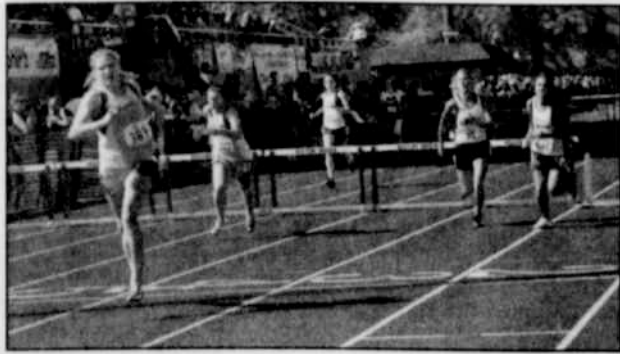


Heppner and Ione teams participate in state track action



Ione's 4X100 team took fifth place. -Photo by Theresa Crawford



Heppner girls finish in first and second place. -Photo by Theresa Crawford



Jordan Hatfield finished second in hurdles. -Photo by Theresa Crawford



Cory Peterson hands off to Matt Hams in the final leg of the 4X400. -Photo by Theresa Crawford

Ione track team brings home state medals

The Ione Track Team took advantage of the ideal track conditions at last weekend's OSAA State 1A/2A/3A Track Meet to pick up some medals and record some PR's. The meet was held at Western Oregon University in Monmouth.

Clay Morter capped his high school career by finally getting on the podium in the high jump. A four year qualifier in the event, Morter jumped flawlessly over 5'10" which was enough to tie for fourth place. His PR in the event is 6'1."

The Ione boy's relay teams snagged the

fifth place medal in the 4X100 and sixth in the 4X400. Team members, Alex Rietmann, Clay Morter, Cory Peterson and Matt Hams, knocked almost nine seconds off their season best 4X400 time in the preliminary heats on Friday. The team followed up with their second best time of the season on Saturday, running 3:40.78. The 4X100 team, Rietmann, Morter, Peterson and Hams, was just a whisker from "a big medal" with .47 seconds separating second place from seventh.

Tie Chalongtrakul, an exchange student

from Thailand, gutted out a second place finish at district so he could get to state and buy a pair of OSAA sweatpants. A pleasant surprise greeted Tie at the state meet. The folks running the t-shirt stand had seen the article in the newspaper and they gave him a pair of sweatpants for free. Tie ran tough but did not advance to the finals. Clay Morter (100 meters) and Cory Peterson (400 meters) also did not make the finals.

On the girls' side of the meet, Rebecca Jepsen recorded a 43 second PR in the

3000 meters, running to a non-placing 12th place. Jepsen improved her time 1:12 from her performance at Pre-District on May 2. Beth Morter made the finals in the triple jump with leap of 31-3.5. Strong performances in front of her kept her from the medal stand. Makenna Ramos ran the 100 meters in 13.92 but did not advance to the finals.

"I am very proud of how all the kids performed this season. We had some great performances at District and continued that on to the State Meet," said Coach Ryan Rudolf.

Forest users asked to be light on the land, avoid driving off forest roads

Mudding and off-road vehicle use in the spring, when the ground is saturated, continues to be a problem for public land managers in the Blue Mountains. Mud bogging or "mudding" may look like a lot of fun to some but it leaves behind scars on the land that never heal and frequently cause resource issues in the future.

Mud bogging is an activity done when people drive motorized vehicles through wet areas including meadows, springs, ponds, streams and lake shores. "When vehicles spin their tires to throw mud, they rip up fragile vegetation and soil, creating deep mud

holes and ruts," said Walter Merritt, Law Enforcement Patrol Captain on the Umatilla National Forest. "This extensive resource damage to the land and vegetation is expensive to repair and labor intensive. In most cases, these areas can never be restored to their original state."

Not only is mud bogging extremely damaging to the land, it is illegal. Each year, law enforcement officers write a number of citations and warnings. "It's always unlawful to operate a vehicle off-road in a manner which damages or unreasonably disturbs land and vegetative resources," said Merritt. This type of

activity is punishable by up to a \$5,000 fine and/or six months in jail. In addition, the suspects can be held liable for the restitution cost, which includes the cost to the forest to repair damaged property and rehabilitate the areas that were damaged due to their illegal activity.

