

Mustangs unable to score against Eagles



Eagle blocker takes out Quarterback Joe Taylor, No. 20.

By Ashley Conklin
Last Thursday night Heppner's football team went up against the mighty 4-0 Wahtonka Eagles, the league-leaders of the Columbia Basin Conference and ranked second in the most recent Class "A" football poll.

Wahtonka moved to 5-0 on the season and Heppner fell to 3-3 in CBC play. Wahtonka kept intact its record of not being scored upon. The game was another easy blowout the 42-0 final score indicated.

"I couldn't be any prouder of the

JVs defeated in last quarter

By Ashley Conklin
Umatilla junior varsity quarterback Duke Langley rallied Umatilla from an 8-8 tie with the Heppner Mustangs to a 28-8 win with three fourth-quarter touchdowns last Monday night. Heppner fell to 2-2-1 on the JV season.

Fumbles and tough defensive play ruled the opening period as neither team scored.

The Vikings opened up the scoring when Langley connected with Dan Gardner for a 65-yard pass play and an 8-0 after Langley tossed the extra points to Gardner.

After a Mustang fumble, Umatilla threatened to score again until Mike Scalf picked off a Langley pass at the 6-yard line and returned it to the 28.

Heppner was able to march to the Viking 40 before time ran out in the first half on the Mustangs.

The big plays on the drive were a roughing the kicker penalty on Umatilla when Heppner was punting a fourth down and a face mask penalty on the Viking following a pass completion from Slater Mitchell to Casey Pedro.

Heppner moved the ball to the Viking 33 in the third quarter behind the running of Russell Britt and Dick Devin, but the drive stalled there.

The Mustangs appeared to score when Brian Kollman picked up a Umatilla fumble on the 33 and returned it for a touchdown. However, the touchdown was nullified by a clipping penalty and Heppner took over on the 44.

After the Mustangs had been pushed back to their own 47, Devin completed a 31-yard pass to Barney Lindsay to set the ball on the 22.

From there Pedro ran in for the touchdown on a reverse and Devin went in for the extra points on a quarterback sneak. With 6:28 to go in the third quarter the game was tied 8-8.

Neither team scored during the remainder of the quarter and Langley took over in the fourth period.

Langley had touchdown passes of 52 yards to Rick Gerard, 18 yards to Ernesto Ochoa, and 18 yards again, this one to Gerard. Ochoa's touchdown was set up on a blocked punt.

"Umatilla had its better and stronger players playing in the second and fourth quarters, while ours played in the first and third quarters which was the big difference," JV coach Les Payne said. "We gave the ball away and the turnovers killed us. I don't think we crossed midfield

way we played," Heppner coach Tim Birkby said. "It was a great effort on our part."

The Eagles carried only 14-0 lead into halftime and only because the Mustangs were unable to score despite several breaks they had in the first half.

Wahtonka, who was averaging well over 300 yards of total offense a game entering the Heppner contest, and had 348 yards against the Mustangs, had its defense strike first.

Defensive and Phil Evans crash-

ed through the Heppner line and blocked Mustang punter Craig Angell's punt out of the end zone for a safety and 2-0 lead.

The Eagles struck again in the first quarter on a 14-yard run by Jamie Baucum to increase their lead to 8-0.

Wahtonka threatened to turn the game into a rout when Rob Watson scampered into the end zone from 29 yards out early in the second period. Wahtonka was now up 14-0.

But the Heppner defense came up with the big plays to keep the Mustangs in the game.

Troy Hyatt tackled Wahtonka punter Tim Grant for a 20-yard loss after Grant had mishandled the snap from center and Heppner took over on the Eagle 14-yard line.

Mustang quarterback Joe Taylor went right to work, hitting Bryan Padberg with a pass to seven.

Heppner couldn't move any closer however, and the Eagles took over on downs.

The Mustangs were back in business when Dick Devin stepped in front of a Chris Miller pass on the Wahtonka 41 and returned it to the 27.

But Watson returned the favor with an interception of Taylor.

Heppner had another chance to score when late in the period Padberg intercepted a Miller pass and the Mustangs took over on their own 42.

Again Heppner came up empty when time ran out on the Mustangs on the Eagle 28.

The Eagles took the second half kickoff and marched into Heppner territory until the Mustang defense held and Jason Palmer recovered a Fred Brackenbury fumble on the 14.

Wahtonka though took over on the Mustang 42 following another Heppner punt and quickly scored.

Steve Fetz dashed 25 yards to the 17 and Miller later threw seven yards to Baucum for a first down at the five.

Baucum then went in from five yards out. With 3:45 remaining in the third quarter the Eagles led 20-0.

