

MPRF set for January

By the MPRCA

The 2004 Annual Montana PRCA Pro Rodeo Circuit Finals is making its way to Great Falls, January 14, 15 and 16, 2005. Circuit titles will be on the line as the top Montana cowboys and cowgirls will be vying for year end titles. Over 84 of Montana's best PRCA Pro Rodeo contestants will travel to Great Falls to pit their wit and ability against the skill and heart of Montana's finest PRCA rodeo stock.

Ash "Crash" Cooper, the CPRA Entertainer of the year in 2003 and 2004 will be this year's barrelman. Known for his aestheticism and for involving rodeo cowboys in crowd-pleasing stunts, Crash Cooper will surely entertain the fans.

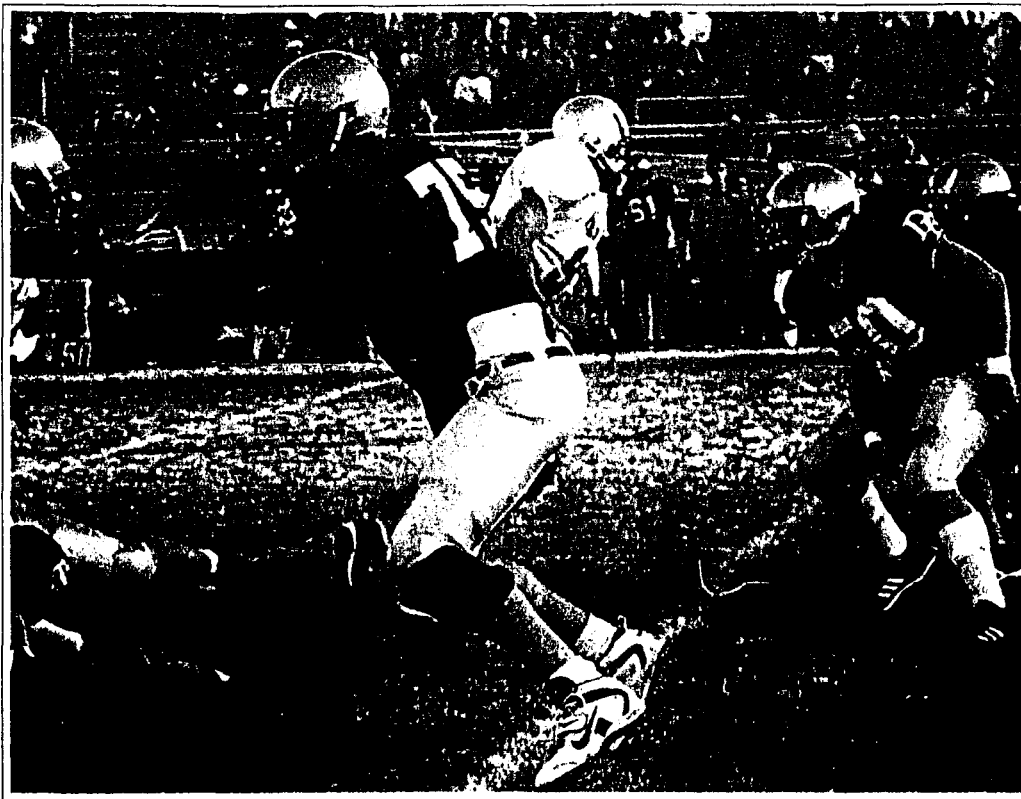
Other Rodeo contract personnel for this year's event include Flint Rasmussen of Choteau who will announce the rodeo action for his ninth consecutive year. Al Sandvold of Belgrade and Mike Anderson of Dillon will be the bullfighters. Gary Rempel of Augusta and Clint Humble of Newell, SD will be this year's pickup men. Cathy Wiefelich of Sidney will be serving her 14th year as the secretary and Roberta Sankey of Joliet and Amanda Corley of Silverdale, WA will time the event.

The highly successful PRCA Circuit System was the brainchild of Larry Jordan, a saddle bronc rider from Montana and got its first test run nearly 30 years ago in the Big Sky State. After the 1979 rodeo season, Montana held the first-ever circuit finals rodeo, pioneering a program that now produces hundreds of thousands of extra dollars in the pockets of rodeo cowboys and cowgirls in 12 circuits covering all 48 contiguous states. Many of rodeo's finest competitors, because of full-time careers, family commitments or both, were not able to travel nationwide in order the chase their dream of making the National Finals. It was then decided that an award system must be designed for these deserving and hard-working men and women. Montana Circuit contestants who win either the year-end title or the average title at the circuit finals also qualify for the Dodge National Circuit Finals in March.



