

Mustangs outscore Rockets in wild game



Blas Elguezabal grabs rebound from Pilot Rock

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs beat the Pilot Rock Rockets, 82-79, in a high-scoring, wild back-and-forth game on Friday, Feb. 6, at Heppner.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 10-2 lead in the first four minutes with Casey Evans and Tim Dickenson scoring four points each. The Rockets then outscored the Mustangs 10-2 to tie the game, as the Rockets' Shawn McLaughlin scored eight points. Chris Anthony hit two three-pointers down the stretch and Heppner led 18-15 at the end of the first quarter.

The Rockets' Jared Labrousse then got hot, scoring 10 of the Rockets' next 11 points, giving Pilot Rock a 26-25 lead. The teams traded baskets until Jared Eckman hit two free throws. Anthony hit a jump shot and Derek Gunderson got a steal and lay-in to give Heppner a 38-31 lead with 2:30 left. Two more free throws by Eckman made it 40-34 before the Rockets closed it to 40-39 at halftime.

Labrousse ended up scoring 15 points in the quarter for the Rockets. Eckman had 10 first half points, going 6-6 from the free throw line.

The third quarter saw both teams trading the lead until Dickenson scored six straight points on a tip-in, a lay-in, and got a nice pass from Evans to score another lay-in, giving Heppner a 51-46 lead. McLaughlin then scored five straight points, getting a three point play to tie the game, as Dickenson picked up his fourth foul with 2:10 left in the quarter. Labrousse hit a three-pointer and Anthony hit a jump shot to end the third quarter with Pilot Rock leading 54-53.

Gunderson hit a three-pointer to give the Mustangs a 56-55 lead before the Mustangs lost Dickenson on fouls with 6:53 left in the game. Evans got a steal and lay-in and Blas Elguezabal got a rebound and lay-in to give Heppner a 60-56 lead.

The Rockets' Erickson and Gunderson traded three-point

field goals before Eckman got his fifth foul with 5:39 left, with Heppner leading 63-62. Shane Matheny hit a three-pointer before the Rockets scored the next six points to lead 68-66 with 4:00 left. Both teams traded baskets before Matheny hit a jumper, Evans a baseline lay-up and Matheny hit two free throws for a 74-70 Heppner lead. The Rockets then hit three of four free throws as Evans and Gunderson fouled out with 2:10 left and the Mustangs ahead 74-73.

Anthony then hit four free throws to give the Mustangs a 78-74 lead with 1:14 left. Labrousse then hit two free throws to pull the Rockets to within two, 78-76. Matheny made two free throws and Elguezabal hit two of four free throws in the final :28 to give the Mustangs an 82-76 lead. Pilot Rock's Doherty hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to make the final score 82-79.

The win gave the Mustangs their second straight and three of four and moved them into a tie for fourth place in the conference at three and five.

The Mustangs were led by Anthony with 21 points, including two three-pointers. Dickenson scored 19 points in limited playing time due to foul trouble. Matheny scored 11 points and Eckman finished with 10 points. Evans had a good all-around game with eight points, eight rebounds, five assists and three steals. The Mustangs hit 23-31 free throws, compared to the Rockets' 19-41.

The Rockets were led by McLaughlin with 27 points. Labrousse finished with 24, including four three-pointers.

Statistics:
Heppner: 18 22 13 29 - 82
Pilot Rock: 15 24 15 25 - 79
Heppner: Anthony 6-7-8 21, Dickenson 8 3-4 19, Matheny 3 4-4 11, Eckman 2 6-6 10, Gunderson 3 1-2 9, Evans 4 0-3 8, Elguezabal 1 2-4 4, Knowles 0 0-0 0, Ryan Matteson 0 0-0 0. 27 23-31 82. Three-point field goals: Gunderson 2, Anthony 2, Matheny.

Pilot Rock: McLaughlin 10 7 17 27, Labrousse 7 6-9 24, Doherty 3 1-3 8, Erickson 2 3-5 7, Humphreys 3 0-1 6, Greene 1 0-0 3, Stelk 0 2-4 2, R. Benseal 1 0-2 2. 27 19-41 79. Three-point field goals: Labrousse 4, Doherty, Greene.

Sherman Co. ekes out win over Mustang girls



Petra Elguezabal shows defense on Sherman player

By Molly Rhea

It was battle from beginning to end, but the Sherman County varsity girls managed to shut down the Mustang's inside game to eke out a 45-43 point win and lay claim to sole possession of second place in the Columbia Basin Conference.

