

Ione track team continues to gain ground

By Paula Emmel

The Ione High School track team participated in the McKenzie Invitational in Blue River, OR on April 6. This was Ione's second meet of the season, since last week's meet was canceled due to the weather in Pendleton. The team then stayed overnight and attended the Pepsi Invitational Collegiate Meet at the University of Oregon in Eugene the next day.

It was an excellent trip for the Ione team, which gained eight personal records (PRs) and two new benchmarks. Two of the team's seniors, Luke Emmel and Jeremy Coleman, also participated in the exhibition 2K steeplechase. Emmel placed third with time of 8:13 (hand time); both athletes said they had a lot of fun.

Team PRs were achieved by Emily Holland, javelin and 200M; Dominika Senkerikova, shot put; Justin Estabrook, 100M; Bailey Haguewood, 100M and long jump; Kaid Peck, long jump and discus; and Luke Emmel, javelin.

Team benchmarks were made by Emily Holland in discus and Steven Holland in shot put.

Complete individual and team results from the McKenzie meet are as follows:

Men's results

100 Meter
8th, Evan Rietmann, 12.25a
14th, Justin Estabrook, 12.82a
18th, Bailey Haguewood, 13.17a
200 Meter
8th, Luke Emmel, 25.45a
4x100 Relay



Top: Luke Emmel hands off to Justin Estabrook during the anchor leg of the 4x100 relay. Ione placed third. Bottom: Makenna Ramos (R) wins her heat of the 100M. -Photo by Paula Emmel

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| 3 rd , Evan Rietmann, 18-11.25 | 5 th , Evan Rietmann, 18-11.25 |
| Bailey Haguewood, Luke Emmel and Justin Estabrook, 48.87a | 20 th , Bailey Haguewood, 16-09.00 |
| Shot Put - 12 lb. | 31 st , Kaid Peck, 9-04.00 |
| 17 th , Steven Holland, 33-00.00 | Women's results |
| 22 nd , Jeremy Coleman, 29-05.00 | 100 Meter |
| 34 th , Kaid Peck, 12-10.00 | 4 th , Makenna Ramos, 14.10a |
| Discus - 1.6 kg. | 5 th , Makenna Ramos, 29.81a |
| 13 th , Jeremy Coleman, 92-05 | 15 th , Emily Holland, 32.86a |
| 15 th , Trent Cannon, 86-04 | Shot Put - 4 kg. |
| 29 th , Kaid Peck, 43-03 | 10 th , Dominika Senkerikova, 24-06.00 |
| Javelin - 800 g. | Discus - 1 kg. |
| 4 th , Luke Emmel, 131-09 | 9 th , Emily Holland, 68-03 |
| 5 th , Bailey Haguewood, 125-01 | Javelin - 600 g. |
| High Jump | 2 nd , Emily Holland, 90-06 |
| 10 th , Justin Estabrook, 4-08.00 | 5 th , Dominika Senkerikova, 82-09 |
| Long Jump | |

4-H horse clinic held

Several Morrow County 4-H horse members and leaders attended the Ranch Horse Clinic held at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner recently. Candi Bothum, Deschutes County 4-H specialist, was the guest speaker and trainer for the day.

Members learned how to ear tag cattle, vaccinate properly, brand and tie proper knots for ranching. A special session with cattle and roping instruction from local rancher Kyle Robinson, his son Garrett Robinson and fellow roper Tate Gentry ended the day before a potluck lunch. Rain didn't keep the members and their families from having a great day learning



Ivy Sandford (center) gets roping instruction from Tate Gentry, Garrett Robinson and Kyle Robinson. -Contributed photo and having fun.

Several more 4-H horse clinics are scheduled for Morrow County. The next one is April 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. The topic will be equitation. Call the OSU Extension Office at 676-9642 with any questions.

Local students on OSU winter honor roll

Seven Morrow County students were listed on the Oregon State University scholastic honor roll for the winter term, the university announced this week.

Each Morrow County student made the honor roll with a GPA of 3.5 or better. Students on the honor roll included:



Emily J. Thompson

Thompson, Heppner, sophomore in biology.

Kelsi T. Putman, Lexington, freshman in agricultural business management.



Kelsi Putman

Juana Gaytan, Boardman, freshman in general science.

Aaron M. Hendricks, Boardman, junior in pre-mechanical engineering.

Alejandra Mendoza, Boardman, freshman in mathematics.

Ivan A. Estrada, Irrigon, sophomore in exercise and sport science.

Shesly Zamora-Martinez of Irrigon, a sophomore in pre-business.

MCSO APPROVES AMBRE

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businessman, not a state representative, said that the project is in the public comment stage and urged people to write to the Corps of Engineers in support of the project. He said that the project is being opposed by Sierra Club, among other groups.

He said that the project, which represents a \$110-\$115 million investment on behalf of Ambre Energy, would add 25 family-wage jobs in the neighborhood of \$50-\$90 thousand per year. In addition to the monies dedicated to the school, the facility would generate around \$750 thousand per year in property taxes for the county and around \$900 thousand in tipage fees to the Port of Morrow. He said that Ambre Energy is not asking to be included in an enterprise zone, which would reduce or eliminate their taxes for a period of time, nor are they asking for any tax breaks.