Two-way star

UM-Western senior Josh Shrum earned first team All-Frontier honors as a running back and kick returner. His brother, also a senior from Biose, made the first team defense as a safety.



It all starts up front

Dillon senior Chris Dyk, 6-8, 240, and junior Andy Fjeseth (50), provide the protection that allowed the Dillon Beaver offense to crank up 335 yards of offense per game this past season. Both linemen were named to the Montana Class "A" All-State roster released Monday by Mike Gear of the Montana Coaches Association. J.P. Plutt photo

Five Beavers tabbed for All-State "A" football team

Five Dillon Beavers made the All-State A football team according to a release from Mike Gear of the Montana Coaches Association. Dillon placed three seniors and two juniors on the elite squad.

On the offensive side, offensive tackle Chris Dyk, and wide receivers Cory Anderson and John Ori were selected were tabbed as seniors while junior center Andy Fjeseth was also named. Defensively, Chance Plutt, a junior, made the list as a free safety.

Dyk and Fjeseth anchored an offensive line that allowed school record offensive production from a team that started the season with few returning varsity starters. The passing game cranked out 2,103 yards, second in the school record book, and the run attack accounted for 911 yards for a 334.9 total offense average over a 6-3 season.

Dyk, a 6-8, 240-pound tackle, dominated his position. Only injury problems slowed the big senior. Fjeseth, 6-0, 225, followed a great off-season of weight training with a solid performance in the middle of Dillon's offensive line. He handled the difficult shotgun snaps the spread attack requires, while attacking both his pass and run blocking duties.

Anderson hauled in 44 passes for 883 yards and six touchdowns. He averaged 20.1 yards per completion and almost 100 yards per game. His single season total of 883 yards set a school record.

Ori caught 35 balls for 419 yards and a single season school record seven touchdowns. He averaged 12 yards per catch and 52.4 yards per game receiving.

Plutt tied a single season school record with six interceptions, and forced and recovered two fumbles for eight total turnovers. He was co-leader in solo tackles on the team for the season with 26, and second in total tackles at 104.

Havre dominated Class A football throughout the season as the top-ranked squad from day one to their title game victory. The squad was dominated



Eying the tiger

Dillon junior Chance Plutt makes a pre-snap read of an offensive formation from his defensive safety position. Plutt made six interception and forced and recovered two fumbles to help his team's turnover margin. Plutt was Dillon's lone selection on the All-State defensive team. J.P. Plutt photo

by 22 seniors who in some cases were in their third year as varsity starters. The Blue Ponies filled 13 All-State slots, all by seniors suggesting that their will likely be a new state "A" champion next year.

Class A football has traditionally been one of the better organizations from any sport across the state in compiling a fair and legitimate All-State roster. The normal flow this season was disrupted by the four conference system. Chairman Mike Gear of Sidney offered an explanation:

"Because each class A conference was given 15 independent selections to the all state team, there is no division into first and second team. This process resulted in some positions

being more represented than others and some positions more represented by conference than others. IN the future, class A hopes to develop a selection process that will once again divide the all-state team into first and second teams.

