

Mustang attack sends Huskies to dog house

Heppner ices CBC champs 31-0

An impressive team effort, featuring a hard-hitting offensive line and the talents of running backs Dennis Peck and Bryan Marlin, resulted in a resounding 31-0 Mustang rout over defending CBC champion Sherman County.

Heppner's win—and Sherman's defeat—narrows the field at the top of the Columbia Basin title race to three teams—Heppner, Wahtonka and Weston-McEwen.

The Mustang offense during the Sherman game was a sight to behold for the hometown fans, with Heppner rolling up 317 yards on the ground and 85 in the air.

Heppner's defense, in the meantime, held Sherman's total offensive attack to only 129 yards and seven first downs.

The Mustangs' high-scoring duo of Peck and Marlin each tallied two touchdowns apiece. Peck rushed for a whopping 175 yards, with Marlin also breaking the century mark with 116 yards. Marlin scored twice in the first quarter, on a 20-yard sprint and a goal line lunge from two yards out. Peck first struck paydirt in the second quarter, on a 15-yard run, then came back in the third for a TD from two yards out. The Mustangs muffed three extra point attempts before Jim Parker booted an extra point following Peck's last TD.

The final scoring of the contest came in the last quarter, when Lionel Wood connected on a 10-yard pass to Larry Palmer.

Starting sophomore quarterback John Bier was successful in three out of four passing attempts, good for a highly respectable 75 yards.

The Mustangs continued to lose yardage on penalties during the Sherman game, giving up 65 yards to the Huskies' 48.

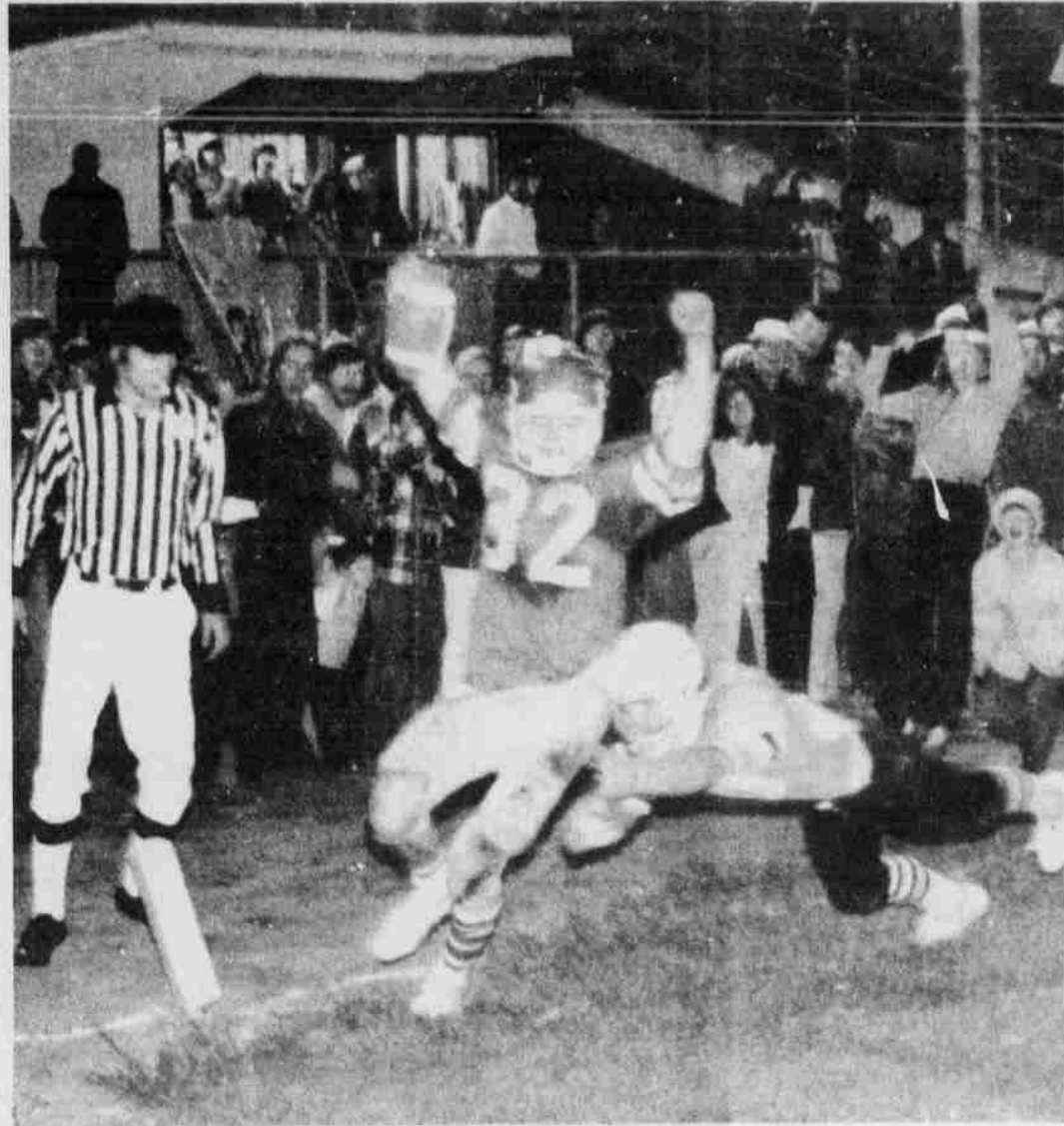
Columbia Basin Conference		
	W	L
Heppner	4	1
Wahtonka	4	1
Weston-McEwen	4	1
Condon	3	2
Sherman	3	2
Umatilla	3	2
Riverside	2	3
Pilot Rock	1	4
Wasco County	1	4
Stanfield	0	5

