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Gazette Times

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School District Levy Passes: 1076 Yes, 861 No

Mustangs bring home state medals, Price takes first place in three events

Pictured is the third place 2A team along with their coaches: Coach Melissa Coiner, Assistant Coach Jason Palmer, JoAnna Patton, Carmen Lee, Brynna Rust, Erin Price, Catherine McElligott, Carrie Haguewood, Frida Arevik, Keshawna Talamantes, and Kelsi Putman (also pictured are coaches Wendy Cannin and Deana Price). More pictures from state tournament action for Heppner and Ione Schools can be found on Page FIVE–*Contributed Photo*

Coach Melissa Coiner told her Heppner track team on Friday that "it would be pretty cool to hand out some medals," come Saturday of the OSAA 1A/2A/3A State Track Meet held last weekend at Western Oregon University in Monmouth. (The coach of the state champion in each event is asked to present the medals.) Saturday afternoon turned out to be a busy one for Coach Coiner as three times she was called to the infield for this pleasant duty.

The Lady Mustangs also snagged a team trophy, placing third in the 2A division with 53 points.

Erin Price had an exhausting day, traveling to the top of the awards podium three separate times to claim the gold medal in the 100 hurdles, the 300 hurdles and the 200 meters. She also ran a leg on the runner-up 4X400 team. For her efforts, Price was named the Qwest Athlete of the Meet in the Girls 2A Division after scoring 32 points.

Price approached the Saturday finals with the best seeding times in all of her individual events. She convincingly won the 100 hurdles (16.83) and the 300 hurdles (47.60.) It was the 200 meter race that caused everyone a bit of heartburn. Four competitors crossed the line in such close proximity to the others that the on-field announcer told the crowd, "Someone won and someone got fourth." It took some time and possibly a magnifying glass to sort out the finish but Erin Price was named the winner by the slimmest of margins. She and the runner up were listed at an identical 26.41 but it was a lean or an eyelash that gave Price the win.

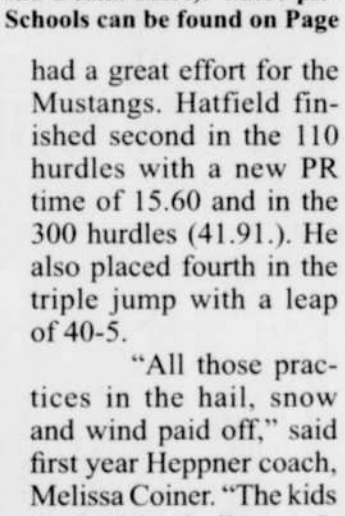
Backing Price up in the 300 hurdles was Brynna Rust. Rust gutted out a second place finish and new PR in the event, running 49.09. Rust also ran a leg on the 4X400 and placed seventh in the 400 meters.

Catherine McElligott posted a new PR in the 800 meters, running 2:28.37 and placing fourth. McElligott anchored the 4X400 to a season best time of 4:13.37. Swedish exchange student, Frida Arevik provided the other leg of the 4X400 relay and will take a silver medal home as a memento of the state meet.

On the boy's side of things, Jordan Hatfield had a great effort for the Mustangs. Hatfield finished second in the 110 hurdles with a new PR time of 15.60 and in the 300 hurdles (41.91.). He also placed fourth in the triple jump with a leap of 40-5.

"All those practices in the hail, snow and wind paid off," said first year Heppner coach, Melissa Coiner. "The kids worked hard all year. It was our goal at the beginning of the year to bring home a team trophy. Everyone peaked at the right time and that was a great thing to see."

Jordan Wright placed ninth in the shot put with a throw of 40' 3". Wright was one of two sophomores in the shot put field among eight seniors.



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Ione School's 09-10 budget workable, says board

By April Sykes

The Ione School Board, which has based its 2009-10 school budget on projections of $5.4 billion in statewide education funding, indicated Monday night that members feel confident with their budget. Board member Anne Morter said the district's budget is workable, however the latest projections for a $5.6 billion state ed budget of course would put the district in a better place.

Also at the meeting, the board accepted a proposal from Purswell's Pump Co. for $36,900 for mechanical and electrical work on the Ione pool and Matheson Painting, Inc. for $49,686 for the pool resurfacing project. Ione School Superintendent Karl Ostheller said that pool work has started, with an estimated finish date of May 30 and a projected pool opening in mid-June, if all goes as planned. The pool work will entail replacing leaking pipes and leaking valves and moving the electrical system above ground.

Project manager David McKay with the Willamette Education Service District said that while Matheson Painting's bid was not the low bid, their recommendation was based on their experience and reputation. He added that the low bid for pool resurfacing had not done a pool in 19 years. He also said that while the amount for resurfacing the pool was over budget, it will be offset by savings in gym floor refinishing and estimates that the total school remodeling project will be within budget. He said that the bid for the floors from Branson Hardwood Floors was $78,900, compared to a $134,000 budget. "It will balance itself out," said McKay. He also said that the redo of the floors will entail a buildup to compensate for the unevenness and rough surface of the concrete slab underneath.

McKay said that the district will advertise for the elementary school project by May 27 with bids due June 17 and asked the board to meet June 22 to discuss bids. They scheduled a special meeting at 7 p.m. that evening.

Also included in the larger project is replacement of the heating and ventilation system. Seven inside heating units and that relied on the boiler system will be removed and will reduce the load on the boiler as well as five air conditioning units. The units will be replaced with one unit per classroom.

In other business, the board:

-"reluctantly" accepted the retirement of long time teacher and coach Dean Robinson and the resignation of special ed teacher Lindsay Orem, who resigned to take a position with the Morrow County School District.

