

Mustangs rout Rockets



Michael McCabe runs for one of his touchdowns against Pilot Rock
By Rick Paullus

The defending Columbia Basin Conference champion Heppner Mustangs opened the league schedule with a convincing 60-6 rout of the Pilot Rock Rockets in Pilot Rock on Sept. 22. The Mustangs ran for 374 yards as a team and added another 200 yards on kick-off, punt and interception returns. The defense was just as good as the offense, holding Pilot Rock to 50 yards rushing and 132 yards overall, with most of those coming in the fourth quarter with the outcome already settled.

The Mustangs (2-1, 1-0) finally get a home game on Friday, Sept. 29, as they host the Wahtonka Eagles.

The Mustangs got on the board early as Kelly Paullus and Sam Van Liew sacked the Rocket quarterback, causing a fumble which Van Liew recovered at the 18 yard line. Michael McCabe then took the hand-off and ran in untouched for the first of four touchdowns. Blake Knowles booted the extra point for a 7-0 lead just 1:35 into the game.

The Mustangs to the ball back at the 30 yard line of Pilot Rock after a 25 yard punt return by Craig Scott. After short gains by Ryan Matteson and Brad Adams, Scott carried for 12 yards to the 13. Adams went for 12 more then took it in for the touchdown. Knowles' kick was good and Heppner led 14-0.

On the Rockets' next series, Adams intercepted a pass but the Mustangs couldn't move the ball and gave it back to Pilot Rock at their own 38 yard line.

McCabe then intercepted a pass at the 39 and took it in for a touchdown. Knowles' kick was good again and the Mustangs led 21-0.

The defense again held and the Mustangs took over at their own 29. The Rockets intercepted a pass and returned it to the Heppner 28, giving them their best field position of the first half.

The defense stiffened though, as Paullus tackled the quarterback for a loss on fourth down, causing a fumble and the Mustangs took over at their own 40 yard line.

The Rockets held the Mustangs but a personal foul penalty on third down gave the Mustangs a first down at the Rockets' 42. Adams then ran for 17 and McCabe for four. Two offside penalties took the ball to the 11 where McCabe took it in for the touchdown. The kick was no good and the Mustangs led 27-0 a minute into the second quarter.

After another good punt return, the Mustangs took over at the Rockets' 31. After a holding penalty took it back to the 38, Chuy Elguezabal hit Stefan Matheny for a 33 yard pass. Adams then ran five yards for the touchdown. The kick just missed and the Mustangs now led 33-0.

The Mustangs got the ball back at their own 46 after a punt. Adams went for seven and Elguezabal, 11, to the Rockets' 36. Pilot Rock then intercepted a pass and returned it for a touchdown, but a clipping penalty brought it back to the 35.

The teams then traded punts with the Rockets taking over at their own six after a 42 yard McCabe punt. McCabe then intercepted a pass at the five and walked into the end zone for a touchdown. Knowles' kick was good and the Mustangs led 40-0

at halftime. After the teams traded punts, the Mustangs took over at their own 48 yard line. Donald Adams then ran for two, then five, and McCabe went for five and a first down. Paullus went for one, Elguezabal for four and Brad Adams for three, bringing up fourth down. Scott then went 30 yards for a touchdown and after the pass failed on the conversion attempt, the Mustangs led 46-0.

On the Rockets' next drive, Elguezabal intercepted a pass at the Mustangs' own four yard line. Aaron Griffith then went for one, Scott for 23, Elguezabal for eight and Brad Adams for three more and a first down. The Rockets held though and the Mustangs were forced to punt.

Travis Bellamy then sacked the quarterback, causing a fumble which Brian Smith recovered.

The Mustangs failed to move the ball, and, after the teams traded punts, the Mustangs took over at their own 25. A motion penalty moved it back to the 20 where Elguezabal took a hand-off, broke to the outside and ran 80 yards for a touchdown. The run failed and the Mustangs led 52-0.