"We expected to beat them, but not this badly," said Heppner Coach John Sporseen, recalling the Mustangs' 7-6 squeaker over Sherman last season.

"We were hitting a lot harder than they were—and they're bigger—and we were faster than they were," Sporseen commented. "Our backs hit the holes faster than they did against Weston-McEwen, and the lineman really blocked during the whole game...If we can continue to play like this, I don't think we'll lose another game all season long."

Should Heppner remain tied with Wahtonka and Weston-McEwen for the remainder of the season, Weston-McEwen would go on to district

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Heppner running back Dennis Peck raises arms in victory after making one of two touchdowns against defending CBC champion Sherman County Friday. Peck picked up a whopping 175 yards in rushing during the 31-0 Mustang triumph.

Lady Cards meet Wasco, Riverside

On Tuesday, Oct. 3, the lady Cards of Ione met defeat at the hands of Wasco County. The score was 15-1, 15-8 for the varsity team. Thursday they had a bit more luck and demonstrated more skill when they met in Ione against Riverside High of Boardman.

"The team, as a whole, showed definite improvement. We had closer games and Ione put forth good team effort," said Ione Coach Barb Stefani.

The JV team was defeated in a close game of 15-11, and then was downed in the second half of the contest, 15-3. Sandra Thompson scored five.

The Varsity team was ahead in both games but was defeated in the final moments of both, 13-15. Michelle McElligott served eight points as did Darcy Rea.

Ione will meet with Sherman County and Wahtonka this week.

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BLEACHER SEATS



With Robb Rush

31-0. What can I say!

Team—A+; coaches—A; fans—A; writer—F (no show). I was unable to attend the game Friday night. The reason was because Les Schwab pays better than the G.T. I had to attend a zone meeting, but unless I am in a ship wreck or there is an earthquake, I won't be absent again. (Unless Les calls another meeting.)

The information I received is word of mouth from interested fans. The census seems to be that the Mustangs played the whole game. The offensive line consistently blew the Huskies off the line of scrimmage, and the Marlin-Peck duo hit the holes quicker and ran harder in this contest.

Dennis averaged 7.6 yards per carry and Bryan racked up 7.7 YPC. Pretty impressive! And a lot of credit has got to go to the people opening the holes. It is good to see that the "pack is back."

The Zoo played their usual game, limiting the Sherman offense to 129 total yards (the Mustangs rolled up an impressive 402 yards). The Heppner High defense has allowed only 3.8 points per game. Anybody that stingy makes Scrooge look like a high-roller.

The offense also appears to be rounding out. John Bier is improving his passing each week. John went for 3 for 4, good for 75 yards. That kind of performance keeps the defensive backfield honest, which in turn helps the Mustang running game.

Last week I wrote about "Sticky Fingers" Wood and what happens? he broke his string. However, he assures me he will get two against Umatilla. Bryan Marlin also is having an excellent year in the interception department.

The point-after seems to be a major concern for the Mustangs. In a 31-0 game, the extra point gets lost in the shuffle. However, in close ball games, the point-after is critical. Perhaps Thunderfoot will emerge against Umatilla.

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'Cardiac Cards' hang tough to dust Dufur 32-28

By Janet McElligott
The Cardiac Cards are back!

In Friday night's battle in Ione, the victor was undecided until the last play of the game, with the Cardinals leading 32-28 while Dufur controlled the ball near the 50-yard line with only seconds to go.

Those last few seconds were tense. Dufur connected on a short pass, the receiver ran out of bounds, and the gun sounded. The signal was a

second premature, as it turned out, with the referees ruling that time remained for one more play.

Dufur's Underhill unleashed a long, desperate pass, which was caught by a Ranger receiver who dashed for the goal line for all he was worth. Within feet of the end zone, Cardinal Treve Peterson grabbed the TD-bound Ranger, and aided by Shawn LaRue, made the tackle.

One more yard and the

Rangers would have defeated the Cards!

