

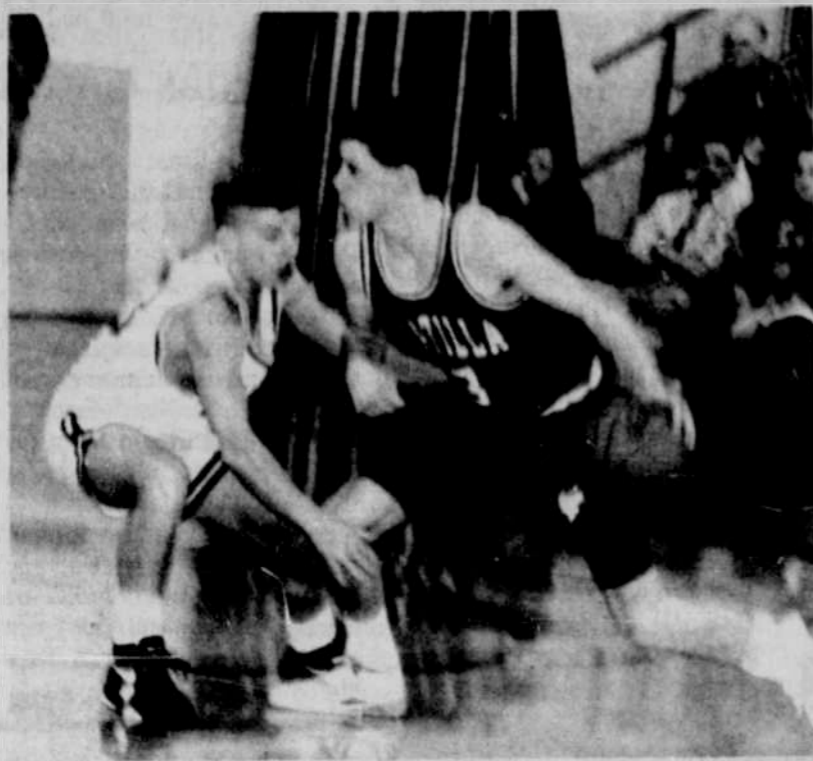
Mustangs defeat Vikings in district opener

By Jeremy Maddern

The Heppner Mustangs defeated the Umatilla Vikings 57-37 last Friday, Feb. 26 in the opening round of the District 7-2A tournament to set a meeting with the Weston-McEwen TigerScots in the finals and assure them a spot in the Regional Tournament.

The Mustangs were short handed as they lost senior Tony Burt to a knee injury that he sustained at Hermiston last Tuesday in a league playoff game. Heppner had beaten the Vikings twice earlier in the season and were out to do the same as they began the first quarter of play. The Mustangs established an early lead in the first quarter as they were proving to be the better team. With persistent passing and good ball movement the Mustangs lead 16-9 after the buzzer sounded to end the first quarter.

The second quarter began the same as the first as the Mustangs kept building on their lead. Umatilla made a run at the lead late in the second quarter, but still trailed by 10 points heading into the half. The Vikings were without three of their top players due to disciplinary action, but they still played with the



Peter Pearson guards Umatilla player

Mustangs late into the third quarter.

The Mustangs kicked in their up-tempo offense and began to run away with the game. With a good defensive effort that started in the third quarter, the Mustangs held a 22 point lead with about

six minutes to play. With the Vikings unable to produce any offense, the Mustangs went on to a 57-37 victory.

Scott Coe led the Mustangs with 16 points while Len Brittnr had 13. Shawn Tracy and Nathan Cleaver led the Vikings with 10 points each.