Wahtonka left little doubt in the fourth period that they are indeed the best team in the CBC.

The Eagles, not known for their passing game, went up top 39 yards from Miller to Stan Getz for six and then Miller hit Getz with the extra points for a 28-0 advantage.

Wahtonka added a 35-yard run by Brackenbury and a 30-yard interception return by Ken Le Brun for touchdowns and extra point kicks by Tim Grant for the 42-0 win.

Heppner passed midfield only once in the second half, that in the fourth period when Taylor and Padberg combined on a 28 yard hookup that put the ball on the Wahtonka 46.

"We just ran out of gas," Birkby said. "Wahtonka just keeps coming at you and they just wear you down."

The Eagle defense held Heppner to 24 yards rushing and 80 yards passing for 56 total yards of offense.

Taylor completed seven of 16 passes for 80 yards, with three completions going to Angell (31 yards) and three to Padberg (43 yards). Birkby also had high praises for the offensive line that allowed Taylor time to throw.

The Mustangs had a very workmanlike effort by the entire defense with seven players in double figures in defense points. Leading the way were Bob Riehl (23 points) and Devin (21 points) on 18 and 13 tackles respectively. Gene Lancaster, Jess Jeffreys, Palmer, Kevin Curnutt, and Hyatt were also in double figures in points.

Even though Heppner is out of contention for the league's second playoff berth, Birkby notes that the season isn't over yet. "We still have two games left to play and they're two games we have a good chance of winning," he said. The first of those two games will be Heppner's Homecoming on Friday at 7:30 p.m. against the winless Wasco County Redside.

Passing	47-76-2	7-16-80-2
Total Offense	548	56
Rushing Yards	85	99
Yards Per Carry	4.1	3.1
Penalties - Yards	9-90	3-18
Points - Average	2.38	7.25-7
		1 blocked

Individual Statistics	
Rushing	Wahtonka - Baucum, 14-11; Brackenbury, 12-81; Watson, 6-51; Steve Getz, 11-47; Brock, 1-0; Dan Deary, 1-0; Eaton, 1-1; LeBrun, 1-2; Grant, 1-1-20; Heppner - D. Pedro, 4-5; Devin, 1-2; Buschke, 6-40; Taylor, 12-27.
Passing	Wahtonka - Miller, 4-7-76-2; Heppner - Taylor, 7-16-80-2.
Receiving	Wahtonka - Stan Getz, 3-49; Baucum, 1-7; Heppner - Padberg, 3-43; Angell, 3-31; Devin, 1-6.

C.B.C. Standings	League		Season	
	Wins	Losses	Wins	Losses
Wahtonka	5	0	5	0
Riverdale	4	1	4	2
Starfield	3	2	3	2
Umatilla	3	2	4	2
Heppner	3	3	3	4
Sherman County	2	4	3	4
Weston McEwen	2	4	3	4
Phil Rock	1	4	1	4
Wasco County	0	5	0	6

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in the fourth period. Our quarterbacks (Devin and Mitchell) each completed at least three or four passes and it was a positive thing to see our passing game go so well."

"Things have gone pretty much as expected," he added on the season. "The important thing on the JV level isn't to win a lot, but prepare people for varsity action which is the key to a JV program. It's a learning experience and another key is to learn an offense and execute it and make progress."

Heppner's final game of the season will be at Athena on Monday at 5 p.m. against the Weston McEwen Tiger-Scots.

Scoring	1	2	3	4	T
Umatilla	0	8	0	20	28
Heppner	0	0	8	0	8

Umatilla - Gardner 65 pass from Langley (Gerard pass from Langley)
Heppner - C. Pedro 22 run (Devin run)
Umatilla - Gerard 52 pass from Langley (Gerard pass from Langley)
Umatilla - Ochoa 18 pass from Langley (run failed)
Umatilla - Gerard 18 pass from Langley (run failed)

Statistics

	1	2	3	4	T
Wahtonka	8	6	4	22	42
Heppner	0	0	0	0	0

Wahtonka - Evans safety blocked punt out of end zone.
Wahtonka - Baucum 14 run (kick failed).
Wahtonka - Watson 29 run (kick failed).
Wahtonka - Baucum 5 run (kick failed).
Wahtonka - Stan Getz 39 pass from Miller (Stan Getz pass from Miller).
Wahtonka - Brackenbury 35 run (Grant kick).
Wahtonka Heppner
16 3
48-272 25-240

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Rushes - Yards

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News Bits

Clinton and Marie McQuarie, former owners of Central Market and Grocery, have moved to Roseburg to be near their family. Mr. and Mrs. Harlan McCurdy and Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Donnell entertained recently with a going-away party.