

Nearly 1000 students participate in annual Watershed Field Day

The 2002 Watershed Field Days, a premier outdoor science workshop for grades 4-12, hosted 582 students. And, thanks to about 20 donors, the Field Days were resurrected from the education funding cuts this year and the popular science camp grew to teach 845 students in 2003. Thirty-one teachers representing 20 area schools, and nearly 100 additional high school students served as presenters and leaders for the May 5-9 event. Nearly 3000 students have participated in the Watershed Field Days over the past 6 years.

Each day a different group of students, numbering from about 160 students to 180 students, rotated among seven different learning stations that included: Soil Development and Formation; Weather and Watersheds; Wheat and Plant Identification; Mapping-Math Applications in Natural Resources - GPS and compass work; Macro-invertebrate Sampling and Identification; Water Quality Monitoring; and Testing and Stream Bank Stabilization and Restoration.

The Watershed field days started with two days in the front range of the Blue Mountains, on McKay Creek. Participants got a first hand look at mother nature and our natural resources as very cold weather greeted the first-day's group of about 175 students. The second day, Tuesday May 6, was not as cold but rain dampened the morning's hands-on studies, but did not dampen the spirits of the participants.

The third day found the entire encampment moving to a site west of Ione on Willow Creek. The volunteer professional presenters, students and other volunteers enjoyed warm weather and enthusiastic groups of students during the two days at Willow Creek. The last day was held at the newest site - the Oxbow property located on West Orchard, Hermiston. Located on the Umatilla River, the

property is a perfect education site and was purchased by the Bureau of Reclamation about four years ago.

Donors supporting natural resource systems education through the Watershed Field Days include: Mid-Columbia Bus Company; Swire Coca Cola; Morrow County SWCD; Pendleton and Hermiston Wal-Mart; Oregon Forest Resources Institute; JSH Farms; Hermiston Generating Plant; Oregon Wheat Growers League; J.R. Simplot; Eagle Ranch; Hermiston Wal-Mart; Betty Klepper; Hermiston Irrigation District; West Extension Irrigation District; Columbia Basin Electric; Wheatland Insurance - Pendleton; Mikami Farms; Morrow County Grain Growers; Banner Bank; Oregon Water Coalition; Madison Farms; Hermiston Pizza Hut and Brenda Simpson; and the Seattle Seahawks.

Presenters from area natural resource agencies and schools taught the Field Day Stations.

Agencies participating in the Field Days included: The Oregon Department of Agriculture; the USDA-Agriculture Research Station; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; Umatilla Soil and Water Conservation District; Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District; OSU-Columbia Basin Research Station; Natural Resource Conservation Service; Monument Watershed Council; Army Corp of Engineers; Monument Soil and Water Conservation District; Umatilla National Forest; and the Women In Forestry's education program "Talk About Trees."

Stations are designed to provide students with hands-on contextual learning activities that focus on a few of the many components that make up the study of watershed systems.



Duane Neiffer, Ione HS Teacher and his students, teach Mapping at the Willow Creek Site.



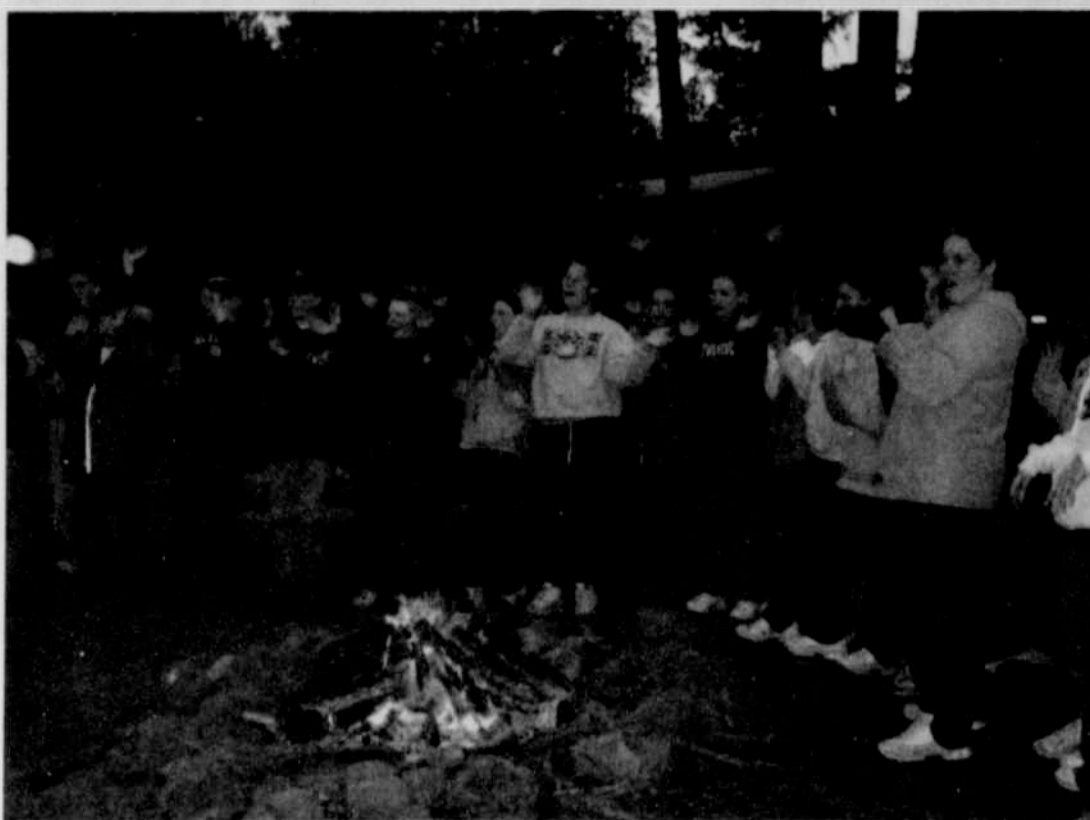
Gary Hunt, Columbia Middle School and Ione HS Students, teach Macro-invertebrate and Fish sampling at the Oxbow site.

