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HEPPNER

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Heppner challenges Vale for title



Photo by Joyce Hughes
Jeremy Maddern (82) T.R. Fiehl, Kevin Kilkenny and Tony Burt celebrate their hard earned victory.

The Heppner Mustangs will try to write the final chapter to their storybook season when they take on the Vale Vikings Saturday, December 5 at the Class 2A State Football Championship game. The game will be played in connection with the 1A and 3A championship games at Parker Stadium on the Oregon State University campus in Corvallis. Game time for Heppner is 1:30 p.m. St. Paul will play Dufur for the 1A championship and The Dalles and St. Helens will battle

for the 3A title before and after the Mustang-Viking tilt.

Heppner and Vale are both perfect at 12-0 this season but the Vale perfection goes deeper. Since coming down to the 2A level in 1990, the Vikings have won 38 straight games, a state of Oregon football record, including two state championships. Heppner and Vale last played in the first round of the state playoffs last season. The Mustangs traveled to Vale and were defeated 46-13 by the eventual state

champions.

Coach Brice Gundlach, in his seventh year at the school and fourth year as the head coach, has compiled an impressive 43-4 career record. Gundlach will call on three-year starters Joe Arritola (245 lbs.) and Nate Van Matre (205 lbs.) at guard and tackle to anchor their running game. Senior quarterbacks Jeremy Johnston and Mark Alston look to tight end Larry Ramirez, 6'6" 255 lbs. in their passing game.

Halfbacks Cory Maag, Dan McFeeters and fullback Tony Cummings are all hard running backs in the ground attack.

On the defensive side of the ball, 6'4" 270 lbs senior Greg Hoagland joins Van Matre, Arritola and Ramirez in the line. Cummings lines up at linebacker and Gundlach calls Alston the "best defensive back in the state." Gundlach also mentioned sophomore Matt Jacobs as coming on late in the season in the defensive secondary.

Gundlach looks for "a real physical battle with Heppner. They've been able to run successfully and we need to stop that." He also mentioned being able to move the ball against the stingy Mustang defense as a key.

Vale beat the Umatilla Vikings 32-15, in the first round of the playoffs and had to come from behind to defeat Dayton 26-20 in the second round. Last week they traveled to Lost River and beat the Raiders 21-6.

Coach Greg Grant thought the Mustangs would need to "play good defense to defeat the Vikings' size advantage. We'll have to use our speed and quickness and spread the field out to win the game. We'll need to stop them from steamrolling us to win."

The Mustangs started the playoffs with a 14-0 shutout of the Enterprise Savages and blanked the Warrenton Warriors 21-0. Last week Heppner squeaked out a 14-13 victory over the Crow Cougars.

Mustangs to play in Parker Stadium

Heppner Mustang fans attending the Class 2A state football championship game in Corvallis Saturday can take advantage of a special treat, three championship games for the price of one.

Ticket prices for all football playoffs have been set by the Oregon School Activities Association. Tickets for the championship games at Parker Stadium are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students. Game admission is good for one or a maximum of three games.

Dufur will meet St. Paul at 11 a.m. for the 1A eight-man championship followed by the Heppner-Vale contest at 1:30 p.m. The Dalles and St. Helens will collide in the night-cap at 4 p.m. to decide the 3A football championship.

Heppner will be the designated home team for the 2A championship and as such Mustang fans should sit on the east side of the field opposite of the pressbox. However, Dufur spectators are entitled to the front row seats for their contest and will move when their game is over for the Heppner fans. At the conclusion of the Heppner-Vale game, Mustang

supporters will need to allow The Dalles fans to occupy those seats nearest the sidelines. One may select any other seating for the two games Heppner is not involved in.

The most direct route to Parker Stadium is to take Exit 228 south of Albany onto state highway 34 off of Interstate 5, then follow signs to Philomath through Corvallis turning right on 30th street. This will lead directly to the parking lot at Parker Stadium.