Holly Eckman receives MVP award

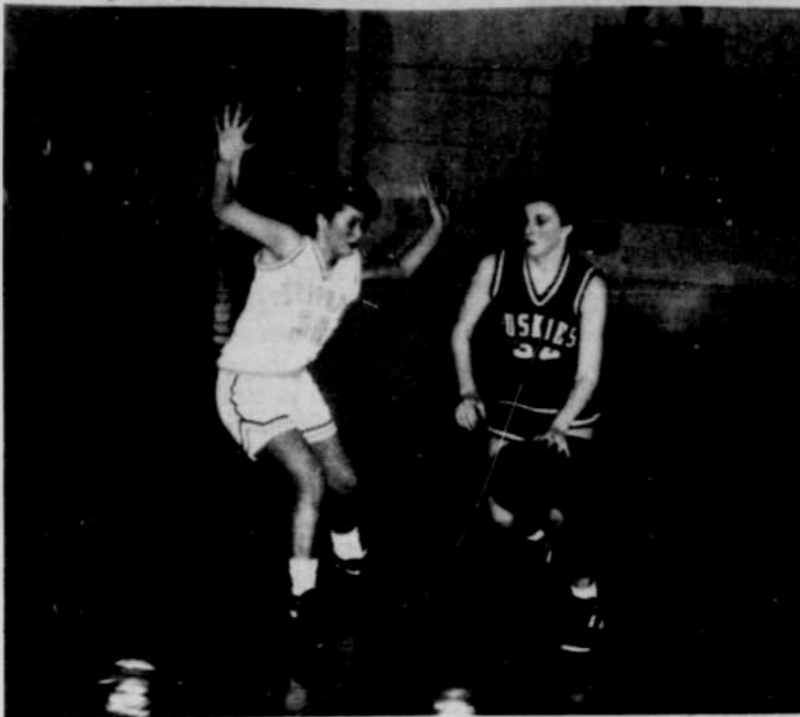


Photo by Judy Barber

Holly Eckman plays tough defense against the Huskies. Eckman earned the Most Valuable Player award during the district tournament. The Mustangs received the sportsmanship trophy and the second place regional playoff berth.

Grains Commission to hold meeting

The next regular meeting of the Oregon Grains Commission will take place via conference call on

Monday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. Call Kimberly at 229-6574 by 5 p.m. Friday, March 5 to be connected.

4-H members have foods day

4-H food and nutrition members recently held a favorite foods day on Feb. 13.

Members participated in a judging contest with Cindy Osterlund, Gilliam County 4-H agent; received practical tips for winning the annual Lamb Cook-Off from Maureen Krebs; and "Tamed the Yeast Beast" by making bread dough with Shannon Rust and LaVonne Mader of Echo. The "hands-on" activity filled morning was conducted at the Lone High School.

Twenty-one Morrow County 4-H'ers were welcomed by Carol Michael Bennett and the 4-H pledge was led by Andrea Mesteth of Umatilla. Cathy Dowrey of Heppner judged the six favorite food entries, which combined menu planning, table setting skills, food preparation

and food safety. Favorite food contest entrants were: Charissa Gates, Ione; Andrea Mesteth, Umatilla; Heather Ennis, Keith Baker, Kevin Baker, Shannon Wetherall, Beth Skoubo, Jenny Harrel, Sara Fritz and Kayla Downey of Boardman.

Other 4-H members present were: Jessica Krebs, Gabriela Novak, Lela Gribskov, Shannon Drummond, Elizabeth Allen, Adrienne Swanson, Shelby Krebs, Nikki McElligott, Erin Crowell and Sybil Krebs of Ione. 4-H leaders, parents and relatives present included: Lara and Shane Fritz, Howard and Mildred Baker and Glaya Baker of Boardman, Kristy Crowell, Monica Swanson, Arlinda Gates and Bobbi Childers of Ione; Gladys Hobbs of Irrigon; Vicki Mesteth of Umatilla; and Brooke Rust of Echo.

Bob Jepsen named to listening post

Senator Wes Cooley has taken steps to increase his outreach within his district by naming Heppner Mayor Bob Jepsen, an outstanding member of the local community to be a "Listening Post" on issues that affect people in Heppner.

Jepsen will listen for issues and concerns Senator Cooley might be able to address while he is away in Salem during legislative session.