Baccalaureate ceremonies to be held

The Heppner High School graduates' baccalaureate ceremony will be held Wednesday, June 4, at 7 p.m., at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. The Ione High School graduates' baccalaureate

ceremony will be held Tuesday, June 3, at 7 p.m., at Ione United Church of Christ. Graduation for HHS students is Saturday, June 7 at 2 p.m. Graduation ceremonies for IHS students is Friday, June 6 at 7 p.m.

Tupper Outdoor School



Tupper Outdoor School campers from Ione and Heppner gather around the campfire for the nightly fun of singing, skits and snacks. Sixth grade students from the two schools, counselors from HHS and IHS and their teachers were at Tupper May 12-15.



Fifth graders perform annual ritual of unloading the sixth graders gear after their return from Tupper Outdoor School.



Sixth graders Kathryn Strouse and Luke Young fold the flag at the end of a day at Tupper Outdoor School. Watching over the ceremony is HHS counselor, Aleshia Geer.

It is time to register for soccer

The Willow Creek Soccer Club is gearing up for the third season this fall. However, registration needs to be completed soon. The deadline for registering, without incurring a \$10 late fee, is June 1.

Tina Raver advised, "that registration numbers are on the low side so far. There are many families that have expressed the intention to

register but haven't completed their registration forms yet. We also have an awesome clinic scheduled for June 14, but if enough players don't register in time then we may have to reconsider the clinic. Early registration is crucial to both our local planning as well as processing of registration forms up through the national level of the AYSO program.

Several families have registered for the season but weren't sure of their plans for June 14, so they didn't register for the clinic. The official deadline for the clinic registration has passed, but we'll still allow players to register if they do so within the near future."

If you need to register contact Darrell or Tina Raver immediately at 676-8710.

Mustangs take district title

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs wrapped up the Special District 7 Championship by beating the Sherman County Huskies 12-2 in six innings on Saturday, May 24 in Pendleton and will take the number one seed to the OSAA play-offs. It had been nine years since the Mustangs last won the district tournament and with it will have a home game in the first round of the state play-offs against Salem Academy on Wednesday, May 28.

It didn't look good early when the Huskies scored two runs in the top of the first on an infield hit, three errors and a wild pitch. However, the Mustangs came back in the bottom half when Josh Winters singled, Brad Adams doubled and with two out Billy Gates was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Donald Adams was hit by a pitch to force in a run and Kyler Lovgren walked on four pitches to force in the tying run.

It stayed tied until the fourth when the Mustangs broke the game open. Jode Coil reached on an error and went to second on a wild pitch. Winters walked, Brad Adams had an RBI single, Kory Paullus reached when his long fly ball to left-center was dropped against the fence then Gates hit a monster of a home run to centerfield for a grand slam. Donald Adams singled, Lovgren walked, Luke Murray had a pinch-hit single to score Adams, Coil reached on a fielder's choice and stole second and Elguezabal scored two with a single to make it 10-2.

They added one more in the fifth when Brad Adams walked and went to third on a Paullus single and scored on a wild pitch.

The Mustangs got their twelfth run to give them the ten run lead to end the game in the sixth when Elguezabal doubled, Winters walked and both runners moved up on a balk and Brad Adams hit a sacrifice fly to right to score Elguezabal.

Elguezabal went five innings to pick up the win striking out nine, giving up five hits and no earned runs.

Brad Adams went two for two with two RBI and scored three times. Gates went two for three with four RBI, Elguezabal went two for five with two RBI and Winters and Coil each scored twice.

Sherman 200 000-2

7 3

Heppner 200 811-12

11 3

Chad King, Jeff Hall (4) and Keegan Kock; Chuy Elguezabal, Billy Gates (6) and Gates, Elguezabal (6). W-Elguezabal. L- King. 2B- Brad Adams, Elguezabal (H). 3B- none. HR- Gates (H).



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