

# Fillies lock up district berth with 49-31 win over W-M five



The Heppner Fillies lost by a 28-56 margin to Pilot Rock, but came back on Saturday to hand Weston-McEwen a 49-31 loss, locking a berth in district playoff action.

The weekend's basketball action left the Heppner girls with a 16-2 season record and a firm clinch on second place in the eastern division. Both the Fillies' two losses were at the hands of Pilot Rock, undefeated thus far this season.

Pilot Rock jumped off to a 15-5 lead over the Fillies during the first quarter of play on Friday, leaving the Heppner girls in their wake throughout the game.

The Fillies managed to connect on only 20 per cent of their shots from the court, while the Pilot Rock squad had a 34 per cent success rate. The taller league-leaders also dominated the boards.

"It was a scrappy game," commented Fillies' Coach Sheri Brock. "Both teams played rough."

Wendy Meyers led Heppner in scoring, with nine points, followed by Mary Kincaid and Geri Grieb with five each; Maureen Healy with four; Jane Steagall and Kelly Hammond with two each, and Lindy Devin with one.

Saturday proved to be an

entirely different day for the Fillies, as they returned to the more familiar role of winners during a roadtrip to Athena.

Maureen Healy exploded for 17 points, while bringing down 13 rebounds and forcing nine steals to spark the Fillies past the Weston-McEwen girls.

The Tiger-Scott girls trailed by only three points going into the second quarter, but the Fillies stretched their lead to 15 points by the end of the third before scoring ended with Heppner 18 points on top.

The Fillies shot 50 per cent from the free throw line and 32 per cent from the court.

Also making points for Heppner were Julie Grieb with eight, plus eight rebounds; Mary Kincaid with seven; Lindy Devin with six, plus five steals; Geri Grieb, Alice Abrams and Kelly Hammond, each with two points.

Fillie starter Jackie Mollahan was sidelined with strep throat throughout the weekend.

The Fillies face Umatilla on Friday, then will have their hands full with a tough Wasco County team on Saturday. Both games will be played in Heppner. Then it's on to district competition at Pendleton on Feb. 22-23.

## Ione drops two; one game from playoffs

Lady Luck seemed to smile on everyone but the Cards this weekend as Ione dropped two decisive games—Friday to Umapine 75-74, and Saturday to Dufur 58-39. The two losses put Ione in fifth place, one spot out of a district playoff berth.

Dennis Stefani's 37 point effort and 7 assists were overshadowed by the loss suffered to Umapine. Stefani hit an amazing 55 per cent from the floor and only one point of his came from the gift line.

The Cards were down by 20 points at halftime and burst out of the locker room to outscore the Chiefs 43-24 in the second half, but it wasn't quite enough.

"I was real pleased with the comeback," said Ione Coach Del LaRue. "We didn't though," admitted the coach, "play good defense."

Not practicing for three days could have been what cooled the Cards' shooting, since the gym floor was flooded, preventing all activities but cleaning.

Robin LaRue added 15 points and 13 boards, while Kevin McCabe had 12 points and 12 caroms. Gregg Rietmann wasn't far behind with 6 points and 7 rebounds, Glen Krebs and Leslie Thompson each added 2 to the cause.

Jerry Hahn scored 30 to lead the Chiefs.

Saturday night the Cards were again troubled by horrible first half shooting. The Redbirds hit a meager 4 of 33 for a terrible 12 per cent from the floor.

"We weren't reacting," said Coach LaRue.

They weren't reacting, shooting or playing defense, as they allowed visiting Dufur to command the floor. The Cards had scored only 8 first quarter points to Dufur's 26. Although the Cards scored 31 second quarter points and Dufur, 32 they literally gave away the game because of their first quarter play.

Dennis Stefani again led the Cards with 14, followed by Robin LaRue with 10 rebounds

and points. McCabe had 8 rebounds and 8 points. Gregg Rietmann contributed 3 to the effort and John Lindstrom and Leslie Thompson each added 2. Jeff Reed was the game's high scorer with 27. Ione played both games without the services of guard Daniel McElligott.

The Cards can't be counted out of district yet, though. If Echo, the current fourth-place holder, loses one of its last two (They play Arlington and Umapine) and Ione wins both of their last two, Helix (in Ione Friday games start at 4p.m.) and Wheeler (Saturday at Fossil) there will have to be a playoff game at a neutral area the following Monday to decide who travels to district. Good luck, Cards!

## Lady Cards lose to Dufur 45-28

"I was pleased with the way we played," said Ione Girls Coach Martha Doherty, speaking of the weekend's loss to Dufur 45-28.

Many of the team members had not been able to practice since the previous week because of high water. The lack

of practice was felt deeply in the second half as the Rangers were able to beat Ione down the floor, something, according to Coach Doherty, that happens rarely.

