

**Ione Cardinal boys varsity team improves season with two wins 'Ione boys' varsity loses to Pilot Rock**



Kevin Fowler makes a jumper from the corner at the Ione vs. Hermiston game.

The Ione Cardinal boys' varsity improved their season record to 4-3 with two home courts wins on December 29 and 30. The Cards defeated a scrappy Ukiah squad on Friday night and outplayed the Hermiston sophomores on Saturday night.

On Friday, Justin Archer scored 11 of the team's 22 first quarter points as the Cardinals jumped out to a 22-11 first quarter lead. The Cards let down in the second and Ukiah took advantage, outscoring Ione 15-10. The Cards held a narrow 32-26 halftime lead. The Cards came out gunning in the third quarter, scoring 17 to the Cougars' 10, lengthening the lead to 49-36. However, Ukiah scratched back to within six points before junior, Alan Rietmann took control of the game. Rietmann scored 12 points in the critical fourth frame, blowing the game open for the final 70-46 margin.

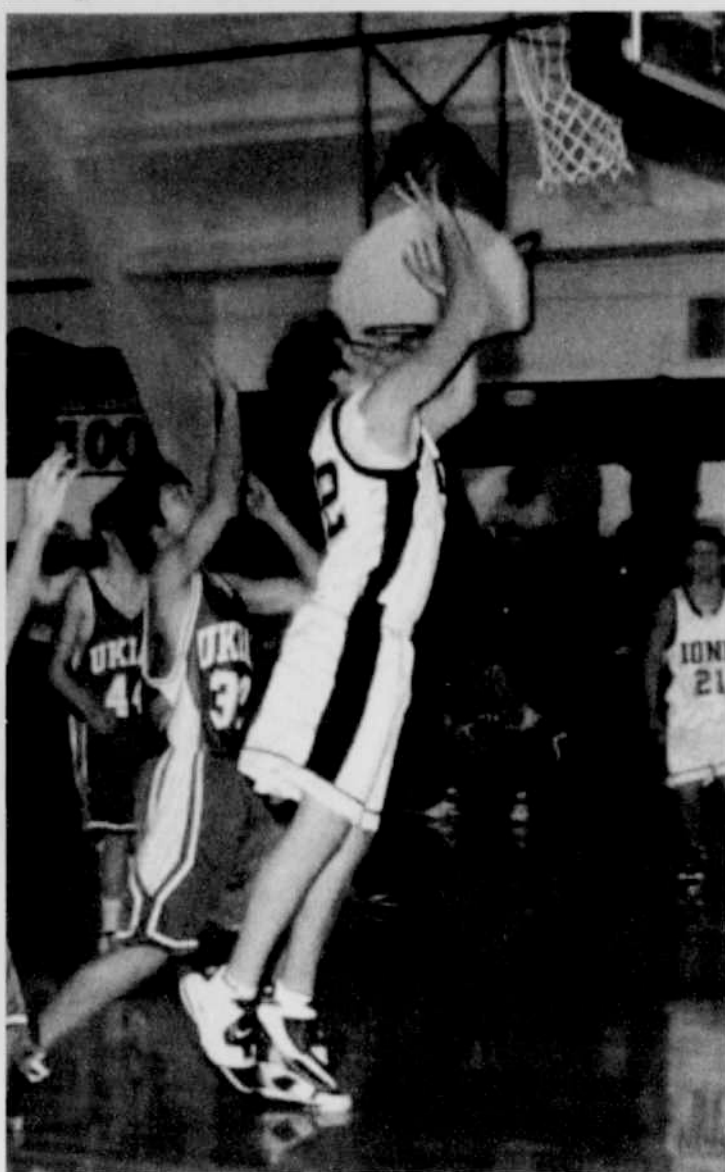
Alan Rietmann was the game's leading scorer with 21 points (19 in the second half). His all-around game also included 15 rebounds, six assists and five steals. The Cards had a balanced scoring attack with five players in double figures. Justin Archer had 17 points and a team-leading nine steals followed by Kip Krebs with 12 while Matt Hams and Clay Morter tallied 10

each. The Cards had a significant 53-34 advantage on the boards with many of those rebounds coming in the second half. The Cardinals put up a coach-pleasing 82 shots, connecting on 31 for a field goal shooting percentage of 38 percent. Ukiah shot 20 of 58 for 35 percent.

