

# Change characterizes Mustang football

By Ashley Conklin

Change seems to be the key word this season as Heppner's varsity football team enters the 1987 Columbia Basin Conference season.

The Mustangs, under third-year head coach Tim Birkby, will change both their offense and defense in hopes of improving on last season's 5-3 CBC record (5-4 overall) and a fourth place finish in the nine-team league.

Offensively Heppner will throw the ball more this season and not run the option out of an I-formation as it has done the last two years. "We'll try and be more exciting offensively and throw the ball more while using some wider formations," Birkby said.

The new offensive attack will center on junior quarterback Dick Devin (6-1, 150 pounds), a two-year letterman, and receivers Duane Ball, a 6-1, 140 pound senior and juniors Craig Angell (5-11, 155) both one-year lettermen and Bryan Padberg (5-8, 145), a two-year letterman.

Devin, who has been waiting in the wings for two seasons, will try to improve last year's offense which finished eighth in the league in total offense and can throw the ball to Angell and Padberg who both started a year ago and Ball who started as a sophomore but missed last season after a bout with mononucleosis.

The Mustangs will also have speed and experience in the backfield with senior three-year letterman Scott Jones (5-7, 145) and Sophomore Russell Britt (5-8, 140) who lettered last season.

However, Jones, who suffered a non-related football injury during the first week of practice might not be ready for Friday night's opener against Pilot Rock. If so, either junior Jim Brosnan (5-8, 150) or sophomore newcomer Eric Connor

(6-0, 160) will get the nod. Brosnan lettered a year ago.

However, Birkby is concerned about his offensive line as all five of last year's starters graduated. "Inexperience and uncertainty on the offensive line will be our weak points," he said.

Seniors Scott Davis (5-10, 205) and Gene Lancaster (6-3, 260) will start at tackle to give the Mustangs good size up front along with senior Doug Marlatt (5-8, 190) at center. Lancaster is a two-year letterman and Davis and Marlatt lettered for the first time a year ago.

Senior Terry Gray (5-8, 150), who lettered as a sophomore will start at one guard while the other guard position is between junior Jess Jeffreys (6-1, 165) and sophomore Dean Munkers (5-9, 230). Both lettered last season.

On the defensive side of the ball, Heppner will switch to a 5-2 set after two years of running a 4-4. "We've found that the 5-2 fits our personnel better and we'll get better use out of our secondary with it," Birkby said. The secondary, which is perhaps the best in the league, will feature Devin and Padberg at the corners and Ball and Britt at the safeties.

Devin led the league last season in interceptions with eight and was a second team all-conference pick while playing safety a year ago. Meanwhile Ball picked off three passes as a sophomore and was also a second team all-conference defensive back.

Padberg intercepted three passes a year ago and along with Devin gave the Mustangs the hardest hitting corners in the league while Ball and Britt are among the fastest safeties in the league.

Heppner will also have good experience at the linebacking corps with Davis and Jeffreys who both started last season.

Lancaster will again start at one defensive tackle and was among the league leaders in tackles a year ago.

The other tackle position will be manned by either Gray or Munkers.

Four candidates will compete for two defensive end positions as returning lettermen Barney Lindsay (1 6-1, 155 pound junior) and Mike Mahoney (a 5-11, 145 pound junior) and sophomore Ryan Miller (5-11, 165), who missed most of last season with an injury.

"Despite switching from a 4-4 to a 5-2 defense, I would consider defense, especially our secondary, our strong suit," Birkby said. While the offense was eighth in the league a year ago, the defense was third in total defense.

Heppner's kicking game will also be solid with Angell probably handling the kicking and punting duties although he has been pushed in practice by freshman Rick Osmin.

Birkby feels that the Mustangs will have a good chance of finishing first or second in the CBC and making the state playoffs. "We have a good chance of making the playoffs but we can't lose more than two games," he said. "I think we can be competitive with the league and sneak up on a few people because no one expects us to be there."

Weston-McEwen, who returns a lot of people looks good in the CBC according to Birkby, and could end Wahtonka's two-year stanglehold on the division title. "Weston-McEwen looks good because they return a lot of people and Riverside and

Wahtonka could be tough because they always have a lot of people out," he said. However, Weston-McEwen goes into the season with a question mark at quarterback and Wahtonka has lost a lot of players off their division winning teams.

The darkhorse pick is Pilot Rock which won the district championship in baseball last season and will have experience in sophomore quarterback Tucker Hodgen, running back Jerry Lankford, a senior, and senior receiver Rick Rasmussen.

Heppner will host the Rockets to kick off the season for both teams at

7:30 p.m. Friday night.

Junior Jess Osmin a returning letterman joins this year's squad. Returning non-lettermen from a year ago include juniors Jerry Brosnan and Ted Schwarz and sophomores Phil Estberg, Jason Maben and Slater Mitchell.

