

Mustangs Defeat Rockets, Grant To Win District

By KIT ANDERSON

"Coos Bay, here we come!"

That's the battle cry this week at Heppner High school after the Mustangs capped a long uphill pull to win the District 7 A-2 basketball championship and a berth in the state A-2 basketball tournament at Marshfield High school in Coos Bay starting Monday.

A little more than two weeks ago, the team's goal was the tournament at Eastern Oregon College. A dream came true and the Heppner club found itself up against the Pilot Rock Rockets Friday night in the opening game of the tourney.

The Mustangs, defeated three times in regular season play by the Rockets, were up for this one, and they gained the championship game by downing the Pilot Rock boys, 61-49.

Heppner fans packed the EOC Coliseum Saturday as the boys in blue and gold took on the Grant Union Prospectors of John Day in the finals. The Heppner victory, 53-45, put the Mustangs in the third game of the opening round of the state tourney against Dayton, ranked No. 7 with a season record of 22-2.

Heppner started out fast against the Rockets in Friday evening's encounter. Wayne Evans dumped in six quick points, and the first period was all the Mustangs'. They had a 14-8 command at the quarter stop. The second stanza found the tide turned the other way and the Rockets took a 29-26 lead at the intermission.

Determined to stop the Pilot Rock string at three, the Mustangs put together a 19-point third period while holding the Rockets to eight. The last quarter was not a matter of who would win but by how much. Nevertheless, this quarter furnished the crowd with some real action.

Wayne Evans led Mustang scoring with 14. Jim Doherty had 12, and Mac Hoskins and Carl Bauman had 11 each. Rich Mikel, closing a fine high school basketball career, took game honors with 21 tallies for the Rockets.

Fast action dotted the second game of the evening as Nyssa met Grant Union. The Bulldogs had the ball—and a one-point advantage—with a minute to go, but they lost the ball and the game as the Prospectors won 52-51.

Pilot Rock met Nyssa in Saturday's opener and the Rockets quickly took a big lead. The Bulldogs found themselves down at the half, 31-13, but they set out to cut it down. Nyssa again held the ball with a minute left but this time they were a point down. Trying for just one shot, the Bulldogs missed and the

Pilot Rock team claimed the consolation title.

Gene Heliker started things out for HHS in the championship game at 26 seconds of the opening period with a driving layin. One minute and 18 seconds later Heliker tipped one in and the Mustangs had a 4-0 lead. Brad Ward's jumper from the top of the key tied it up with 2:16 left at 8-8 but the Heppner five forged ahead, 13-11, when the horn sounded to end the first quarter.

The Mustangs dominated the second period but their biggest lead didn't come until 5:28 in the second stanza when Bruce Spencer flipped in a jumper from the side, his specialty, to give them a 23-18 edge. Ward countered with a pair of free throws for Grant Union but Jim Doherty upped it again to 25-20, the halftime margin.

Three free shots and a side set by Doherty to start the second half gave Heppner a 10-point advantage at 30-20 with 6:03 to go. Evans' side-key jump with 1:15 left gave the Mustangs their biggest lead of the evening at 40-27 and they held that edge with a 42-29 third quarter score.

Fouls dotted the last period with a total of 13 personals called. Of 28 points scored in the final quarter, half of them came from the line.

Evans again led Heppner scoring with 14 and Stuart Dick added 11, but Ward had 20 for the Prospectors and Mike Conklin chipped in 15.

When asked to name an outstanding Mustang during the tournament, Coach Bob Clough had this to say, "Too many boys helped too many ways to name just one." Coach Clough did have words of praise for Brad Ward of John Day, saying that the big boy kept them in the game time after time.

Heppner had outstanding support at the game with several hundred fans backing them. Pilot Rock's rooters, though disappointed at the Friday night loss, came back to support the



SCENE WAS TUMULTUOUS immediately after the championship game, won by Heppner, at the district basketball tournament, La Grande, Saturday night. Hilarious students crowd around the team and coach to offer congratulations for their victory over Grant Union of John Day. Among team personnel visible

in the picture are (top—far left) Mac Hoskins, Manager Bob Harris (left), Tim Driscoll (41), Stuart Dick (happy face visible only), Bruce Spencer, Coach Clough and Jim Jacobs (35). (G-T Photo)

Mustangs in the finals. Athletic Director Pete Glennie of Heppner High, Coach Bob Clough and Principal Gordon Pratt concurred that a big factor in the Mustangs' great showing has been the outstanding support of the community and extended thanks for this help.