Casey Ingraham pumped in six of her eventual 12 points in the first quarter to lead the Mustangs to a 14-12 lead after one. Led by freshman Kasey Stroud, who was able to pick off passes and score eight of her 10 points, the Huskies answered with 16 points in the second quarter to take a five-point lead into the locker

room at the half.

The Mustang guards, led by Annie Hisler with eight of her game-high 14 points, hit for 16 points in the third quarter while holding the Huskies to only six, four of which came from behind the free throw line. It was Heppner leading by five when the third quarter-ending buzzer blew.

In the final eight minutes the Husky pack came out with a swarming defense which held the Mustangs to only one field goal. Meanwhile the Sherman County squad managed to put in 11 points, five coming from behind the charity stripe.

Then with 17 seconds remaining and the Huskies leading 45-41, Petra Elguezabal was fouled in the act of shooting. Elguezabal aceed the two free throws to narrow the lead to two points. By quickly fouling and controlling the rebound the Mustangs raced down the floor in the attempt to send the game into overtime. With 1.9 seconds remaining in the game, Hisler was fouled on the rebound. Unable to convert the free shot, the final buzzer sounded with both teams scrapping for the rebound.

Hisler lead all scorers with 14 points, grabbed four boards and two steals, while dishing out four assists. Ingraham pulled down five rebounds to go with her 12 points, and Jill Barber put in six points while handing out five assists and blocking a shot. Elguezabal led the Mustang rebounding effort with seven.

Brittini Beers led the Husky scoring with 11 and Stroud finished with 10. Talia Sanderson, a 5'10" freshman, led all rebounders with 10 boards.

With only three regular season games left to play, the Heppner teams host Wahtonka this Friday, February 13. Then on Saturday, February 14, the Mustangs trot over to Umatilla to take on the Vikings.

Heppner 14 9 16 4 -43
Sherman Co 12 16 6 11 - 45
Heppner (43) Ingraham 6 0-0 12, Hisler 7 0-1 14, Binschus, Childers, Boyer 1 0-0 2, Barber 3 0-0 6, Matteson, 1 1-2 3, Elguezabal 0 4-6 4. Totals 19 5-10 43. Three point goals, none. Total fouls 17, fouled out, Binschus.
Sherman County (45) Pinkerton, Neil, Shull 3 3-4 9, H. Beers 1 0-3 2, Sanderson 0 1-2 1, Timblen 2 0-0 5, B. Beers 3 5-10 11, Stroud 5 0-0 10, Macnab 3 2-2 8, Richelderfer, Wilson, Fuller. Totals 17 11-21 45. Three point goals, none. Total fouls 14, fouled out, none.

Team	League		Season	
	W	L	W	L
Weston-McEwen	8	1	15	2
Sherman Co	6	2	13	5
Heppner	6	3	12	7
Pilot Rock	4	4	10	8
Wahtonka	4	5	11	9
Umatilla	2	6	7	11
Stanfield	0	9	4	15

IHS game changed

The Ione High School basketball schedule has been changed for Friday, February 13. The girls' JV home game versus Condon will be at 3 p.m. Pee wee teams will play at 4:30 p.m. Girls' varsity will play Echo at 5:30 p.m. and the boys' varsity game will start at 7:30 p.m.

Mustang varsity boys lose to Sherman Co.



Jared Eckman shows he can jump, with check against Sherman

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs traveled to Moro on Saturday, Feb. 7 and lost to the Sherman County Huskies, 70-57.

The Huskies jumped out to a 6-3 lead before Derek Gunderson tied the game with a three-pointer with 3:37 left in the first quarter. The Huskies went on to outscore the Mustangs 7-3 the rest of the quarter to take a 13-9 lead.

Sherman County then scored the first eight points of the second quarter before a Tim Dickenson free throw cut the lead to 23-10 with 5:18 left. The teams traded baskets before the Mustangs scored seven straight points, capped by a Chris Anthony lay-in to make it 31-25. The teams

Huskies drop Mustangs JV

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV basketball team traveled to Sherman County on Saturday, Feb. 7 and lost to the Huskies, 59-52.

The Mustangs played a much better game than the first time the teams met and jumped out to an 18-15 lead after one quarter. The Huskies came back to outscore the Mustangs 21-12 in the second quarter to take a 36-30 lead at halftime.

The Mustangs still trailed after three quarters at 45-36, but battled back to within three points at 55-52, with 1:20 left. The Huskies were able to hold on to take the win at 59-52.

Ryan Matteson hit two three-pointers and finished with 10 points to lead a balanced scoring attack. Michael Schonbachler and Blas Elguezabal each scored eight points and Craig Scott scored seven points, including a three-pointer.

