

Lady Cards take fourth place in Big Sky Conference

The Lone Lady Cardinals finished their best tournament run in years, taking fourth place in the Big Sky Conference this past weekend. The girls were disappointed that they missed out on a state playoff berth with their Saturday loss but took consolation that they gave the top teams in the district a serious run.

The Lady Cards kicked off district tournament play against Horizon Christian in a loser-out game on Thursday, February 18. Ione jumped out to an 11-4 lead in the first quarter and kept most of that margin at halftime, 17-12. Horizon kicked it up a notch in the third and outscored Ione 12-4. When Beth Morter hit a shot with 4 seconds left in the third quarter, the Lady Cards were down 21-24 with eight minutes left to play in the game. Ione got moving in the final quarter. Beth Morter hit a jumper early in the quarter followed by Shadow Kendrick canning a much-needed three. Morter hit another jumper with 4:42 on the clock and the Lady Cards were up 28-24. The Lady Hawks hit a three before Kendrick answered with a one foot, hook shot sort of operation from the top of the key. Horizon put back an offensive rebound with 2:17 to go and Ione's lead was a slim point, 30-29. Horizon went to the free throw line to shoot two with 1:52 showing, and missed both but was able to capitalize on the rebound to go up 31-30. The Cards couldn't convert on the next possession but Shadow Kendrick came up with a huge steal

with just under 20 seconds left. Stefanie Archer was fouled on a shot and went to the line to shoot two with seven seconds remaining. The cool Miss Archer swished the first shot to tie the game before Horizon called a time out to make her think about it more. When the second clutch free throw swished, the Lady Cards were up 32-31 and were able to hold the Lady Hawks away from the basket as time expired.

Beth Morter and Shadow Kendrick shared scoring honors with 11 points each. Stefanie Archer had seven rebounds and three blocked shots. Briana Peterson added seven rebounds and Beth Morter led the team with four steals.

"What an exciting way to start the district tournament," said Coach Mike Garrett. "Horizon Christian is the best defensive team in the Big Sky and we knew we would have to work for our points. Our pressure defense was able to control the tempo and keep them off balance and that was the difference in the game. When Stefanie Archer got fouled at the end of the game I had a feeling she was going to make both. She is about as calm and collected as anyone I have ever met. This was a great win for our team and program."

The win over Horizon advanced the Lady Cards to the semi-finals where they met up with the number one team from the Big Sky East, Nixyaawii. Ione trailed 12-9 after one but collected points from five people in the second quarter to outscore the



#32 Beth Morter shoots against the Helix Grizzlies. -Photo by Theresa Crawford

Golden Eagles 12-8 to take the halftime lead, 21-20. Nix hit two threes in the third and finished the quarter with an 8-0 run to open up a six point lead heading into the final frame, 33-27. Beth Morter opened the fourth with a jumper and was followed closely by Tyree Svetich hitting a shot to close the lead to two. The Eagles canned three free throws before Ione freshman Lacey Thompson drove the baseline to score. With 4:40 to go in the game, the score was 36-33 in favor of the Eagles. But from there on out, the powerful Nixyaawii ladies capitalized on free throws (8-12 in fourth quarter) and overpowered Ione for a final score of 49-35.

Beth Morter had an all-around game that featured a double-double (14 points and 10 rebounds) along with seven steals and two blocked shots. Stefanie Archer had a good night on the boards with 13 as the Golden Eagles were out-rebounded for the first time this season. Ione got to the free throw line just three

times in the whole game while Nixyaawii was 14 of 22 from the charity stripe.

"We played a very good game against another strong team," said Coach Mike Garrett. "Nix has a good 1-3-1 half court trap and they are well rounded on the offensive end of the floor. We matched their intensity and really moved the ball up the floor well. We went a little cold from the field at the end of the 4th quarter and that was the difference. We had 17 field goals to their 10 but their 5 three pointers and the difference in free throw opportunities really hurt us."

That loss left one last opportunity to grab a state playoff berth with the battle for third against Helix on Saturday, February 20. The teams had split in their two previous meetings during the regular season.