HEPPNER 61				
	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Doherty	5	2	3	12
Bauman	3	7	4	11
Hoskins	2	2	3	6
Heliker	4	3	1	11
Evans	7	0	0	14
Dick	2	2	1	6
Snyder	0	1	0	1
Spencer	0	0	0	0
Jacobs	0	0	1	0
Driscoll	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	22	17	13	61

PILOT ROCK 49				
	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Anderson	3	5	2	11
Ervin	1	1	2	3
Mikel	9	3	0	21
Slate	3	2	4	8
Christensen	1	0	5	2
Hamilton	0	2	3	2
Hughes	1	0	2	2
McMahon	0	0	2	0
TOTALS	18	13	20	49

HEPPNER 53				
	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Evans	6	3	2	15
Bauman	2	1	5	5
Hoskins	1	0	1	2
Dick	4	3	1	11
Heliker	2	1	2	8
Doherty	3	0	2	6
Syde	1	0	2	2
Jacobs	0	0	2	0
Spencer	2	0	2	4
Clark	0	0	0	0
Driscoll	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	21	11	19	53

GRANT UNION 45

	Fg	Ft	Pf	Tp
Sprouffske	0	0	0	0
Conklin	5	5	2	15
Ward	8	4	3	20
Waterman	1	2	4	4
Gubser	0	2	0	2
Bare	0	1	3	1
Beverage	0	0	2	0
LaGore	0	2	0	2
Bond	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	14	17	14	45

HEPPNER	14	12	19	16-61
PILOT ROCK	8	21	8	12-49
HEPPNER	13	12	17	11-53
GRANT UNION	11	9	9	13-45

Need extra cash? Sell unused items around your place with a Gazette-Times classified ad.

Horseshoe Pitching Courts Added at Park

Regulation horseshoe pitching courts have recently been added to the play area at the City Park by the City of Heppner and there is a possibility that lights will be added at a later date for night horseshoe pitching. If enough interest is shown by the community an additional court will be constructed. Participants must furnish their own horseshoes.

The city ordered an outdoor barbecue grill, to be placed in the park picnic area in the near future. Users will furnish their own fuel for cooking.

Club Studies Early History of Horses

Alvin Ashbeck called our 4-H club meeting together March 8 at the Luciani home. Jean Daley led the American pledge and Gary Fredrickson the 4-H pledge. Mitch Ashbeck read a report about early horses, starting with centuries ago to stagecoach, pony express and riding horses of today.

We decided to invite the Two Trackers and the Saddle-ites clubs for a ride March 20 to Jerry Doherty's place.

Nels Anderson showed a movie about horses and their ancestors.

Mrs. Luciani served refreshments of brownies and hot chocolate. Our next meeting will be at the Ashbeck home April 12. Patty Luciani, reporter

Baseball to Open With Hermiston Here March 27

Thoughts of basketball in the season prolonged by state tournament must be out of mind by Saturday, March 27.

At that time the Heppner High Mustangs are scheduled to face Hermiston High on the diamond at the rodeo grounds here at 2 p.m.

Because of the length of the hoop season, it's a sure thing that Heppner won't be in top shape for baseball, while Hermiston will have had a couple weeks of good practice.

Coach Pete Glennie said that he figured to have a good squad this year with eight letterman back, but four of them have been tied up with basketball to this time.

These include Jim Doherty, junior, left fielder and pitcher; Bill Snyder, junior, centerfielder and pitcher; Carl Bauman, senior, first baseman and pitcher; and Stuart Dick, senior, shortstop.

Other lettermen, all seniors, who have started workouts, include Dave Anderson, right fielder and first baseman; Sherrill McDonald, second baseman; Don Munkers, third baseman; and Lee Daggett, catcher.

One sophomore pitcher has been working out, Dennis O'Donnell, and he may therefore be in the best shape by time of the first game. All four of the Heppner pitchers are right-handers.

Others who have reported for the squad and have been drilling include Tom Green, junior, utility and pitcher; Rick Johnston, sophomore, catcher; Roger Leonnig, sophomore, shortstop; and Kit Anderson, freshman, second base.

After the Hermiston game, the Mustangs will see action against Umatilla, runnerup in state B baseball playoffs last year, at Umatilla on March 30, Tuesday, at 3 p.m.

Services Cancelled

There will be no services at All Saints' Episcopal church from Tuesday through Friday of next week. It is announced by Father C. Bruce Spencer. The usual Sunday services will be held this week and will resume again Sunday, March 28.

