops in the fourth quarter, adding 18 points to secure the 44-32 victory.

The Cardinals advanced to square off against South Wasco County on Saturday, Feb. 16. The Cardinals had defeated SWC earlier in the season but were plagued with injuries and could not get a lead, losing the game 25-38.

Natalie McElligott launched 27 points for the Cardinals. McElligott also led the team with 12 steals, grabbed six rebounds, blocked two shot attempts and delivered three assists. Diana McElligott scored 16 points, captured four rebounds, six steals and passed out two assists. Cyndi Heagy scored eight points, apprehended 10 rebounds, four steals and delivered one assist. Kristina Powell scored five points, led the team with 14 rebounds, swiped one steal, blocked two shots and delivered five assists. Emily Key came off the bench to score three points. Caitlin Orem scored two points and blocked one shot attempt. Barbara Holland scored two points, seized nine rebounds, six steals, blocked four shot attempts and delivered one assist.

Tobacco coalition plans meeting

A meeting of the Tobacco Education/Prevention Coalition for Morrow County will be held Thursday, Feb. 21, at 7:30 a.m. at the Extension Office Conference Room.

The meeting will include an update on the smoke free workplace law, an update on the Chamber of Commerce presentation, welcoming of student participants, information from Addiction, ETS and Healthy Teen workshops, the Statewide Tobacco Prevention and Education conference at Salishan March 4-6 and other topics

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