

Ione JV teams split weekend games



Ione's Emily Taylor (22) and Sydney Qualls (40) prepare to screen for teammate Susie Teeman (10) as she drives to Ione's basket in Friday's game against Sherman County. -Photo by Sylvia Sandford

Ione JV Girls played two quarters against the Huskies, with Ione winning the half game 11-10. The JV girls only played two quarters against the JV Lady Knights in Condon Saturday but played a well-executed game and held their own, finally losing to Condon 12-26.

The Ione JV boys tied up Friday's home game against the Sherman Co. Huskies 39-39 at the end of the third quarter, but fell behind 53-48 in the last few seconds of the fourth quarter. They turned it around on Saturday, coming out against Condon/Wheeler on the road and winning 42-35.

Cardinals face rough week, fall to sixth in Big Sky

Ione varsity boys played hard Friday but were outscored by Sherman in last week's Big Sky matchup in Ione. Ione lost 30-82. Then, the Ione Cardinals just couldn't catch a break in Saturday's game in Con-

don against the Knights. By the end of the first quarter the Knights led 17-0. Condon/Wheeler won the game with 67 points to Ione's 38. Ione is now ranked sixth in the Big Sky League.



L-R: Ione's Colton Hollis (11) passes the ball to Aaron Smythe (21) against Sherman in Ione. -Photo by Sylvia Sandford

Lady Cards fall to second in league



L-R: Lady Cards Maggie Flynn (22), Katie Gilbert (12), Ivy Sandford (34), Rachel Holland (32) and Morgan Orem (14) defend the basket in Saturday's game against Condon/Wheeler. -Photo by Sylvia Sandford

Ione's varsity girls played a fast-paced game last Friday when they hosted the Sherman County Huskies. The Lady Cardinals defeated the Huskies 42-35. Ione and Condon/Wheeler were tied for first place in the Big Sky League with 7-1 going into their game Saturday. It was an intense, fast game in which

Ione played hard. They just weren't themselves going into the second half, though; the Knights anticipated the Lady Cardinals' plays and prevented them from scoring enough to catch up to Condon/Wheeler's 17-point lead. Ione lost 29-46, placing them second in the Big Sky League with a 7-2 league record.



L-R: Ione's Umaedali Rajabaliev (33) waits to assist as teammate Tyler Carter (32) jumps to steal the ball in Saturday's game in Condon. Austin Carter looks ready to rebound in back. -Photo by Sylvia Sandford

International club raffles baskets for Spring Break trip

Ione International Club members are raffling off baskets at Ione Cardinal home games to raise money for their trip to Ireland and Scotland during 2016 Spring Break.



Items to be raffled include a 40" Smart TV with HDMI cable, cooking basket valued at \$70, Play Station 4, two move baskets valued at \$30 each, A \$25 candy bouquet, and a Build a Fort basket worth \$30.

This cooking basket valued at \$70 is just one of the items the Ione International Club will raffles to raise funds for its upcoming trip. -Contributed photo

Tickets are one for \$5 or five for \$20. Winners will be announced at the Ione Cardinal basketball game on Friday, Feb. 12.

Community lunch menu

Hope and Valby Lutheran and All Saints Episcopal church volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will include meat loaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, orange-kissed beets, hot rolls, and red velvet cake.

Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.



SPAGHETTI FEED FUNDRAISER

FOR NADINE BALL

FEBRUARY 6TH AT 5 PM

AT THE ELKS LODGE

Dinner will be \$10 a plate and will include spaghetti, a side salad, garlic bread and desert. There will be a silent auction and raffle items.

FIGHT LIKE A GIRL

GROUND BREAKING

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"That was the only thing he insisted on," added Cutsforth.

They soon located the empty lot on Riverside. Just outside the city limits, the land owned by Morrow County Grain Growers seemed ideal.

Cutsforth called MCGG General Manager John Ripple. After a few meetings, MCGG came back with a response—if the lot was feasible for the fire hall, MCGG would donate the land.

Next came the survey of the land to see if it would work. The lot was clear of the flood plain, but it included an old railroad easement owned by Morrow County.

