

Mustangs Gain Split, Crack Victory Column

Win-hungry cagers of Heppner High school broke into the Greater Oregon league victory column Friday night when they tripped Grant Union of John Day here, 58 to 55, but the visitors evened things for the series Saturday night with a come-from-behind triumph, 58 to 57.

In each game the Mustangs took the floor with a roar and piled up heavy leads in the first half. But also in each contest they suffered from "second-halfitis." A streak of wild play and relaxing defenses in the late third period and fourth quarter Friday just about lost the game for them, but they held on for the dear win. On Saturday night, after holding an 11-point margin, 34-23, at intermission, the boys hit their doldrums and, faced with a John Day rush, found themselves trailing, 39-44, by the end of the third quarter. They steadied in the fourth and put on a determined comeback, but Captain Bruce Moyer's final lay-in with one second remaining brought them short by one point of throwing the game into overtime, and they left the floor in defeat, 58-57.

Sophomores Doug Dubuque and Lee Padberg were instrumental in the Friday victory. Big Doug tallied 14 points on five buckets and four from the free throw line, but Padberg was tops for the Mustangs with seven field goals and three from the free throw stripe for 17 points.

Pestiferous Andy Conforth counted an equalizing 17 for John Day, and he was followed by his staunch teammate, Joe Gaare, with 16.

The Mustangs went out in front early in each game. On Friday night, Dick Springer opened with a free throw and a jump from the key to send the squad ahead, 3-0. Padberg followed with a steal and lay-in to make it 5-0, and with Shan Applegate and Captain Moyer getting into the scoring act, the team moved into a nice 16-10 first quarter lead.

The second quarter also was solidly in the Mustang camp with the regulars being added late in the period by Reserves Bill Cox and LeRoy Gardner. The count went to 32-18 for the game high spread of 14 points before Conforth connected on a free throw just before halftime to make it 32-19.

John Day never took the lead, but they whittled away at it from that point. In the fourth quarter Conforth and Gaare put on a surge that pulled the visitors to within four points, 53-49, with three minutes remaining. Gaare then hit a pusher that brought it down to a two-point margin, 53-51, but Spring came back, with two minutes left, to tally on a tip-in, making it 55-51. Irresistible Mr. Gaare sank two gift shots to make it 55-53, but Springer wasn't going to let this one get away. He had two chances on the charity line and calmly sank both for another four-point spread, 57-53, as the frenzied crowd roared. John Day got two more gift shots to make it 57-55, but Moyer, fouled at the

final buzzer, sank one of two after the teams had left the floor to bring the count to the final 58-55 margin.

Saturday night's game was almost a repetition of Friday except that the Mustangs' second half slump was too much of a slump from which to recover. They showed finesse and poise in the first half but faltered badly in the third quarter and Grant poured on the coal.

Moyer had a fine night and played his heart out for the Mustangs, making 21 points on nine buckets and three free throws. Padberg had 14 points on five field goals and four from the free throw line.

Buckets by Moyer, Springer and Applegate right at the start of the tussle brought the Mustangs a 6-0 lead, and the crowd settled back in anticipation of another sweet victory. The Mustangs were really rolling. But Grant Union didn't come just for the ride and they started moving with Jerry Gibson and Conforth connecting. The Heppner five, however, staved off this early threat, held a 16-11 first quarter lead and moved farther away in period No. 2. Applegate swished a long pusher at the start of the second quarter, and Moyer drilled a pair from the floor to make it 22-13. With Padberg and Springer also doing some good work, the Mustangs found themselves in front, 34-23, at the half.

Lightning struck the Mustangs in the third period. Gibson and Gaare both connected to start a scoring rampage of 21 points in the period. Meanwhile, the Heppner five was unable to ripple the net with a field goal and scored only five points.

Downfall for the Mustangs came in the last four minutes of the third quarter. Jim Lenz laid one in, Gaare broke away with two more lay-ins, Willis Sentay followed with another, Lenz sank a pusher, Gibson talked on a pusher and Lenz finished with a long set. Thus, the John Day boys polished off seven field goals while the bewildered Mustangs froze, and the third quarter ended with the score 39-44 for the visitors.

