

Stephanie Schuler advances to state geography bee



Stephanie Schuler (left) with Heppner Elementary teacher Karen Smith-Griffith

Heppner Elementary School has received notification from the National Geographic Society that sixth grader Stephanie Schuler has advanced to the state level of the Geography Bee competition. Stephanie won the local contest at Heppner Elementary School in January, competing against 11 other students from HES.

After finishing first in the Geography Bee at school, Stephanie took a written test from the National Geographic Society. The test was mailed to Washington, D.C., and now Stephanie is off to the next

round of competition. The state bee is to be held at Western Oregon University in Monmouth on Friday, March 31.

One winner from each state will advance to the national competition, which will be held May 23 and 24 at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C.

According to a news release, the Heppner Elementary Parent-Teacher Club members were so thrilled with Stephanie's news that they donated \$200 to help cover costs of the trip to Monmouth.

Ione High School music students participate in district

By Priscilla Tellez

Three Ione High School students participated in different categories of the OSAA Music District competition in Hermiston on March 4. The students were Amy Jepsen, Kristal Temple and Niklas Kamp.

This was Jepsen's fourth time participating in districts playing the piano. She had a great performance at Hermiston High School in which she got a score of 1, the highest score possible. Her performance enabled her to get into the state music competition.

This is also the fourth time that Jepsen has made it to state.

Temple participated in the singing competition. Her song was "It Was a Lover & His Lass," words by William Shakespeare. She was accompanied by Ione music teacher Michelle Stone on the piano.

Temple also performed at Hermiston High School. She received a score

of 2, a very good grade. "I was a little nervous but confident," said Temple. Unfortunately she didn't make it to state, but she said it was a great experience and the commentaries of the judge were very helpful.

Finally Kamp participated, playing the third Movement of Antonin Kozeleuh on the clarinet. He played at the First Christian Church in Hermiston. He had a very good performance that earned him a score of 1, which sent him on to state with Jepsen.

"I was very proud of all three of the kids. They worked hard and did well," said Stone of her students. The state championship will be held at Corban College in Salem on April 29.

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Ione tennis team starts new season

By Rebeka DesBouillons and Lynzee Sjurset

The Ione tennis team started a new season Monday, March 5.

There are a lot of newcomers to the team this season. Teonna Vandever, Montana Marlatt, Meghan Gaines, Tery Sintakova, Priscilla Tellez, Josie Miller, Emily Rietmann, Michael Mayer, Brenna Rietmann, and Morgan Mitchell (of Arlington) are all first time players. Returning players are Marly Pfingsten, Kristal Temple, and William Meulink.

After only one week of practice, Vandever sums up her forecast for the season this way, "I think this season will go really well for the Cardinals."

Maureen McElligott is returning for her second year as the Ione coach while Susan Kendrik is returning as the assistant coach. The Cardinals open their season at home against Athena-Weston on Tuesday, March 21.

For the complete tennis schedule visit the school's website at www.ione.k12.or.us, and click on "sports."

4-H News

DIY Kids meet

By Emily Holland, reporter

The DIY Kids met on March 3 at Christine Raible's house for an overnight crochet and cooking meeting. Those in attendance were Emily Holland, Julianne Carlson, Shadow Kendrick, Stacey Halverson, Lacey Thompson, Stephanie Schuler, Christine Raible, Leader Sarah Carlson and Michelle Raible.

They learned how to make a slip knot, chain stitch, single crochet stitch, yarning over, and how to finish.

They made chain stitch belts, single crochet daisies, and single crochet around the straps of some flip flops with fun fur. Their projects all turned out great.

In the morning they made Swedish pancakes and filled them with berries. They ate this project, which was good, because we were very hungry, they said.

Pot O' Gold buttons on sale

Be sure to purchase a button during the Wee Bit O' Ireland celebration this weekend. Pot O' Gold buttons are currently for sale at Murrays, Heppner City Hall and by Hepper ASB students.

Purchase of a button makes the purchaser eligible for three \$100 drawings. The drawings will take place at the Casino Night on Friday, March 17; the KUMA Coffee Hour, Saturday, March 18; and the Trail Band concert on Saturday evening.

Ione student qualifies for state geography bee

By Kelly Thompson and Luke Bradfield

Ione eighth grader, Sarah Stillman, will be traveling to Western Oregon University on Friday, March 31, to compete in the Oregon state finals of the National Geographic Bee.

Stillman achieved this honor by not only winning the Ione school level competition, but also scoring one of the top 100 scores in the state on the state qualifying test. If Stillman wins the state competition, she will go on to represent Oregon at the national competition in Washington D.C. in May.



Sarah Stillman

Ione track season starts up

By Kaylee Palmateer and Kylee Svetich

The Ione High School 2006 track season is starting up. The Cardinals start off the track season at the Ice Breaker in Umatilla on March 17.

Ione will have 13 returning athletes and will add 12 new members to the team. Returning for the Cardinals is senior Kelly Thompson who placed third in the 400M, third in the 200M, and sixth in the 100M at the state championship last year.

Also returning are the 4x400M girls relay and the 4x100M girls relay, both of which qualified for state last year.

Dan Long, who placed fifth last year in the

shot put at state, will also be returning along with Ashly Grams who placed seventh in the 300M hurdles.

