

Mustangs open CBC play with win over TigerScots



Travis Wilhelm fights for yardage

photo by Joyce Hughes

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs opened up the Columbia Basin Conference, Friday, Sept. 19, with a big win over the Weston-McEwen TigerScots, 22-6. The TigerScots' homecoming was ruined by a "bend, but don't break" defense by the Mustangs.

Head coach Greg Grant said he was "pleased with the total team effort. We really sucked it up against a very good team."

Weston-McEwen received the opening kickoff and the Mustangs held on three downs. The TigerScots' snap on the punt attempt was fumbled and Mustang sophomore Levi Geer tackled the punter at the 16 yard line.

From there, quarterback Shane Matheny ran seven yards and junior Derek Gunderson ran two yards to the seven. Matheny then ran the final seven yards for the touchdown. Sophomore Michael Schonbachler's extra point kick was no good, and with nine minutes left in the first quarter, the Mustangs had a 6-0 lead.

Weston-McEwen then took the kickoff and, after two first downs, had the ball at the Mustangs' 37. Chris Grimes broke free from there and the TigerScots tied the game, 6-6. The extra point kick was no good with 6:32 left in the first quarter.

Schonbachler took the kickoff out to the 50 yard line on a 36 yard return. After the Mustangs got a first down on a quarterback sneak by Matheny, the TigerScots were at the TigerScots' 38 yard line. Matheny then threw a perfect pass to junior Jared Eckman, who made a great catch and took the ball to the end zone for a 12-6 Heppner lead. Gunderson ran for the two point conversion and Heppner increased their lead to 14-6 with 4:38 left in the first quarter.

After the Mustangs' defense held, Weston-McEwen punted the ball and it died on the two yard line of Heppner. Schonbachler had a 10 yard run out to the 16 yard line for a first down as the first quarter ended with Heppner ahead, 14-6.

Schonbachler had another run

out to the 32 yard line for a first down, and Matheny passed to Eckman out to the 44 yard line before Weston-McEwen held and forced a punt.

The TigerScots drove down to the 35 yard line of Heppner before the Mustangs held on fourth down, with Keith Scott, Clint Bellamy and Jake Roy coming up big on the stop.

A Matheny pass was intercepted by Ryan Delph and returned to the 26 yard line of the Mustangs, but a Weston-McEwen fumble was recovered by Brian Burnside at the 17 yard line, with 4:42 left in the first half.

After a Schonbachler run for a first down, the Mustangs were forced to punt. But Casey Evans sacked the quarterback for a 13 yard loss to ruin any rally the TigerScots were trying to mount. The half ended with Heppner ahead, 14-6.

The Mustangs received the second half kickoff and before the TigerScots' homecoming activities had quieted down, Gunderson picked up the ball at the 20 yard line and, after getting some good blocks, returned it 80 yards for the touchdown. Matheny threw to Travis Wilhelm for the two-point conversion. With only 11 seconds gone in the third quarter, the Mustangs held a 22-6 lead.

Weston-McEwen took the kickoff and after getting two first downs, the Mustangs' defense held and forced the TigerScots to punt. The Mustangs took over at their own seven yard line.

Matheny hit Tim Dickenson for a first down out to the 23 yard line, but Weston-McEwen held and took over after a punt to the 49 yard line. After a first down and a first down following a face mask penalty, the TigerScots had the ball at the Mustangs' 27 yard line.

Weston-McEwen tried a reverse which was broken by Bellamy who caused a fumble recovered by Matheny.

Both teams changed possession and the third quarter ended with Heppner ahead, 22-6.

Weston-McEwen started out with a first down at their own 38,

but Burnside tackled Delph for a two yard loss on third down, and the TigerScots were forced to punt.

The Mustangs received the punt and got a first down by a Matheny sneak and then had to punt the ball back to the TigerScots.

The TigerScots took over on their own 27 yard line needing to score a touchdown. But the Mustangs came up big with Bellamy knocking down a pass and Matt Jepsen rushing the quarterback on fourth down, forcing a hurried throw.

Heppner burned off over two minutes of the clock and gave it back to Weston-McEwen with 1:10 remaining. But Geer knocked down a pass and Casey Evans sacked the quarterback for a 12 yard loss. The clock ran out on a pass play and the Mustangs had a big 22-6 victory over the TigerScots.

Heppner's defense played well, with Geer and Burnside leading the way with 16 points each. Wilhelm and Bellamy each had 15 points. Evans had two quarterback sacks and 12 points, while Gunderson, Jared Eckman and Jake Roy each had 11 points.

