

Winning Mustang football starts with lots of Junior Varsity play

George Koffler is Heppner's advance man.

In addition to spending his Friday evenings compiling detailed information on upcoming varsity opponents, the fourth-year coach occupies the rest of the week directing the junior varsity fortunes—fashioning the personnel for future first-line Mustang teams. The two jobs don't have a lot in common other than the fact that both play an important role in continuing a winning football program at Heppner High School.

On his task of preparing junior varsity players for

varsity action, Koffler says the idea is "to make the two programs as similar as possible—to ease the transition".

"Varsity play is more refined than at our level," Koffler says. "But the players need to learn the basics before they can move into the refinements."

Koffler takes advantage of the low-key element of junior varsity play which allows him to concentrate on aspects of the game other than the final score.

"Sure we want to win," Koffler says. "But along with

winning, our junior varsity philosophy dictates that everybody plays and everybody plays a lot."

Koffler realizes that players develop their football skills at different times in their high school careers. Because of this he says they are better off playing on the junior varsity field than sitting on the varsity bench. Most of his players tend to agree.

"The atmosphere is really more fun and relaxed for the junior varsity players," Koffler. "There is a lot less pressure for them to deal with."

High school rules permit a player to get in on five quarters of varsity or junior varsity action each week. Under this system, some of the more advanced jayvee members can suit down for the varsity contest and still come back the following Monday for a second game.

But if a player sees a good share of action in the varsity game, Koffler usually holds him out of the junior varsity line-up increasing the playing time for others on the squad. Despite having to go without some of big guns each week, Koffler's teams have

posted a 14-8-1 mark over his four-year tenure.

Prior to his coaching in Heppner, Koffler put in one year of basketball and baseball coaching at Whitaker Junior High in Salem. Large turnouts increase the competition between the students and

forced roster that Koffler s get away fro "The situat a big improv says. And w right down to is really the game.

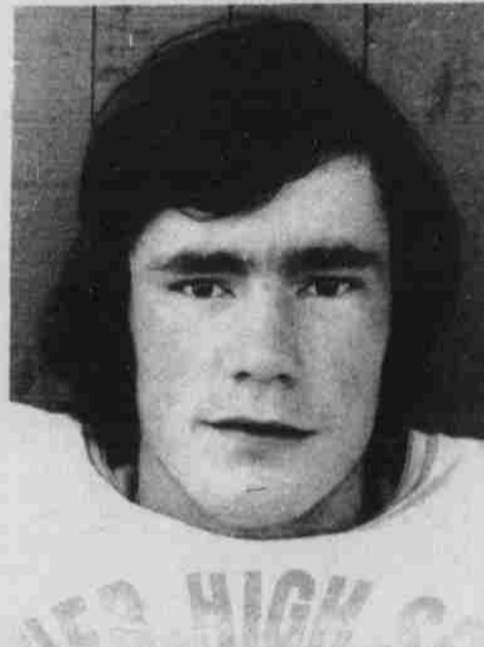
JERRY CUTSFORTH
QB—168 lb. SENIOR



Gardner's Men's

193 N. Main 676-9218

SCOTT GROSHENS
WB—131 lb. JUNIOR



Cal's Arco

N. Main & W. Center 676-5062

STEVE MARLATT
HB—177 lb. SOPHOMORE



Green Feed & Seed

242 W. Linden 676-9422

DALE HOLLAND
TE—176 lb. SOPHOMORE



Turner, Van Marter & Bryant

187 N. Main 676-9113

Junior Varsity Roster

Junior Varsity

John Carl
Scott Mc
John Wi
Jerry Ba
Perry Co

Sophomores

Larry P
Garth P
Wayne I
Chris Zi
Perry W
Darwin

Tim Jon
Ron Sch
Lee Me
John Pa

Freshmen

John Bi
Bill Hof
Ray Mil
Rick Sn
Joe Mol