

## Mustang girls fall to Bulldogs

By Rick Paullus

The cold-shooting Heppner Mustang girls' varsity dropped their first home game of the year to the Hermiston Bulldog JV's 51-32 on Monday, Dec. 9 to drop their record to 1-2 on the year.

The Mustangs held an early lead as Brooke Rust and Lacey Matteson each hit short jumpers for a 4-2 lead but the Bulldogs ran off the next 11 points before Stefanie Hanson put in a rebounds basket with 1:40 remaining in the quarter but Hermiston ended up taking a 15-6 lead after one.

The Mustangs climbed back into the game getting to within 15-11 on a Madison Bailey 3-pointer and Susan Southworth's lay-in on a pass from Bailey. After a Bulldog basket, Bailey hit a running jumper to make it 17-13 but the Bulldogs went on a 7-1 run to close out the first half with a 24-14 lead.

The Bulldogs scored first in the third, but Matteson hit a 3-pointer then Tylynn Smith hit a jumper to make it 28-19 but the Bulldogs extended their lead to 33-19. Matteson hit a running jumper but the Bulldogs scored the last six points of the third to take a 39-21 lead into the fourth.

## Mustangs' defense leads to win over Walla Walla Academy

By Rick Paullus

Good team defense led the Heppner Mustangs' varsity boys to a 61-47 win over the visiting Walla Walla Academy Knights on Tuesday, Dec. 10 to improve their non-league record to 3-0 on the year. The Mustangs will host the South Morrow County Tournament on Friday, Dec. 20 and Saturday, Dec. 21.

Luke Murray had the hot hand in the first quarter scoring 11 points as the Mustangs took a 17-11 lead after on and he added five more in the second and Chuy Elguezabal scored six points as they took a 32-25 lead at halftime.

The Mustangs took control in the third outscoring the Knights 16-4 getting eight points from Brad Adams and four more from Elguezabal to take a 48-29 lead and coast to the win.

Murray hit six of 10 shorts to lend the mustangs with 20 points, hitting eight of 10 free throws and grabbed six rebounds while Elguezabal hit seven of 11 shots for 19 points and had six

Southworth converted a three-point play and Matteson scored off a drive to make it 43-26 but the Bulldogs extended their lead again to 51-27 before Smith hit two free throws and Nikki Sisk converted a three-point play to close out the scoring.

Matteson led the Mustangs with nine points, seven rebounds, and two steals. Southworth had seven points, Smith had five points and four rebounds and Bailey had five points and three rebounds.

Hermiston 15 9 15 12-51

Heppner 6 8 7 11-32  
**Hermiston:** Mykal Botham 6 1-2 16, Mindy Walchli 4 3-4 11, Ashley Emerick 4 0-0 8, Cynthia Perez 3 0-0 6, Andrea Burrows 3 0-0 6, Amanda Douglas 1 0-1 2, Helen Hodney 1 0-0 2, Kelley Royer, Britney Wilson and Anne Barnett. Team: 22 4-7 51 3-pt.: Botham 3.

**Heppner:** Lacey Matteson 4 0-0 9, Susan Southworth 2 2-6 6, Tylynn Smith 1 3-6 5, Madison Bailey 2 0-0 5, Nikki Sisk 1 1-1 3, Brooke Rust 1 0-1 2, Stefanie Hanson 1 0-0 2, Jesse Kempas 0 0-2 0, Chelsea Ruse, Lindsey Mitchell and Tiffany Piper. Team: 12 6-15 32 3-pt.: Matteson and Bailey.

assists, five rebounds and four steals. Adams had 12 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, five of them offensive, Justin Botefuhr had five rebounds, Conor Kilkenny had three steals and Donald Adams had two.

Heppner 17 15 16 13-61  
 Walla Walla 11 14 4 18-47

**Heppner:** Luke Murray 6 8-10 20, Chuy Elguezabal 7 5-6 19, Brad Adams 5 2-2 12, Justin Botefuhr 1 1-1 3, Josh Winters 0 2-4 2, Donald Adams 1 0-0 2, Conor Kilkenny 1 0-0 2, Aaron Griffith 0 1-4 1, Doug Orwick 0 0-2 0, Tanner Britt, Brian Haguewood and Brian Smith. Team: 21 19-29 61 3-pt.: none

**Walla Walla:** Jaren Williams 3 3-4 10, Chad Smith 4 0-0 10, Ryan Agui 2 2-2 7, Caleb Johnson 2 2-3 6, David Christensen 1 1-2 3, Joe Knoback 1 1-2 3, Stefan Boyd 0 3-4 3, Brian Chinn 1 0-0 2, Jonathon Thomas 1 0-0 2, Chibuilke Opara 0 1-2 1 and Andrew Perry. Team: 15 13-19 47 3-pt.: Smith 2, Williams and Agui.

and a first-team line backer. Donald Adams was chosen as a third-team offensive line. Justin Botefuhr was picked as a third-team tight end. Chuy Elguezabal was chosen as a first-team defensive back.

