

THE GAZETTE-TIMES SPORTS



Riverside QB Dan Bozarth hurries to get a pass off before being sacked by a Columbia defender. The Coyote defense gave Bozarth a rough time all afternoon Friday as they picked off four of his passes. Columbia won the contest, which was played at Boardman, 31-7.

Mustangs shine in opener

Heppner combined the outside running of junior halfbacks Bryan Marlin and Dennis Peck with four quarters of turnover-free football to post a 35-12 opening game home win over Pilot Rock Friday.

With the Mustang passing attack hinging on the condition of injured quarterback Jerry Cutsforth's knee, the Mustangs stuck to the ground with both Peck and Marlin consistently breaking long gainers around the ends.

Filling in for Cutsforth, quarterback Bruce Young directed the Heppner offense which totaled 299 yards. Young only went to the air five times, competing three for 30 yards and one touchdown. Marlin and Jim Wishart were unsuccessful in three attempts at the halfback option pass.

But the Mustangs hardly needed an aerial game as

Peck ran for 133 yards on 14 carries and Marlin picked up 129 yards on 20 carries. Peck scored one time on a 29-yard run and Marlin added four touchdowns on runs of 4, 9 and 41 yards and a 33-yard pass from Young.

Defensively, Heppner shut down the Pilot Rock passing attack as the Rockets could manage only 12 yards on 2 out of 11 attempts. Jim Kenney picked off one of the throws while Dale Holland was credited with one knock down and Don McEwen got the only sack of the game.

The Rockets gained 163 yards on the ground including a 65-yard TD run by Dean Jobs. Heppner's Joedy Marlatt racked up two unassisted and seven assisted tackles while Holland was in on 10 tackles and three unassisted stops. Kenny had two solo stops and four assists to go

with his interception.

Heppner took the opening kickoff and marched all the way for a score with Peck and Marlin both sweeping left and right for 10 and 15 yards a shot. Marlin punched the ball over the goal line from the four.

After Heppner held on downs, a Pilot Rock punt rolled dead at the Mustang 45. Heppner began another scoring drive which was kept alive when Peck broke loose for 20 yards on a third down play. Marlin again ran the ball for the score, this time from the nine.

The Mustang defense again

bird-dogged the Rockets as Kenny stopped a Pilot Rock runner in the backfield and Don McEwen showed good pursuit of the passer to bring up a fourth and seven situation.

After exchanging punts, Pilot Rock found itself in another fourth down hole and Marlatt and Holland chased down the punter to give

Heppner the ball on the Rocket 30. Marlin hauled in a scoring pass from Young to boost the lead to 20-0.

A Heppner penalty gave Pilot Rock the ball on the Heppner 43 and the Rockets

finally found the endzone as time ran out in the first half.

The second half began with another exchange of punts before Jobs broke loose to

close the gap to 20-13. Heppner

came back with another drive as Peck picked up 30 to the left to bring the ball to the Rocket 29. On fourth and nine, Peck again put on the moves to coast into the endzone. A fake kick resulted in a two point conversion as Jack Vocum caught Marlin's pass.

Marlin later closed the scoring with a 41-yard run through traffic on first down,

Sporseen, "We'll take whatever they give us."

"Their defense was stacked in the middle and gave us the outside so we took it," Heppner coach John Sporseen said of his team's 35-12 win over Pilot Rock Friday. "We'll take whatever we can."

Sporseen said he was pleased that his Mustangs had established a potent ground game so early in the season—"The Heppner running attack led by Dennis Peck and Bryan Marlin racked up 269 yards against the Rockets.

"Last year our running game was pitiful until the second half of the second game," Sporseen said.

Although most of the yardage came on sweeps and pitches, Sporseen is confident his team can also hurt an opponent up the middle.

"Bryan is a slashing-type runner—he can fight for yards in the middle," Sporseen said. "We'll run more traps and draws when we have to."

Sporseen said the blocking and ball handling of the

Mustangs was good for a season opener.