Springer snapped them out of it with a hook to open the fourth to bring Heppner back in contention, 41-44, but Gibson hit to nullify it. Moyer connected from the corner, and it was 43-46. The teams traded off on scoring until Moyer broke away for a lay-up to bring Heppner within one point, 48-49, and he followed with a jumper that brought them momentarily back into the lead at 50-49, but Gibson took the advantage for John Day with a shot that made it 50-51. Conforth widened the spread to three with a jumper with two minutes to go, 50-53, but Dubuque's jumper equalized it. Gaare connected for John Day and it was 52-53. Padberg went the distance of the floor and laid one in to make it 54-53, but Sentay scored on an out-of-bounds play, and Lenz made a free throw to give the visitors their last points and a four-

Sports



SHAN APPLAGATE, a sparkplug on the Heppner basketball team, will be in the starting lineup against Ione Tuesday night. (G-T Photo)



ONE OF IONE'S high scorers who will be in action against Heppner here Tuesday night is Rollie Ekstrom. (G-T Photo)

point lead, 54-58. Moyer made a free throw with 17 seconds left and then connected on a last second lay-in that brought the final margin to the lone point.

Friday score:

GRANT UNION 55				
	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Sentay	2	0	2	4
J. Gaare	5	6	4	16
Lenz	4	3	5	11
Conforth	5	7	5	17
Gibson	2	1	5	5
E. Gaare	0	2	1	2
Smith	0	0	1	0
Totals	18	19	23	55

HEPPNER 58				
	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Applegate	4	0	5	8
Moyer	3	3	4	9
Dubuque	5	4	4	14
Springer	1	2	5	4
Padberg	7	3	5	17
Cox	0	2	3	2
Gardner	1	0	0	2
Smith	1	0	1	2
Totals	22	14	27	58

Saturday night:

GRANT UNION 58				
	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Sentay	3	2	2	8
J. Gaare	8	0	4	16
Lenz	5	1	2	11
Conforth	6	1	4	13
Gibson	5	0	5	10
Smith	0	0	0	0
Griffith	0	0	0	0
E. Gaare	0	0	0	0
Totals	27	4	17	58

HEPPNER 57				
	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Applegate	4	2	3	10
Moyer	9	3	3	21
Dubuque	3	0	5	6
Springer	2	2	4	6
Padberg	5	4	3	14
Cox	0	0	1	0
Gardner	0	0	0	0
Totals	23	11	19	57

Trip to Burns Due on Week-end For Hoop Fives

Standings
GREATER OREGON LEAGUE
(Western Division)

	W	L	Pct.
Madras	7	1	.875
Sherman	4	2	.667
Burns	3	3	.500
Heppner	1	5	.167
John Day	1	5	.167

After cracking the win column in the Greater Oregon League against Grant Union (John Day) last week-end here, the Heppner Mustangs take the long trail to Burns Friday and Saturday. They will play Friday night and remain through the Saturday night tussles before heading for home.

Both Jayvees and varsity will make the trip taking off from Heppner via bus at 9 a. m. Friday.

Although Burns has lost three games in league play, their most recent success was a 70-52 thumping of the league-leading White Buffaloes of Madras. They have Larsen, a 6-5 skyscraper, who is heading their attack this year.

While the Burns five will be favored in the series there, the Mustangs, who have shown a lot of ability, could well be in line to upset them. They came within a whisker of dropping Madras in the games here and at one time lead the Buffs by 18 points. In fact, in a number of games they have played this year, the Mustangs have rolled up good leads, only to fall behind in later stages of the contests. Once they have found the formula of steady down and going the distance, they will be tough to beat and still stand to wind up with a respectable percentage in league standings.

Some help for the Heppner varsity came after the holidays when John Porter, 6-2, transferred to high school here from Pilot Rock. He was ineligible against John Day because details of the transfer had not been completed.

Against Burns, Coach Bob Cantwine will probably start Captain Bruce Moyer, Lee Padberg, Dick Springer, Doug Dubuque and Shan Applegate. Reserves include LeRoy Gardner, Ken Smith who came up from the Jayvees, Kit George, Bill Cox and Porter.

Cards Nip St. Jo, Lose One

Basketeers of Ione High school made it two in a row over St. Joseph of Pendleton Friday night when they won, 36 to 27, at Pendleton, but they took a 46-20 shellacking at the hands of high-powered McEwen of Athena Saturday night at Ione. This was the second triumph of the Scot-ties over the Cardinals. They won earlier with a split squad at Athena, the rest of their boys being used in a doubleheader the same evening with Mt. Vernon.

Too much height was the key to the McEwen victory over the Cards. In the first half, they rolled to a 23-14 advantage, but went into high gear in the second half, picking up 23 points while holding the Cards to six. In the third quarter, the Ione lads, far off on their shooting, made only one point.