"This is a great proactive opportunity to listen to my constituents in Heppner," Cooley stated. "Bob is a well known and respected person who is already integrated into community organizations, so it follows naturally he will know issues and concerns affecting many people. Now he will just take one more

step and relay them on to me."

Cooley stressed that this "Listening Post" has not been appointed to take care of problems that arise in his district. Rather, he looks to Bob as a relayer of information, helping Cooley to find out about potential concerns so he may efficiently solve the problems he was elected to take care of.

Jepsen was past president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League. He may be reached at 676-9850.

Senator Cooley invites anyone who as a concern to contact him in Salem by writing: Senator Wes Cooley, State Senate Chambers, Salem, OR 97310.

People may also call the "Ask Your Legislator" hotline, 1-800-327-7389 or share ideas with the "Listening Posts" in Morrow County.

TigerScots beat Heppner in heart-stopper



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Kevin Payne goes after loose ball

By Jeremy Maddern

The TigerScots got off to a blistering pace last Saturday afternoon in the championship round of the District 7-2A tournament held in Pendleton as they beat Heppner in a tough down to the last three seconds battle, 66-62. The Mustangs were unable to keep up with Weston-McEwen's offensive output as they trailed 21-12 after the first quarter of play. The Mustangs regrouped and began a 13-0 run early in the

second quarter as they pulled ahead. The TigerScots managed to recapture a two point lead heading into the halftime.

The Mustang offense was in high gear to the TigerScots surprise, as they started to build a lead early in the third quarter. Heppner led by nine points but the TigerScots managed to slice the lead to just six points after the third quarter was in the books. The Mustangs looked as they were going to pull away, as they again established a nine point

lead. The TigerScots would not die, though, as they kept chipping away at the lead. The Mustangs still had an advantage as they began to get the momentum their way. There were two game delays as one of the referee's ripped his pants and had to change and an electrical system failure stalled the game for 10 minutes with 2:01 left to play.

The TigerScots only trailed by four points when play started up again. The Mustangs began to stall forcing the TigerScots to foul. Rick Koffler hit an important free throw to give the Mustangs a three point lead but a lane violation was called and it didn't count. The TigerScots then tied the game up with six seconds of play left after Ken Weaver hit two free throws. In the confusion following, the Mustangs tried to inbound the ball quickly but had it picked off as Curt Sloan got the ball and then was fouled. He calmly hit two free throws to give the TigerScots a two point lead with three seconds left. The Mustangs then threw the ball away again as they tried to get the ball in play. The TigerScots got the ball and hit a base line jumper shot at the buzzer to take home a 66-62 victory.

Rick Koffler led the Mustangs with 24 points and Trent Hughes finished with 12. Joe Healy also had a solid game with 10 points. Ken Weaver led the TigerScot scorers with 17 points and Clint Clayton finished with 15.

Closing assessor's office not popular

Proposed legislation that would close county assessors' offices across the state has met with little enthusiasm in Morrow County. County judge Louis Carlson. In a poll taken in Morrow County recently by Carlson, no one interviewed gave the proposed legislation much chance for success.

According to Carlson, Dr. Ralph Reed, Morrow County Schools administrator, said that he was totally opposed to the bill but understood some of the reasons that speaker of the House Larry Campbell initiated such a bill. Dr. Reed referred to some Oregon county assessors who are deliberately not keeping property valuations current. Under Oregon law all counties must assess property at 100 percent of the current value every six years. Reed felt that all Oregon counties should not be penalized with state control for a few Rogue County actions.

Tom McElligott, owner of Morrow County Abstract and Title Company said "We don't need any more bureaucracy in Salem skewing county valuations."

Barbara Bloodsworth, Morrow County Clerk felt that removal of the local assessor would short change Morrow County citizens

who need specialized help with maps, legal descriptions and property assistance.

