

Pilot Rock hands Mustangs loss

By Jeremy Maddern

The Mustangs slipped a bit this weekend but still managed a first place tie with rival Pilot Rock in the CBC conference. The Rockets came in town Friday, Jan. 17 and left with a close nail biting victory, 50-49.

The Mustangs run and gun offense helped them to a 19-10 lead at the end of the first quarter. Rick Koffler had the hot hand early and led the team with 15 points. The Rockets stayed close in the second quarter and trailed 34-25 at the half.

In the third quarter the Mustangs fell apart. The Rockets stormed back with the help of Jerome Rascisco who poured in 22 points and Cody Thacker who poured in 21. It turned into a close game and Heppner held its slim margin until Rascisco iced the game with a free throw. Heppner had another chance when Charlie Rathbun went to the line to shoot a one on one. Rathbun missed but because of a lane violation he got another chance but couldn't converge and the Mustangs fell short losing 50-49. Heppner was decimated by poor shooting when the Mustangs missed 21 of 26 easy layins. The Mustangs also shot poorly from the line going 9-17.



Photo by Joyce Hughes
Scott Coe puts arms in air looking for pass. Right is Tony Burt.

Weather Report

by City of Heppner

| Jan. 15 - 21, 1991 | | | | |
|--------------------|------|-----|------|------|
| | High | Low | Prec | Snow |
| Tues. | 48 | 30 | .0 | |
| Weds. | 54 | 31 | .06 | |
| Thurs. | 42 | 32 | .24 | |
| Fri. | 38 | 30 | .0 | |
| Sat. | 42 | 28 | T | |
| Sun. | 32 | 25 | .0 | |
| Mon. | 35 | 26 | T | |

Cards down Echo, Arlington

By Anne Morter

The lone Cardinals racked up two easy wins last weekend, downing Echo at home on Friday and Arlington on the road on Saturday. The Cards league record stands at 3-1 while their season record is 8-3.

The Cardinals never lost a quarter en route to an 88-42 win over the young Echo Cougars. Four lone players were in double figures, led by Gabe Garcia with 17, Mike Garrett with 16, Tony Bjerke with 12 and Ryan Halvorsen with 10. Garrett led the rebounding attack with 16 followed by Bjerke with 14 and Aaron Heideman with 10. David Wagenblast dished out seven assists and Garrett paced the squad with four steals.

The Cards put up 99 shots in the game, and connected on 35 shooting 32 percent from the floor. At the line they hit 15 of 25 for 60 percent.

Coach Del LaRue noted that the team had worked on playing harder last week and he saw a marked improvement in their intensity.

On Saturday, the Arlington Honkers were within eight points at the half but the Cards outscored them, 43-22, in the second half and rolled to an 87-58 victory.

Five players were in double figures, led by Mike Garrett with 21. Aaron Heideman chipped in with 15, followed by Deacon Heideman with 14, David Wagenblast with 14 and Ryan Halvorsen with 13. Again Garrett led the rebounding attack with 14 boards followed by Heideman with 13. Gabe Garcia handed out eight assists and he and Wagenblast each had four steals to lead those categories.

It was a hot shooting night for the Cardinals as they had their best night of the season, hitting 40 of 80 for 50 percent. At the line, however, they had one of their worst performances of the year, hitting just seven of 18 for 39 percent.

