

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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MUSTANGS RIDE DEFENSE TO 2A TITLE



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Heppner quarterback Jayden Wilson (13) runs the ball for a touchdown. The Heppner Mustangs defeated the Kennedy Trojans 12-7 to win the 2019 OSAA Class 2A state title at Kennison Field in Hermiston on Saturday afternoon.

Jayden Wilson scores twice in Heppner's 12-7 win over top-ranked Kennedy

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The old adage that defense wins championships rang true Saturday afternoon.

Heppner had two interceptions, and held top-ranked Kennedy to just one touchdown en route to a 12-7 victory in the Class 2A championship game at Kennison Field to finish the season 13-0.

"It's really beyond cool," Heppner coach Greg Grant said. "I knew I had something special on my hands with their attitude, their intelligence and their willingness to get better. I was the happiest guy in the world when they made the championship game. A championship game is a lot of emotion and a lot of effort. There were two pretty good teams out there. My team outfought them. I don't think there is

HEPPNER 6 0 0 6 — 12
KENNEDY 0 0 0 7 — 7

SCORING

H — Jayden Wilson 56 run (pass failed)
H — Wilson 2 run (pass failed)
K — David Reyes 13 pass from Dylan Kleinschmit (Bruce Beyer kick)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Passing — H, Jayden Wilson 6-12-1-79, Kason Cimmiyotti 0-1-0-0-0, Dylan Kleinschmit 11-23-2-114.

Rushing — H, Wilson 14-94, Blake Wolters 18-82, Mason Lehman 1-(minus-8), K, David Reyes 9-39, Bruce Beyer 12-11, Demetre Marselle 3-9, Kleinschmit 5-(minus-11).

Receiving — M, Lehman 5-75, Jace Coe 1-4, K, Isaiah Basargin 5-59, B. Beyer 2-27, Reyes 2-12, Marselle 1-10.

any other simple way to put it."

The title goes along with the ones the Mustangs won in 1992 and 2015.

"I waited 24 years to win the second one," Grant chuckled. "Four years

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Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Heppner's Mason Lehman (24) leaps to catch a pass. The Heppner Mustangs defeated the Kennedy Trojans 12-7 to win the 2019 OSAA Class 2A state title at Kennison Field in Hermiston on Saturday afternoon.

Fathers, sons and Heppner football

Four players from the Mustangs' 1992 title team had sons win a championship Saturday afternoon

By ANNIE FOWLER
East Oregonian

HEPPNER — Heppner had a 49-point lead over Bandon in the first round of the state playoffs, but coaching Greg Grant could be heard barking orders and chewing out players who had missed assignments.

Jason Hanna said nothing has changed in 27 years.

"He's as intense as he ever was," said Hanna, who played on Heppner's first state championship team



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan

Four members of the 2019 Heppner state championship team pose with their fathers, who played on the 1992 Heppner state championship team. From left, Jason Hanna, Gavin Hanna-Robinson, Shaun Hisler, Brock Hisler, Kason Cimmiyotti, Jeremy Cimmiyotti, Jace Coe and Scott Coe.

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Mustangs by the numbers

- 3 — State football titles (1992, 2015, 2019)
- 6 — Interceptions (each) by Jace Coe and Kason Cimmiyotti
- 8 — Punt returns for touchdowns by Mason Lehman
- 13 — Quarterback sacks by Heppner
- 17 — Turnovers forced in 4 playoff games
- 77 — Total touchdowns scored
- 98 — Points allowed this season
- 306 — Wins for coach Greg Grant in 30 years at Heppner
- 535 — Points scored this season
- 999 — Yards rushing by Blake Wolters