Becky Tullis of Ione, and Morrow County data analyst felt that if Salem were to take over the role of the local assessors office, they (Salem) would lack the knowledge of interpreting the relatively few sales that are transacted in a small rural community, thus skewing property values either direction.

If speaker Campbell's proposed legislation were to be enacted, the department of revenue would take over the county assessor's duties and the record would be moved to Salem. Morrow County Commissioner Ray French and past state representative said he couldn't imagine what kind of a mess we would have to put up with if this were to come to pass.

In a letter to Representative Chuck Norris, Morrow County assessor Greg Sweek wondered how Salem would perform such functions as granting veteran's

exemption, religious and fraternal exemptions and special farm and forest assessments. He wondered who would maintain the maps and records of ownership of land, the type of land, what kind of improvements and zoning designation.

Sweek said, "As to the two percent assessment limitation, why should Oregonians want to embrace California's failure. How would the limitation affect special assessed farm and timber ground, additions to personal property; remodeling and new construction?"

Although speaker Larry Campbell admitted that his proposal was probably fraught with problems, "It is the only boat at the dock."

Judge Carlson called the plan devastating to small rural communities in Eastern Oregon and said "if it is the only boat at the dock, it would be better to scuttle that boat in the harbor before it gets to sea."

Lexington responds to fire

Lexington firefighters responded to a fire caused by a woodstove at the home of Judy and Kenny Eckman on Tom Street in Lexington.

According to Lexington Rural Fire Chief Bill Sheirbon, the fire was limited to the area around the wood stove. The family was awakened by a smoke alarm and all escaped unharmed.

St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board



Eighty-one people were present for the birthday dinner February 24 at the Senior Citizens Center in Heppner. Seven meals were taken out. Members of the Seventh Day Adventist and Nazarene churches served. Claudine Warren won the meal ticket, Jackie Allstott, the door prize, Blanche McDaniel the guest prize and Jane Rawlins the birthday gift.

The menu for March 10 is ground beef patties, potatoes with gravy, Waldorf salad, hot roll and cobbler. Members of the Methodist Church will serve.

Friday, Feb. 26, 12 people played pinochle in the recreation room. There is someone looking for a cribbage partner to play with next Friday.

Sunday evening 14 people watched the movie. Callie Huddleston served popcorn and lemonade.

St. Patrick's celebration is almost here. The seniors need more volunteers for several projects. People are needed to help sell tickets on the quilt, help with the clearing the table and serving breakfast at the fairgrounds, and help with the soup and roll lunch and the pie and coffee sale. Remember this is your senior center and it takes lots of volunteer help to keep it in operation. The money from all these projects goes towards upkeep on the center.

Dates to remember: Mondays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Bible study, tax service 9 a.m. to noon, quilting 1-4 p.m. and knitting 7 p.m.; Tues. and Thurs. exercise 10-10:30 a.m., Weds. noon dinner; Friday cards and games 2:30 p.m.; Saturday dance at Hermiston; Sunday movie, 6 p.m.

Friday, March 12, Mrs. O'Leary's Irish Stew will be served in the dining room. Saturday, March 13, breakfast will be served at the fairgrounds by the seniors along with soup, rolls, pie and coffee in the senior center dining room.

4-H natural resource tour set

A natural resource tour of Western and Central Oregon is scheduled for June 18-22. It is intended for 4-H leaders and youth in grades 6-12. Leaders or potential leaders may apply as chaperones.

Participants will learn about wetland ecology, marine biology, forest resources, entomology (bugs) eastern Oregon geology, desert ecology and agricultural science.

The tour will begin at the 4-H Center near Salem and take travelers to Newport, Coos Bay, Crater Lake, Bend, OMSI's Hancock Field Station and the Sherman Agricultural Research Station at Moro. The tour will cost \$90 for regular participants and \$60 for leader chaperones. For an application and a tentative itinerary call the Morrow County Extension office at 676-9642.