The Lady Cards fought fatigue from two tough games in the two days prior. At the end of one quarter, the score was tied 9-9. Sophomore, Collette Cason scored the last

four points in the quarter for Ione. Helix scored six unanswered points to start the second and outscored Ione 11-6 to lead 20-15 at halftime. But the Lady Cards hit the third quarter revitalized and scored the first six points of the quarter to take regain the lead, 21-20 lead with 5:06 on the clock. Helix got eight tries at the free throws, making four but did not score a field goal in the third and the score was tied 24 all at the end of three. Helix hit a two and a three to open a five point lead early in the fourth. Beth Morter hit a pair of free throws with 3:38 left to play the score was 26-29. Neither team scored until Shadow Kendrick drove the baseline with 25 seconds to close the lead to one, 28-29. Helix slowed the pace and held the ball. The Grizzlies went to the free throw line with 12.7 seconds remaining and hit both to go up 31-28. Ione didn't get a final shot off and the score held.

Beth Morter led the team in scoring with 11. Stefanie Archer had 11 rebounds and Morter had four steals.

"This was a tough loss to take," said Coach Mike Garrett. "The kids played really hard and it was back and forth the whole way. Helix's experience over the last 3 years in the district and state tournament really showed. Rodgers hit a clutch three pointer and also sank two free throws at the end of the game. Defensively the kids played another outstanding game. We concentrated all year on shutting down other team's post players and

holding Cheyanne Hack to zero points is a victory in itself."

"Free throws again were the difference in the ball game. We held Helix to eight total field goals but they were 13 of 24 from the line and we were 4 of 6. We never did get to a one-and-one situation in the district tournament. We stressed all year taking the ball to the rim but it is something we will have to really work on in the off season."

"This was a great season for us. The kids played hard all year and are fun to watch and coach. We had some big wins during the season and getting into the final four at district was great. We overcame injuries and illness all season to compete at a high level and the team never used it as an excuse or reason for not playing well. I am going to miss the senior class. They really are an exceptional group of student athletes and have represented the community of Ione at a high level."

Ione	11	6	4	11	32
Horizon	4	8	12	7	31
Beth Morter 11, Shadow Kendrick 11, Stefanie Archer 6, Briana Peterson 2, Stacey Halvorsen 2					
Ione	9	12	6	8	35
Nix	12	8	13	16	49
Beth Morter 14, Shadow Kendrick 6, Tyree Svetich 6, Lacey Thompson 2, Collette Cason, Stacey Halvorsen 2, Briana Peterson 2, Stefanie Archer 1.					
Ione	9	6	9	4	28
Helix	9	11	4	7	31
Beth Morter 11, Shadow Kendrick 6, Collette Cason 4, Stefanie Archer 3, Tyree Svetich 2, Briana Peterson 2.					

An in depth look at Windows 7

By Pat Struthers
Windows 7 - What is it, do you want it?

I've always had a love/hate relationship with Microsoft in general and Windows in particular. I've been building and maintaining Windows machines since version 3.11 in 1993.

The hate arises from the fact that I fix PCs for a living. I only see broken Windows computers. People may say that the Mac world is a lot better than the PC world, but the fact is, Macs and PCs are used for different things. Unless you have a particular business that requires software that works best on a Mac, such as graphic design and related fields, the entire Apple product line amounts to a bunch of expensive toys.

People expect PCs to do anything and everything, perfectly and safely, all the time. It is 100 times as hard to write an operating system that will run any program on any hardware. Meanwhile, Apple has had it easy. From the invention of the Macintosh, Apple kept the details of their

hardware secret, software developers had no choice but to strictly adhere to their guidelines for making their programs work. To this day Macintosh computers and the various i-Things are built the same way. Apple has been able to enforce their hegemony over the Mac world, but, their kingdom is tiny compared to Windows.

And Apple has largely missed out on the business market. Hundreds of thousands of business programs already existed for PCs even before Windows or the Mac GUI existed. Microsoft chose to develop DOS and Windows so as to make as many of those business programs continue to work as possible. Apple chose to make toys. Don't get me wrong, I think Macs are wonderful machines for Internet and music and video and...page layout. But businesses need decent prices and a clean upgrade path a lot more than pretty graphics.

Backwards compatibility is the Achilles' Heel of the PC world. First there is the hardware. Win-

dows 3.xx was unstable because it was necessary for it to work on a large and expanding range of hardware. IBM chose Microsoft's DOS for their first PC, and when Windows came along IBM and Microsoft collaborated on it.