Coach Dennis Stefani was pleased with the win but saw room for fine-tuning. "I thought we played okay, but we had some mental lapses where we started to play out of control." Stefani noted that the long lay-off between games might have been the cause of the team's first half troubles. But on the bright side, Stefani noticed that the team totaled 18 assists which he interprets as the players seeing each other on the floor.

On Saturday night, the Cardinals used balanced scoring and tough inside defense to down the Hermiston sophomores 66-51. For the second game in a row, Ione had five players in double figures. It also marked the fourth outing with four or more players in double figures.

Inside play on both offense and defense was key for the Cardinals as Hermiston slowed their usual run and gun style of play. The Cards took an early lead in the game and methodical-



Kip Krebs goes up for a shot at the Ione vs. Ukiah game.

ly worked their way to a 10-point halftime lead. The third quarter was huge for Ione where they outscored the Dawgs, 20-7, and led 48-25 at the end. However Hermiston refused to go away quietly, hitting six three-pointers in the game and outscoring Ione, 26-18, in the final frame. In the end, their deficit was too much to overcome and the Cards played tough to the end.

Alan Rietmann led all scorers with 16 points. Balancing the Cardinals' scoring was Kevin Fowler, Clay Morter and Matt Hams with 11 each and Justin Archer with 10. Ione shot 43 percent from the field, connecting on 27 of 63. Hermiston was 17 of 59 for 29 percent.

The Cards fought their way to a 46-41 rebounding advantage led by Kip Krebs and Clay Morter with 11 each. Alan Rietmann added 10 and Kevin Fowler had nine. Rietmann paced the team with eight assists and Morter and Archer had five steals each.

As a final tune-up for league play, Coach Stefani said he was pleased with the team's effort. "This was a great win for us. I thought our inside defense of Kevin, Clay and Kip was very good." Stefani said he was also happy to see the scoring contributions from the

team being spread around. "It was really good to see five kids in double figures again."

**Chamber luncheon Jan. 9**

The annual Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be held Tuesday, Jan. 9, at 11:30 a.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church. New board members Lisanne Currin Tom Mafera, and Dave DeMayo will be installed after lunch. The Chamber will honor Bert Houweling, Brenda Sherrell, and Barb Hayes for their past service as board members.

Bucknum's catering will serve lunch at a cost of \$10 per person.

**Schmidt appointed to planning commission**

Pam Schmidt of Heppner was appointed by the Morrow County Court to serve on the Morrow County Planning Commission. Schmidt was appointed at the Dec. 20 meeting of the county court.

**We Print Business Cards Heppner Gazette**

The Ione boys' varsity lost to Pilot Rock in a non-conference match-up on December 22 that was closer than the score indicated. The Cards lost the game, 65-84, but had pulled within six points with just over four minutes to go, but ran out of legs to keep up with the deep bench of the Pilot Rock Rockets.

Ione jumped out to lead early in the first quarter but Pilot Rock scrapped back to lead at the end of one, 20-17. The Cards had a let down in the second quarter, scoring just 11 points to Pilot Rock's 21 making the score at halftime 41-28. The Cards started a run in the third quarter and continued into the fourth but just couldn't keep the momentum, giving Pilot Rock the win.

Freshman Matt Hams had a big game, scoring 18 points to lead the team, including two key three-pointers. Justin Archer added 12 points, Clay Morter had 11 and Kip Krebs had

10. Clay Morter led the team in rebounds with nine followed by Kevin Fowler with six. Alan Rietmann paced the squad with six assists and he and Fowler each had three steals.

The Cardinals shot 28 of 74 from the floor for 38 percent. Pilot Rock connected on just three more field goals with the same number of three pointers but the big difference in the game was the Rockets' 20 points from the free throw line. Pilot Rock shot 20-31 from the free throw line while the Cards struggled hitting just seven of 20.

"We just ran out of gas" said Coach Dennis Stefani. "They had a much deeper bench than us and were able to use it effectively." While the final margin was 19, he was encouraged by the team's effort to battle back into the game. "I saw a lot of great things from our kids. We are continuing to improve and are becoming a well-oiled unit."

**Mustang girls take second at Harrisburg tournament**

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang girls traveled to the valley for the Harrisburg tournament on Dec. 8-9, and after beating Warrenton, 57-38, on Friday, they fell to the host Eagles, 45-29, in the championship game.

In the opener, Regi Seitz and Sarah Price each had four points in the first and Aftan Betsinger had six points in the second as they led 22-19 at the half. It was still close after three, 31-29, but the Mustangs got seven points from Katie Kilkenny and six from Amber Patton as they pulled away in the fourth.

