

Defense sends HHS frosh past Cardinals

Heppner's freshmen Mustangs cruised to a 26-6 halftime lead and Coach Dale Holland cleared the bench in the second half enroute to a 38-30 win over Ione Monday.

The Mustangs dominated the boards in the contest—collecting 40 rebounds to 25 for the Cards. Jim Launer pulled down eight rebounds and Ron Currin grabbed six. Currin also led the team in scoring with 11 points followed by Rick Cole who totaled 10. Roger Morter topped the Ione scorers with 14 points.

Holland said it was the best defensive performance by his team this season.

Last week the Mustangs dropped a 42-26 decision to McCune Junior High in Pendleton. Greg Sweeney led Heppner with 10 points followed by Currin with eight.

Heppner slowed down the pace of the game to try and stick with the tall McCune team which Holland called "one of the best freshmen teams I've seen."

Heppner opened their season Dec. 6 with a 48-37 win at Condon. The Mustangs were paced by John Bier who poured in 16 points and Launer with 13. Both Bier and Launer controlled the rebounding department as the Mustangs led the game from the start.

For the season, Currin is leading the team with a 50 per cent shooting average, having hit 15 of 30 attempts from the

floor. Bier is shooting at a 41 per cent clip on 11 of 27 field goal attempts. Launer is averaging nine rebounds per game while Bier is pulling an average of eight.

Holland, who tries to adapt his coaching philosophy to fit the type of players he has, said this year's team is more of a "finesse" group compared to last year's "physical" team. He said he relies on the good ball handling abilities of some of his players and tries to keep the tempo of the games under control.

"When the players get to the high school level they are introduced to a lot of new

situations—they encounter situations they haven't seen before on the court," Holland said. "One thing in particular is the fact that practice sessions are more physically and mentally demanding. Instead of telling the players what to do as they go along, we try to get some thing worked out in the early practices and we expect them to apply what they've learned in the game situations."

Other players on the freshman roster include Bret Sherer, Brian Thompson, Jay Patterson, Clay Grace, Ken Stookey, Greg Grosheens, Pat Clark, Jim Angell, Joe Mollahan and Rick Smith.

GT SPORTS

Late hoops push Spray past Cards

A couple of long jumpers in the final two minutes pushed Spray ahead of Ione and sent the Cards to their third defeat of the season, 53-48, at Spray.

The score was close throughout the game with Ione holding a one point lead going into the final minutes of play when Spray connected on the two long shots and the Cards were not able to recover.

"We got pressured towards the end and we weren't quite able to come back," coach Del LaRue said. "Really, we played kind of spotty the whole game."

Dennis Stefani tossed in 17

points and Robin LaRue added 13 in the losing effort as the Cards connected on 21 of 60 field goal attempts for a 35 per cent shooting night. Ione was six for 14 from the line.

LaRue was the top rebounder with 12 boards while Kevin McCabe grabbed six and both Danny McElligott and Rick Gilbert had five. Ione lost the battle of the boards by a 48 to 31 margin.

"They had some height that gave us trouble on the boards," coach LaRue said. Ione next travels to Heppner Friday for a rematch of the season opener for both teams.

Ponies bounce back with come from behind wins

Heppner Junior High's 8th grade Ponies bounced back from their season opening loss to record two come from behind victories last week.

Thursday, the Ponies hosted Riverside and put together a strong second half in which they outscored the Pirates 26-10 to post a 37-27 win.

Doug Holland and Dorian Forrar both tossed in 10 points as the ponies hit 17 of 49 shots from the field and connected on three of four from the line. Mark Launer added six points, Robert Bier had five, Cliff Dougherty added four and Don Lott picked up two.

Saturday, the Ponies traveled to Condon where Forrar collected 12 points and 10 rebounds to lead Heppner to a 28-21 win. Again, the Ponies were down at halftime but they outscored Condon 20-11 in the second half to seal the win.

Coach Jim Ackley used 19 players in the game with Launer scoring eight points, and Pat Parker, Steve Groce, Bier and Lott each adding a

pair of points.

"It wasn't our best game of the season," Ackley said. "Condon was a surprise compared to last year."

Ackley said the Ponies are still having problems with foul—opponents have gone to the foul line 27 times to 11 for Heppner. He added that the

team needs to become more aggressive at the offensive end, especially in the first half.

For the season, the Ponies have been outscored in the opening half by a 43-29 margin but they have come back in the second half to take a 61-35 scoring advantage.

SPORTS LOG

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	
Thursday, Dec. 15, Ione at Riverside, 1 p.m.	
HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY	
Thursday, Dec. 15, Heppner at Ione, 6 p.m.	
Saturday, Dec. 17, Spray at Ione, 4 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 19, Pilot Rock at Heppner (Boys), 6 p.m.	
Tuesday, Dec. 20, Heppner at McCune, 6 p.m.	
Tuesday, Dec. 20, Condon at Ione, 4:30 p.m.	
HIGH SCHOOL—FRESHMAN	
Saturday, Dec. 17, Heppner at Helix, 4 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 19, Pilot Rock at Heppner, 4:30 p.m.	
HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY	
Friday, Dec. 16, Ione at Heppner, 6 p.m.	
Saturday, Dec. 17, Spray at Ione, 4 p.m.	
Saturday, Dec. 17, Heppner at Helix, 6 p.m.	
Tuesday, Dec. 20, Condon at Ione, 4:30 p.m.	