Statistics:
Heppner: 18 12 6 16 - 52
Sherman County: 15 21 9 14 - 59
Heppner: Matteson 4 0-0 10, Schonbachler 3 2-4 8, Elguezabal 4 0-0 8, Scott 3 0-2 7, Blake Knowles 2 2-4 6, Cody Bellamy 2 1-2 5, Brian Knowles 1 1-2 3, Darrin Ployhar 1 0-0 2, David Bates 1 0-0 2, Joe Papineau 0 1-2 1. Three-point field goals: Matteson 2, Scott.

Ione Legion, Auxiliary meet

The Ione Legion Auxiliary, Unit #95, met at Beecher's Restaurant, Feb. 3.

A Spinoza Bear was donated to a needy child. Plans for kitchen remodeling at the Legion Hall were discussed.

The unit is planning a tea for sophomore and junior girls interested in applying to go to Girls' State. The tea, planned for the girls and their mothers, will be held on March 15.

The annual birthday dinner for Legion and Auxiliary members will be on March 16 at Beecher's Restaurant.

Members will have a traveling food sale on April 9. Proceeds will go toward the annual scholarship.

again traded baskets before Anthony made a three-point play for a score of 36-32 at halftime.

Heppner came out hustling in the third quarter as Derek Gunderson got a steal and a lay-in, Casey Evans scored and Anthony stole the ball and laid it in to cut the lead to two at 40-38. After a Huskies' basket, Anthony scored four straight to tie the game at 42, with 5:00 left. Anthony then hit a three-pointer and Evans got a rebound and put it back in for a 47-42 Mustang lead. The Huskies then went on a 13-0 run, with Fuller scoring 11 of those points to give Sherman County a 55-47 lead at the end of three quarters.

The Mustangs pulled to within 59-53 with Shane Matheny and Anthony making back-to-back jump shots, but the Mustangs could get no closer as the Huskies made just enough free throws to win the game, 70-57.

The Mustangs were led by Anthony, who scored 26 points. Evans and Dickenson each ended up with 11 points.

Heppner will be back in action on Friday, Feb. 13, as the Wahtonka Eagles travel to Heppner. The Mustangs then travel to Umatilla to play the Vikings on Saturday, Feb. 14.

Statistics:
Heppner: 9 21 15 10 - 57
Sherman Co.: 13 23 19 15 - 70
Heppner: Anthony 11 3-5 26, Dickenson 2 7-11 11, Evans 5 1-5 11, Gunderson 2 0-2 5, Matheny 10-0 2, Ryan Matteson 1 0-0 2, Jared Eckman 0 0-2 0, Blas Elguezabal, Blake Knowles, Brian Knowles, David Bates. 22 11-25 57. Three-point field goals: Anthony, Gunderson.

Sherman County: Fuller 10 1-7 22, Josh Thomas 5 2-2 12, Richelderfer 4 2-4 11, Macnab 4 4-6 13, Tatum 1 2-4 4, Fritts 1 1-2 4, Jesse Thomas 0 2-3 2, Gardner 1 0-0 2, Case, Miller. 26 14-28 70. Three-point field goals: Fuller, Fritts, Richelderfer, Macnab.

Mustang JVs defeat Pilot Rock



Joe Papineau with the rebound against Rockets

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs JV basketball team defeated the Pilot Rock Rockets on Friday, Feb. 6, 52-41, at Heppner.

The Mustangs controlled play in the first half to take a 26-20 lead at halftime. The Rockets closed the gap to 34-33 after three quarters of play, but the Mustangs

were able to pull away in the fourth quarter to win, 52-41.

The Mustangs outscored Pilot Rock 18-8 in the fourth, with most of their points coming from the free throw line. Heppner hit on 21-39 free throws for the game.

Craig Scott led the Mustangs by going a perfect 6-6 from the line and finishing with 16 points. Blake Knowles scored 12 points, including a three-point field goal. Joe Papineau made 8-12 free throws to finish with eight points.

Statistics:
Heppner: 12 14 8 18 - 52
Pilot Rock: 6 14 13 8 - 41
Heppner: Scott 5 6-6 16, Blake Knowles 4 3-7 12, Papineau 0 8-12 8, Cody Bellamy 2 2-6 6, Brian Knowles 1 1-2 3, Michael Schonbachler 1 1-2 3, Blas Elguezabal 1 0-0 2, Ryan Matteson 1 0-2 2, David Bates 0 0-0 2, Darrin Ployhar. 15 21-39 52. Three-point field goals: Blake Knowles.

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