-learned that a $1,000 grant was awarded for Ione School student Alex Carlson to provide violin lessons to kindergarten students; Eric Jepsen took eighth-place at the state music solo competition for violin; Sara Stillman took second place in the regional spelling contest for high school and Joe Doherty took fourth place for middle school students.

-heard the following report from Superintendent Ostheller: student enrollment is unchanged from the previous month with 164 students in kindergarten through grade 12, 71 in K-5, 29 in grades six-eight, and 64 in grades nine through 12; LSW is working on the design and planning for the construction of the addition to the elementary building; pool work has started with an estimated finish date of May 30, with pool opening in mid-June if everything goes as planned; the lighting, HVAC and gym floor projects have gone out to bid; the second budget meeting was held on May 11; the preliminary budget contained a $50,000 hole that needed to be adjusted for, but estimates for the 2008-09 ending fund balance improved and the district will be able to utilize money from IDEA that will be received as a part of the federal stimulus package; the next meeting was set for June 1 at 6 p.m.; the grass is growing and the district needs to work out a solution since the district elected to end mowing services provided by the city; the district's AHERA book, which identifies areas that contain asbestos and contains guidelines for safety, is being updated and a report needed for construction projects is being done by Steve Paulsen of Paulsen Environmental Consulting, Inc.; spring sports are winding down; the countdown for seniors is getting to the point of "no return; the elementary school saw the Disney movie "Earth"; graduation will be Friday, June 5, at 7 p.m.

-learned that the Ione baccalaureate will be held at Valby Lutheran Church on June 1.

-approved minutes of the April 13 budget committee; the April 20 board meeting and executive session; and the May 11 budget committee meeting.

-learned that a budget committee meeting will be held Monday, June 1, at 6 p.m.

-received the following financial update as of April 30: the district received basic school support totaling $118,300; the general fund collected $1,077 in property taxes and the bonds sold; the intermediate program, operations and maintenance and transportation cost centers remain over budget the district is over-encumbered in fuel with $41,574 in open purchase orders. "At the very most we would spend about $25,000," said Beth O'Hanlon, chief financial officer. Individual special funds continue to carry deficit fund balances-$884.57 was ordered from three state title grants which included Safe and Drug Free Schools, Technology and Teacher Quality, which will be received this month; $12,719 was received from the federal REAP program; with the exception of the pool fund, all funds will be made whole by approved grant funds. "If funds are available for transfer at the end of the year, we would like to propose using a portion of the capital projects transfer to cover the pool," said O'Hanlon. Large or unusual checks for the month include Mid Columbia Bus-transportation; Willamette ESD-bond project services; GN Northern-geo-tech services as a part of the construction project; well surveying-site survey; Morrow County Grain Growers-propane; Sysco-food purchases. The state came out with an updated 2007-08 estimate which gave Ione a $14,801 final payment instead of the $3,253 final payment estimate. A recap of the student body account includes $7,554 in gate receipts and $7,420 for pay to play that were deposited in the extracurricular fund in May.

-learned that the next board meeting and budget hearing will be held Monday, June 15.

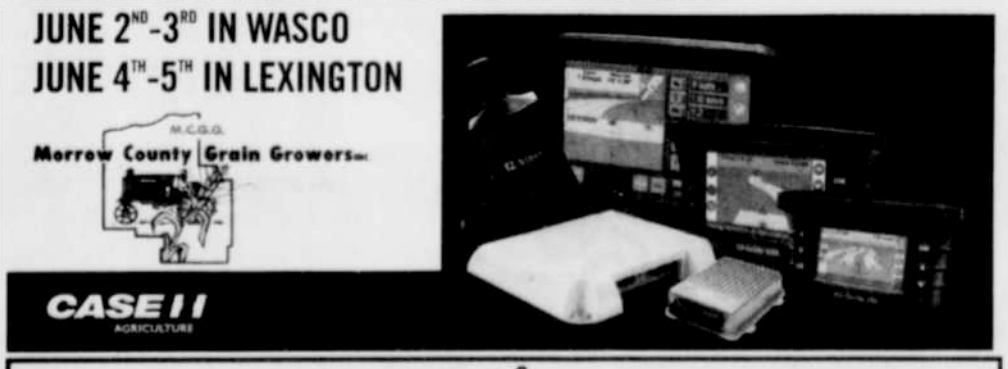
-held an executive session to discuss performance evaluations and negotiations.

Area baccalaureate services announced

Baccalaureate services for Heppner High School seniors will be held on Wednesday, June 3, at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Services for Ione Community School seniors will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday June 1, at Valby Lutheran.

Morrow County Grain Growers is your precision farming headquarters.

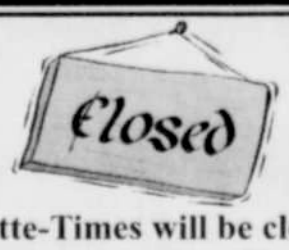
JOIN US FOR OUR GPS CLINIC
JUNE 2ND-3RD IN WASCO
JUNE 4TH-5TH IN LEXINGTON



Heppner/Ione graduations fast approaching

Ione Community School will hold its graduation ceremony on Friday, June 5, at 7 p.m. Heppner High School will hold its graduation ceremony on Saturday, June 6, at 2 p.m.

Any parents or businesses interested in having their name on the "Congratulations Seniors" page can call the Heppner Gazette-Times at 676-9228 or send an email to megan@rapidserve.net. The cost is $10.



The Heppner Gazette-Times will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. The deadline for news and advertisements is Friday, May 22, at 5 p.m.