

Heppner "C" team boys finish season 7-5

By Larry Palmer

The Heppner "C" team consisting of Lee Pranger, Dalton Wellman, Sam King, Josh Shank, Braden Britt, Sean Murray, Eddie Waddell, Spencer Palmer, Grant Smith and Luke Young finished off a fine season by posting a win over the Riverside Pirates 49 to 23.

The season didn't start off in such fine fashion, the Mustangs hit the road in their first contest against the Weston Tigerscots and they were roped in by a 54-22 loss. The next game was just as rocky as they lost at home against the Pilot Rock Rockets 61-31.

Then the Mustangs started to mesh and the shoes started clicking as they hit their stride and won 43-27 at home against the Riverside Pirates and they set sail for parts unknown. Then the Knights from Irrigon came to town and their armor left a wee bit tarnished as the Mustangs galloped off with a 37-31 victory.

Next up for the Mustangs was a visit by the Grant Union Prospectors, it

was a hard fought game, but the Mustangs snorted out a victory in a 45 to 42 win. Then the Mustangs hit the trail to Irrigon for their rematch against the Knights and in a no bones contest, the Mustangs once again flexed their muscles for a 47-25 victory. The Mustang parade wasn't over as the Vikings of Umatilla came to town and left a little bit ship wrecked as the Mustangs once again claimed victory at 31-25.

The Condon Knights returned and once again the Mustangs rattled them with a 45-37 victory.

The streak came to an end when the visiting Pilot Rock Rockets took a 46-36 victory. The Mustangs' spirits were once again dampened as they traveled back to Umatilla and found a 33-27 loss. The Weston Tigerscots followed and beat the Mustangs 60-39.

The Mustang "C" team finished their season with seven wins and five losses and had an outstanding in their field year.

Mustang JV lose to Pioneers

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV baseball team opened up their season with a 9-1 loss to the visiting Mac-Hi Pioneers on Monday, March 20. They will be back on the field in Boardman to face Riverside for a doubleheader beginning at 3 p.m. on Thursday, March 23.

The Pioneers built a 6-0 lead through 5.5 innings before the Mustangs finally got on the board when Ben McCarl doubled, went to third on a Chris Wellington infield hit and scored on a passed ball. That was as close as they would get

though as they left the bases loaded in the seventh without scoring.

Sam King was on base all four times and had a double and Justin Archer had the other Mustang hit as they could muster just four hits for the game.

Heppner 000 001 0-1 4 5
Mac-Hi 150 000 3-9 7 1

Garcia and Saldena; Josh Shank, Dalton Wellman (4) and Wellman, Sean Murray (4). W- Garcia. L- Shank. 2B- Garcia (MH); Sam King, Ben McCarl (H). 3B- none. HR- none.

Local resident earns dean's list honor at Pacific University

Shanna Rietmann of Heppner was named to the Fall 2005 Dean's List at Pacific University in Forest Grove. Rietmann joined more than 150 other Pacific students in achieving this high academic honor.

To qualify for the dean's list in the College of Arts and Sciences, a student must achieve a term GPA of 3.7 with 12 or more graded hours.

"Earning their name on the dean's list at Pacific University is an honor for the student and for Pacific," said Pacific University President Dr. Phil Creighton. "It exemplifies the caliber of students and the programs offered at the University."

Pacific University in Forest Grove is one of the West's first chartered higher

education institutions. Pacific annually ranks as one of America's Best Colleges by U.S. News and World Report and is ranked as one of the best tuition values in the West. With an enrollment of more than 2500 students, Pacific University provides an excellent academic experience linking theory to practice in education.

Red Hats to host tea at Willow Creek Terrace

The Red Hat Ladies will host a tea at the Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living residence on April 5. It will start at 3 p.m. All Red Hatters are welcome to attend. There will not be an organized luncheon in April.

Cardinal Booster Club news

The Cardinal Booster Club met Monday, March 6 at the school library. A thank you was read from librarian Cathy Halvorsen. The club provided funds to support her reading incentive program for grades 4-8.

The track equipment storage container has been ordered and will be delivered to Ione. The unit cost \$2000 with an extra \$575 to have a six-foot roll up door on one side added. The delivery cost will be \$630, for a total cost of \$3,205. Wal-Mart grant money will cover \$1000 of the cost.