2004 Class "A" All-State Football Team

Offense
Center- Paul Gleukert, 6-3, 220, sr., Miles City. Nick Daniel, 5-10, 190, sr., Havre. Andy Fjeseth, 6-0, 225, jr., Dillon.
Guard-Dustin Merritt, 5-10, 280, sr., Sidney. Mike Peterson, 6-4, 240, jr., Belgrade. Andrew Upton, 6-0, 230, sr., Belgrade. Travis Hjert, 190, jr., Libby. Jon Gallatin, 6-3, 200, sr., Polson. Kelvin Johnson, 6-2, 225, sr., Stevensville. Kyle Hardee, 6-2, 210, sr., Frenchtown.
Tackle-Terran Hillesland, 6-7, 294, sr., Sidney. Chad Seely, 6-0, 205, sr., Havre. Justin Winn, 5-11, 170, sr., Libby. Chris Dyk, 6-2, 265, sr., Dillon. Matt Crowe, 6-3, 215, sr., Butte Central. Blake Cranmore, 6-1, 230, jr., Corvallis.
Tight end-Cole Prevost, 5-11, 190, sr., Sidney. Alex Murphy, 6-2, 190, jr., Butte Central. Mac Gordon, 6-4, 210, sr., Polson. Jace Lundenberg, 6-1, 215, sr., Columbia Falls. Steven Pfahler, 6-3, 200, jr., Frenchtown.
Punter-Terry Lundeen, 5-10, 165, sr., Polson. J.T. McIntyre, 5-11, 165, jr., Butte Central. Quarterback-Bryce Burton, 5-9, 180, sr., Billings Central. Gary Wagner, 6-2, 165, sr., Havre. Mitchell Hill, 6-1, 175, sr., Bigfork. Brian Lebeschik, 5-11, 170, jr., Frenchtown.
Running back-Jeff Brokaw, 5-7, 160, sr., Hardin. Zach Hilsen, 6-1, 20, jr., Belgrade. Kevin Green, 5-10, 190, sr., Polson. Kim Savik, 5-8, 165, sr., Frenchtown.
Kicker-Troy England, 6-3, 170, sr., Corvallis. Joe Locke, 5-9, 135, sr., Polson. Ryan Kepler, 5-5, 130, soph., Lewistown.
Defense
Line Kyle Hardee, 6-2, 210, sr., Frenchtown. Kevin Sheppard, 6-2, 290, jr., Columbia Falls. Travis Hjert, 6-3, 190, jr., Libby. Tyler Wheeler, 6-0, 215, sr., Havre. Preston Nelson, 6-4, 210, sr., Billings Central.
Linebacker-Phil Hader, 6-3, 200, jr., Frenchtown. Jon Gallatin, 6-3, 200, sr., Polson. Rich Hounn, 6-0, 215, sr., Havre. Kyle Heger, 6-3, 200, jr., Miles City. Wes Davenport, 6-2, 195, sr., Colstrip. Marcus Old Coyote, 6-3, 220, sr., Hardin. Tyler LeClair, 6-1, 235, sr., Stevensville.
Outside linebacker-Eam Savik, 5-8, 165, sr., Frenchtown. Blaine Baker, 6-4, 225, sr., Libby. Terry Henden, 5-10, 165, sr., Polson. Brett Nichols, 5-9, 165, sr., Havre. Gresh Melby, 5-8, jr., Sidney.
Inside linebacker-Dustin Fattman, 5-9, 185, sr., Stevensville. Mac Gordon, 6-1, 210, sr., Polson. Ryan Ross, 5-10, 205, sr., 1909y. Colby Mader, 6-0, 190, sr., Havre. Kyle Bushman, 5-11, 200, sr., Billings Central. Cole Prevost, 5-11, 190, sr., Sidney.
Cornerback Brian Lebeschik, 5-10, 175, jr., Frenchtown. Drew Perry, 5-10, 170, sr., Columbia Falls. Carbon Woods, 5-9, 145, sr., Polson. Cody Kolda, 5-9, 170, sr., Havre. Jesse Johnson, 5-10, 164, sr., Glendive.
Strong safety-Jeff Brokaw, 5-7, 160, sr., Hardin. Jeff Wells, 6-0, 180, sr., Havre. Austin Duncan, 5-8, 165, sr., Frenchtown.
Free safety-Marc Matiana, 6-0, 160, sr., Havre. Blaine Berg, 6-1, 192, sr., Glendive. Jake Stognait, 5-11, 165, jr., Butte Central. Chance Plutt, 5-9, 155, jr., Dillon.
Return specialists-Travis Brown, 5-8, 165, sr., Stevensville. Jeff Brokaw, 5-7, 160, sr., Hardin. Cody Tchida, 5-9, 170, sr., Havre.

Hoops

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the 2004-05 edition of the Beavers. Ori demonstrated a fine shooting touch a year ago and has great speed. Ori is slated for the shooting guard. Fellow all-state receiver Cory Anderson will push the ball up court as the point guard. Anderson, also a senior, made his mark on JV a year ago but did suit up for occasional court time on the varsity. Anderson is also an incredibly quick athlete with good ball handling skills.

Jeff Allen and Kade Laden round out the seniors on the team. Allen, at 6-5, will play inside and outside, while Laden will fill a post role off the bench. Junior Marko Stanisich, 6-2, will join Laden off the bench in the post rotation.

A talented sophomore class will likely control the fate of the Beaver hoop season. Without question, a number of the five sophomores will have to step up and play at a varsity level in order for Dillon to enjoy a successful season.

The sophomores include 6-6 Chase Godecke, who will get thrown into the fire as a starting class A post. Jake Iverson at the point and Spencer Jenne are guards with exceptional speed. Dana Ori and Zach McRae as well as Jenne have the shooting stroke to impact the team's future and they'll fill in at the 2 and 3 guard positions.

