

Heppner Fillies stampede Riverside Pirates, 51-46



Lori Moeller shoots over two Riverside Pirates

by Molly Rhea

On Tuesday, December 17, the Heppner Fillies again put together a big second half comeback to beat the visiting Riverside Pirates, 51-46.

In the first half it seemed that nearly every shot Riverside

attempted went straight through the net. The Pirates also put up a plausible press and were able to score on multiple Filly turnovers. Riverside senior Jamie Downey popped in 14 points in those first 16 minutes. The first quarter score was 13-16 in Riverside's favor and at the

half the Fillies were trailing, 20-33.

In the second half the Fillies looked like fresh horses as they staged a full court press that totally frustrated the Pirates. Heppner went on a 10-0 scoring stampede to come within one point midway through the third quarter. After three full quarters the Pirates still led 40-34.

The Fillies demonstrated selfless teamwork throughout the fourth as they continued to work the press and were able to score off steals and forced turnovers. Downey was allowed only one point off a free throw in the entire second half.

Heppner's quick guards and strong inside play limited the Pirates to six points in the final period. Scoring 17 points in the fourth quarter, the Fillies took the win, 51-46, improving their record to 6-2 for the year.

Lori Moeller led all scorers with 17 points while corraling ten rebounds. Annie Hisler hustled in 14 points, nine rebounds and seven steals. Lexi Matteson racked up nine points and six boards. Brooke

Boyer scored five points while Jill Barber, Mindy Binschus and Jaci Hughes each added two for the Filly effort.

Heppner Mustangs bag Imbler Panthers, 72-56

The Heppner Mustangs were rude hosts when the Imbler Panthers from the Wapiti League came to town Friday, Dec. 20, and whipped the Panthers 72-56, in a game that wasn't as close as the final score indicated.

Heppner, in winning its third game in a row, jumped out to a 24-10 first quarter lead with an aggressive defense that put the Panthers back on their heels. The Mustangs built on their lead in the second quarter and led 40-22 at the break. Jim Schlaich scored 15 of his game-high 19 points in the first half to pace the Mustangs. He also pulled down 14 rebounds in his best performance of the season.

Heppner was outscored 34-30 in the second half, but won handily against a team that looked good on paper, with a front line of 6'5", 6'3", 6'3" and two quick shooting guards. They fell apart against a stubborn Heppner defense and aggressive board work.

Jeff Watkins had strong moves to the hoop and scored 13 points for Heppner, and Chris Anthony came off the bench and added 11 points. Tim Dickenson had nine points and was a power on the boards.

The Mustangs brought their record to 6-2 with the win and traveled to Echo to play the Cougars Saturday night, Dec. 21.



Eric Schonbachler (10) scores two points against Imbler

Holt to retire from City Council

The city of Heppner honored city councilman Chuck Holt, during the Dec. 9 city council meeting, for his service to the city. Holt will retire from the council in January after more than 11 years of service. Mayor Bob Jepsen presented Holt with a plaque recognizing his service.

Holt said the most memorable events during his tenure have been the St. Patrick's Senior Center project and the Sewer System Improvement project.

The council also approved a resolution adopting city goals for 1997. The goals include:

- development and implementation of a response to Ballot Measure 47;
- assessment of the costs of needed water system repairs and improvements, and exploration of possible funding options;
- assisting the Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) in the construction of the Main and May Street project;
- reconstructing sidewalks on North Court Street and realigning the May/Court Street intersections;
- constructing new sidewalks on Riverside Avenue and realigning the Gale/Riverside/Linden Way intersection (if a pending grant is approved);
- assessing the costs of needed storm water drainage improvements and exploring possible funding options;
- pursuing grant and other funding sources for handicapped accessibility, weatherization and remodeling improvements at city hall, and proceeding with improvements if funding allows;
- pursuing grant funding for handicapped accessibility improvements at the library/museum building;
- exploring funding sources for the old swimming pool/community center conversion project; and
- providing project administration services to the Willow Creek Park District for the construction of the new park district swimming pool.

As our goals indicate, the city is looking forward to a very busy and exciting year," said city manager Gary Marks.

"Our biggest challenge will be dealing with Ballot Measure 47."

Marks said that Ballot Measure 5 reduced the city's tax base by about 42 percent in 1991 and Ballot Measure 47 will reduce it by another 20 percent this year.

The council began to assess Ballot Measure 47 funding and spending options during the meeting. In other business, city engineer Doug Ferguson reviewed the Main Street project plans with the council. Ferguson said he expected ODOT to seek bids for the project in March. He said the project would likely get underway by May.

An updated Main and May Street drawing is now on public display at city hall.

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50

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Irene Crabtree was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Irene left many heartprints on the lives of those she loved. Leo Crabtree along with the family of Irene Crabtree, would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who have expressed their sympathy after the passing of Irene. The phone calls, letters, donations to the memorial fund, and donations of food to the family dinner following her services have been greatly appreciated by us all. Irene will be greatly missed but her "heartprints" will be forever embedded in our hearts.

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