There is much anticipation for this year's track season and hopes are high for a good year. Coach Del LaRue and Coach Ryan Rudolf say they are looking forward to this year. Coach LaRue says, "I think this will be a very successful season, I am really looking forward to having so many newcomers on our team this year."

For a complete track schedule visit the school's website at www.ione.k12.or.us, and click on "sports."

Births

Jacob Randy Morris-A son, Jacob Randy, was born to Erin and Derrick Morris, Great Falls, Montana, on March 2, 2006.

Jacob weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. and measured 20 3/4 inches long. He joins a sister Summerlin.

Derrick is in the Air Force and the family recently transferred from Germany to Montana.

Grandparents are Kip and Theresa Morris of Kahneeta and Dave and Judy Carmen of Portland. Great-grandparents are Pat and Wayland Hyatt of Fossil, Darlene Savage and John and Judy Erlich of Portland.

Liberty Dale Glasson-a son, Liberty Dale, was born to Kelly (Bates) and Justin Glasson, Clarkston, WA, on March 7, 2006.

Liberty weighed 6 lbs., 6-1/2 oz. and measured 20 inches long.

Grandparents are Dale Bates of Heppner and Kandy Hall of Lewiston, ID.

John Asher chosen Spray Rodeo Grand Marshal

John Asher has been selected as grand marshal for the 59th Annual Spray Rodeo and the 42nd Annual Eastern Oregon Half-Marathon on May 27-28. Plans are underway for the event.

Rodeo stock will once again be furnished by B Bar D Rodeos. Scott Alien will be returning as the Announcer.

Added to the events this year will be the return of the Wild Cow Milking. Back by popular demand will be the Mutton Busting and Pig Scramble for the kids.

Queen tryouts will be held Saturday, March 25, at the Spray Rodeo grounds at 1 p.m.

Further information will follow in later issues. For more information, call (541) 468-2442.

St. Patrick's Senior Center news

St. Patrick's Catholic Parish volunteers are hosts for the Wednesday, March 22, noon meal at the Heppner Senior Center. The menu will be Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, cookies and juice.

Activities for St. Patrick's weekend celebrations are gearing up. On Friday evening, March 17, the United Methodists will serve Mrs. O'Leary's Irish stew at the senior center beginning at 5:30 p.m.

On Saturday, March 18, senior center volunteers will serve breakfast starting at 7 a.m. Breakfast will be the center's special egg-and-sausage breakfast dish. Center volunteers will serve an Irish lunch of hot potato soup beginning at 11 a.m.

A full busload of people traveled to Boardman last Saturday afternoon to attend the musical "South Pacific" by Rogers and Hammerstein. The play was presented by the music and drama departments of Riverside High School.

Mr. Bill's Trivia returns for April Fool's Day fun

"Mr. Bill" returns to Heppner from Salem with his traveling trivia game on Saturday, April 1. The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring this year's event and expects it to be as full of fun and facts and last year's hit sponsored by the Farm Foundation.

Twenty-six teams participated in his show last year, and several people from the Willow Creek Valley and from neighboring communities have been asking for a repeat this year.

Mr. Bill (Klein), clad in his tuxedo and accompanied by his "lovely assistant," will guide the teams of six players through his many categories of trivia, starting at 7 p.m. at the Elks Club.

Mr. Bill's Trivia is played over the course of three or four rounds of 18 questions each. Teams huddle to come up with answers, which are written down and turned into Klein's "lovely assistant." Running totals are tabulated after each round so that teams can hoot and holler and know where they stand and who is giving them any stiff competition. Raffle tickets are distributed to players at the end of each round, according to team scores. Tickets are drawn throughout the evening for several various prizes.

Mr. Bill's questions are based on these categories: Movies, Science, History, Sports, Geography, Arts, Literature, Television, Leisure, Nature, Music and an occasional "Name That Tune." His questions come from a database of some 19 thousand questions, 20 versions of "Trivial Pursuit" and other trivia games, a library of reference material, and the Internet. Some of the best questions come from trivia players. Klein will also include a few questions about the county/area. Sample questions can be found at www.mrbillstrivia.com.

Already teams are reforming, planning to meet or beat their results from last year. New teams are forming, planning to have bragging rights and prizes at the end of the competition. Side wagers are already reported among some teams.

Joining the fun is easy. Entry forms are available at the Chamber office, branches of the Bank of Eastern Oregon, and the Wheatland Insurance office in Heppner. Entry forms and information are also available by emailing a request to dbrosnan@centurytel.net. The entry fee is \$120 per team, and each team can consist of up to six members. Some teams look for sponsors to handle that cost. Spectators can also join the fun, by paying a \$5 entry to the playing area, and they will also be eligible for the raffle drawings throughout the evening.

The Elks Club has announced that they will precede the evening's trivia event with a spaghetti dinner that will begin at 6 p.m. Participants in the event will be welcome at the dinner, as well as Elks members.

The Chamber plans to use proceeds from "Mr. Bill's Trivia" to market the Heppner area in the new region known as "Oregon's Rugged Country." Some of the marketing materials will be used for the 2,000 "Cycle Oregon" visitors coming to Heppner in September and for "The Bite of Oregon" in Portland.

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