"We're going to have some growing pains until we get some experience," said Finberg. "The thing I like about our team is the effort has been good, the attitude has been good. I don't think there is a lot of pressure on us. We just have to go out and play."

Dillon's team quickness will fit right in to Finberg's mix of man and zone defense. Dillon will once again dial up the run

and gun philosophy.

"We don't know what our identity is and we won't until we play about ten games," said the coach. "The couple areas that concern me is our rebounding and lack of size on defense. We're not a real physical team. We're going to have to make up for our lack of size with aggressiveness and just play our rear ends off."

Dillon opens with an experienced Bigfork team Friday at 3:30 at the Hamilton Middle School gym in the first day action of the Northwestern A versus Southwestern A tourney. The Vikings return a majority of the team that nearly derailed eventual state A champion Libby in the Western A challenge game a year ago. Saturday the Beavers take on Aaron Griffin's Ronan Chiefs at 1 p.m. at Hamilton High School.

The schedule doesn't get any easier with Anaconda, a class A favorite, and AA Helena coming up before Christmas.

"We're going to keep the big picture in mind," said Finberg. "The future looks bright. We have to get better everyday so when we get to the tournament we'll be competitive."

2004 Beaver Basketball Varsity
Seniors-Cory Anderson, 5-10. John Ori, 6-0. Jeff Allen, 6-5. Kade Laden, 6-2. Chris Dyk, 6-8. Junior-Marko Stanisich, 6-2. Sophomores-Jake Iverson, 5-8. Zach McRae, 6-0. Spencer Jenne, 5-10. Dana Ori, 6-1. Chase Godecke, 6-6.
Junior Varsity
Juniors-Kale Baker, 5-10. Nate Mooney, 5-11. Sophomores-Kirt Taylor, 5-6. John Creger, 5-6. Craig Cox, 5-8. Steven Hilton, 5-11. Nolan Snyder, 6-0.
Freshmen-Michael Allen, 5-4. Stephen Ressett, 5-9. Jay Zimdars, 5-5. Brock Myllymaki, 5-8. Lane McGrath, 5-6. Stephen Pulaski, 5-7. Dylan Whiting, 6-0. Tim Goins, 5-8. Dalton Tamcke, 5-9. Conor Hartz, 6-1. Ben Christensen, 5-9. Corey Eisenzimer, 6-1.

Lady Beavers

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losing five seniors that basically started every game gives us a lot of positions to replace," state Wasser. "The one thing we're going to be is very young and very inexperienced."

Junior Kayla Shepherd and Sophomores Amanda Haugen and Bonnie Gardner are the only other team members to even warm up with the varsity team a year ago.

Rounding out the squad are juniors Sammy Hahnkamp, and Heidi Turney, sophomores Emily Hager, and Shannon Judge, and freshman Hayley Pettit.

"We can't make mistakes," said Wasser of the early season game plan. "Turnovers are a concern of mine. We've got to make sure we execute and run our offense with patience. We hope to eventually develop depth."

Through its first three years, Wasser's main focus was on defense. With the new faces on the court, Wasser has dedicated nearly all his practice time to refining the offense.

"We're really working hard on our offense to give us more looks," said the coach. "Basically, the change in our offense this year is we're forcing our players to be a threat to score every time they catch it rather than just running the offense."

The first weekend, Castro and Nield will start in the post. Turney at the point guard, Bennett at the shooting guard and either Sammy Hahnkamp or Kayla Shepherd at the other

wing. Emily Hager will vie for time at the point guard.

Bonnie Gardner, a talented sophomore, is out until possibly after Christmas with a foot ailment, and Castro will miss Saturday's game to take her ACT test, so the team will be in transition early on.

Haugen and Pettit will provide depth at the post, while Judge can play any of the three guard positions.

"I know it's unusual, but we have not spent a lot of time on our defense just for the fact that we're so inexperienced this year. It's taken us a lot longer on our offensive sets so we really haven't had a chance to really focus on defense."

