

Mustangs take home court victory

The Heppner Mustangs moved one step closer to a Columbia Basin conference championship with a home court 85-76 victory Friday over the Weston-McEwen Tiger Scots.

The highlight of the contest had to be the performance of senior Brandon Pedro of the Mustangs. The 6'11" post player scored a season and career-high 33 points against the Tiger Scots. Pedro was deadly from the field, making 15 of 19 shots with a variety of rebound baskets and short jumpers. He was also a perfect 3-3 from the line. He also had 12 rebounds in the game.

The game at Heppner was much like the victory several weeks ago in Athena. Heppner busted to a 40-34 halftime lead as the press and constant pressure bothered the Tiger Scots.

Weston-McEwen went inside when they could break the press and Brian Pickard and Keith Walters both had fine games for the losers. Pickard scored 28 points and Walters had 23 counters.

The Tiger Scots never lost contact with the Mustangs but Heppner increased their lead to 10 points going into the last quarter. The last period was a draw and Heppner's victory, combined with Umatilla's win over second-place Wasco County, leaves Heppner two games ahead with only two to play.

Three other Mustangs scored in double figures with Rick Koffler getting 12 points and Bob Krein and Rick Osmin each scoring 10.

Charlie Rathbun came off the bench and had three rebounds and three steals in a pivotal time of the game for Heppner.

Heppner 20 20 26 19 85
Weston-McEwen 19 15 22 20 76

Heppner: Koffler 6 12; Currin 0 2-2 2; Maben, Krein 5 0-2 10; Britt 4 0-3 8; Pedro 15 3-3 33; Johnston, Grabeel, Rathbun 1 0-1 2; Devin 4 0-1 8; Bond. Totals 39 7-14 85.

Weston-McEwen: Moses, Walters 10 3-3 23; Rainwater 4 2-2 10; Pickard 13 2-6 28; T Bailey 1 2; Pupo 1 0-1 2; Farrow, Reger 1 1-2 4; Calvert 1 2; Christopher; A. Bailey 2 0-2 4. Totals 33 8-16 76.

Team fouls Heppner 15 Weston-McEwen 17.

Three point goals: Weston-McEwen-Pupo, Reger.



Bob Krein (20) goes for layin against Tiger Scots. No. 24 is Rick Osmin.

Photo by Lisa Willman

Fillies lose to Weston-McEwen

By Lisa Willman

Heppner Varsity Fillies had another tough weekend, starting with their loss to CBC's leading team Weston-McEwen on Friday, Feb. 8, 47-65.

The Fillies started off playing zone defense and offensively worked well as a team. Nikki Brisbois scored the first basket of the game but Weston-McEwen changed to a full court press and tied the score up at six points with 1:04 minutes left. The Tiger Scots took the lead and at the end of the first quarter lead by three points.

In the second quarter the Fillies couldn't make it work as the Tiger Scots ran several fast breaks to score. No matter how hard the Fillies tried, they couldn't shut down the Tiger Scots big girls rebounding and scoring. At halftime the Fillies were behind 22-34.

The second half went by quickly as the Fillies scored quite a few points, but not enough to catch the Tiger Scots who scored twice as many.

Nikki Brisbois led the Fillies with 17 points, 12 in the second half. Amy Greenup had 12 points all in the first half. Holly Eckman chipped in nine points and had five assists. Brisbois pulled down 12 rebounds despite playing against the taller Weston-McEwen team.



Photo by Lisa Willman

Christy Corwin (44) fights for rebound with Tiger Scot players.

Lexington Garden Bugs meet

The Lexington Garden Bugs met February 5 at the home of Lois Allyn for their regular meeting.

New officers elected were: Annetta Padberg, chairman; Phyllis Anderson, vice-chairman and Kathy Tellechea, secretary-treasurer. They will take office in March.

New plantings at Friendship Park were discussed, and Marge Ball presented a lesson on "House Plants."