Middle school language arts teacher Dean Robinson presented a grant application for \$100 to support Sarah Stillman's trip to the state level National Geographic Bee. The state Bee will be held Friday, March 31 at Western Oregon University. The club

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Exec. Dir.

"I survived St. Patrick's Day in Heppner, Oregon" was the caption on mugs given away to visitors at the Heritage Museum this past weekend. Many changes have been made there. Take a Heppner walkabout and check it out for yourself. If you were one of the hundreds of Heppner residents who worked your toes to the bone this past weekend you deserve a mug. If they are gone, think of the visitors who passed through the doors to learn our history. It truly takes a community to make a Wee Bit O' Ireland in Heppner happen.

It can't be said enough, how wonderful the "basket" donations were for the Luck O' the Irish Casino Night. This community was so busy, yet managed to contribute terrific items to support the 24th celebration and marketing our community. The proceeds were above and beyond last year. Great work one and all.

St. Patrick's Weekend in Heppner means different things to different people. Some are here for the nostalgia, the old timers, the KUMA coffee hour, the music, the brogue contest and the family history. Tom Melton, Representative Greg Walden, Grand Marshall Dominic Monahan and the brogue contestants kept the audience rollicking. Music we did have this year. The young performers- Rebecca Jepsen, Nick Berretta and Mulligan Stew- are so very talented. As usual, the Irish Singers returned as a group and celebrated their 20th anniversary. By the time the Ceili came to a close, a saxophone, string bucket, harmonica, Baker City Fiddler and visiting vocalists had come forward to join in a jam session. What fun they were having. Those people truly feel music to the bone.

approved the request.

Track coach Del LaRue may need assistance with upcoming meets at Condon (April 4), Stanfield (May 2), Sherman County (May 6) and the district meet (May 12 and 13). Anyone who can help should contact LaRue or leave a message at the school.

Debbie Morgan was recognized for her work gathering support for the recent newspaper ads for the boys' and girls' basketball teams going to district and state competitions.

A new shipment of Cardinal hats in red and black have arrived and are available for sale at Sunflower Junction or the Bank of Eastern Oregon for \$20 each.

The next meeting of Cardinal Booster Club will be Monday April 3 at 7 p.m. at the school library.

Some could have listened all night if they hadn't places to go and responsibilities to handle. The Trail Band put on an awesome performance, including the Heppner Flood Song, written especially for our commemoration a few years back. The Morrow County Unified Recreation District made the evening possible. And even Father Condon's play was put to music by Joe Lindsay.

Steve Brucker, Oregon International Speedway, was taking in most of the events and was the declared winner of Ewe Do Bingo. He will be returning to Heppner often and will be doing a program during a May Chamber meeting.

There are some wonderful, wonderful volunteers in this community. The celebration could not happen without so many people taking leadership and helping. One gave me a call on Thursday and said, "What can I do?" With a sigh of relief, I told her. Bless those people who have some time and are willing to spread it around. Cohorts answered the phone, ran errands around town and put together last minute events or handled important details. Tis hoping I am that many others had the same heart-warming experience.

The news deadline is near and I'm still surrounded by green, signs, flags, decorations and end of celebration details. April Fool's Trivia night is just around the corner and there's a Cycle Oregon meeting this week. The first day of spring is today and Heppner keeps right on forging ahead.

Thought for the Week: "Volunteers have a special place in heaven."

Irrigon Chamber of Commerce hosts candidates' forum

The Irrigon Chamber of Commerce will host a candidates' forum on March 27 at 7 p.m. at the Stokes Landing Senior Center. Everyone is invited to attend. All of the Morrow County Candidates have been invited and most of them have positively replied they will be there. Attending will be: Candidate for State Representative of the 57th District- Greg Smith (R); Candidates for Morrow County District Attorney- John L. Ballard (NP), Valerie B. Doherty (NP) and Elizabeth Ballard (NP); Candidates for Judge of the Circuit Court 6th District Position 5- Christopher R. Brauer (NP), Steven

Fogelson (NP) and Annetta Spicer (NP); and Candidate for Morrow County Commissioner Position 2- Loyal Burns, Jr.