Coach Glenn Biehl said he figured some of the slump was due to reaching a high pitch in earlier games, particularly against Heppner.

Harold Younes was the top scorer of the evening with 12 for the McEwen five and Mike Shields had 10.

Ron Crabtree hit for seven for the Cards, followed by Rollie Ekstrom with six. Showing their off night, the Cards made only nine of 38 shots. The number of chances was very low for a ball game, and the percentage made was also very low. McEwen had 20 made in 56 attempts.

On Monday following the game, Coach Biehl was attempting to work out new combinations and get his team coordinated for coming league games.

Neither Ione nor St. Jo were particularly strong in their shooting and play at Pendleton Friday night, but the Cards were good enough to administer St. Jo their second loss of the year. The Bluejays made only nine

shots out of 44 attempts for .205 per cent while Ione hit a .230 percentage.

On the free throw line the Cards hit 20 of 30 attempts while St. Jo had only 9 of 15.

The losers put the clamp on high-scoring Ron Crabtree and held him without a field goal. All five of his points came on the free throw line. But with Crabtree held down, Rollie Ekstrom took over and made 14 for high point honors. Don Jordan had 10 for the Bluejays.

Ione Jayvees won preliminaries both nights, topping St. Jo 42 to 25, and McEwen, 44-36.

McEwen 46		Ione 20	
F 7 Ashcroft	Ekstrom 6	F 10 Shields	Pointer 2
C 12 Younes	Davidson 0	G 5 Smith	Hams 1
G 8 McMillin	Crabtree 7	Reserves:	

McEwen—Widner 2, Rushing, Coppack 2, Alderman, Blackwell, Ione—Padberg 2, Nelson, Madden, Morgan, Palmer, Rigby 2, McEwen 5, 18, 12, 11—46	St. Joseph 27
Ione 8, 6, 1, 5—20	Jordan 10
Reserves:	Nehl 2
	O'Grady 5
	James 1
	Flx 5

St. Joseph—Neyt 4, Alex, Knights, Ione 7, 8, 10, 11—36	St. Joseph 27
St. Joe 5, 7, 6, 9—27	Jordan 10
	Nehl 2
	O'Grady 5
	James 1
	Flx 5

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St. Joe 5, 7, 6, 9—27	Jordan 10
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	James 1
	Flx 5

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Fishing Hearing Slated Friday

Oregon sportsmen are advised that the sport fishing regulations for the 1962 season will be open for discussion at a public hearing Friday, January 12, at the game commission's Portland headquarters, 1634 S. W. Alder. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10 a. m.

During the hearing winter and summer angling regulations for all game fish will be covered. All persons are invited to attend the regulations hearing.

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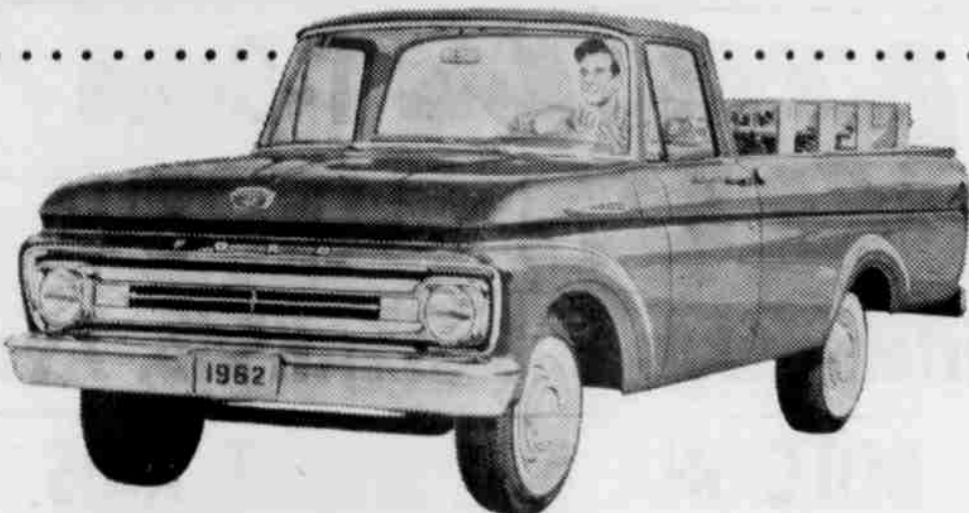


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