Flatts chartered bus to take spectators to game

A chartered spectator bus to attend the Class 2A state championship game between Heppner and Vale at Parker Stadium at Corvallis will leave Heppner at 6 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 and return around 11 p.m.

Bus tickets are \$30, which does not include the game tickets. Game

Community pep assembly Dec. 3

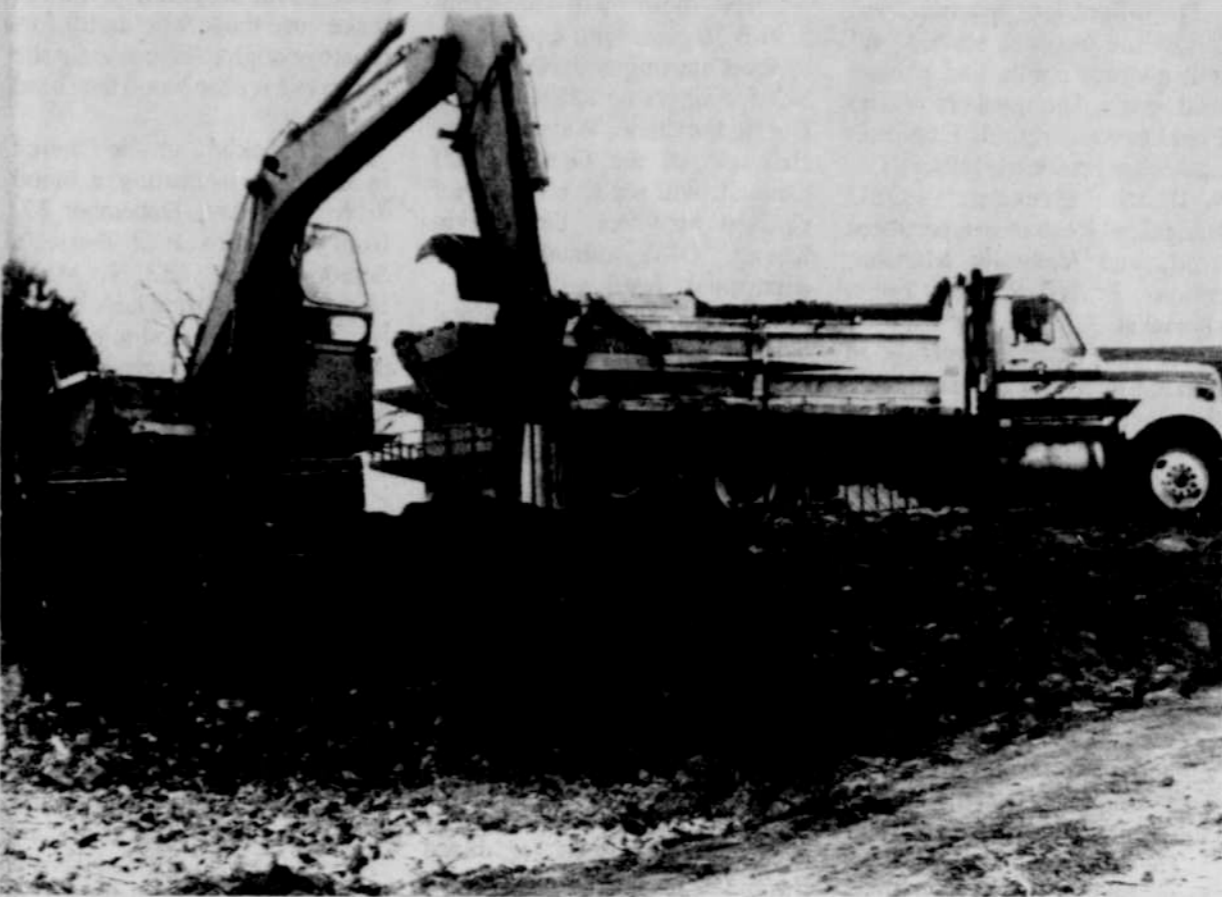
The Heppner High School cheerleaders will sponsor a community pep assembly Thursday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gym. "The community is invited to come and

tickets at \$5 for adults and \$4 for students may be purchased at the gate.