Out for their first year of football include senior Derek Hoeft; junior Bret Akeson; sophomore Mike Gorman; and freshmen Kevin Bond, Ted Brittner, Al Burt, Larry Cecil, Doug Devin, Billy Hays, Scott Johnston, Jacob Maben, Bob Krein, Brandon Pedro, Ken Wallace and Shawn Wilson.

## Barrel racing results told

The following year-end results have been submitted for the Heppner Barrel Racing Club:

Open: first-Mary Ann Munkers, \$108.; second-Nikki Brisbois, \$72. Novice: first-Heather Eckman,

\$144; a tie for second between Holli Eckman, \$90, and Penny Hoffman, \$90; fourth-Terri Gentry, \$36.

Pee Wees: first-Angela Munkers, \$108; second-Tiffanie Munkers, \$72.

## Russian aphid threat to wheat

A new pest alert for the Russian wheat aphid has been sounded by the Oregon State University Extension Service and the Oregon Department of Agriculture. The insect could become one of the most important insect pests of wheat and barley in the state.

Since first discovered in Texas in 1986, the Russian wheat aphid has been found in ten states, including western Idaho, northeastern Colorado and Wyoming. The pest is spread by winds or carried on grass leaves.

A publication about the Russian wheat aphid, which includes drawings of the pest as well as other information, is now available from the OSU Extension Service and the State Department of Agriculture at no charge. It was authored by Kathleen J. R. Johnson, surver; entomologist, ODA; Ray Drapek, Extension pest management specialist, and Glenn Fisher, Extension entomologist.

Fisher said winter wheat growers

along the Idaho border may find the aphid this fall after emergence and before the first frost. The State

Department of Agriculture will be monitoring this area.

In early season, from emergence to tillering, damage may resemble that caused by drought stress. Infected upper leaves may curl upward, resembling a straw with the aphids inside. Leaves may also get a slight purple discoloration.

Entomologists are urging growers and others to be on the lookout for damage that might be caused by the wheat aphid and to call county Extension offices or a representative of the Oregon Department of Agriculture if they suspect the aphid might be present.

Copies of the publication, Russian Wheat Aphid, EC 1262, may be obtained from Agricultural Communications Publications Orders, OSU, Corvallis 97331-2119, or from the ODA in Salem.

## Time to enter wool sewing contest

Entry forms are now available at Extension Offices and fabric stores throughout Oregon for the annual Make It Yourself with Wool contest.

District contest for Morrow, Gilliam, Wheeler and Umatilla counties is November 7. Hermiston District Director is Karen Watson.

Rt. 5 Box 5232, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Many valuable awards will be provided by a large number of sponsors.

Contest divisions are, preteen 13 and under, 14-16, and Senior 17-21.

One junior and one senior from each district will win a trip to state finals.

Pick up a copy of pre-registration materials at Extension office, Heppner. It also includes judging guide lines, list of donors, awards and other information.

## WCCC Golf

### Sunday Men's Play September 6

Low gross: Don Lott, 64.  
Second low gross: George Waterland, 73.  
Low net: Charlie Starks, 57.  
Second low net: Eddie Gunderson, 58.  
K.P.: Doug Smith.  
Long Drive: Don Lott.  
Least Putts-Eddie Gunderson.  
A work day is planned Saturday, Sept. 12 beginning at 8 a.m. at the golf course.

### Tuesday Ladies September 8

Low gross: (flight A)-Lois Hunt, Muriel Palmer, Bev Wilson; (flight B)-Dorothy Hawkins.  
Low net: (flight A)-Harriet Pierson; (flight B)-Verna Brinda.  
Putts: (flight A)-Eileen Padberg and (flight B)-Bernice Lott.  
K.P. on No. 5: (flight A)-Anita Boyer; (flight B)-Luvilla Sonstegard.  
Long drive: No. 1-(flight A)-Barb

### Adult classes start Sept. 14

It's back to school time for adults, too. Adult Basic Education, Graduation Equivalency Diploma, Adult High School Diploma, and English as a Second Language classes will begin again Monday, Sept. 14 at the Heppner Neighborhood Center. Classes will be from 4-7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday of each week until Christmas. For more information, call Gary or Sue Warren, 422-7420.

Cutsforth; No 2 (flight B)-Jo Pettyjohn.  
Birdies: Harriet Pierson No. 17; Muriel Palmer No 18; Lucile Peck No. 10 and Martha Peterson No. 13.  
Chip ins: Bebe Munkers No 16; Bev Wilson No. 13; Bernice Lott No. 14.

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	Fresh Corn	7 ears for 99¢
	Western Family sliced Cheese reg. \$2 <sup>99</sup>	16 oz. \$1 <sup>99</sup> ea.
	Banquet Fried Chicken reg. \$3 <sup>99</sup>	32 oz. \$2 <sup>99</sup> ea.
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