"It could have been over right then," shuddered Ione Coach Gordon Meyers. "Oh, we're happy to win. The first league win is important."

"Our offensive line did a real good job," continued the Ione coach. "So did our defense and the offensive guards. We gave them very little rushing and stopped Mike Hammel. He did very little rushing, and he's not

used to that."

Ione's line held the Dufur Rangers to 144 yards, while the Cards racked up 199 yards on the turf.

Ione's Dennis Stefani scored the first points of the game, traveling one yard behind the protective cover of the Cardinal wedge for a touchdown. Stefani then threw to Daniel McElligott for the conversion, to make the score 8-0. Minutes later, early in the second quarter, Stefani again con-

nected with McElligott for 22 yards and a TD, then passed to Robin LaRue for the extra points, leaving the Rangers down 16-0.

"They were dead right then," said Meyers. "Then they ran that kick-off back."

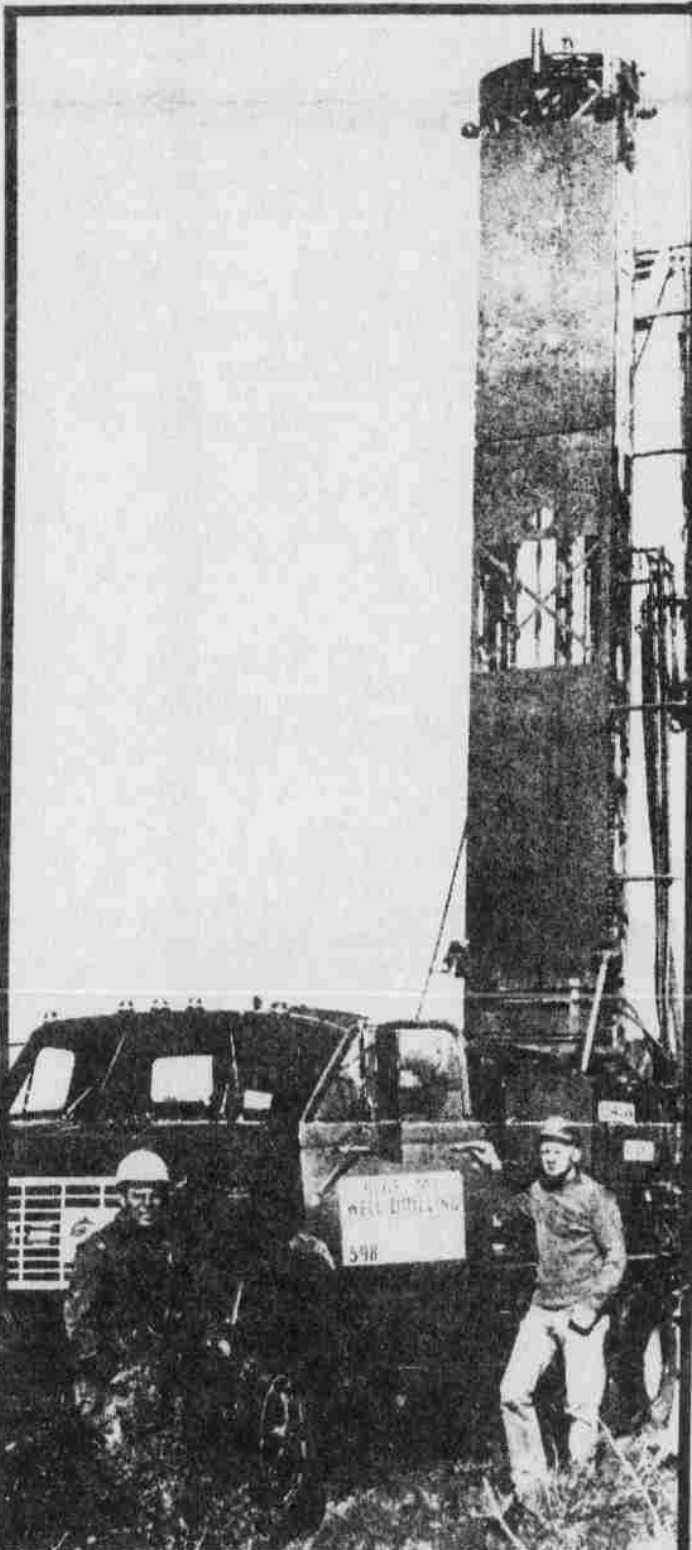
Meyers was referring to Joe Mead's startling 83-yard touchdown return for Dufur. A conversion pass added two more to the Ranger total, leaving the score at 16-8, Cards.

Undaunted, the Redbirds continued. Several plays after Mead's return, Stefani dashed 38 yards to score. Robin LaRue fielded another pass for the bonus points to boost the score to 24-8.

Coming back from the half-time break, Dufur connected on its first pass, to receiver Bill Mead, for 63 yards and a TD.

"They (the Mead brothers) were good ballplayers," com-

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