Pilot Rock finally got on the board after a fumbled punt gave them the ball at the 36 yard line of Heppner. Josh Wallace then ran 36 yards, breaking several tackles, for a touchdown. The run failed and the Mustangs led 52-6.

Elguezabal then returned the kick-off to the 48 of the Rockets. Paullus went for nine, then Elguezabal went for a 39 yard touchdown. Tanner Britt ran in the two-point conversion to make the final score 60-6.

Elguezabal ended up with 145 yards on 10 carries and two touchdowns. Brad Adams rushed 10 times for 76 yards and two touchdowns. Craig Scott ran five times for 68 yards and a touchdown. Michael McCabe had 47 yards on six carries and four touchdowns.

The defense was led by McCabe with 17 defensive points with two interceptions, both for touchdowns. Kelly Paullus finished with 15 points with three tackles for loss. Blake Knowles had 12 defensive points. Brian Rust and Chuy Elguezabal each had 11 with Elguezabal picking off a pass. Ryan Matteson had 10 points and Scott eight. Brad Adams had seven with an interception and Sam Van Liew had seven with a fumble recovery.

Statistics
Heppner: 21 19 6 14 - 60
Pilot Rock: 0 0 0 6 - 6
First quarter: Heppner-Michael McCabe 18 yard run (Blake Knowles kick) 10:25, Brad Adams one yard run (Knowles kick) 7:03, McCabe 39 yard interception return (Knowles kick) 4:28.
Second quarter: Heppner-McCabe 11 yard run (kick failed) 10:51, B. Adams five yard run (kick failed) 8:50, McCabe five yard interception return (Knowles kick) 1:20.
Third quarter: Heppner-Craig Scott 30 yard run (pass failed) 3:35.
Fourth quarter: Heppner-Chuy Elguezabal 80 yard run (run failed) 3:51; Pilot Rock-Josh Wallace 36 yard run (run failed) 1:33; Heppner-Elguezabal 39 yard run (Tanner Britt run) 22.
Individual stats:
Rushing: Heppner-Chuy Elguezabal 10-145, Brad Adams 10-76, Craig Scott 5-68, Michael McCabe 6-47, Kelly Paullus 5-21, Brian Rust 2-12, Donald Adams 3-6, Ryan Matteson 1-3, Aaron Griffith 1-1, Justin Botefuhr 1(-5); Pilot Rock-Josh Wallace 1-36, Matt Hickey 2-29, Eric Howard 6-15, Colten Patterson 5-12, Jon Ellis 1-3, Seth Christensen 9(-2), Eric Steik 6(-43).
Passing: Heppner-Elguezabal 1-3-1-33, Matteson 0-5-1-0; Pilot Rock-Stiek 5-17-4-72.
Receiving: Heppner-Stefan Matheny 1-33; Pilot Rock-S. Christensen 2-37, Bobby Christensen 1-27, Jeremiah Bonifer 1-6, Colton Patterson 1-2.

Cardinal VB team annihilates Wheeler

The Cardinal Varsity volleyball team all but annihilated Wheeler on Friday, Sept. 22. Ione beat the Falcons in two games, 15-6, 15-10.

The team as a whole displayed better teamwork, getting their passes to the net so those setters could get the ball to the hitters.

Setter Adrienne Swanson brought in the points for the Cardinals, serving 100 percent for eight points. Swanson and team member Charissa Gates also led the team with set assists. Sophomore Diana McElligott also dropped in seven points, led the team with serve-receives and had a total of 19 hits, including nine kills. McElligott also served the ace that ended the match for the Falcons. Amelia Peck served five points and had 12 hits. Shelby Krebs and Allison Halvorsen earned four points each and both did an excellent job in the front row. Salli McElligott scored three points but did her best work at the net, earning 16 hits, including five kills. Offensively, the team served their best match yet with 98 percent success. The team hit well at the net with 90 percent of their hits successful and blocked

88 percent at the net.

The Cardinal Junior Varsity squad had a slow start in their match, losing their first game, 13-15, but buckled under the next two games to take the match, 15-4, 15-5.