We Ford Dealers are rarin' to answer questions about Mustang

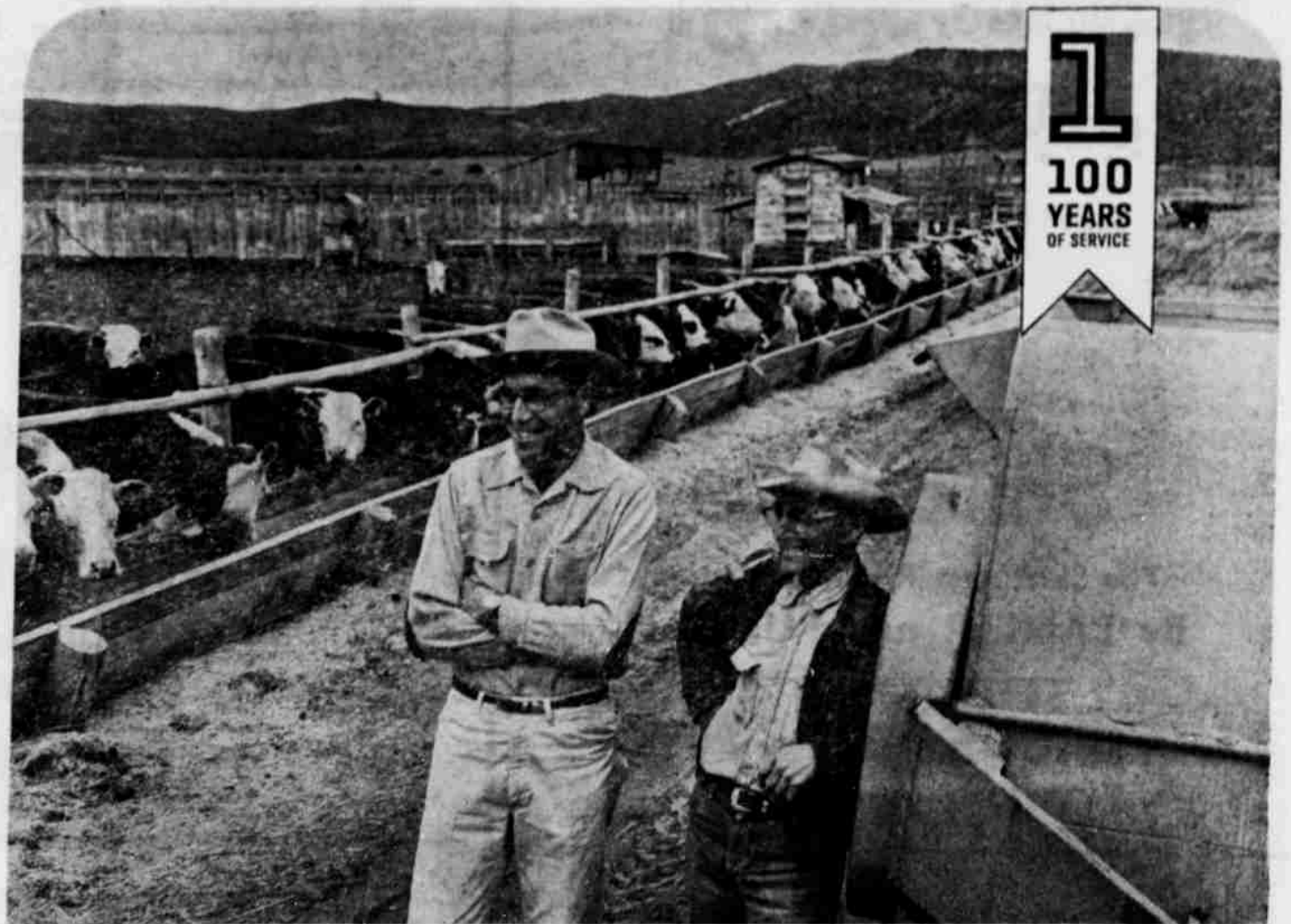
- Q.** DOES MUSTANG HAVE A 6-CYLINDER ENGINE?
- A.** Most assuredly! A 200-cubic-inch job that provides blazing performance and solid economy.
- Q.** MUST I WAIT FOR DELIVERY OF MY MUSTANG?
- A.** No. Increased production has brought Mustang to the point of immediate delivery in a broad choice of models and colors.
- Q.** HOW MANY BODY STYLES OF MUSTANG ARE AVAILABLE?
- A.** Three. Mustang comes in Hardtop, Convertible and Fastback 2+2 models... looks like a \$5,000 import but lists for thousands less.
- Q.** IS THE NEW MUSTANG 2+2 REALLY A SPORTS CAR?
- A.** Yes. As a matter of fact you will see some Mustang 2+2's entered in the top sports-car racing circuits this coming season.
- Q.** WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAY 2+2?
- A.** It is a sports-car expression, meaning two bucket seats in front and ample room for two passengers in the rear.
- Q.** CAN I GET AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION IN MY MUSTANG?
- A.** Yes. You have your choice of transmissions in both the 6-cylinder and V-8 models.



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John Locke, assistant manager of the Heppner First National Branch, is part of a friendly staff whose years of banking experience total 100. Consult these hometown people for every banking need.



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