## Mustang boys outlast Pirates in overtime

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang boys' varsity withstood a furious late rally by the visiting Riverside Pirates to put out a 54-45 win in overtime on Friday, Dec. 13 to remain unbeaten at 4-0 in the pre-season. The Mustangs will host the South Morrow County Tournament on Friday, Dec. 20 and Saturday, Dec. 21 with Lone, Pendleton JV and Klickitat joining Heppner.

The Mustangs led 6-5 after one getting all six points from Luke Murray and extended it to 15-9 at the half. Justin Botefuhr scored four points in the third as they increased their lead to 27-20 going into the fourth and led by ten points late as Chuy Elguezabal hit five of six free throws and Donald Adams scored four points but the Pirates rallied to tie it up and send it to overtime.

The Mustangs outscored the Pirates 12-3 in overtime getting five points from Murray hitting three of five free throws, four points from Elguezabal and three points from Brad Adams to pull away for the win.

## Mustang JV girls nip Pirates in overtime

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV girls won a tight game over the visiting Riverside Pirates, 41-40 in overtime on Friday, Dec. 13 to improve to 2-1 on the year.

The Pirates led 11-9 after one as Tiffany Piper scored four points for the Mustangs and Katie Britt hit three of five free throws in the second to help tie the game at 18-18 at halftime.

Susan Southworth had five points in the third but the Mustangs trailed 27-26 going into the fourth, but they came back to tie it up at 37-37 at the end of regulation with the help of a Britt 3-pointer.

Lindsey Mitchell scored all four of the Mustangs' points

## Mustang JV boys get past Pirates by six

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV boys used a good first half to get past the visiting Riverside Pirates 37-31 on Friday, Dec. 13 to improve to 3-0 on the year. The Mustangs will play at Lone on Thursday, Dec. 19 with the girls getting started at 5:30 p.m.

The Mustangs jumped out quick taking a 14-2 lead after one getting five points from Zack Skaggs and four from Brandon Seitz and still led 21-11 at halftime.

The Pirates closed to within 26-19 after three but the Mustangs got six more points from Seitz in the fourth to hang on for the win.

Murray led the Mustangs with 13 points and had five rebounds and three steals with Elguezabal adding 11 points, three steals and three assists. Brad Adams scored nine points, grabbed 15 rebounds and had two assists, while Donald Adams had seven points and grabbed eight rebounds. Botefuhr had 11 rebounds and Conor Kilkenny had six rebounds.

Heppner 6 9 12 15 12-54  
 Riverside 5 4 11 22 3-45

**Heppner:** Luke Murray 5 3-5 13, Chuy Elguezabal 2 7-12 11, Brad Adams 3 3-5 9, Donald Adams 3 1-2 7, Justin Botefuhr 1 4-6 6, Josh Winters 1 0-0 2, Conor Kilkenny 0 2-2 2, Brian Smith 1 0-0 2, Tanner Britt 0 2-2 2, Doug Orwick and Brian Haguewood. Team: 16 22-34 54 3-pt.: none

**Riverside:** Brandon Beatty 5 1-2 13, Joe Reese 4 0-0 10, Josh Kessler 2 1-2 5, Joel Strebini 2 1-2 5, Brandon Wedding 2 0-0 4, Shawn Dirksen 1 1-2 4, Burse Duder 1 0-0 2, Andrew Parker 0 2-2 2 and Brandon Richards. Team: 17 6-10 45 3-pt.: Reese 2, Beatty 2 and Dirksen.

## Mustang JV boys roll past Knights

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV boys rolled to a 79-41 win over the visiting Walla Walla Academy JVs on Tuesday, Dec. 10 to run their record to 2-0 on the year. The Mustangs will travel to Lone on Thursday, Dec. 19 and will play after the girls' game at 5:30 p.m.

The Mustangs got going early getting six points from Brandon Seitz, five from Jode Coil, including a 3-pointer, and four from Zack Skaggs taking a 21-8 lead after one. Tyler Boyer hit a 3-pointer in the second half to help the Mustangs extend their lead to 35-18 at halftime.

Judd Lemmon and Seitz each scored six points in the third as the Mustangs outscored the Knights 21-4 in the third, taking a 56-22 lead after three and got nine points from Skaggs and four each from Seitz and Lemmon as they coasted through the fourth to the easy win.

## Mustang JV boys blow out Blue Devils in second half

By Rick Paullus

A 36-9 advantage in the second half helped the Heppner Mustang JV boys to a 53-16 win at Condon in their first game of the year. The Mustangs will be in Lone on Thursday, Dec. 19 with the girls getting underway at 5:30 p.m. and the boys to follow.

