

Heppner kicks of Christmas season



Heppner got in the holiday spirit last Thursday with the annual merchant open house, Parade of Lights and other holiday gatherings. Top: Henry Burnside shares his Christmas wish list with Santa at Sweet Productions. Bottom: The crew from Murray's Drug was just one of several festive floats that lit up Main Street during the light parade. -Photos by David Sykes

CELEBRATE HEPPNER CHRISTMAS

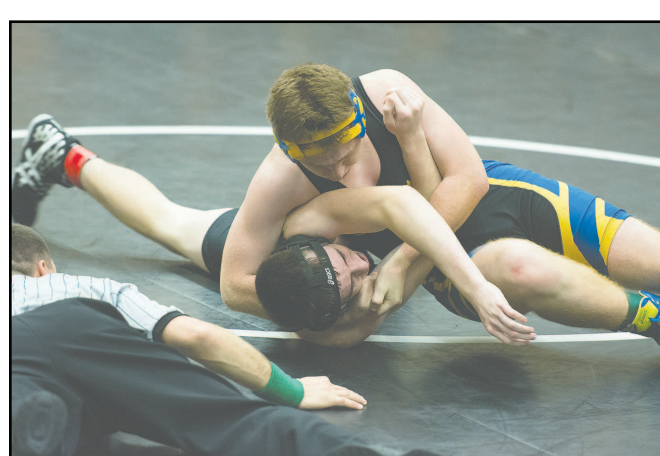
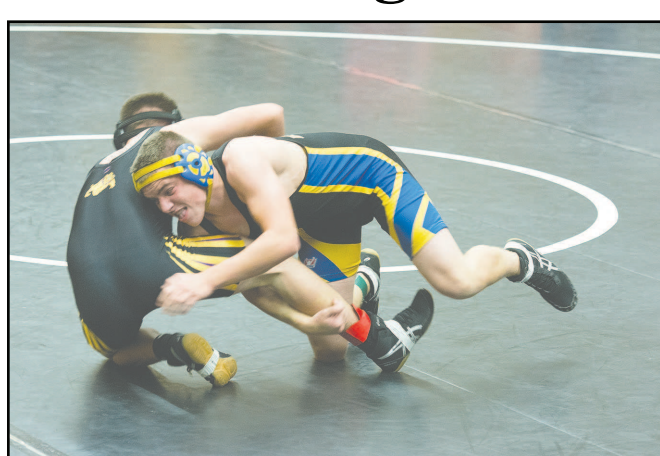


Scrooge is the only one who would give a thumbs-down to the Celebrate Heppner Christmas event. The annual event will take place at the Morrow County Fairgrounds next Thursday, Dec. 15, beginning at 6 p.m. -File Photo

-Continued from PAGE ONE to make sure they put their names on each reward card and put them in the items they would like to be drawn for before that time. There will be an area to exchange cards if desired.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

Heppner wrestlers see strong season start in Irrigon



Carson Brosnan (above left) and Zach Bredfield (above right) started their tournament and their season by wrestling each other at the Irrigon tournament last Saturday. After a back-and-forth battle, Brosnan prevailed and went on to capture a silver, while Bredfield also finished strongly with a bronze. -Photo by Kirsti Cason

The Heppner wrestling team kicked off the season in Irrigon last Saturday. Other teams attending the tournament were Irrigon, Grant Union, Hermiston and Stanfield/Echo.

Cord Flynn of Ione, ranked number two in Oregon at 195 pounds, led the team with a perfect 4-0 record and a gold medal in the 220/285 bracket.

Sophomore Leo Waite started his second season as a Mustang on a high note. He pinned all three of his opponents and claimed his first high school gold medal at 126 pounds.

Carson Brosnan and Zach Bredfield had to start the tournament and season by wrestling each other. After a back and forth battle, Brosnan prevailed and then

went on to a 3-1 record and second place in the bracket. Bredfield also finished strong with a bronze medal. Freshman Xavier Bohanon wrestled in his first high school tournament at heavyweight and earned second place and a silver medal.

Heppner's other placer was Junior JD Aleksa, who brought home a bronze

medal. Also wrestling for Heppner were Jacob Wallace and Ethan Holmgren.

The Mustangs' next action will be at the Mullenburg Tournament in La Grande on Friday and Saturday. The two-day tournament is expected to include more than 20 teams ranging from 1A to 6A from Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

HHS boys take it to the buzzer in close victory over Eagles

Mustangs go 1-1 at Joseph basketball tournament

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team started its season by going 1-1 at the Joseph Education Foundation Tournament last weekend. Heppner beat the host Joseph Eagles team by the score of 55-54 and then lost to the Imbler Panthers 39-32.