The Mustangs' offense was again led by Matheny, who had 11 rushes for 51 yards and passed four for nine times for 69 yards, with one touchdown and one interception.

Schonbachler led the Mustangs in rushing with 12 carries for 53 yards. Wilhelm carried 12 times for 24 yards and Gunderson 7-23 yards and the big 80 yard kickoff return.

Eckman led the pass receivers with two receptions for 51 yards. Dickenson had one catch for 13 yards and Wilhelm caught one for three yards.

"We were very pleased with the effort tonight; we knew coming in we couldn't have any errors. They had turnovers and we could take advantage. We had turnovers and we could dodge the bullet," coach Grant said after the game. "We had some kids playing out of position in different areas and the kids came through."

The Mustangs will need another good game on Friday, Sept. 26, as they take on the third ranked Umatilla Vikings at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner. Both teams are 1-0 and this game will go a long way in deciding the league championship.

Heppner 14-0-8-0-22
Weston-McEwen 6-0-0-0-6
First quarter: Shane Matheny 7 yard run (kick no good); Chris Grimes 37 yard run (kick no good); Matheny 38 yard pass to Jared Eckman (Derek Gunderson run).

Third quarter: Gunderson 80 yard kickoff return (Matheny pass to Travis Wilhelm).
Individual rushing: Heppner-Michael Schonbachler 12-53, Matheny 11-51, Wilhelm 12-24, Gunderson 7-23; Weston-McEwen-Grimes 20-147, Delph 12-71, Stitler 5-15, Juan 1-(-2), Raymond 2-(-12).

Passing: Heppner-Matheny 4-9-1 69 yards; Weston-McEwen-Juan 3-7-0 25, Raymond 0-4-0.

Receiving: Heppner-Eckman 2-51 yards, Dickenson 1-13, Wilhelm 1-3; Weston-McEwen-Clore 2-17, Delph 1-8.

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lone opens league play with win against Echo

By Kara Miller

Lone's Lady Cardinals' varsity and junior varsity teams traveled to Echo, Tuesday, Sept. 16, for their first league game of the season. The Cougars lost several players to graduation, including Jesse Fisher and Kelly Browning, and found themselves without a senior on their team this year. Lone was able to make a strong showing against the younger, less experienced opponents, winning the match in two games, 15-9 and 15-3.

The first game began with Echo taking the lead 3-1 after Niki Sullivan scored the first point for Lone. Side out went right back to Lone and Kara Miller stepped behind the line to begin an unanswered barrage of five

straight serves including two aces. A powerful "in your face" spike by Jenny Sullivan followed on a Miller serve, then an excellent block at the net by Brenda Burright ended in a point and Lone was in the lead, 6-3.

Echo picked up one point before the side out with the Cardinals getting the ball and Nikki McElligott put two more points on the board for Lone. Another quick side out and J. Sullivan added a point followed by Burright serving two, including an ace.

Echo added three to their score, bringing the game to 11-7 before giving the ball back to Lone. N. Sullivan rotated into Lone's serving position and put the score up

to 13-7. Echo brought the game within four, but Miller was Lone's final server and scored the last two points for the Cards.

The second game had Echo in the lead by two before Lone's junior N. Sullivan took over the serve and scored eight points in a row to make the game 8-2. Echo failed to score and turned the ball back to Lone's Miller at the serve. She put two points on the board before the teams traded side outs. J. Sullivan landed an ace serve, plus two additional points and Lone was ahead, 13-2. Burright added one more and N. Sullivan finished the game off with her ninth serve point and the 15th pint of the game, making the final score Lone, 15, Echo, 3.

Mustangs take win in two over Wahtonka

By Molly Rhea

In their first CBC match up of the season, the Heppner Mustangs showed strength and style as they took the win in two games, 17-15, 15-10, over the hosting Wahtonka Eagles Thursday, September 18.

Game one was a nail biter as the Eagles quickly jumped to a 8-1 lead before the Mustangs

caught fire. Heppner tied up the game at point 11, then pulled ahead 14-12 only to have Wahtonka battle back to gain a one-point advantage. Heppner obtained the side on a Wahtonka penalty, then Mindy Binschus served an ace for point 15, gained point 16 on an Eagle penalty and aced the winning point.

Game two Heppner built a 11-3 lead, and, although Wahtonka attempted to stage a comeback behind hard hitting Katie Lewis, the Mustangs never let down and came away winning, 15-10.