After a slow first quarter the Mustangs got their offense going in the second quarter getting four points from Tyler Boyer and a 3-pointers from Jode Coil to take a 17-7 halftime lead.

Zack Skaggs and Aaron Griffith each scored six points in the third as the Mustangs extended their lead to 31-12 after three and Tyler Lovgren scored seven points, Coil six and Josh Gutierrez scored five points in the fourth as they coasted to the win.

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## Mustang Girls nipped by Pioneers



#10 Madison Bailey of Heppner guarding Mac-Hi #15 as she tries to bring the ball down the court

By Rick Paullus  
 The Mac-Hi Pioneers made a short shot with four seconds left to nip the visiting Heppner Mustang girls' varsity 38-36 on Saturday, Dec. 14 in a non-league contest. The Mustangs (1-4) will play in the South Morrow Tournament, Dec. 20-21.

Madison Bailey hit a 3-pointer and scored five points for

Seitz led the Mustangs with 18 points with Skaggs adding 16, Lemmon and Coil each scored 10 and Kyler Lovgren finished with eight points.

Heppner 21 14 21 23-79  
 Walla Walla 8 10 4 19-41

**Heppner:** Brandon Seitz 9 0-2 18, Zack Skaggs 6 4-6 16, Judd Lemmon 4 2-3 10, Jode Coil 4 0-0 10, Kyler Lovgren 2 4-9 8, Aaron Griffith 3 0-2 6, Tyler Boyer 1 1-2 4, Josh Gutierrez 1 1-2 3, Cody Walton 1 0-0 2 and Brian Haguewood 1 0-0 2. Team: 32 12-26 79 3-pt.: Coil 2 and Boyer.

**Walla Walla:** Christian Bell 6 0-1 12, Brit Balk 4 3-3 12, Jon Salis 2 1-2 6, Karl Larce 1 4-4 6, Rouly Guth 2 1-4 5, Tom Beyer, Jimmy Wilhelm, Nick Peterson, Jake Bleth, Devon Blackburn and Aaron Leen. Team: 15 9-14 41 3-pt.: Salis and Balk.

Coil led a balanced scoring effort for the Mustangs with 11 points. Brandon Seitz added eight points and Lovgren and Gutierrez each added six points.

Heppner 4 13 14 22-53  
 Condon 1 6 5 4-16

**Heppner:** Jode Coil 5 0-2 11, Brandon Seitz 3 2-2 8, Kyler Lovgren 2 3-4 7, Josh Gutierrez 3 0-0 7, Aaron Griffith 3 0-0 6, Zack Skaggs 3 0-0 6, Tyler Boyer 2 0-0 4, Cody Walton 1 0-0 2, Brian Smith 0 2-2 2 and Judd Lemmon. Team: 22 7-10 53 3-pt.: Coil and Gutierrez.

**Condon:** Humphrey 1 2-4 4, Fennern 2 0-2 4, Campbell 1 1-2 3, Griffith 1 0-0 2, Kamerrer 0 1-4 1, M. Street 0 1-2 1, Potter 0 1-2 1, J. Street 0 0-2 0 and Bednar 0 0-1 0. Team: 5 6-18 16 3-pt.: none

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the Mustangs but they trailed 12-8 after one. They got to within 18-16 at halftime with the help of four points from Brooke Rust.

The Mustangs trailed 27-22 going into the fourth but rallied to tie it at 36-36 on a basket from Lacey Matteson, who scored nine points in the quarter, but the Pioneers hit the winning basket as time was running out. Tylynn Smith nearly won it for the Mustangs but her long 3-pointer at the buzzer hit the rim and bounced out.

Matteson hit eight of 13 free throws and finished with 16 points, she also had three rebounds and two steals. Rust added seven points and three rebounds, while Smith had five rebounds. Stefanie Hanson had three rebounds and two steals and Bailey had two steals.

Mac-Hi 12 6 9 11-38  
 Heppner 8 8 6 14-36

**Mac-Hi:** Brittany Garton 4 2-6 12, Lauren Burlingame 2 1-2 0, Meghan Rambo 4 0-1 8, Erin Harris 3 0-0 6, Emily Hendricks 0 2-2 2, Kelli DeVink 0 0-2 0, Cassie Sears and Becky Haskins. Team: 15 5-13 38 3-pt.: Garton 2 and Burlingame.

**Heppner:** Lacey Matteson 4 8-13 16, Brooke Rust 3 1-2 7, Madison Bailey 2 0-0 5, Tylynn Smith 1 2-4 4, Stefanie Hanson 1 0-0 2, Chelsea Britt 0 2-2 2, Susan Southworth 0 0-2 0, Jesse Kempas and Nikki Sisk. Team: 11 13-23 36 3-pt.: Bailey.