Kilkenny led a balanced scoring effort with 11 points, with Seitz and Patton adding eight points each, and Betsinger, seven points.

In the championship game, the Eagles held a 20-17 lead at the half, but blew the game open in the third quarter and continued it in

the fourth to take the win.

Seitz led the way with 16 points, with Kilkenny adding six points.

Game One:

Warrenton 6 13 10 9 - 38  
Heppner 10 12 9 20 - 51  
Warrenton: Campbell 3 2-2  
9, Ogren 3 2-7 8, Neahring 3 2-2  
8, Holt 3 0-0 6, Hayward 1 0-2 2,  
Dove 0 2-2 2, McBride 0 1-2 1 14  
9-17 38. Three-pointer:  
Campbell.

Heppner: Katie Kilkenny 5  
1-3 11, Regi Seitz 3 2-2 8, Amber  
Patton 1 6-8 8, Aftan Betsinger 2  
3-4 7, Megan Orr 3 0-1 6, Lyndi  
Patton 1 3-4 5, Sarah Price 1 2-2  
4, Sherilyn Peck 1 0-0 2, Kylie  
Doherty 0 0-2 0, Taylor Doherty,  
17 17-26 51. Three-pointers:  
none.

Game Two:

Heppner 8 9 4 8 - 29  
Harrisburg 12 8 13 12 - 45  
Heppner: Seitz 7 1-4 17,  
Kilkenny 2 2-2 6, A. Patton 1 0-  
1 2, L. Patton 1 0-0 2, Orr 1 0-0  
2, Betsinger 0 1-2 1, Price 0 0-6  
0, 12 4-15 29. Three-pointers:  
Seitz.

Harrisburg: Francalancia 5  
0-0 12, Traw 4 4-6 12, Croucher  
5 1-2 11, Bowers 2 0-0 4, Brown  
1 0-4 2, Kropf 1 0-1 3, Vaughn 0  
1-2 1, Mathers 0 0-1 0, 18 6-15  
45. Three-pointers: Francalancia  
2, Kropf.

**Mustang girls open with win**

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang girls' varsity began the 2006-07 season with a bang as they ran past the Riverside Pirates, 63-23, on Tuesday, Dec. 5, in Boardman in non-league action.

The Mustangs flew out to a 21-4 lead after one, getting eight points from Sarah Price, seven points, including a three-pointer from Megan Orr, and a three-pointer from Lyndi Patton. Aftan Betsinger had four points in the second as the Mustangs increased their lead to 33-10 at the half.

Amber Patton had six third period points as the Mustangs continued to add to their lead at 44-16 and she added nine points, along with five points from Lyndi Patton as they cruised to the easy win.

Amber Patton led the way with 18 points, eight rebounds and two assists, with Lyndi Patton adding nine points, six rebounds, three assists and three steals. Orr added nine points, eight assists, five rebounds and four steals. Price had eight points, three assists and two steals. Regi Seitz had five rebounds and three assists, Betsinger had three steals, Sherilyn Peck had two steals and Kylie Doherty had two assists.

Heppner 21 12 11 19 - 63  
Riverside 4 6 6 7 - 23

Heppner-Amber Patton 8 2-3 18, Lyndi Patton 3 2-5 9, Megan  
Orr 6 2-5 9, Sarah Price 4 0-0 8, Aftan Betsinger 2 2-7 6, Regi Seitz  
2 1-2 5, Kylie Doherty 0 1-2 1, Sherilyn Peck 1 1-5 3, Katie Kilkenny  
0 0-4 0, Taylor Kempas, Erin Price. 26 9-24 63. Three-pointers:  
L. Patton, Orr.

Riverside-Pedro 5 0-2 10, Middlesdorf 2 4-8 8, Costello 1 0-0 2,  
Kegler 0 2-6 2, Jones 0 1-2 1, Wilson 0 0-2 0, Pritchard, Jen. Mit-  
tlesdorf, Callow, Rogelstad, McCoullough. 8 7-20 23. Three-point-  
ers: none.

**Rebekahs to hold card party**

The Rebekahs will hold a card party on Saturday, January 6, starting at 7 p.m. in Lexington. Cost is \$5 per person. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a game of cards.

**Real Estate**  
By DAVID SYKES  
REALTOR

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For most consumers, their home is the biggest investment they will make in their lifetime, and in some instances, it can also be the greatest source of new investment opportunities.

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