BOWLING

Dime A Dozen February 7		
	W	L
# 3	17	7
# 8	16	8
# 7	15	9
# 5	12	12
# 1	11	13
# 4	9	15
# 2	8	16
# 6	8	16

High game: Delbert Binschus 197 and Janet Beamer 186.

High series: Delbert Binschus 545 and Janet Beamer 483.

High team game: # 3, 798.

High team series: # 3, 2156.

Splits converted: Nicki Hartley (2) 3-10; Gerald Hoeft 3-10; Katie McRoberts 3-10; John Breidenbach 6-7; Earl Garrett 3-10; Dave Wildman 3-10; Annie Lusher 4-5-7.

Koffee Kup Keglers
February 11

	W	L
Late Commers	17	7
The Gutter Dusters	16	8
MCGG	16	8
3 J's	14	10
The Dregs	12	12
No Pin Hitters	7 1/2	16 1/2
Hi Ho's	7 1/2	16 1/2
Hopeful Has Beens	6	18

High game: Linda Schultz 207.

High series: Linda Schultz 543.

Splits converted: Bonnie Lindsay 5-10; Annie Lusher 5-8-10.

Thursday Night Ladies
February 11

	W	L
Kinzua	8	4
MCGG	7	5
Tazmo's	6	6
Bedrock Bowlers	5	7
B & C Repair	4	8

High game: Marie Rudisill 222.

High series: Marie Rudisill 529.

Splits converted: Pat Hyatt 3-10; Susan Hansen 4-5-7; Donna Thompson 5-10.

Dime A Dozen
February 14

	W	L
# 8	20	8
# 3	20	8
# 7	16	12
# 5	15	13
# 1	12	16
# 2	11	17
# 4	10	18
# 6	8	20

High game: Gerald Hoeft and John Breidenbach 196 and Alvina Padberg 189.

High series: John Breidenbach 540 and Alvina Padberg 496.

High team game: # 5, 772.

High team series: # 5, 2257.

Splits converted: John Breidenbach 3-10; Paul Plaskunak 3-10; Dave Wildman 3-10; Gerald Hoeft 6-7-10; Diana Hoeft 2-7-8; Earl Garrett 3-7-10 and 5-7; Dee Ruybal 8-9; Katie McRoberts 4-5; Darrell 3-10.

Thursday Night Ladies
February 18

	W	L
Kinzua	9 1/2	6 1/2
MCGG	9 1/2	6 1/2
B & C Repair	8	8
Tazmo's	6	10
Bedrock Bowlers	5	11

High game: Marie and Candi Rudisill 182.

High series: Marie Rudisill 503.

Splits converted: Cindi Doherty 2-7; George Nairns 4-5; Tina Davidson 4-10.

Koffee Kup Keglers
February 18

	W	L
Latecommers	20	8
3 J's	18	10
MCGG	17	11
The Gutter Dusters	16	12
The Dregs	14	14
No Pin Hitters	10 1/2	17 1/2
Hi Ho's	9 1/2	18 1/2
Hopeful Has Beens	7	21

High game: Karen Phegley 200.

High series: Joan Smith 498.

Splits converted: Annie Lusher 5-7; Janet Beamer 3-10.

Koffee Kup Keglers
February 25

	W	L
Latecommers	23	9
3 J's	19	13
The Gutter Dusters	19	13
MCGG	18	14
The Dregs	15	17
Hi Ho's	13 1/2	18 1/2
No Pin Hitters	10 1/2	21 1/2
Hopefuls Has Beens	10	22

High game: Iris Campbell 206.

High series: Iris Campbell 525.

Splits converted: Ida Foster 3-10; Mary Beamer 3-10; Betty Brown 5-10.

Thursday Night Ladies
February 25

	W	L
Kinzua	12 1/2	7 1/2
MCGG	12 1/2	7 1/2
B & C Repair	11	9
Tazmo's	7	13
Bedrock Bowlers	6	14

High game: Marie Rudisill 186.

High series: Marie Rudisill 496.

Splits converted: Marie Rudisill 4-7-9; George Nairns 5-7.