Leading point producer for Ione was Meghan McCabe with 12 points. Included in that number were five unanswered serves for the ace. McCabe also led her team with set assists. Caitlin Orem cranked out 11 points for her team. Emily Key sent over 10 points, had four aces served and hard four kills at the net. Megan E. McCabe put three points on the scoreboard and did an outstanding job of getting the ball to her hitters. Tracy Griffith contributed two points and led the team with 12 hits. Dejah Haskett scored two points and led the team with serve-receives. Olivia Thompson came off the bench and scored two points for her team. Eva Chitty and Cyndi Heagy are both commended for their level of play at the net.

Coach Cathy McCabe said she was pleased with the team's win. "They had a rough start, serving only 50 percent in the first game but picked up the pace the remainder of the match."

Heppner hands Ione VB team heartbreaking loss

The Ione volleyball team was handed a heartbreaking loss on Thursday, Sept. 21. The Cardinals losing to Heppner in two close games, 13-15, 14-16.

Leading scorer for the Cardinals was Adrienne Swanson with seven points. Amelia Peck served 91 percent with six points on the board. Peck led the team with 12 hits. Charissa Gates led the team with set assists and added five points for the Cardinals. "Freshman Emily Key did an excellent job of coming off the bench to add four points with her cannon-like serves," said Coach Cathy McCabe.

"Diana McElligott led her team with 17 hits, including five kills," said Coach McCabe. "Freshman Natalie McElligott did a nice job in the front row. Jeanette Brantley continues to be a constant factor with her back row play. Brantley hustled to the ball

and had nice coverage of her fellow team members."

The junior varsity lost to Heppner JV in two games, 5-15, 11-15.

Emily Key showed her brawn by sending over two aces and a total of seven points for the Lady Cardinals. Meghan McCabe added three points to the Cardinal aid. Dejah Haskett and Cyndi Heagy each contributed two points each. Caitlin Orem led the team with set assists.

Coach McCabe commended Megan E. McCabe for doing an "outstanding job" on her debut as setter for the team. "She was clear when she called out which hitters were to expect the ball and did an outstanding job of getting the ball to the net," McCabe said. "The team lost their first game simply by making too many unforced errors but they worked harder in the second game to close the gap."

Ione JVs compete at Heppner invite

The Ione junior varsity team competed at the Heppner Invitational Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 23. The Ione squad lost their first match to Heppner JV, easily won their second match against Weston-McEwen and then dropped their third match to Riverside JV.

Emily Key proves to be a reliable leader on the court with a total of 22 points for the tournament. Key also had three hits, not bad for a 5'3" freshman. Megan E. McCabe scored nine points for the Lady Cardinals. Olivia

Thompson had eight points on the board her team followed by Caitlin Orem with six points. Orem also led the team with set assists. Cyndi Heagy scored one point for the team and played tight defense at the net. Tracy Griffith was the leading hitter for Ione and also led the team with blocks. Dejah Haskett led in serve receives and did an excellent job of hustling on the court and getting several diving digs. Eva Chitty did a nice job in the front row and led the Ione team with five hits.

Lady Cards come from behind to defeat Mustangs

The Ione Lady Cardinals came back from a 7-12 deficit in the first game of their Sept. 19 match against the Heppner Mustangs to defeat the Mustangs, 16-14, but were unable to pull out the win in the second and third games, losing 7-15 and 12-15.

Lead scorer for the Cardinals was Diana McElligott. McElligott also had 24 hits with nine kills. Amelia Peck served over six points, had 28 hits and two kills. Senior Charissa Gates served five points and led the team with set assists. Shelby Krebs, "who continues to amaze her teammates and her coaches," according to coach Cathy McCabe, brought in four points and 11 hits. Salli McElligott also contributed four points to the team effort and launched nine hits for the Cardinal team. Allison Halvorsen had three points and 11 hits and showed her skill by hitting to the open holes. Freshman Natalie McElligott continues to be an asset for the team with her court awareness and her ability to race to the ball, said McCabe. McCabe said that team members Meghan McCabe, Jeanette Brantley and Adrienne Swanson did an "excellent job" of coming off the bench to the aid of the team.

