

Cards' lose to Heppner in third quarter Mustangs nip Ione Cardinals 63-61



Photo by Wayne Hams

Kelsie Evans and April Taylor wrestle for loose ball.

By Anne Morter

A shaky third quarter cost the lady Cards a chance at a win against Heppner on Saturday at Ione. The Fillies beat the Cards 55-47.

It was a two point game at the half, 22-20 in Heppner's favor. But when the lady Cards hit the floor in the third quarter, cold and sluggish, the Fillies took advantage and turned a two point lead into a 15 point lead. "They came out like they had cement in their shoes," said coach Dana Heideman. "That third quarter

killed us," he said. He noted that while Heppner hit 10 of 13 shots in the quarter, Ione hit just four of 15. The rest of the game was fairly even, and the lady Cards even outscored the Fillies in the fourth quarter, but it was too little and too late. "You have to play four quarters of basketball against them if you expect to win," said Heideman.

Kelsie Evans of Heppner was the game's high scorer with 23 points. Melissa McElligott led the Cardinals with 14. Jamie Lovett added 10. Ione fell short under

the boards again, 28-36. Suzy Heideman was the leading rebounder with nine. McElligott had eight and Lovett grabbed seven.

April Taylor led the team with five steals, as well as controlling the offense and playing good defense.

The Cards had some trouble getting their shots to fall. They hit 20 of 54 for 37 percent, about 10 percent lower than they usually shoot. They also struggled at the line shooting four of 12 for just 30 percent. Heppner hit 24 of 54 for 44 percent from the floor and seven of 13 from the line for 54 percent.

"The third quarter was the eight minutes that killed us. We came out flat and shot poorly," said Heideman. "The easy shots we had didn't go in," he added.

Heppner phone exchange for sale

US West has announced that the Heppner telephone exchange is up for sale.

Regional Manager Clell Gibson said last Tuesday that the telephone company is trying to sell Heppner so the company can concentrate on bigger markets.

Gibson said he did not know when, or if, the exchange would sell, but he expected no change in quality or service if a buyer was found.



Photo by Wayne Hams

Heppner's Rick Koffler, blocks Jim Logan's (14) shot

The Heppner Mustangs traveled to Ione Saturday, December 18, to take on the Ione Cardinals. These two teams played two weeks ago and the Mustangs won 73-61 in a game that wasn't that close. Saturday the Cardinals took the Mustangs to the final buzzer before losing 63-61.

The Mustangs started like a house afire, leading 23-17 after one quarter. Senior Len Brittner, who is averaging just under 16 points per game scored 15 points in the opening stanza.

Heppner led, 38-31, at the half but the pesky Cardinals were hanging close. Ione's post players, senior Aaron Heideman and sophomore Jason Halvorsen, scored eight and 12 points in the first half as Ione was getting and making good shots.

Ione stayed close through the third quarter with junior Jerad Ashbeck hitting three jumpers from the right side. Ashbeck had 12 points for the game.

The fourth quarter turned into a dogfight as these close rivals traded baskets down to the end.

Ione-Heppner JV's meet



Ione Cardinal JV basketball player Luke Swanson goes up for shot over Heppner's Ethan Burnside. Heppner won the JV game Saturday 67-36.

Lady Cards beat Umatilla 61-50

By Anne Morter

The Ione lady Cardinals moved their record to 5-2 with a win over Umatilla Tuesday night, Dec. 14 and a loss to Heppner Saturday, Dec. 18.

The lady Cardinals "played well enough to win" in their 61-50 victory over Umatilla on Tuesday. The Cards jumped out to a 20-7 first quarter lead but watched Umatilla creep to within seven at the half. The lady Cards gained four additional points in the second half to come up with the 11 point margin of victory.

Jamie Lovett was a force inside, shooting 11 of 14 from the field and scoring 26 points. April Taylor and Suzy Heideman added nine points each. The Cards were hurt on the boards, getting outrebounded 21-33. Tanja Anderson and Heideman were the leaders with five boards each.

Melissa McElligott had a good game for the Cards, dishing out seven assists. She and Taylor led the team with three steals each.

The Cards had a good shooting night, hitting 25 of 54 for 49 percent from the floor. At the line, they connected on eight of 13 for 62 percent. Umatilla made 18 of

53 for 34 percent from the floor and 14 of 22 for 64 percent from the line.

"We fast-broke pretty well," commented coach Dana Heideman. "But our defense was on a coffee break. We didn't have the hustle, our intensity wasn't there," he added.

Ione tied the game inside two minutes but free throws by junior Trent Hughes and Rick Koffler spelled the difference.

Brittner led the Mustangs with 21 points and Koffler added 17 counters to go with eight assists. Halvorsen led Ione with 20 points and Heideman scored 10.

Austin Coiner led Heppner with eight boards and Koffler added seven rebounds.

The win put the Mustangs' season record at 4-2. They face a long layoff until January 4 when they travel to Milton-Freewater to play the Pioneers. The Cardinals and the Mustangs play one more time in Heppner on January 7 before the Mustangs open defense of their CBC league championship with a home game against the Pilot Rock Rockets on January 8.



The brightest wishes for a happy holiday season are being sent your way. Our very special thanks are also in order!

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