"We made some mistakes, especially defensively, but our quickness on both sides paid off," Sporseen said. "The quickness was important."

One facet of the game that could have hurt the Mustangs was the halfback option pass. Three times the play was attempted and at least twice the floaters came dangerously close to being picked off.

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Dennis Peck, offensive halfback for Heppner.

Players of the Week



Joedy Marlatt, defensive guard for Heppner.



Barney Rea, quarterback for Ione.

Sports Log

Varsity Football

FRIDAY, SEPT. 16
Oregon Trail at Heppner, 8 p.m.
Ione at North Powder, 2 p.m.
Condon at Riverside, 8 p.m.

J-V Football

MONDAY, SEPT. 19
Oregon Trail at Heppner, 6 p.m.
Umatilla at Riverside, 6 p.m.

Girls Volleyball

TUESDAY, SEPT. 20
Heppner at Sherman County, 5 p.m.
Ione at Wasco County, 5 p.m.
Riverside at Condon, 5 p.m.

PEERLESS PICKS

Starting with this issue of the Gazette-Times—and for the duration of the football season—appears the Peerless Picks. Each week five individuals from the community will predict the football contest scores—just for fun—and we'll let you know how they do next week. Follow their prognostications or use your own but enter the Gazette-Times Football Contest. Entries must be in by Friday at 5 p.m.

	TERRY HAGER	JIM SUMMERS	MIKE SWEENEY	ROBB RUSH	JIM ROGERS
Oregon Trail at Heppner	Heppner	Heppner	Heppner	Heppner	Heppner
Ione at North Powder	Ione	Ione	Ione	North Powder	North Powder
Condon at Riverside	Riverside	Condon	Condon	Condon	Riverside
Oregon at Texas Christian	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Texas Christian
Southern Cal at Oregon State	Southern Cal	Southern Cal	Southern Cal	Southern Cal	Oregon State
Washington State at Mich State	Washington State	Michigan State	Michigan State	Michigan State	Michigan State
Kansas at UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA
Duke at Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan
Alabama at Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Alabama	Nebraska	Nebraska
Florida State at Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Florida State	Florida State	Florida State
Air Force at California	California	California	California	California	California
Notre Dame at Mississippi	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame

WIN CASH EVERY WEEK

FOOTBALL CONTEST

\$10 FIRST PRIZE \$5 SECOND PRIZE \$25 GRAND PRIZE AT END OF CONTEST

1. **West of Willow**
172 N. Main 676-5149
Oregon Trail at Heppner

2. **Murray's Drug**
HEPPNER OREGON
217 N. Main 676-9158
Condon at Riverside

3. **LOTT'S ELECTRIC**
369 N. Main 676-5811
Oregon at Texas Christian

4. **Tires LES SCHWAB**
Southern Cal at Oregon State

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____

TIE BREAKER GAME: PREDICT SCORE Stanford _____ at Tulane _____

1. _____ 8. _____
2. _____ 9. _____
3. _____ 10. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

RULES
1. Readers should look to advertiser's boxes for games, predicting winner by writing prediction on appropriate numbered line.
2. Score must be given for tie-breaker game.
3. Entry forms must be received at the Gazette-Times by Friday at 5 p.m.

ENTRY FORM MUST BE BROUGHT IN OR MAILED TO THE GAZETTE TIMES BEFORE FRIDAY AT 5 p.m.

10. **Morrow County Grain Growers INC.**
Lexington 989-8221
Ione at North Powder

9. **Turner, Van Marter & Bryant**
187 N. Main 676-9113
Kansas at UCLA

8. Florida State at Kansas State
Columbia Basin Electric Co-op
171 W. Linden Way 676-9146

5. Washington State at Michigan State
Cal's Arco
N. Main & W. Center 676-5062

6. Alabama at Nebraska
THE GAZETTE-TIMES
147 W. Willow 676-9228

7. Notre Dame at Mississippi
Heppner Nor-Gas
770 W. Riverside 676-9450