

Smalley participates in Special Olympic World Winter Games

Jilli Smalley, daughter of Mark and Kristi Smalley, recently returned from the Special Olympic World Winter Games in Idaho. Two thousand athletes, representing 95 countries, competed around the greater Boise area.

Smalley raced at the Special Olympic Winter Regional Races on Saturday, February 1 21, and won three gold medals. She earned gold in the 1K, 3K, and a 1K relay.

Smalley competed in the cross-country skiing competition at Sun Valley for Team USA. She had the fastest qualifying time for the USA Women's Team last Monday, qualifying in the elite division, and brought home 6th place in the 500 meter race and 4th place in the 1K race where she moved up from the 7th starting position.

Smalley was one of 12 Oregon athletes chosen to compete with the 450 member USA Team.



Jilli Smalley recently competed in the Special Olympic World Winter Games in Idaho. -Contributed Photo

Pappas takes third in state essay competition

Editor's Note: Three Heppner High School 9th graders recently won first, second and third place in the state Garden Club Essay Contest. Conner Pappas took third place with his essay "Mustang Mop-Up: Getting Kids Involved." The second and first place essays will appear in the March 4 and 11 editions, respectively, of the Heppner Gazette-Times.

By Conner Pappas

Mustang Mop-Up is how students from Heppner High school get involved with community service and environmental projects. Environmental projects such as planting trees and picking up garbage. The Mustang Mop-Up also helps the community by completing projects such as moving a business to a new building. The students also get a chance to give back to the community. This type of project should be something every school should make use of so students can become active while being supervised by the school. Mustang Mop-Up is the type of activity everybody should be involved in.

The main idea of the Mustang Mop-Up is the environmental projects. Of course when people think of environmental projects, they think

of picking up garbage. We not only pick up garbage, but we also do other projects like planting trees at our park or our golf course. We also go to Lexington, a small, neighboring town 7 miles away, and pick up garbage there. We also clean the community garden in Lexington by pulling weeds and planting new flowers. In Heppner we also go to the fair grounds area and clean up at the rodeo stadium. We also clean garbage up in the various creeks that run through Heppner.

Mustang Mop-Up is also good for the community. It's good for the community because it gives the students a chance to "give back" to the people who support them. Another way it helps the community is that students do projects to clean up buildings or move a business. The people of the community can help also. It lets the students and people of the town get involved. It also lets the community know that the students care about them because the students take pride in their work. All of this makes the community a very huge deal in Mustang Mop-Up. Then at lunch time there is a large barbeque at our park where everybody in the town can come. Participation of the citizens is highly appreciated

and welcomed.

Another large part of this project is that it gets students involved with something other than their social groups and school. Students get to be active out of school, but they are still under the rules that the school has so there is also order that is maintained. Students also give back to the community for supporting them by doing the projects that the community needs to have done but may not have the time or manpower. Since the two years this project was started the community has respected the students of Heppner High School much more knowing that the students care about those who support them.

There are many reasons that Mustang Mop-Up is the ideal project that all schools should implement every spring. It completes environmental projects that no one had time for. Community projects such as moving a business to a new building is also done as well. With it being done in the town the community can join in. Everyone benefits from Mustang Mop-Up by seeing that the students care about those who support them. Those are just a few reasons that a Mustang Mop-Up type project should be done by every school.

Lady Cards finish season at district tournament

A season that started 0-10 but ended at the district tournament went into the books for the Lone Lady Cardinals last weekend.

The Lone Girls entered the Big Sky Tournament as the number three seed on the east and kept within striking distance of first round opponent, Dufur until midway through the fourth quarter, eventually falling 34-23. The Lady Cardinals finished the season with a 9-7 record in the Big Sky League.

Briana Peterson put up four of her 10 points in the first quarter and at the end of one, the Lady Cards were up by one 7-6. Dufur's defensive pressure gave the Lady Cards fits in the second and third, holding them to one field goal in the second and two in the third.

Trailing 23-16 going into the final eight minutes, Dufur capitalized on 13 trips to the free throw line, hitting seven along with canning a couple of buckets along the way. The Lady Rangers out-scored Lone 11-7 in the final frame for the win.