According to easement conditions, nothing could be built on the property. A few phone calls and meetings later, the county had granted the city permission to amend the easement so they could build a fire hall.

There were still more hoops to jump through. In order to access the land from Riverside, Devin Energy Group had to grant an easement. Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District had to grant another easement in order to access the lot from Hwy. 74.

And, along the way, the City of Heppner and the Heppner Fire Department realized they wouldn't be able to pull it off on their own financially. They approached the Heppner Rural Fire Protection District, which agreed to join with them in putting forth bond measures to finance the new fire hall.

At the same time, they knew the ground for the hall had to be flat. Most fire department accidents are the result of engines having to back up, Estes said, and he wanted to avoid that by having a space where firefighters could pull the engines straight through the hall.

While Farra's donation made the dream possible, it didn't make it easy. Even knowing they needed a new fire hall, the city and fire department still had to navigate a series of obstacles.

The difficulties started in the fall of 2014 with the location of the new fire hall. The City of Heppner owned the land adjacent to the existing fire hall on Willow St., they began their search there.

As they soon found, however, that location wasn't as practical as it seemed.

"Any addition wouldn't have been efficient," said Cutsforth, explaining that the Willow St. location wouldn't have been practical to accommodate the fire department's large engines and equipment.

The proximity to other buildings also added concerns about, ironically, fire safety.

They started looking for other locations but, because much of Heppner is located on a flood plain, options were limited.

"They won't let you build essential services on a flood plain," explained Cutsforth.

Without her we never would have had enough money to do any of it," finished Cutsforth.

"Without Ida, the answer would have been, 'You're not gonna do it.'"

Elks awards Most Valuable Student scholarships

The Heppner Elks Lodge #358 has announced the winners of the Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship Contest. The scholarships are awarded each year to well-qualified seniors based on scholarship, leadership, community service, extracurricular activities, financial need and an essay.

The local Elks lodge was able to award three male and three female scholarships totaling \$2,500. The recipients are as follows:

Skyler Palmer, \$700; Patrick Collins, \$350; Weston Putman, \$200; Rachael Holland, \$700; Jessica Kempken, \$350; and Jessie Flynn, \$200.

Collins placed second at the district competition, earning an additional

\$1,600, while Palmer and Holland placed third at districts, earning an additional \$1,400 each. Kempken didn't earn any additional money at the district level but still finished in the top 10.

"Many outstanding young men and women competed for awards this year," said Elks scholarship chairman Tim Dickenson. "The committee would like to thank all the applicants for their impressive brochures and want to encourage you to apply for the upcoming Buchanan Memorial Scholarships."

For more information about those scholarships, contact Dickenson at 541-676-8990 or dickensonchiro@centurytel.net.

MCGG donates land for fire hall

Latest donation just one of many by co-op

The new fire hall under construction (see groundbreaking story in this week's G-T) was made possible in part with the generous donation of the land by the local grain co-op, Morrow County Grain Growers. This donation, however, is only one of many projects the co-op supports and sponsors for the benefit of all the communities that they serve.

In addition to the recent land donation MCGG has in the past donated land for the Lexington Fire Hall, and they currently own the former Ione Grange Hall, which they allow to be used for fire department training.

Over the years MCGG has run its "Fueling the Future" program in which the company donates funds to local schools for each delivery of fuel made to homes and businesses in their service areas. So far they have given more than \$25,000 to the schools.

MCGG has also given to local booster clubs in their communities, FFA programs, and they show support for county fairs and by purchasing livestock at the 4-H livestock auctions. The co-op donations have helped put on the rodeos, and they support youth sports activities including baseball, basketball, football and soccer in all their communities. MCGG is a member of the local chambers of commerce, and shows support for special projects and improvements.

In all MCGG makes annual donations of over \$35,000 to benefit their communities.



HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

Ladies Night Steak Dinner

Thursday, February 4th 6pm

DINNER:

MARINATED NEW YORK STEAKS, BETH'S CHEESY POTATOES, SALAD, ROLL AND DESSERT

Elks members and their families