

Ione Cards roll over Long Creek 48-12

PHOTO BY Wayne Hams

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

With 417 yards of total offense, the Ione Cardinal football team rolled over the Long Creek Mountaineers 48 to 12 on Friday, Sept. 23. The Cardinals are now 2-0.

Howard Leavitt rushed for 177 yards on 11 carries and four touchdowns. Leavitt also played very well on defense, recovering a fumble and making many tackles.

On Ione's first possession, Leavitt ran two yards for a score. Craig Hams ran in for two more. Hams finished the night with 81 rushing yards.

Long Creek then scored on a 15-yard run by quarterback Shawn Leasy. The Mountaineers' run failed to get two, however.

Leavitt closed out the first period scoring with a 20-yard scamper. Again Hams bulled over for two. Ione led 16 to 6.

In the second stanza, it was the same old story. Leavitt went 32 yards for six and Hams three yards for a T.D. Both attempts for two failed.

Even though Ione completed only three of nine passes, two were for touchdowns. The first was 29 yards from Mark Meyers to Randy McCabe. Once more the Cards couldn't add more. Ione was in front at the intermission 34-6.

It was the Mountaineers who drew first blood in the third period. Long Creek tallied six on Sam Carter's 10-yard jaunt to cut the Cardinals' edge to 34-12.

A 61-yard dash by Leavitt and a conversion by Chris Rea produced a 42-12 count.

The fourth quarter was scoreless until Mike Rietmann caught a one-yard touchdown pass from McCabe to put Ione ahead 48 to 12 with less than three minutes left.

Both teams were close in first downs. Ione had 10, Long Creek nine. Ione rushed for 362 yards compared to Long Creek's 93. In total offense, it was Ione 417, Long Creek 145.

Head Coach Ron Mack complimented the defensive play of Hams, Meyers and Darrin Padberg as well as the overall play of Leavitt.

"We were a much improved team compared with last week. We were more consistent on offense and had better blocking. Our execution was good both ways and our kicking game was a lot better. Everybody played a great deal and gained valuable experience," noted Mack.

The Cardinals will open their Big Sky Conference season Friday, Sept. 30 against the Condon Blue Devils at 7:30 p.m. at Ione.



Ione's Darrin Padberg makes tackle as Eric Cook (45) and Michael Rietmann (87) close in

Heppner loses to Sherman for 1st time since '77

By MELISSA PRIVETT

It was a breezy night last Friday when the Heppner Mustangs faced the Sherman County Huskies. Spirits were dampened as the scoreboard kept lighting up until it finally ended with a 19-0 loss for Heppner.

Both teams remained scoreless in the first half. Assistant Coach Les Payne felt that this was due to a "combination of both teams playing good defense. There were also mistakes and penalties on both sides." Head Coach Craig Kitching added, "We were sloppy in the execution of our offense."

Sherman County managed to gain control of the ball for most of the second half. Heppner's own mistakes offensively and their inability to move the ball offensively during the whole game, not just the second half, accounted for this.

Mark Coles of Sherman County scored two of the three touchdowns while Joey Alsup accumulated the third.

During the fourth quarter, quarterback Mark Way suffered a bruised rib and was taken out of the game for a short period of time. Second string quarterback Eric Thompson was sent in to take his place. Thirty-eight yards were gained on a splendiferous slant pass received by Greg Orr from Thompson.

When it came to the difference in size of the players, Payne commented, "I think in some cases there may have been a mismatch. I think more than anything else that they executed better. That was the key."

Payne also commented that this was the first time since 1977 that Sherman County beat Heppner. "They played tough and we didn't play as well as we can."

"We were a half-step slow in execution. Sherman was a lot better team than they expected," replied Kitching. "The final score was a natural result of that. We tried to play catch up and they intercepted a couple of passes. That was the ball game."

Nothing is wasted if you learn from it, and both Payne and Kitching shared their thoughts on this comment.

"As a team we learned that we have to be ready every Friday night. Every game is going to be tough. We have to execute both offensively and defensively. Everyone is aiming for us because we've been on the top for so long," said Payne.

"We learned that you can't go into a ball game, expect to show up, and win," replied Kitching. "We have to play our best every Friday to be in the ball game."

Heppner now is somewhere in the middle of the league standings. "It's just a big muddle of teams," Payne commented. "We still have a chance. Anybody can win on any given Friday. We can't afford another loss and still have a realistic chance. We

definitely are still in it this time."

The Mustangs will face the Umatilla Vikings this Friday at 7:30 p.m. on Heppner's home territory. Umatilla is 2-0 in league standings with first place.