2004 Lady Beaver Basketball Varsity
Seniors-Jenna Nield, 5-8. Lizzy Castro, 6-1. Juniors-Kayla Shepherd, 5-7. Keidi Turney, 5-1. Sammy Hahnkamp, 5-9. Theresa Bennett, 5-9. Sophomores-Emily Hager, 5-1. Bonnie Gardner, 5-7. Amanda Haugen, 5-9. Shannon Judge, 5-4. Freshman-Hayley Pettit, 5-11.
Junior Varsity
Sophomores-Lydia Decker, 5-6. Whitney Stoddard, 5-4. Krystal Heard, 5-4. Shannon Judge, 5-4. Sheena Dietrich, 5-8. Freshmen-Shandi Samson, 5-0. Jordan Plutt, 5-5. Susanna Reese, 5-10. Hayley Pettit, 5-11.
Freshman
Cecilia Hansen, 5-0. Shandi Samson, 5-0. Whitney Thomas, 5-5. Samantha Mitchell, 5-1. Connie Moore, 5-2. Stacey Velasco, 5-5. Madison Lemhouse, 5-6. Ellie Fiesch, 5-7. Kyla Helte, 5-2. Ay Miller, 5-3. Bailey Ferris, 5-6. Jordan Plutt, 5-5. Ashley Dietrich, 5-6. Susanna Reese, 5-10.

BCHS mats

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progress we can make by divisional."

Despite numbers that are low compared to power programs in the state, the Beaver roster does have incredible potential.

Jake Peterson at 171 and Donald Smith at 275 will provide senior leadership. Tim Gross (171/160) is also a senior but is sitting back into the sport after getting into the past three seasons.

The junior class is headed by Ky Stoddard, a state place winner as a freshman, and state qualifiers Colter Pierce, Nate Child. Will Hampton, Ryder Bricker, Robert and Danny Christensen also have varsity experience. Newcomers in the

junior class include Kyle Winn, and Stephen Sevalstad. Kevin Miller has shown tremendous ability in just his second-year on the mat.

Top sophomores include Tucker Vezina, a state place winner, and Joel Schlender and Lynn Reynolds, both divisional place winners as freshmen.

The talented freshman class includes wrestlers that have dominated at the lower divisions--Logun Norris, Kal Stoddard, Ross Wolfe, Jackson Berkram, and Jake McGinley could all be in gear when the state tourney rolls around.

"I think a realistic goal would be to make a run for thop three at divisional and improve from

13th at state to top five," Vezina stated. "I think the future is bright."

Roster (early season weights will likely change):

98 open 105-Logun Norris, fr. 112-Kal Stoddard, fr. 119-Ross Wolfe, fr. Ky Stoddard, jr. Robert Sawyer, fr. 125-Joel Schlender, soph. 130-Tyler Reichle, soph. Lynn Reynolds, soph. 135 Tucker Vezina, soph. Robert Christensen, jr. Ben Raffety, fr. 140-Kevin Miller, jr. 145-Jackson Berkram, fr. David Carpenter, soph. 152-Colter Pierce, jr. Will Hampton, jr. Tim Gross, sr. 160-Jake McGinley, jr. Danny Christensen, jr. 171-Jake Peterson, sr. 189-Nate Child, jr. Ryder Bricker, jr. 215-Stephen Sevalstad, jr. 275-Donald Smith, sr. Kyle Winn, jr.

Quick look at area Class C hoops

In the area class C circles, the girls' teams all look tough and could potentially advance to the divisional tourney out of what figures to be a very tough district.

Over at Lima, coach Jack Hutchison has a team that will make waves with their inside presence and secret weapon at the point guard position. Sophomore Amy Allen, 5-11, has all-around skills, and Farin Jackson, 6-0, can rebound and block shots. The missing ingredient may be Katharina Hosse, a 5-4 senior from Germany. The foreign exchange student may solve the problem at point guard.

On the boys side, first-year

coach Wade Larson will count on 6-2 senior Seth Young and 5-11 sophomore Joel Rogers in the early going.

At Sheridan another first-year coach is Clint Layng, though as an assistant last year in hoops and in football the past two years, he's optimistic about his team's chances.

"I'm excited," said the coach. "We've got a lot back from last year. One of our goals is to make it to divisional and once you get there give yourself the best chance to win."

Sarah Norden enters her second year as coach of the Sheridan girls with an equally positive attitude. The divisional

qualifier from a year ago lost just two players, though Brynn Nelson did lead the team with 14 ppg. Back are three starters and a sixth person who played a ton.

"With all our returners, I have higher expectations this year," said Norden.

Rob Lott has his Twin girls had their streak of two straight state tourney berths ended in a divisional challenge game last year. The Falcons are young this year, but a tough freshman class will supplement an already solid program.

Superintendent Dave Whitesell takes over the Twin boys. The Falcons are focused on a fun, high energy attitude.