

Mustangs disarm Rockets



Photo By Joyce Hughes
Brandon Pedro (30) shoots jumper over Rocket defender

The Heppner Mustangs turned back a tough challenge from the Pilot Rock Rockets Friday night in Heppner and bested the Rockets, 79-69.

The battle, for a piece of first place in the Columbia Basin Conference, pitted finesse against size and the Mustangs were ready for the test. The Mustangs started fast with a giant first quarter, outscoring Pilot Rock, 30-10.

The Rockets, the only team to have defeated Heppner in league play this year, didn't throw in the towel. They came back with a 24-13 second quarter to trail, 43-34, at halftime.

The Rockets strategy was to pound the ball inside to Rob Quaempts and Jereme Rasico. They finished with 20 and 23 points respectively. They just couldn't make up that huge first quarter deficit.

The closest the Rockets got was 65-61 midway through the fourth quarter. After that, the Mustangs took over and finished fast, outscoring Pilot Rock, 14-8, for the win.

Jason Britt had one of his best games of the season, scoring 19 points on 6-11 from the field and 5-6 from the line.

Floor leader Bob Krein kept the tempo to the Mustangs' liking, pushing the ball up the floor and either dishing out one of his seven assists or pulling up for short jumpers. Krein scored 16 points, including 7-9 from the field.

Balanced scoring is rapidly getting to be a trademark of this Mustang team. All of the other starters scored in double figures. Rick Osmin and Brandon Pedro each had 15 points and Pedro added nine rebounds. Doug Devin had 10 points and nine rebounds.

The win put some distance between Heppner and Pilot Rock. This was Pilot Rock's third loss against five wins and brought Heppner's record to 7-1.

Heppner 30 13 20 16 79
Pilot Rock 10 24 19 16 69

Heppner: Koffler 12; Currin 12; Pettyjohn, Krein 7-2-4 16; Britt 6-5-6 19; Osmin 7-1-4 15; Pedro 6-3-6 15; Grabeel, Rathbun, Devin 4-2-2 10; Bond, Totals 32 13-22 79.

Pilot Rock: Hemphill, Thacker 6 14; Miller 2 5; Nelson, Rasico 11 1-1 23; Erickson 2 6; Quaempts 9 2-8 20; Tresham 1-3 1. Totals 30 4-12 69.

Team fouls Heppner 17 Pilot Rock 19. Three point goals Heppner-Britt 2. Pilot Rock-Thacker 2, Rasico, Erickson 2.

County to get \$5,000

Morrow County has been chosen to receive \$5000 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the area. This selection was made by a committee chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

A local board of county residents will meet to determine how these funds will be distributed among local service agencies that provide emergency food and shelter, said local board chairman Scott Bauska.

In order for a service agency to

qualify for these funds it must be non-profit, have an accounting system and annual audit, practice nondiscrimination, and show capability to deliver emergency food and shelter.

Qualifies organizations are urged to apply for funds at a meeting of the local board set for 1 p.m. Tuesday, February 12, at the courthouse annex building in Irrigon.

Further information may be obtained by contacting local board chairman, Scott Bauska at 481-7047.

Shrove pancake supper set Feb. 12

All Saints church will hold its annual Shrove Tuesday community pancake supper on Tues. Feb. 12 at

the parish hall. Pancakes, ham, fruit and beverages will be served from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Church youth group hears presentation

By Anne Morter

Sister Catherine Hertel, religious education director for the Baker Diocese, gave a presentation titled "Passionate St. Paul" Sunday, January 27, at St. William's Catholic Church in Ione. The program was for junior high and high school students from Ione and Heppner. Participants acted out a play to illustrate the life of Paul. They then divided into pairs and wrote homilies which they shared with the group. The program ended with participants sharing what they had learned and offering prayers.

St. William's Catholic youth will host the Mass Sunday, February 10, at St. William's. Other youth group members are invited to attend.

Also on February 10, the Catholic Youth Group will sponsor a presentation by the Hermiston Crisis Pregnancy Center. Debbie Machado, PCS director, will show slides and answer questions about the center's origins and the services they now provide. All high school students are invited to attend. The program starts at 2 p.m. and will be held in the basement of St. William's Church.

Cards chalk up two more in win column

By Anne Morter

The Ione Cardinals continued with their winning ways, chalking up two more in the win column last weekend, defeating Echo on Friday and downing Culver on Saturday. Both games were played on the road. The Cards now boast a 9-2 league record, with their overall mark standing at 12-6.

On Friday evening, a rejuvenated Echo team gave the unsuspecting Cardinals a run for their money before falling 71-77. The last place Cougars, with the help of a newly-added transfer student from Alaska, lit up the scoreboard in the second half as the Cards struggled to focus on the task at hand.

Mike Garrett led all scorers with 22 points. Deacon Heideman added 13 and Justin Miller and Gabe Garcia each had 11. Garrett also had a good night on the boards, pulling down 22 rebounds, 11 offensive and 11 defensive. Playing all over the court, Garrett also paced the Cards in steals with six. Point guard David Wagenblast handed out 11 assists with Ryan Halvorsen adding four and Gabe Garcia chipping in three. Deacon Heideman had four blocked shots for the Cardinals. Ione shot 40 percent from the floor making 31 of 77. Echo shot a red-hot 47 percent from the floor, making 26 of 55 and from three-point land, they hit four of six for 67 percent. At the line, the Cards were 13 of 26 for 50 percent and the Cougars were 15 of 26 for 58 percent.

According to coach Del LaRue, the Cardinals didn't play well although Garrett had a good individual effort. "We went through the motions," he said. "When you beat a team by 36 (in their last

outing) it's hard to get too excited," he added.