"They have a wide open offense," said Kitching of Umatilla, "and they like to throw from different offensive sets. They do different things defensively and come up in different fronts. It will be a real challenge to face them."

Can the Mustangs win the game this Friday? "Definitely," Kitching answered. "There is no doubt in my mind, if we do basically what we did in the past. We must have 11 men on the field doing their assignments at the same time. This week we are sticking to the basics and trying to get everything back together."

JV Filly team takes Pilot Rock 15-5

By DANA REID

Thursday, Sept. 20, the Heppner JV Fillies played their first game of the season, here at Heppner against the Pilot Rock Rockets.

The first match was no sweat for the Fillies. They worked together and made an easy win. The score was Heppner 15, Pilot Rock 5.

The second match was a little tougher. The Rockets came back and were ready to

win this one but the Fillies did do the job. They showed the Rockets how to play and won 15 to 5.

"A pretty controlled game. It was great." "Played good," "Need more people to come support us. It makes the team play better," were a few quotes from the JV players.

"We played very well. There were very few serves that didn't go over the net," said Heppner Coach Karen Howe.

IHS volleyball team handed first league loss

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

Against the Arlington Honkers, the Ione High School volleyball team lost their first league match and first match of the season 0-15, 8-15 last Tuesday, Sept. 20.

In the first game, the Cardinals lost concentration on serves and their inexperience showed.

Ione came back in the second game and gave the Honkers a run for their money.

"We will be looking forward to playing them the next time. We should be able, by then, to give them a very good match," commented Coach Jocelyn Jones.

The Cardinals' next match will be at home on Friday, Sept. 30, against the Condon Blue Devils at 6 p.m.

	1	2	3	4	T
Long Creek	6	0	6	0	12
Ione	16	18	8	6	48
Ione - Leavitt 2 run (Hams run)					
Long Creek - Leasy 15 run (run failed)					
Ione - Leavitt 20 run (Hams run)					
Ione - Leavitt 32 run (run failed)					
Ione - Hams 3 run (pass failed)					
Ione - McCabe 29 pass from Meyers (run failed)					
Long Creek - Carter 10 run (run failed)					
Ione - Leavitt 61 run (Rea run)					
Ione - Rietmann 1 pass from McCabe (run failed)					

	Long Creek	Ione
First Downs	9	10
Rushes, yards	42-93	39-362
Passing	16-15-52-0	3-9-55-0
Total Yards	145	417
Return Yards	61	28
Punts, average	5-23.7	2-30
Fumbles, lost	5-3	5-1
Penalties, yards	5-30	7-80

Rushing - Long Creek: Carter 17-59, Leasy 10-36, Weigle 9-7, Johnston 1-0, McDaniel 3-1, Simpson 2-2, Ione: Leavitt 11-177, Hams 9-81, Rea 8-66, Meyers 4-22, McCabe 4-9, Cook 3-7.

Passing - Long Creek: Leasy 8-12-41-0, McDaniel 2-3-11-0, Ione: McCabe 2-7-26-0, Meyers 1-2-29-0.

Receiving - Long Creek: Weigle 4-10, Simpson 2-6, Leasy 1-5, Carter 1-4, Ione: Rietmann 2-26, McCabe 1-29.

Ione Junior High wins season opener

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

With two touchdowns from Ken Snider, Ione's Jr. High football team won the season opener against North Sherman 16-14.

The first stanza was a defensive standstill until North Sherman broke into the end zone with less than two minutes remaining in the quarter. After the two-point conversion, North Sherman led 8-0.

Ione controlled the ball in the second period and got eight points. Gary Rea sacked the North Sherman quarterback in the end zone for a safety to start things off. Then, with 15 seconds in the half, Kevin Ball uncorked a 40-yard pass to Snider for a T.D. The conversion failed.

In the third quarter, both teams came out scoring. North Sherman ran for a score, but the two pointer was good. Snider broke loose on a 60-yard run after the kickoff. Ball ran in for two points which turned out to be

the difference in the game. North Sherman rallied late in the fourth quarter but the Cardinals killed the drive on fourth down as time ran out.

Head Coach Mark Jones had these comments: "The team made less mental mistakes than I anticipated, which shows good discipline. The boys worked hard and encouraged one another and that shows pride. However, our linemen need to fire out more and we need more conditioning. We will be very goal-oriented this year and to win

games, we will have to accomplish these goals." The Cards will play at Heppner on Thursday, Sept. 29, at 2:30 p.m.

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