Briana Peterson led the Cardinals with 10 points. She notched her first double-double of the season by adding 10 boards to her points. Stefanie Archer added six points and eight rebounds.

"We played a very



Beth Morter made 1st team Allstars in 1A. -Photo by Theresa Crawford

good game against Dufur. We just couldn't get any shots to drop," said Coach Mike Garrett. "We shot 21% from the field in the first half and 10% in the second. The team played great defense and we really controlled the boards. Usually if you have 12 steals and 22 offensive rebounds you are going to be fairly successful. I asked the kids to play from buzzer to buzzer and that is exactly what they did. I was disappointed in the outcome but I was really proud of the way they played."

Coach Garrett noted that his first year steering the Lone Lady Cardinals was a positive one. "I really enjoyed my first year as the girls' basketball coach. It was very challenging but one of the more rewarding things I have ever taken on. I was very impressed with the

girls' work ethic, teamwork, and character. I felt that they represented their school, community, and families very well. I am really going to miss the senior class. I was really pleased that they were able to play in the district tournament and hopefully start another run in the Big Sky as the team to beat. I am looking forward to next year and improving on our season that we had this year."

2/19/09 (District Tournament)

Dufur 6 9 8 11 34
Lone 7 4 5 7 23
Lone: Briana Peterson 10, Archer 6, Morter 3, Svetich 2, Camarillo 2
Rebounds- Peterson 10, Archer 8
Assists- Svetich 2
Steals- Morter 3, Peterson 3
Blocks- Morter 1, Archer 1

Jason Halvorsen "Spirit of Basketball" trophy presented

In 1995, the Hermiston HS Sports Boosters, with the approval of the Big Sky coaches, the athletic directors, and the Halvorsen family, instituted the Jason Halvorsen "Spirit of Basketball" trophy and have given it annually at the Big Sky Tournament.

In 1994, the first year that the Big Sky Tournament was hosted in Hermiston, Jason Halvorsen played for the tournament champion Lone Cardinals. His effort was instrumental to his team's success. Not long after, Jason lost his life in a tragic car accident.

The Jason Halvorsen "Spirit of Basketball" trophy was given to a male athlete and a female athlete who competes in the tournament and who, in the opinion of the judges, best exemplifies the spirit of basketball. Qualities considered are spirit, floor leadership, selflessness,



Steven Begay (left) of Dufur and Brittany Smith (right) of Helix were the recipients of the Jason Halvorsen "Spirit of Basketball" trophy. The trophy was presented by Ryan Rudolph (center). -Photo by Theresa Crawford

contribution, and sports-

manship.

This year, the Jason Halvorsen "Spirit of

Basketball" award was presented to Brittany Smith of Helix and Steven Begay of Dufur.

Senior Center Menu

Heppner United Methodist Church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, March 4. The menu will include chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, Brussel sprouts, spiced pears, hot rolls, and butterscotch pudding.

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HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

PER/ Old Timers Night/ Ladies Night
March 5th
NY Steak Dinner



Chefs:

Lodge Officers and Trustees

All Proceeds will go towards the
358 Foundation for youth activities

Morrow County Public Works

NORTH AND SOUTH END TRANSFER STATIONS ACCEPTING COMPUTER MONITORS, DESKTOP COMPUTERS AND LAPTOPS ALL FREE OF CHARGE AT THESE MORROW COUNTY LOCATIONS:

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2009 HEPPNER LITTLE LEAGUE TRYOUT DATES

Each child must participate in 50% of the tryout

MINORS

THURSDAY MARCH 12TH AT 400
BOYS @ the Shad Hisler Field
GIRLS @ the Bob Kilkenny Field
No T-Ball Tryouts

MAJORS

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY MARCH
4TH AND 5TH AT 400 PM.
BOYS @ the George Waterland Field
GIRLS @ the Bob Kilkenny Field

DEADLINE for sign-ups February 28, 2009. After the February 28th deadline, registration fee will be \$40.00 no exceptions. For more information please contact Sandi Putman Cell 541-240-1761 or Home 541-989-8469.

ATTENTION: IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT SIGNED UP BY MARCH 3rd, 2009
THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE

2009 Little League, Heppner Township, P.O. Box 362, Heppner, OR 97836

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