Merritt also warns of unintentional damage due to wet, muddy roads and rain soaked, saturated areas. Whether you pull a vehicle off the road to pick mushrooms, load up firewood,

or find a place to camp, the weight of the vehicle can cause the pick-up to sink and get stuck. Merritt suggests you get out of the vehicle and test the ground before you drive off the road to your favorite firewood spot or camping area. Avoid areas with visible puddles and unstable soil. Look for rocky, well-drained areas to pull onto.

"What may take a vehicle a few minutes to tear up can take many years and a lot of money to restore," said Merritt.

Ione School tennis players to participate in state tournament

The 4A/3A/2A/1A 2009 Tennis State Championships will be held Thursday-Saturday, May 21-23, at the Eugene Swim & Tennis Club. Four student from the Ione Community

School tennis team will be participating.

There is no charge for the state tournament. Schedules and brackets can be found at www.osaa.org/tennis/.

Babe Ruth Golf tournament to be held

The Heppner Babe Ruth Golf tournament will be held on Sunday, May 24 at the Willow Creek Country Club. The tournament will be a four-person scramble. The cost is \$30 per person and lunch is included. The caddy auction will begin at 8 a.m. The tournament will start at 9 a.m. Prizes will be awarded.

Spray Rodeo and Easter Oregon half-marathon to be held

The 62nd annual rodeo will be held May 22, 23, and 24. Also, the 45th annual Eastern Oregon Half Marathon will be held beginning at 8 a.m.

The Spray Rodeo is also participating in the "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" campaign on Saturday of the rodeo as an initiative to raise awareness and money for breast cancer patients. All

of the money raised will go to St. Charles Medical Center Breast Cancer Research which was started in memory of Sara Fisher, a teacher, counselor, and active community volunteer who died in 1992 after a seven year battle with breast cancer.

For more information about weekend activities call 541-468-2442.

Third annual alumni football game to be held



The annual alumni football game will be held June 20. -Contributed Photo

The third annual alumni football game will be held Saturday, June 20, at 6 p.m.

The cost to play is \$30 per person and all proceeds will go to the Heppner football program. Players are asked to

send payment, along with the positions played in high school and the year graduated to Jess Osmin, 58794 Balmfork Road, Heppner, OR 97836.

For more information call 676-9079 or 571-2674.

Annual Morrow/Gilliam Golf Scramble to be held

The annual Morrow/Gilliam Golf Scramble will be held on Thursday, June 4, at the Willow Creek Country Club.

Registration will open at 8:30 a.m. A shotgun start at 9 a.m. will kick off the event.

For more information contact the Oregon Wheat Growers League at 541-276-7330.

Ladies Play Day results

Ladies Play Day was held on Tuesday, May 12, at the Willow Creek Country Club. Results are as follows:

May 12
Low gross of the field was Pat Edmundson. Low net of the field was Virginia Grant and Pat Dougherty. Least putts of the field was Lorrene Montgomery.

Flight A winners were: low gross was Nancy Propheter; low net was Carol Mitchell; and long drive was Pat Edmundson.

Flight B winners

were: low gross were Betty Christman; low net was Jacki Allstott; least putts was Bernice Lott; and long drive was Betty Christman.

Flight C winners were: low gross was Sherron Woodside; low net was Bural DeBorg; and long drive was Bural DeBorg.

KP: Virginia Grant, second shot on #7.

The Willow Creek Ladies 18-hole Invitational will be held on June 2.

Heppner UMC gets wheelchair ramp



Heppner United Methodist church recently added a wheelchair ramp to their building. Workers recently finished building an attached wheelchair ramp to the church building. -Contributed Photo

Mustangs compete state golf action



The following Heppner Mustangs went to the state golf meet in Banks: Zach Orem, Donald Matthews, Chris Lien, Joe Pranger and Josh Shank. -Photo by Sandy Matthews

We have Memorial Day cemetery vases- Call our floral Department- 676-9426

MEMORIAL DAY

Closed Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day

Go Mustangs! Have a great weekend!

Wedding Tables

Megan Kae Bailey & Kyle Richard Snow
Saturday, May 30th

Robert Raymond Ashbeck & Jennifer Marie Brushia
Saturday, June 20th

Adam Ashley McCabe & Shelley Kathryn Rietmann
Saturday, June 27th

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