Lady Cards beat Pirates



Photo by Wayne Hams

Nancy Morter (33) passes over Pirate player

By Anne Morter
On Saturday, Feb. 9, the Lady Cards "escaped with a win," 47-38, in the words of their coach after a fourth period rally when they played Cascade Locks on the road. The Pirates, a non-qualifier for the district tournament, led for most of the game before the girls overtook them in the fourth quarter.

Nancy Morter was again high scorer for the Cards with 11 followed by Crystal Minster with nine and Kari Morgan with eight points. The Cards barely edged Cascade Locks on the boards, 30-29, with Janie Cupps pulling down eight rebounds and Kari Morgan adding seven. Nancy Morter, Janie Cupps and Crystal Minster each grabbed three steals and Brandi Ball had two assists to pace the Cards. Ione suffered through a rocky shooting night, hitting just 18 of 65 from the floor for 28 percent. They fared better at the free throw line, making nine of 15 for 60 percent. The Pirates were 14 of 36 from the field for 39 percent and 10 of 20 from the line for 50 percent.

"We were not mentally prepared," said coach Dana Heideman. He said he felt that after the tough game with Condon the night before, the girls had a lot of trouble getting going on Saturday. He added that the Cascade Locks gym is a hard place to play and their game reflected it.

Heideman commended Crystal Minster for her fine play off the bench. "She played really hard and aggressive," he said. He also said that April Taylor did a fine job coming off the bench.

The Lady Cards will return to the district tournament in Umatilla this weekend to defend their title. As the number one seed from the East Division, they meet Wheeler in the opening round at 6 p.m. on Friday. A win will automatically advance them to the state tournament in Baker City as the district's number one team. If they should lose, they will get another chance at state when they meet the winner of the Condon-Sherman game. The game will be broadcast on KOHU-FM in Hermiston.



Photo by Wayne Hams

Kari Morgan (40) goes for jump shot against Condon. No. 32 is Nancy Morter

By Anne Morter

The Ione Lady Cards wrapped up first place in the East Division of the Big Sky League with two wins over the weekend. Getting to the top is never an easy road as the Lady Cardinals found out, needing an overtime period on Friday, Feb. 8 to dispatch Condon. Ione ends their regular season with a 7-2 league record and a 13-5 overall mark.

As usual, Condon showed up ready to play and the Cards had to throw in multiple three-pointers in the first quarter to keep up with them. The half ended with the Blue Devils holding a one point edge, 29-28. The second half saw several lead changes as neither team could establish much of a lead. At the end of regulation, the Cards held a two-point lead and had the ball in hand when they committed a turnover and Condon capitalized, tying the game. The Blue Devils scored the first two baskets in overtime but Danielle Stefani answered with a three-point and Brandi Ball nailed both ends of a one and one. That one-point lead carried them to the win.

Nancy Morter was the Card's high scorer with 15 points and Kari Morgan added 13. Mardie Durfy

was the game's high scorer with 21.

The Cards were outscored by the towering Blue Devils, 37-44. Kari Morgan led the Card's attack with 10 boards and Wendy Anderson added eight. Danielle Stefani dished out four assists and Morter and Morgan each nabbed three steals to pace the team. The Lady Cardinals shot 21 of 57 from the floor for 36 percent while Condon was 19 of 64 for 30 percent. At the free throw line, Ione hit eight of 16 for 50 percent while Condon was 15 of 27 for 56 percent. The Cards had five three-pointers in the game with Nancy Morter making three and Danielle Stefani hitting two.

Coach Dana Heideman and the standing room only crowd at the Ione gym were excited about the win. "We played really well," said Heideman. "We played good defense on them and did a good job on the rebounds against their big front line."

He commended Danielle Stefani and Janie Cupps for their efforts as well as Brandi Ball for hitting the clutch free throws. He also said that Kari Morgan played a good game, especially after sitting out for a week with an injury.

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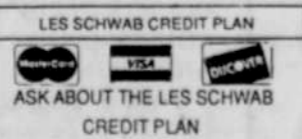


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