Following a long bus ride, the Mustangs started the game with Joseph by not being able to score any baskets. They trailed the Eagles 19-5 at the end of the first quarter. The Mustangs then made some adjustments and slowly began to score and cut into the Joseph lead. At halftime Heppner only trailed by 6 points, 30-24.

After a rousing pep talk by coach Jeremy Rosenbalm at halftime, the Mustangs came out with more intensity and purpose in the second half. The shots started to go in for Heppner as Logan Grieb hit two quick three-pointers and Caden Hedman hit his first three shots of the half. The Mustangs were able to catch Joseph and take a brief lead just three minutes

into the half. The quarter went back and forth from there and Joseph led at the end of three 42-41.

Jake Lindsay got the hot hand in the fourth quarter and carried Heppner to a 53-48 lead with three minutes left in the game. The Mustangs still led the game 53-52 when a Joseph player made two free throws to give them a 54-53 lead with only :18 seconds left in the game. Heppner chose not to use a time out and pushed the ball up the court. After several passes they got a good look and took a shot from near the foul line. The ball bounced off the rim and Kevin Smith corralled the rebound under the hoop. He then scored the game-winning basket on a reverse lay in with .7 seconds left in the game. After several time outs, the Eagles inbounded the ball and missed on their final shot to secure a 55-54 victory for the Mustangs.

Grieb led the team in scoring with 22 points on 8-15 shooting. Jake Lindsay was next with 11 points and

Hedman finished with 10. Smith scored 9 points in the game and Alex Lindsay had 3. Smith topped the team in rebounds with 8 and Kevin Murray had 7. As a team, Heppner had 11 steals in the game and only committed 9 turnovers.

The championship game with Imbler was a hard-fought defensive battle by both teams. Once again the Mustangs started the game out slowly. Heppner was not getting many of their shots to fall and trailed at the end of the first quarter 16-10. A defensive switch by the Mustangs in the second quarter limited Imbler to only two points. Heppner only trailed by a point at halftime 18-17.

Imbler then came out with a big third quarter and took a 31-23 lead into the final frame. Heppner outscored the Panthers in the fourth quarter, but it wasn't enough, and they lost the game by the score of 39-32.

Nikolas Dias Martins led the Mustangs in scoring with 8. Murray had 7

and Grieb scored 5 points. Hedman and Wyatt Steagall each had 4 points while Jake Lindsay and Smith had 2 points each. Grieb led the team in rebounds with 7 and Murray had 5. The Mustangs had 12 steals in the game but had 17 turnovers for the night. They did have 8 assists on their 11 made field goals in the game.

The trip to Joseph was a good way to start off the season as the Mustangs got to play two quality teams on the road in a tournament. This week the Mustangs will host their own tournament. The Heppner Kickoff Classic will bring in teams from Irrigon, Crane and Toledo. The games will start on Friday afternoon at 3 p.m. with a game between the Irrigon and Crane girls. The same two schools' boys' teams will play next. The Heppner girls will start the evening session off when they take on Toledo around 6 p.m. The last game of the day will be between the Heppner and Toledo boys' teams.

Raising a ruckus for kids this Christmas

The second annual Ruckus Raiser fundraiser will take place this Friday, Dec. 9, beginning at 9 p.m. at Bucknum's Tavern.

The evening will feature live music by Cory Peterson, Aaron "Dog Bite" Harris and Jake Roy. Entrance will be by donations at the door; donations may be cash or a new, unwrapped toy. Proceeds will go to the Neighborhood Center.

Christmas music fest this Sunday

A Christmas Music Fest returns to Heppner for a second year on Sunday, Dec. 11, at Hope Lutheran Church (near the dam).

The hour-long concert begins at 3 p.m. and features the gifts of many area musicians, concluding with a carol sing-along.

Admission is free but donations of canned food for the Neighborhood Center will be welcome.

For more information, or to be added to the program, call Pastor Katy Anderson at 541-676-9970.

Whether you're planning for next year's working capital, expansion, or equipment... now is the time to come visit BEO.

Happy holidays from our family to yours.

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We don't sell fat quarters
We don't rent movies
We won't charm snakes
We don't rotate tires
We're not painters
We can't resole shoes
We don't fill cavities
We don't sell antiques
We don't know jewelry
We can't fill prescriptions
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We don't sell or bag groceries
We shouldn't run with scissors

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