There will be a panel, made up of David Sykes, Heppner Gazette Times, Jill Peck, Bank of Eastern Oregon and Jerry Breazeale, City of Irrigon, asking questions of the candidates. Each candidate will then have approximately three minutes to reply.

Oregon International Speedway representatives will also be present to discuss the proposed excise tax.

After the forum, refreshments will be offered.

Scenic byways workshop helps connect the region

Proponents and supporters of Eastern Oregon's five scenic byways and four tour routes met in Sumpter for the Eastern Oregon Byway Coalition Spring Workshop on Wednesday, March 15. The theme of the workshop was "Building Partnerships," and several guest speakers helped to establish the importance of working together to accomplish the ultimate goal of keeping visitors in the region for longer periods. The workshop also focused on the importance of scenic byways as the vehicle to connect communities, businesses, land and government agencies.

Keynote speakers included Mo Sherifdeen and Scott West from Travel Oregon, talking about the activities of the Oregon Tourism Commission and how scenic byways can tap into the resources provided. Sherifdeen has been working on a re-design of Oregon's web site and e-marketing activities for the past year. He shared with the group the highly interactive capabilities of the traveloregon.com site, and illustrated how scenic byways are being used as a key product in the list of Oregon's "Must See" attractions. Currently Travel Oregon is responding to over 70,000 email users per month who are requesting the Travel Oregon Newsletter. Eastern Oregon and the region's byways participate with Travel Oregon through the Eastern Oregon Visitors Association by supplying monthly story ideas and events. Scott West concluded the presentation by discussing other Travel Oregon activities, including research, advertising, public relations, international packaged travel, and political relations through the newly formed Tourism Consortium. Attendees were encouraged to attend Oregon Governor's Conference on Tourism in Eugene, April 2-4, 2006.

Case studies were also presented by Teresa Stelling from Halfway, and

Lorrie Harvey with Baker County Parks Department. Stelling discussed the activities and partnership building she fostered to accomplish the final construction of the restroom facility at Bishop Springs, along Hells Canyon Scenic Byway. Ms. Harvey followed by submitting a power point presentation that will be used in the communities along the Byway to gain awareness, and ultimately assist the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway Committee in finalizing the route's interpretive plan.

A final presentation was given by Pat Moran, with the Oregon Scenic Byway Division of the Oregon Department of Transportation. Moran announced that eastern Oregon had been awarded over \$445,000 in grant funds from the Federal Highways Administration just last week. These grant funds will help provided monies for administration and interpretation projects on the Elkhorn National Forest Service Scenic Byway, and the Hells Canyon National Scenic Byway- an All American Road.

Attendees included businesses and Destination Marketing representatives from Union, Baker, Morrow, Wallowa, Grant, and Harney counties. The US Forest Service, Oregon Department of Transportation, and Travel Oregon also had representatives in attendance. Eastern Oregon has more state scenic byways and tour routes than any other region of Oregon. They include: Hells Canyon National Scenic Byway- All American Road; Elkhorn Drive- National Forest Service Byway; Journey Through Time, High Desert Discovery and Blue Mountain State Scenic Byways; The Grande Tour, Steens Loop, Diamond Loop tour routes.

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SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR SALE (CLOSED BID)

The Heppner City Council at its March 13, 2006 meeting declared as excess property an RCA "AutoShot 32X Digital Zoom" VHS Camcorder. This camcorder was used by the Heppner Police Department prior to the City entering into a contract with the Morrow County Sheriff's Department. The technology is no longer considered current.

Sealed bids may be dropped off or mailed to Heppner City Hall until 5 p.m., April 7, 2006. The bids will be opened and the bid awarded at the April 10, 2006 City Council meeting.

If you desire to see this item in person, you may do so at City Hall, 111 N. Main St., Heppner.

WILLOW CREEK WATER PARK

Purchase or make payments on season passes early!

- Family Passes: \$125
- Individual Passes: \$70
- Swim Lessons: \$30 (per session)



Therapy pool is open! Wednesday - Saturday \$12.50 per hour To set up an appointment, call Merry, 676-5752 or 676-5756