JV Fillies take 2nd straight

Alice Abrams and Kellie Hammond both scored six points and controlled the boards as the junior varsity Fillies won their second straight game, 24-13 over Condon.

Lynn Dee Devin and Bonnie Arrington both contributed to the winning effort with four points.

Coach Les Payne said his team was able to work the ball

around and get in position for good shots. Defensively, the Fillies kept their opponents outside, forcing many of the shots from low percentage areas.

"We showed some definite improvement over the previous week," Payne said. "And I think the girls will continue to improve throughout the season as they get a little more game time."

Lady Cards post win

Leading all the way, the Ione varsity girls chalked up their first win of the season, 26-24 at the expense of Spray.

An eight point first quarter output by Darcy Rea got the lady Cards off and running and by the end of the first period they had established a 16-4 lead. The second quarter was a different story as the Cards put only one point on the board and Spray closed to within three points, 17-14.

"It was a good game for us both offensively and defensively," said Card coach Martha Doherty. "But after we got the big lead we had a tendency to just stand around."

After Rea left the game in the second quarter with a sprained ankle, the other Cards took up the scoring slack as Michelle McElligott,

Janet McElligott and Arletta Aldrich each totaled four points for the game. Carol McElligott added three and Susan Thompson notched a pair to round out the Ione scoring.

Nineteen of Spray's 24 points came from one player and Doherty attributed the high number to "some fine shooting despite the fact that

she was well covered."

Rebounding strength came mainly from Rea, before she was injured, and Thompson.

"The turnovers were not as bad as the last two games," Doherty said. "We're still committing too many fouls and that's going to hurt us."

Ione will get another shot at Spray this Saturday on the Cards' home court.

Elks Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 15 Regular Lodge, 8 p.m. Dinner Drawing \$500 Kitty	Tuesday, Dec. 20 Senior Citizens Dinner 4:30
Friday, Dec. 16 Happy Hour 5-7 Dinner 6-8	Wednesday, Dec. 21 Senior Citizens Dinner 4:30
Saturday, Dec. 17 Tom & Jerry Party 6:30-8:30 Van Marter Wedding Reception 4-6 p.m. Live Music 9 p.m.-2 a.m.	Thursday, Dec. 22 Regular Lodge 8 p.m. Turkey Drawing Dinner & Kitty Drawings

Elks and out-of-town guests only.
B.P.O.E. 358 Heppner, Oregon

OT trips Mustangs jr's

A three-game win streak fashioned by the junior varsity Mustangs came to an end Thursday when Oregon Trail pulled out a 55-54 win at Echo.

Heppner lost the game in the second quarter when they were outscored by the Blazers 16-2. A comeback bid in the final quarter—the Mustangs started the period down by 11—closed the gap but ended

one point short.

"We got out of our offense," coach George Koffler said. "We didn't screen out and go to the boards like we should have." Koffler said one statistic that hurt the Mustangs was their total of only 11 rebounds in the first half.

"We shut down their guards but their big men just tore us up," Koffler said.

Mike Stookey broke loose for his best game of the year as he scored 15 points and grabbed nine rebounds. Richard Schmidt was second high scorer with 12.

Koffler said he was pleased with the play of Lionel Wood, a junior transfer from Utah, who totaled nine points, four rebounds and three assists in just eight minutes of action.

Keglers Korner

Spartan League, Nov. 15	
Team Standings: Won Lost	
MCGG	28 16
Gardner's	28 16
Central Market	26 18
Coast-to-Coast	25 19
Sears	22 21 1/2
Peterson's Jewelry	18 25 1/2
Jerry's Mobil	15 29
Bucknam's Tavern	13 31
Split Conversions: Eva Griffith, 67-10	
HIGHLIGHTS:	
Roberta Klaus, 192 Game	
Roberta Klaus, 538 Series	
Gardner's, 945 High Team Game	
Gardner's, 2783 High Team Series	
Spartan League, Nov. 29	
Team Standings: Won Lost	
Gardner's	30 18
MCGG	30 18
Central Market	29 19
Coast to Coast	27 21
Sears	23 24 1/2
Peterson's Jewelry	20 27 1/2
Jerry's Mobil	17 31
Bucknam's Tavern	15 23
HIGHLIGHTS:	
Marie Turner, 190 High game	
Phyllis Cole, 499 High Series	
Sears, 963 High Team Game	
Coast to Coast, 2656 High Team Series	
Thursday Nite Ladies, Dec. 1	
Team Standings: Won Lost	
Kinza Corp.	33 15
Murray Drugs	29 19
Ray Boyce Ins.	25 23 1/2
Columbia Basin	25 23
Kroll's Dept. Store	24 24
Cal's Cafe	24 24
Gateway Toyota	22 25 1/2
Heppner Bowl	12 36
HIGHLIGHTS:	
Millie Hanna, 209 High Game	

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