Bus tickets must be purchased from Tricia Gunderson at the Bank of Eastern Oregon by noon Thursday, Dec. 3. The charter bus has high back tilting seats and a restroom. A maximum of 47

help wish the team good luck before they take off to Corvallis," said advisor Joyce Hughes. The Mustangs are scheduled to leave at 6 a.m. Friday.

Clinic construction hinges on parking and street improvements



Excavation has begun on clinic addition

The Heppner Planning Commission approved a variance to allow construction of an addition to the Pioneer Memorial Clinic in Heppner at their meeting Nov. 25. Excavation in preparation for construction began Nov. 30.

The planning commission stipulated, however, that plans for the addition must include at least 35 parking spots. The commission also requires that entry and exit ways near the clinic be widened and nearby streets be made more accessible to vehicles. Plans originally called for 21

parking spots and no road improvements, but area residents voiced concerns about parking and increased traffic flow.

Funding for the street improvements is still up in the air, however. Morrow County Judge Louis Carlson said that since the clinic is a county building on county property, the county court will consider funding the improvements. But he said the county must first know exactly what improvements are required and the anticipated costs of those improvements. He said that if the county agrees on funding, monies will come out of the general fund

or contingency.

According to Carlson, Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Clinic administrator Kevin Erich has indicated that the medical fund has no funds available to make the street improvements.

The proposed clinic addition will be 26 feet by 98 feet and will house four exam rooms, four offices, a lobby and reception area and offices for physical therapy and Home Health. The Morrow County Public Health Department office may also move to the clinic from its downtown location.

Annual orange and grapefruit sale begins

Heppner Lions Club Secretary Steve Rhea and Soroptimist President Joyce Hughes show some of the oranges to be sold during the annual fruit drive next week.

Instead of door to door sales of oranges and grapefruit as has been done in the past, the two clubs will take orders in advance and then deliver the fruit next week.

Fruit will sell for \$20 a case, \$12 half case, and \$8 for a quarter case. There are 72 oranges and 48 grapefruit to a case.

Anyone wishing to order fruit may contact Joyce Hughes at 676-9228, 676-9959, or Marianne Kahl at 676-9113. Fruit may also be ordered from any Soroptimist member.



Heppner Lion Steve Rhea and Soroptimist Joyce Hughes

Teachers' contract negotiations stall

After nearly a year of contract negotiations between the Morrow County School District and its teachers, including the assistance of a state mediator, talks have stalled. The Morrow County Education Association, representing about 150 teachers in Morrow County, has requested the remaining issues be submitted to

factfinding. The association and district have selected John Hayduke of Seattle, WA, to serve as factfinder in this dispute.

"We were optimistic that a settlement could be reached. However, after an all night mediation session, a number of significant issues remain unresolved," said Mike

Wetherell, chairperson for the MCEA negotiations committee.

A factfinding hearing will occur in January. The factfinder will hear both sides of the dispute and write recommendations to settle the contract.

Chamber seeks nominations for awards

Town and Country Day is set for Wednesday, January 13. Traditionally, this is the day the Heppner Chamber of Commerce recognizes and presents awards

for man, woman, citizen-educator and business of the year.

Organizations and individuals are encouraged to pick up nomination forms at the Chamber office (Heppner T.V.) or from Bill Kuhn. Suggestions will be accepted over the phone, 676-5536 or 676-9141 and nomination forms mailed out upon request.

Selection of man and woman of the year and citizen-educator is based on direct community service, civic involvement, philan-

thropic and church work. The business award takes into consideration community involvement, improvement and investment. Innovation in employee and customer relations may also be a consideration.

Chamber president LoRayne Bowman encourages nominations "as there are many deserving people in our community and Morrow County who have gone that extra mile and deserve to be recognized."

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