

The Official Newspaper
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner

GAZETTE-TIMES

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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David Sykes Publisher
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All News and Advertising Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

For Advertising: advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$5.25 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$10 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$6.05 per column inch.

For Public/Legal Notices: public/legal notices deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Dates for publication must be specified. Affidavits must be required at the time of submission. Affidavits require three weeks to process after last date of publication (a sooner return date must be specified if required).

For Obituaries: Obituaries are published in the Heppner GT at no charge and are edited to meet news guidelines. Families wishing to include information not included in the guidelines or who wish to have the obituary written in a certain way must purchase advertising space for the obituary.

For Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor MUST be signed by the author. The Heppner GT will not publish unsigned letters. All letters MUST include the author's address and phone number for use by the GT office. The GT reserves the right to edit letters. The GT is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$10.

Heppner track team takes second at state

Boys relay team takes first

Heppner track and field competed at the state championship meet at Western Oregon University on May 17 and 18. Eight athletes competed, and all eight stood on the podium. After winning the arguably toughest district in 2A, the men's team came in with strong athletes competing in multiple events.

Friday started with Derek Howard throwing shot put. After a strong season with multiple personal records, Howard came in with confidence. Throwing consistently and well, Howard secured the second-place spot with his farthest throw of 49'5".

Hunter Nichols was up next in the 3000m run. After a bout with sickness at districts, he was ready to run a strong race. Nichols allowed another runner to lead for the first few laps, but pulled out in front and showed his strength, finishing as the state champion in a time of 8:59.29. Nichols received his championship medal from his dad and coach, Russ Nichols, and went to rest for his races in the 800 and 4x400 relay on Saturday.

The preliminary heats of the 400m dash and the 300m hurdles took place Friday as well, with finals on Saturday. Mason Lehman and Jayden Wilson both ran in the same heat of the 400m and Wilson moved on to finals. Leo Waite earned the eighth spot in the finals with a strong kick and determination.

The final days started with Howard throwing disc. With a tough field, Howard threw with consistency and earned the eighth spot with a throw of 119'9".

Madelyn Nichols started her state competition with a strong showing in the 1500m run. Nichols ran with the fast front pack, finishing with a personal best time of 5:06.34.

Trevor Antonucci was up next in the men's 1500m run, with his signature strong kick taking him from sixth place to third place in the last two hundred meters. Antonucci crossed the finish line in a time of 4:13.90, a personal best time.

The finals for the 400m dash came next. Wilson qualified for finals with a time of 51.94 and started in lane six. Wilson came out strong, running a quick first 200 meters and passed several runners in the last stretch to come in fifth in a time of 52.01.

Madelyn Nichols returned to the track for the 800m run. Nichols broke the school record for the 800 earlier in the year and was ready to do it again. The first lap was strong, but Nichols held on and stuck with the leader, finishing second with a new school record time of 2:25.90.

Hunter Nichols followed his sister in the 800m run, narrowly missing a delay in his start time due to lightning. Although the storm was coming, the race was started and Nichols took a chance to get out fast. Nichols pulled out early, but with a strong pack he had to fight to the end. Nichols finished as the state champion in first with a time of 2:01.09 and was quickly pulled off the track due to lightning close to the track. At this point, the meet was delayed for approximately an hour. Wind howled and rain poured, but the team was thankful for a little more time to rest before the final races. Nichols received his championship



The Heppner Mustangs placed first in the team relay event: Hunter Nichols, Trent Smith, Jayden Wilson and Mason Lehman.

medal after the delay and went to join the relay team for warmups.

After the storm calmed down and the proper amount of time had passed, Leo Waite was up in the 300m hurdle finals. Ranked eighth going into the finals, Waite started the race with confidence. Waite is known for his build to the finish and he took advantage to pull up and pass another runner struggling in the last 100m of the race. Waite finished seventh, earning the team two points and standing proudly on the podium.

Finally, the 4x400m relay team was up. Heppner came into the race ranked first, but only by a couple hundredths of a second to Columbia Christian Academy. The team knew it would be a fight; the whole field was strong. Most teams were within a couple seconds of the boys

and were eager to fight for first. Trent Smith started in lane five, nervous but eager to put his team in the best position possible. Smith ran a strong first leg, coming in with the pack and making a quick handoff to Jayden Wilson. Wilson took the baton and pulled up to second place, handing off almost simultaneously with another team that was trying to gain position by pushing him farther out on the track. Mason Lehman took the baton and didn't let Columbia Christian, the leading team at the time, gain any ground. In the last 50 meters Lehman pulled up to the leader, handing off at the same time and allowing Hunter Nichols (the anchor leg) to pull out in front. The final runner for Columbia Christian stuck right behind him and tried to pass several times, but Nichols fought him off

until the very end. Heppner came across the finish line first (by one tenth of a second) and with a school record-breaking time of 3:30.94. The whole team celebrated with them while coaches Russ Nichols and Laura Winters ran to the side lines to congratulate them and award them their medals.

The second-place team trophy was awarded and the team met in a huddle to recap and to talk as a team. The season ended with amazing effort by all of the athletes. The men's team received the second-place plaque for the second year in a row, a feat not easily won.

The team and coaches would like to thank all of their supporters that made the trip to watch the competition. For full results, visit athletic.net or the OSAA website.

Ione senior awarded scholarship



Payton Miller

Payton Miller, a senior at Ione High School, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Oregon Wheat Foundation. The Foundation awarded a total of seven \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors this year, representing six counties or regions.

Payton Miller will soon graduate from Ione High School and plans to attend Eastern Oregon University to study psychology with the eventual goal of becoming an occupational therapist.

Payton is the daughter of Justin Miller and Stacie Ekstrom. She was active in FFA, Grange Youth, was a class leader all four years and class president as a senior. She excelled in tennis and volleyball and coached a youth volleyball team last year. She also worked harvest for local farms for two summers.

Students were judged on their community involvement, academic achievement and an essay on a wheat industry topic.

Community lunch menu

St. Patrick's Parish volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, May 29 at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will be sloppy Joe sandwiches, calico beans, coleslaw, sliced tomatoes and chocolate cupcakes for dessert.

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

WE WILL BE CLOSED

Monday, May 27th in observance of

Memorial Day



HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY WEEKEND!

Class of 2019

Heppner Saturday, June 1 2:00p.m.

Ione Friday, May 31 7:00p.m.

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THIS FRIDAY AT 5:00 P.M.

HealthyMC.org



When seconds count, they are the first to respond.

We thank all of the MCHD medical first responders in honor of National EMS Week!

We count the communities we serve amongst the most fortunate because of our outstanding EMS team.

With 14 employed team members and 47 volunteers, from ambulance drivers to Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), as well as Paramedics, they are saving lives in Boardman, Heppner, Ione, Irrigon, Lexington, and each corner of the county.

Their numerous contributions to the community-at-large are deserving of recognition because they embody the spirit of volunteering and exemplify the heart of our healthcare system.



Working Together to be a Healthier Community Today and TOMORROW