The team served 86 percent, hit 80 percent at the net, dug up 87

percent of the diving digs and was 88 percent successful on serve receives.

The Ione junior varsity team easily defeated the Heppner C team on Tuesday, September 19.

The Cardinals came out fighting right off the bat, downing the Mustangs, 15-8, 15-4.

Coach McCabe said that "cannon-like serves" of Dejah Haskett, Emily Key and Tracy Griffith brought down the Mustang squad. Sophomore Dejah Haskett scored 10 consecutive points in the second game to clinch the win. Tracy Griffith and Emily Key each scored seven points toward the Cardinal victory.

Other team members who contributed to the victory were Caitlin Orem, Megan E. McCabe and Meghan M. McCabe with two points each. Cyndi Heagy had outstanding net play, leading the Cardinals with hits and blocks. Coach McCabe said she credits her entire team for the victory.

"Megan E. McCabe did an outstanding job of setting the ball in the second match for the Cardinals. Eva Chitty had her best match of the season. Caitlin Orem continues to be a consistent player for the squad in both the back row and the front row," said McCabe.

Ione VB team competes in tourney

The Ione Varsity volleyball team traveled to Maupin on Saturday, Sept. 23, to compete in the South Wasco County Tournament.

The Lady Cardinals were handed losses by South Wasco County, with scores of 14-16, 10-15, Helix High School with scores of 15-17, 9-15, Stanfield High School with scores of 12-15, 13-15 and Dufur High School with scores of 10-15, 0-15. Diana McElligott scored 47 points, had 30 digs and 16 hits, with nine kills and nine blocks.

Salli McElligott scored 15 points, had 25 digs and eight hits, with five kills and three blocks. Charissa Gates scored 13 points and led the team with set assists. Shelby Krebs scored 12 points, had 12 digs, eight hits and one kill. Amelia Peck scored 11 points, dug up 35 digs, had 13 hits, five kills and four blocks. Coach Charity McElligott commented on her team. "It was a good tournament for the girls. The girls all played well. Dufur just kept getting better every time they played and by the time we played them, they were on fire."

Heppner JV football team moves to 3-0

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs JV football team moved to 3-0 on the year with an 18-14 win over the Wahtonka Eagles on Monday, Sept. 25, in Heppner. The JVs had earlier beaten Mac-Hi, 34-22, and Umatilla, 54-22. The JVs next play at home against Ione on Monday, Oct. 2, at 6 p.m.

Heppner got on the board in the first quarter against Wahtonka on a Chuy Elguezabal one yard run. Kelly Paullus also scored on a one yard run to give the Mustangs a 12-0 lead at halftime.

Wahtonka got to within 12-8 on

a 20 yard run and a run for the two-point conversion.

Paullus scored on a two yard run to make it 18-6, but the Eagles scored on a five yard pass with 1:07 left to cut the lead to 18-14.

Kyler Lovgren fell on the on-side kick and the Mustangs were able to run out the clock.

Statistics:
Wahtonka: 0 0 8 6 - 14
Heppner: 6 6 6 0 - 18
First quarter: Heppner-Chuy Elguezabal one yard run (run failed).
Second quarter: Heppner-Kelly Paullus one yard run (run failed).
Third quarter: Wahtonka-20 yard run (run good); Heppner-Paullus two yard run (pass failed).
Fourth quarter: Wahtonka-five yard pass (run failed).

Ponies lose at Columbia

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Ponies dropped their second game of the year to the Columbia Raiders, 26-8, in Irrigon on Friday, Sept. 22.

The Ponies played a very good first half, building an 8-0 lead at halftime on a two yard run by

Tyler Boyer and a two-point conversion run by Boyer. But Columbia came out in the second half and wore down the Ponies, scoring 26 unanswered points.

The Ponies (1-1) play at Umatilla on Friday, Sept. 29 at 1 p.m. in their next game.

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