

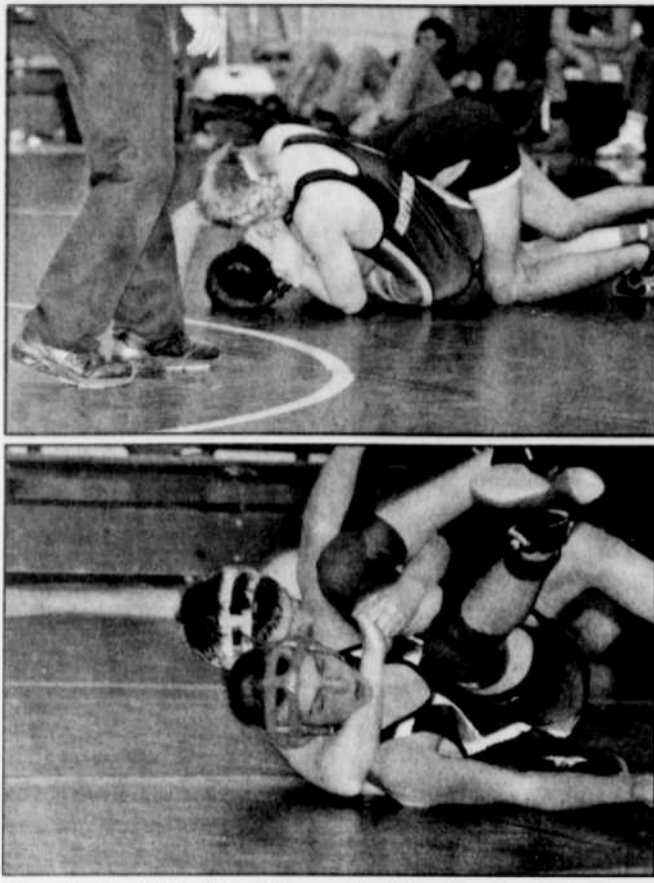
# Mustang wrestlers take sixth in tournament

## Take third among district teams

The Heppner wrestling team competed in the 17-team Cosgrove-Eschler tournament in Joseph, OR on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 4-5. The Mustangs finished sixth overall as a team and third among 2A/1A teams. Vale won the tournament.

Ryan Smith (106 pounds), Earl Propher (160 pounds), Tim Nelson (220 pounds) and John Propher (285 pounds) made it to the championship semifinals on Saturday morning before each of them suffered their first tournament loss. Nelson went on to win the consolation bracket championship and claim a third-place medal. Smith and Earl Propher finished fifth, while John Propher finished fourth.

Heppner had a total of six wrestlers place in the top six of their respective weight classes. Other Mustang placers were Treston Maben, third at 152 pounds, and Alex Smith, fifth at 138



Top: Alex Smith finishes this match with a pin after being down by five points with only five seconds left on the clock. Bottom: Will Lutchter besting an opponent during the tournament in Joseph. -Photos by Alita Nelson

The Mustangs are next at home on Thursday, Jan. 10 at 5 p.m.

# Basketball keeps rolling through the holidays

Mustang basketball kept on rolling through the holiday break.

On Dec. 21, Heppner hosted Weston-McEwen. The girls took the win in the contest with a final score of 57-52. It was a rough game on the court with 50 fouls combined for both teams. Everyone on Heppner's roster saw some action. Baily Bennett led the Mustangs in scoring with 18.

In the following contest, the boys lost to the TigerScots 68-51. The Mustangs failed to score in the final frame in their loss. Stephen Thompson led the Mustangs in scoring with 16.

The next day, Heppner traveled to Union to play the Bobcats. The Lady Mustangs found themselves down by 10 beginning the final quarter of play. The Mustangs increased their pressure in the fourth quarter, holding the Bobcats to six points. In the final minute of play, Heppner had two and a half steals for layins, and a three-point shot that hit with 10 seconds

left on the clock, sending the game into overtime. The Mustangs had the momentum and finished the game, winning 64-60.

The boys, struggling with their offense, lost to the Bobcats 63-44 during their fast-paced game with the home team.

Heppner took a break from league play when it went on to host its Christmas tournament on Dec. 28-29. The Mustangs played Hermiston JV on Friday night. Both Heppner teams played well, the boys winning 58-52 and the girls winning 47-36 to advance to the final games on Saturday.

The next day, the girls played the Mac-Hi Pioneers of Milton-Freewater. They continued playing good ball, beating their opponents 59-25. Heppner shot 13-16 from the charity stripe. Alana Wilson led the Mustangs in scoring with 17.

The boys ran into a very good team in the Horizon Christian Hawks; the final score was all Hawks

in a 58-22 loss for the Mustangs.

Resuming league play on Friday, Jan. 4, the Mustangs traveled to John Day to play the Grant Union Prospectors.

The girls played sluggishly after a break in action but found their game...and Baily Bennett under the basket. She led Heppner in scoring with 27 points. The Mustangs won the contest 50-44. The girls are now 9-1 overall and 4-1 in Blue Mountain Conference (BMC) play, with their only loss to Pilot Rock.

In the boys' game at Grant Union, the Mustangs lost 60-52. Heppner hit 8-9 free throws in the contest but couldn't stop the Grant Union team from grabbing the win. The Mustang boys are 2-7 overall and 0-5 in BMC league play.

With three league games in six days this week, the Heppner Mustangs are busy. Tuesday night, Jan. 8, the Mustangs traveled to Irigton to play the Knights. Game results were unavailable at press time.