The Mustangs' service game was much improved with Amber Peck serving 5/5 and Annie Hisler 8/9 in game one. In the second game the varsity served 19/20 as a team with 100 percent serving from Jill Barber, Jessie Van Winkle, Annie Hisler, Casey Ingraham and Mindy Binschus. Senior Lexi Matteson took the

lead at the net as she dinked, hit or blocked at least six balls for points or the side out call.

In a serving match Heppner's JVs quickly took the win against Wahtonka 15-8, 15-7. The junior varsity served 95 percent for the match with Macy Rhea (8/8), Brooke Boyer (7/7), Abby Kahl, Stephanie Cough, Jamie Hansen, Trisha Adams, Leah Denton, Ashley Ropp, Casey Ingraham, Kathleen Greenup and Jamie Perez all serving a perfect 100 percent.

All three of the Mustang teams

WCCC plans family barbecue

The Willow Creek Country Club will have a family barbecue on Sunday, Sept. 28, at noon after the "Last Gasp Tournament."

Each family will bring their own meat to barbecue. Those whose names begin with "A" through "K" are asked to bring a dessert, and "L" through "Z," salad.

Hosts will be Tom and Ann Bedortha, Bob and George Nairns, Reese and Linda Schultz, Dave and Deborah Kendrick, and Ron and Ginger Bowman.

traveled to Pilot Rock Tuesday, September 23, for more CBC action. Heppner's netters seem to be getting most of their long road trips out of the way early this year as they journey to Moro on Thursday to take on last year's CBC champions, Sherman County

CBC Standings

Team	League	Season
Weston-McEwen	2-0	4-1
Heppner	1-0	3-2
Sherman Co	1-0	2-7
Wahtonka	1-1	6-3
Pilot Rock	1-1	1-3
Umatilla	0-1	1-3
Stanfield	0-2	2-3

Tuesday, Sept 16
Weston-McEwen def Pilot Rock 15-2, 15-6.
Sherman Co def Stanfield 15-8, 15-12.
Wahtonka def Umatilla 15-7, 15-5.

Thursday, Sept 18
Heppner def Wahtonka 17-15, 15-10.
Weston-McEwen def Umatilla 15-8, 15-4.
Pilot Rock def Stanfield 15-7, 15-6.

Pie Sale, Oct. 3

All Saints Episcopal Church and the United Methodist Church in Heppner will hold their annual pie sale Friday, Oct. 3, starting at 8:30 a.m. at Cal's BP Station in Heppner.

Pies will be sold for \$6 and up until they run out.

BMCC to hold dance classes

Two Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC) western dance classes are scheduled to begin this Saturday, Sept. 27 at Heppner High School. Country Western Line Dance is scheduled from 1-2:30 p.m. and Country Western Couples Dance is from 3-4:30 p.m. Both classes are scheduled for six weeks. April Dyntera, a BMCC dance instructor from Pilot Rock, will teach the classes.

Line dance does not require a partner and is fun and easy to learn, said a BMCC news release. A variety of dances will be taught during the six week class. Tuition is \$25. Couples dance will require a partner. Dance steps to be covered include two-step, 10-step, Texas Waltz, Cowboy Traveling Cha-cha, Horseshoe Shuffle and more. Tuition is \$25 per person.

Anyone interested in participating in these classes should contact BMCC Morrow County coordinator Anne Morter at 422-7040. The first class will be held if enough people express interest before the scheduled class time.

W.C.C.C. Golf

Ladies' Play, Sept. 16
Low gross of the field: Carol Norris.

Flight A: low gross-Barbara Gilbert.

Flight B: low gross-Luvilla Sonstegard, low net-Betty Carlson, least putts-Joyce Dinkins.

Flight C: low gross-Jenny Reynolds, low net-Jean Ball, least putts-Cam Wishart.

Long drive: Barbara Gilbert, Luvilla Sonstegard, Jean Ball.
Long putt: Dorris Graves.

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*Jennifer Burkenbine
and Michael Hammons
invite friends and relatives
to share in their special day
when they exchange wedding vows
on Sunday, Sept. 28, 1997 at 1:00 p.m.
at the Heppner Elks Lodge, downstairs.
Reception to follow.*

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We want to say Thank You!! To our customers & community
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We'll buy lunch and supply the prizes, but we must limit it to the first 72 players. Reserve your spot in this 4-man scramble by calling Darrell or Kevin at (541) 676-9125.
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