IBM realized early on that their PCs would occupy another tiny niche of the computer market if they tried to keep the details of their hardware secret, so they didn't. The result, these days, is that anyone with a decent amount of knowledge can build a PC from scratch for \$500 or so, and it will pretty much run any version of Windows from 3.11 to 7. It will even run DOS (and Mac OS and Linux).

Then there is the software. Up until Windows NT/2000, Microsoft did their best to allow every possible DOS program to run, as if Windows didn't exist. This created instability problems for a variety of technical reasons. The least of these is that an operating system is intended to be a stable platform for everything else that can go

on the computer. When you have to build 'exceptions' or 'shims' to keep the platform stable so that certain tiny market segments can use your OS, you are asking for problems.

And Microsoft didn't bastardize Windows just once. Every Microsoft OS from DOS up has some loopholes built into it that allow older programs, customized for older versions of Windows or DOS, to work. Can't allow, for instance, Lotus 1-2-3 to blow up. Still 80 bagillion (made up number) people use it, after all.

This is not the case for all old software. Clear back to Windows 3.1, Microsoft had programming guidelines, but they could not be enforced because every version of Windows before 2000 was so porous that programmers could get around them. The programmers had good reasons for doing this, but Microsoft complicated it all by keeping certain details secret; i.e. an Office program such as Word might exploit loopholes that Microsoft knew would be carried into the next version.

Vista was Microsoft's first attempt to fix the hardware/software problem; and a lot of the bad press on Vista was because they succeeded, to a large extent. Microsoft was finally able to enforce good programming practices on the PC software industry, at all levels. This meant hardware as well as software. Microsoft was able to go to hardware manufacturers and say: if the hardware doesn't work like so, we will not allow it to work, period.

What's wrong with XP? So, why does all of this history matter? Most of you are probably using Windows XP anyway, and

other than a few major or minor irritations, you are probably satisfied, right?

What are the downsides of sticking with XP? Microsoft will stop supporting it around 2013/4. Hardware manufacturers will follow suit and quit writing XP software for their products. We can already see this now, particularly with printers. And so will third-party software vendors. XP requires good anti-virus and security software in order to be at all safe to run on the Internet, and it lacks many features that should be there, including: a. reliable and easy to use backup; b. automatic disk maintenance; and c. an update and repair system that actually works.

If you have XP and you want to do any of these things, you need to be either a total geek (do them by hand), or buy expensive third-party software to do it for you. XP does not take advantage of the speed and functionality of newer hardware, and this will only get

worse. 99% of viruses are aimed directly at flaws in XP and Internet Explorer.

XP will continue to be 'supported' by the larger tech community long past 2014, of course. I still help people with Windows 98, Me, and 2000 computers, all of which have been dead-ended by Microsoft.

XP will always run better on old hardware. If you want to avoid expensive upgrades, you are fairly conservative on the Internet, you never have a hardware breakdown, and you don't expect your computer to do anything other than what it does already, by all means stick with XP. I myself used Windows 2000 up until July 2009. I jumped to Vista at that time because I could get a free upgrade to Windows 7.

Next week's column will include more information on Windows 7. A Windows 7 community open house presentation will also be held Thursday, February 25, at 7 p.m. at Heppner City Hall.

St. Patrick's Celebration collector's buttons on sale



Autumn Morgan examines Megan Healy Futter's collector button design at the Heppner Gazette-Times office, where both are employed, for the upcoming St. Patrick's 2010 Celebration March 11-14. Purchasers of the buttons are eligible for two drawings for \$100 on Friday and Saturday of the event and need not be present to win. Buttons are on sale now at Murray Drugs, Willow Creek Realty and Les Schwab Tires. Funds raised help put on the largest St. Patrick's Celebration in the Pacific Northwest. -Photo by Kay Proctor

Morrow County Public Works

You are all aware of the new law Effective January 1, 2010 computers, monitors and TVs CANNOT be disposed of in the garbage or at disposal sites such as landfills, transfer stations and incinerators. Anyone who knowingly disposes of these items can be fined.

Morrow County Public Works is pleased to announce that prior to the ban the transfer stations had been implementing this procedure. Residence are allowed to dump FREE of charge televisions, computers and monitors. Containers for E Waste are located at the North 69900 Frontage Ln. Boardman and the South 57185 Hwy 74, Lexington Transfer Stations. Hours of operation 9:00 - 3:00 Saturday and Sundays.

Questions and concerns may be addressed by calling 541-989-9500.