"They got I don't know how

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## Eckman-Van Marter square off in Town Team play

As Heppner's Town Team basketball season moves towards its seventh weekend, two teams—Eckman and VanMarter—remain undefeated. Jim Lankford and Ken Eckman scored 14 and 12

points respectively to boost Eckman to a 69-43 win over Watkins during action this past weekend. High point honors for the game however, went to Gary Watkins of the opposing team, with 25.

VanMarter kept its hot streak going, handing Smith a 67-34 defeat. Laverne VanMarter picked up 16 points in the winning effort, with teammate Darrell Spivey finishing the game a close second with

14. In other Town Team action last Sunday, Greenup beat Forest Service by a 42-28 margin. Dan Coiner was Greenup's high-point man, at 14.

The Lane team's Campbell and Heideman each dropped in 13 points to spearhead a 49-39 win over Johnston.

Only one team will remain undefeated after this coming

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### Rebound!

Three Heppner Fillies gather around the basket for a rebound against a hot Pilot Rock offense. Maureen Healy stands beneath the basket with Jana Steagall in the foreground and Wendy Myers comes into the key. The Fillies locked up a playoff berth this weekend with a win over Weston-McEwen.

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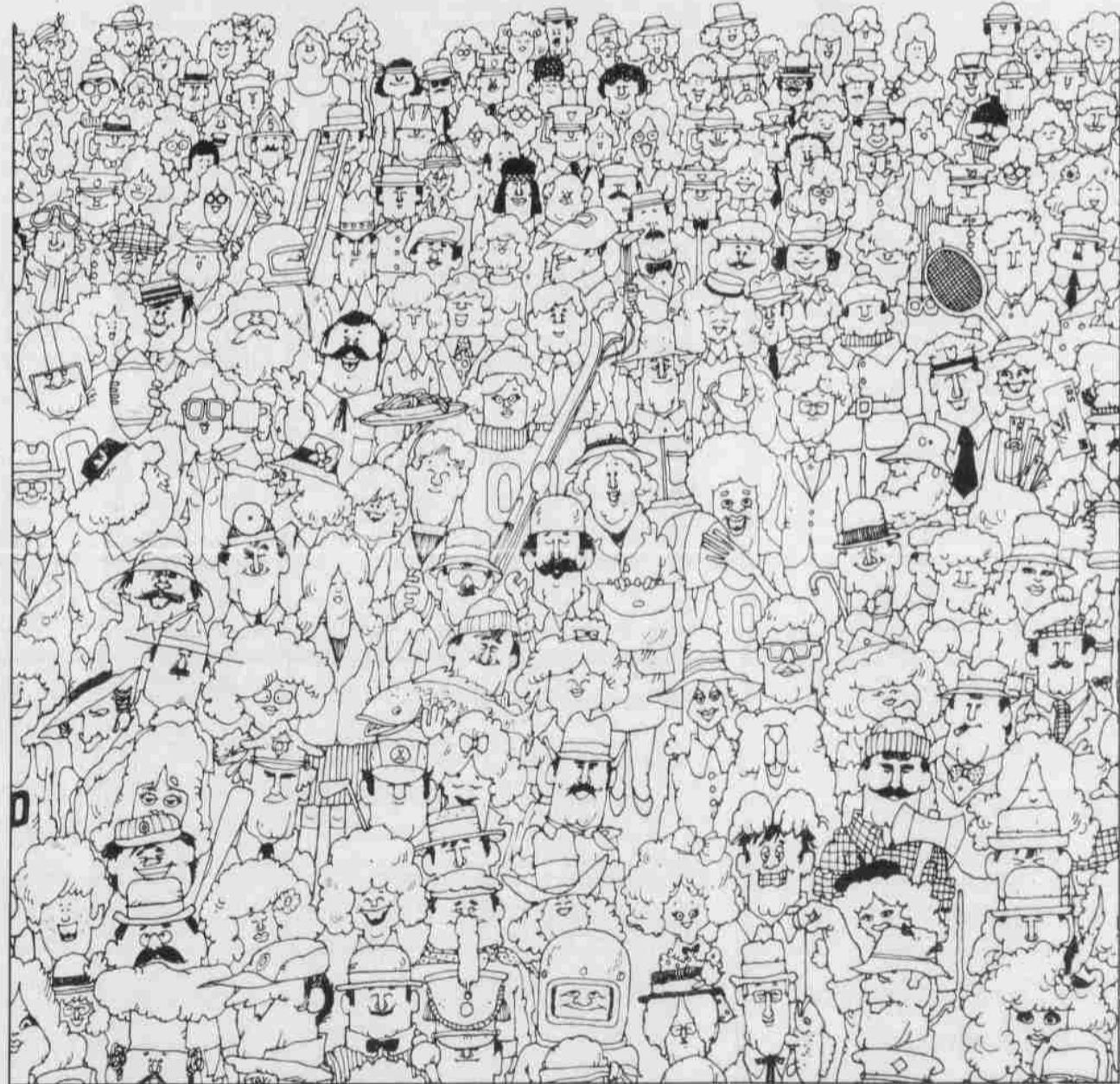
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