On Saturday, the Cardinals made the long trek to Culver and returned with a 66-49 victory. The game was close in the first half, when Mike Garrett and Ryan Halvorsen were forced to spend most of the second quarter on the bench because of foul trouble. But in the third quarter, Gabe Garcia scored 13 of his game high 19 points, banging in three three-point shots, to lead a Cardinal spurt that broke the game open.

Besides Garcia's 19 points, which included a total of four three-pointers, Mike Garrett had 14 points, Deacon Heideman had 12 and Ryan Halvorsen added 10. The Cards flexed their rebounding muscles, outrebounding the Bulldogs 62-29. Garrett led the attack with a season-high 25 boards. Halvorsen pulled down 11 and Heideman added 10. Heideman also blocked five shots in the game. David Wagenblast dished out 10 assists with Gabe Garcia adding four and Ryan Halvorsen tallying three. Garcia also led in steals with five. The Cards had a fair shooting night, making close to 40 percent from the floor.

Coach Del LaRue was happy with the win and commended Gabe Garcia for a good effort, noting that he nailed several key three-point baskets and played well defensively.

This weekend, the Cardinals face a critical game with Condon on Friday and then travel to Cascade Locks on Saturday. The Cards must beat Condon to enter the district tournament as the first place team from their division. The Condon games will be played in Ione starting at 3 p.m. with two JV contests.

Mustangs take heart-stopping win over Vikings

The Heppner Mustangs ran their record in league play to 8-1 with a heartstopping 75-74 victory over the Umatilla Vikings Saturday night in Umatilla.

The thrilling victory almost eluded Heppner at end of the game. Doug Devin, who was 10-12 from the freethrow line for the evening, hit some big free throws to give Heppner a 73-72 lead inside one minute to play.

Andy Beitel hit McClen Montez for the Vikings and Montez' basket put Umatilla up 74-73 with 42 seconds left.

The Mustangs brought the ball down the court and after four passes, Rick Osmin took a short baseline jumper. The ball rimmed out but he was fouled on the play. With six seconds left, Osmin calmly hit both freethrows.

A last second shot by Rusty Green was long as time ran out and Heppner stayed alone in first place in league play.

The first half was a draw as it ended 41-40. Heppner was red hot from the field, canning 16-30 shots. They cooled off considerably, hitting only 9-31 in the second half. The 61 attempts was one of the season's lowest against the taller Vikings.

One big difference in the game was at the freethrow line. Heppner was 23-30 for 77 percent and Umatilla could only hit 10-22 for 45 percent.

Heppner led 60-57 after three quarters and that set the stage for the exciting finish.

Balanced scoring for the Mustangs saw five players in double figures. Osmin led Heppner with 17 points and Devin added 16 points. Bob Krein hit double figures for the second night in a row with 13 counters. Rick Koffler had 11 points on 5-7 shooting from the field and Jason Britt tallied 10 points. Britt also led Heppner with eight rebounds.

Green, a smooth 6'1" junior, led Umatilla with 23 points and Matt Iveson, a 6'3" senior added 20

points. Sean Sunday and McClen Montez had 12 and 10 points respectively.

The win kept Heppner in first place in the CBC, one game ahead of the Wasco County Redshirts.

Heppner entertains the Weston-McEwen TigerScots Friday night and then travels to Stanfield to play the Tigers on Saturday.

Heppner 19 22 19 15 75
Umatilla 18 22 17 17 74

Heppner: Currin 0 1-2 1; Pettyjohn 0 2-2 2; Krein 5 3-5 13; Britt 4 2-3 10; Osmin 6 4-4 17; Pedro 2 1-2 5; Devin 3 10-12 16; Bond, Koffler 5 11. Totals 25 23-30 75.

Umatilla: Beitel, Sunday 6 0-2 12; Pursfull 1 1-2 3; Green 8 5-7 23; Iveson 9 2-6 20; Thomas, Montez 5 0-3 10; Nobels 2 2-2 6. Totals 31 10-22 74.

Team fouls Heppner 16 Umatilla 18. Three point goals: Heppner-Osmin, Koffler. Umatilla-Green 2.

Fillies move into second place



Photo By Lisa Willman

Heather Eckman (32) has shot blocked by Pilot Rock and scoring another 16 to win.

The Fillies started February off on a winning note in back-to-back conference games. Friday night they played Pilot Rock on the Fillies home court, in a fast paced game and won 57-35.

In the first half the Fillies took the lead from the start. With 3:44 left in the second quarter the score was 19-8 in favor of the Fillies. By halftime the Fillies led the game 24-16.

In the second half the Fillies' bench came in and proceeded to help shut down Pilot Rock's offense. Meanwhile the Fillies continued to pass the ball around for openings to score.

Seniors Amy Greenup and Nikki Brisbois led scorers with 14 and 13 points respectively. Heather Eckman pulled down six rebounds and Holly Eckman, Brisbois and Greenup each grabbed five.

On Saturday, Feb. 2 the Fillies traveled to Umatilla and held their own the whole game winning 55-34. In the first half both teams were evenly matched with the halftime score being tied at 22.

In the third quarter the Fillies, led by Nikki Brisbois, outscored Umatilla by 13 points taking the lead, 39-26. The fourth quarter the Fillies continued to play well, holding Umatilla to only eight points

and scoring another 16 to win. Nikki Brisbois led her team with 24 points while Holly Eckman scored 10 and Amy Greenup added nine points.

This weekend the Fillies will play at home against Weston-McEwen on Friday, Feb. 8. Game time will be approximately 7 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 9 they travel to Stanfield.

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