# Junior Mustangs trample opponents in double-header

## Season record 13-4 going into final game

On Saturday, Jan. 5, the Heppner Junior High School Mustangs A team traveled to Arlington for a pair of games.

In the first game of the morning, the Mustangs beat the Arlington Honkers by a score of 39-25. Heppner started the game in a defensive press that led to many steals and fast break baskets. The quick start carried on to halftime, where the Mustangs led the game 24-8. In the second half, all the team members got into the game and contributed to the victory. Caden Hed-

man led the team in scoring with 17 points. He also had five steals and four assists. Kevin Murray and Logan Grieb both scored eight, and Alex Lindsay had four. Jake Lindsay scored two points and had six assists.

In the second game, the Mustangs beat the Horizon Christian Hawks from Hood River. The final score was 43-21. Another quick start by the Mustangs gave them a 22-10 halftime lead that they would not give up. Grieb led the Mustangs with 14 points, five steals and five rebounds. Hedman

followed with 12 points. Kolby Currin had a big game scoring seven points, and hauling down seven rebounds and four steals. Jake Lindsay had another strong performance with three points, five steals and four assists. Tim Jaca also scored three points, and Alex Lindsay and Murray had two each. Murray also had six rebounds.

The Mustang record now sits at 13-4 with only one scheduled game remaining. That one game is a home game this Friday against the Lone Cardinals.

# Elks hoop shoot winners announced



Some of the participants in the Heppner Elks Hoop Shoot, held Dec. 16 at Heppner Elementary School. -Photo by Megan Futter

The Heppner Elks Club held its annual Hoop Shoot on Dec. 16 at Heppner Elementary School. Winners are as follows:

Girls 8-9: First, Sydney Wilson.

Girls 10-11: First, Tresslyn McCurry; second, Alison Cecil.

Girls 12-13: First, Sydney Stefani; second, Sophie Grant; third, Carsyn Rios; and other participant, Kacie Gray.

Boys 8-9: First, Derrick Smith; second, Gaige Futter; third, Blake Carter; and other participants, Brock Hisler, Cody Fletcher, David Cribbs, Joe Sherman, Jett Stewart, Jace Coe, Mikel Jaca and Brian Lindsay.

Boys 10-11: First, Keegan Gibbs; second, Tyler Carter; third, Drew Coe; and other participants, Sabastian Futter, Casey

Fletcher, Kellen Grant, Jordan Sweeney and Angel Matthew.

Boys 12-13: First, Kevin Smith; second, Alex Lindsay; third, Dakota Howard; and other participants, Gibson McCurry, Austin Carter and Kane Sweeney.

The first-place winners will advance to the District Hoop Shoot in Hermiston on Jan. 19.

# Art Day at Central Washington University

## Students who gave up Saturday say they'd do it again

Saturday, Dec. 1, was "Art Day" at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA.

Thanks to a grant from the Ione Education Foundation, teacher Orissa Burghard was able to take three students up in the van for this first annual event.

Many other students were unable to go, as they were involved in the basketball bonanza.

"Giving up a Saturday to try something new takes courage," said Burghard. "Giving up a Saturday to drive six hours round trip for a field trip is impressive."

All who went agreed

that the day turned out to be a fun-filled time.

After a slightly late arrival, the students got to enjoy a two-hour studio experience. Some students enjoyed drawing, while others engaged in sculpture, watercolor and/or darkroom photography.

The darkroom was a unique experience, where students actually developed their film and watched as the images emerged.

This was followed by a pizza lunch and then a tour of the art building, more studio time and dinner.

The students who chose to ride in the van all said they would do it again

and that it was worth their time.

Andrea Lezama said, "I would definitely attend another event like this. It was worth the wait and worth our time."

"The field trip to Central Washington University was an amazing learning experience," said another student, Sam Gilbert. "The classes were very helpful in sections of art that I am interested in. I learned ways to take my interest in art to the next level."

Even Burghard said she felt that she gained ideas and inspiration from the visit. After looking in on all of the different experiences, Burghard was most impressed with the ceramics demo and the drawing class.

"I would love to do this again, and I am so grateful to the Ione Education Foundation for the opportunity to go this year," said Burghard.

# Driver safety training scheduled in Pendleton

RSVP of Eastern Oregon, in partnership with AARP of Oregon, will host a driver safety training workshop at Pendleton City Hall, 500 SW Dorion Avenue in Pendleton, OR, on Saturday, Feb. 16 from 8:45 a.m. until 4 p.m. A lunch break is scheduled from noon until 1 p.m.; no lunch is provided, so participants are asked to bring their own lunch.

The class is open to all ages, but is focused on those aged 50 and older. The cost is \$12 for AARP members; members will need to have a membership card to take advantage of the discount. The cost is \$14 for non-members.

The fee covers the cost of classroom material.

Upon completing the class, participants will be issued a certificate of completion that can be given to their insurance for any applicable discounts.

# ELL, Title I night planned

Heppner Elementary School invites students, parents and community members to its annual English Language Learners (ELL) and Title I night on Thursday, Jan. 10, at HES.

This year the theme will be "Nuts about ELL and Title I."

Anyone who plans on attending should be ready to sample a variety of nuts and nut products; teachers say they think people will be

surprised about how many kinds of nuts they will be able to taste.

The event will also include some activities and information about both programs at HES.

The event starts at 6 p.m. and will continue until 7 p.m. in the HES library.

Anyone who has questions, contact Mrs. Smith-Griffith or Mrs. Elguezabal at the school.

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