Smith emphasized that the project would not affect the environment adversely in any way, as the coal would be shipped to the Port of Morrow from Wyoming and Montana in covered rail cars, with a special coating that suppresses dust, and is unloaded in covered facilities and then sent down the Columbia in covered barges to be shipped to energy-starved countries in the Far East. He said the sheds will be located on industrial property with concrete foundations. He stressed that the project would result in zero air emissions and zero ground-water contamination.

"There will be no burning of coal" in the Northwest, he said.

"You can be anti-coal," he added, commenting that the project is about the moving of a product. "The question is who's going to gain?"

Smith said he has already received support for the project from the Morrow County Court, Umatilla County Board of County Commissioners, the cities of Heppner, Boardman and Lexington, the Irrigon Planning Commission, and chambers of commerce in Heppner, Boardman and Hermiston.

The school board voted to give their support to the project.

Also at the meeting, the board approved a five-cent increase in lunch prices for 2012-13. Business manager Andy Fletcher told the board that the lunch program is "barely breaking even" and said that the district is required to raise the prices by federal law. He said that the "Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 requires school food authorities participating in the National School Lunch Program to provide the same level of support for lunches served to students who are not eligible for free or reduced price lunches (i.e. paid lunches) as they are for lunches served to students eligible for free lunches."

The price for elementary school lunches will go from \$2.10 to \$2.15; middle school and high school from \$2.35 to \$2.40. Adult lunches will remain the same at \$3.

In other business,

the board:

-learned from Assistant Superintendent George Mendoza that the district health teachers have opted to use the current health textbooks as those books already comply with the new "sexual health" standards, and the book adoption team members recommended purchasing new social studies books for grades four-six, junior high and high school. He said that the district will "look to reduce the book purchase and look to have buildings share" books. That would mean that books would be shared within each school grade level and high school and junior high school books would be shared in Irrigon and Boardman.

-received a report on the Common Core Professional Development status from Mendoza.

-accepted the first reading of a change in the compulsory attendance regulation which would eliminate fines for parents who are not sending their children (ages seven through 18 who have not completed the 12th grade) to school. According to the previous policy, parents could have been fined up to \$150 for failure to send a student to school and maintain his regular attendance, a Class C violation, and up to \$600 for failing to supervise a child, a Class A violation. Included was a district truancy/attendance flow chart which details procedures in the event that a child has irregular attendance (eight half-day unexcused absences or four full-day unexcused absences during a four-week period).

-accepted the first reading of a policy on school entrance in kindergarten and first grade. According to the policy a child whose fifth birthday falls on or before September 1 may enter kindergarten and the opening of the same year; any child whose sixth birthday falls on or before September 1 may enter the first grade at the opening of the same year. If the parents or guardians move into the district from another state or area where their child was enrolled in kindergarten or first grade, the child may be enrolled in kindergarten or first grade if the child has been in regular attendance in the former district.

The policy further states that if parents or guardians enroll their underage child in a private or parochial school for a short period of time to avoid MCSO policy, the child will not be permitted to transfer into MCSO during that year.

Superintendent Dirk Dirksen told the board that he favored some leniency in the event that a child is evaluated by a screener, which will be worked into the subsequent policy.

-learned that, due to unanticipated expenditures, some capital projects will have to be postponed. Fletcher said that some of those projects may be rolled into capital outlay in future budgets.

-heard a report from

Mendoza on Common Core professional development status and future plans.

-discussed currently offered after-school programs for students who have gotten off track and behind in their school work. The programs are currently voluntary; however, if the programs were made mandatory, then the district would have to offer busing for those students. Dirksen pointed out the importance of keeping younger students in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades on track.

"We can't wait until they reach their junior or senior years," he said, adding that was why there were so few of the students having such difficulties that late in their high school careers.

-received reports from Windy River Elementary teachers.

-accepted the following employment action report: retirement-Mary Haguewood, Heppner Elementary teacher; retire/rehire Gail Horning, A.C. Houghton Elementary teacher to retire August 1, 2012, and then teach the 2012-13 school year; extra duty resignations-Sonia Sanchez, Riverside High School assistant volleyball coach, assistant girls' basketball coach; employment/transfers/promotions-Jessica Lehman, full-time Heppner Elementary ed assistant to half-time HES ed assistant and half-time HES temporary teacher; Sybil Steward, recalled into WRE language development position, replacing Wainwright; extra duty contracts-Scott Dean, RHS head football coach for 2012-13; Janelle Ellis, assistant softball coach for 2011-12.

-received the following attendance report: A.C. Houghton Elementary-274; Heppner Elementary-187; Heppner High School-186; Irrigon Elementary-220; Irrigon High School-331; Riverside High School-401; Sam Boardman Elementary-306; Windy River Elementary-200; Morrow Education Center/Morrow County School District students-40; MEC/Umatilla School District students-13; total-2158.

-accepted and appropriated a \$3,965 donation for support services from The James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation.

-heard the following announcements: Compact work session with county superintendents and the Education Service District-April 18; school stakeholder meeting, April 25, 5 p.m., district office; board work session to align board goals and compact to district budget, May 1, 6 p.m., district office; first budget meeting, May 7, 7 p.m., district office; board meeting (potential to present final compact), May 14, Irrigon High School, 7 p.m.; achievement compact for board approval, June 11.

Babe Ruth sign-ups

Practice for the Heppner Babe Ruth league will start April 23. Anyone who would like to play in the league needs to sign up by April 22. If interested in playing Babe Ruth, contact Jim Kindle at 541-379-3755.

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