"I was pleased with the game," said coach Del LaRue,

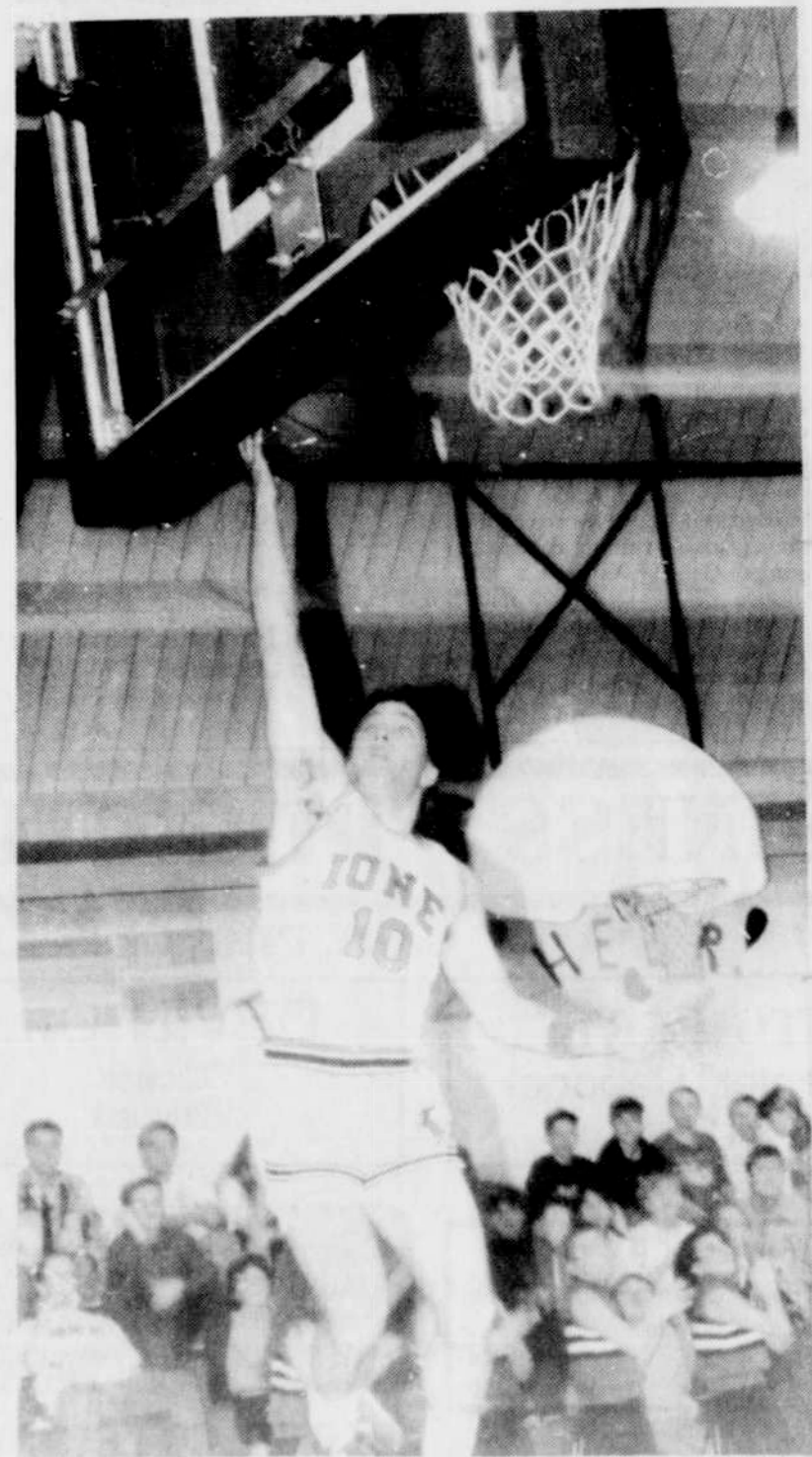


Photo by Wayne Hams
Gabe Garcia goes for layin

noting that the Cards pushed the ball down the court harder. "That's one of the reasons we're getting so many shots off," he said.

The Cardinals travel to Condon on Friday where a full slate of games will start at 3 p.m. They host Culver on Saturday for a girls' junior varsity, girls' varsity and boys' varsity game starting at 2:30 p.m.

Lady Cards take easy 55-25 win

By Anne Morter

The lone Lady Cardinals raced to an easy 55-25 win over the Echo Cougars Friday, Jan. 17, in their only game this past weekend. The game, played in Ione, moved the lady Cards to a 3-0 league record and an 11-1 overall mark.

Kari Morgan poured in 18 points and pulled down 14 rebounds in the two quarters the starters played. Scoring was spread around nicely for Ione as all but two players scored.

The starters played the first and third quarters and coach Dana Heideman was pleased with their efforts. "They came out with good intensity and played really well. They rang up some pretty big numbers," commented Heideman. He also noted that he was pleased with the improvement in offensive execution. "We were making good passes," he said.

The lady Cards square off with Condon at Condon, this Friday in a crucial game for the Cards. Condon has established themselves as the team to beat by knocking off Sherman County last Saturday. On Saturday, the Cardinals host Culver.



Photo by Wayne Hams
Lady Cardinal looks for playing room against Cougars

Mustangs beat Stanfield in OT

By Jeremy Maddern

The Mustangs took on the Stanfield Tigers Sat., Jan. 18, who had just been upset by power house Weston-McEwen. The fired up Tigers came out and pounded the Mustangs early and lead as much as 16. Led by Vance Crafton a 6'5" center, the Tigers broke the Mustang press with easy layins. The Tigers had everything going their way until foul trouble came in play. Starter Brandon Virgil and sixth man Dean Pollick both picked up four fouls in the first half. Lucky for the Tigers the Mustangs shot a horrid 24-57 at the charity stripe. The Mustangs fought back though, when Scott Coe hit a three-pointer that started a 13-C run in the fourth quarter. Foul trouble destroyed the Tigers chances of winning when six Stanfield players fouled out including Vance Crafton who scored 20 points and Jason McLintock who chipped in 17. Heppner tied the game when Rick Koffler hit one of two free throws to tie the game with just four seconds to go. The Mustangs got the ball back with one second left but missed a final shot and the game went into overtime.

Rick Koffler led the Mustang rally with nine of his 11 points coming in the fourth quarter. With most of Stanfield's starters on the bench, the Mustangs overwhelmed the Tigers in overtime

outscored them 13-2. Tony Burt stepped in for the Mustangs scoring six of his 14 points in overtime. Jason Britt led all scorers with 26 and Scott Coe had 16. The Mustangs travel to Wasco County January 25.

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