

Mustang boys rally for 51-46 win over Pirates

By Rick Paullus

After a slow start, the Heppner Mustang boys' varsity finally got going rallying for a 51-46 win over the visiting Riverside Pirates on Saturday, Dec. 11 in their first game of the season. The Mustangs continue their non-league schedule by hosting the Mustang Tourney on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 17 and 18 with Portland Lutheran, Nyssa and Mac-Hi coming to town.

The 2004-05 version of the Heppner Mustangs looks a little different after graduating long-time starters Chuy Elguezabal, Luke Murray, Brian Smith and Justin Botefuhr. They do return with seniors Brandon Seitz, Gus Torres and Josh Gutierrez, who saw significant playing time last year. Along with junior, Matthew VanCleave; seniors Kory Paullus, Kyle Huddleston and Tyler Boyer; juniors, Rory Kilkenny, Matt Kenny and Mikel Britt, who all have JV experience; and sophomore, Quinn Peck and freshman, Matt McCabe will float up from the JVs. Head coach Forrest McKinnis returns for his second year along with assistant Chuck Matteson. Tim VanCleave is the new C-Team coach this year.

The Pirates came out of firing on all cylinders blowing out to a 12-0 lead before the Mustangs finally got on the board on a rebound basket by VanCleave with 3:40 left in the first quarter. VanCleave scored off another rebound and hit one of two free throws and Rory Kilkenny scored off a pass from Torres to get them within 14-7 after one.

Seitz opened the second, scoring off a nice pass from Torres and hitting one of two free throws, then Paullus scored twice off rebounds, but the Pirates still led 20-14. Kilkenny then fed Gutierrez for a lay-in and hit one of two free throws and Torres hit one of two free throws to narrow the lead to 20-18 at the half.

Paullus and VanCleave hit one of two free throws and Seitz hit a short jumper to get the Mustangs within 23-22 and Gutierrez hit back to back 3-pointers to give them their first lead of the game at 28-25, but the Pirates came back to take a 29-28 lead after three.

The Pirates extended their lead to 33-28 to open the fourth, but VanCleave scored off a pass from Gutierrez and Paullus scored off a pass from Torres to get within one. Paullus hit one of two free throws, Torres hit a running shot off a drive and Seitz scored off a pass from Gutierrez, to give the Mustangs a 37-35 lead. Seitz hit two free throws, but the Pirates tied it at 39-39, but back came the Mustangs as VanCleave scored inside and hit one of two free throws and Seitz hit two free throws. Torres scored off a drive, but the Pirates were still within two at 46-44 after a 3-pointer. Gutierrez hit a long jumper with 35 seconds left, then two free throws with 16.5 seconds left to make it 50-44 and clinch the win.

Gutierrez led a balanced scoring attack from the Mustangs with 12 points and had two assists and two steals. Seitz added 11 points and six rebounds, VanCleave added 11 points and 16 rebounds and Paullus had eight points, 15 rebounds and two steals. Torres had seven rebounds, five assists and three steals and Kilkenny had five rebounds. The Mustangs helped themselves by hitting nine of 12 free throws in the fourth, but finished just 15 of 34 for the game.

Heppner 7 11 10 23-51
Riverside 14 6 9 17-46

Heppner- Josh Gutierrez 4 2-2 12, Brandon Seitz 3 5-6 11, Matthew VanCleave 4 3-10 11, Kory Paullus 3 2-4 8, Gus Torres 2 2-9 6, Rory Kilkenny 1 1-3 3, Matt Kenny and Kyle Huddleston. Team: 17 15-34 51. 3-pts: Gutierrez 2.

Riverside- Lee Pritchard 5 5-7 15, Dustin Swindler 6 0-0 13, Andrew Parker 3 0-0 6, Brandon McGill 3 0-0 6, Anthony Calvillo 1 2-4 4, Shawn Dirksen 0 2-2 2 and Cody Nailor 0 2-2 2. Team: 18 9-15 46. 3-pts: Swindler.



photo by Sandy Matthews
Matt Van Cleave (31) and Brandon Seitz fight for a rebound.

Mustang JV girls fall to Pirates



photo by Sandy Matthews
Bailey Keithley goes after a loose ball

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV girls opened the 2004-05 season by falling short against the Riverside Pirates by a score of 32-28 at home on Saturday, Dec. 11. The Mustangs next games will be at Hermiston on Dec. 20, at Culver on Dec. 21 and back at home on Dec. 23 at 1 p.m.

The Mustangs led 8-6 after one, but trailed 15-13 at the half and 25-17 after three quarters of play. Lynan Bingham had five points in the fourth as the Mustangs closed to within two, but couldn't quite get all the way back.

Bingham led the way with eight points and nine rebounds, with Regi Seitz adding four points, five rebounds and two assists. Cyde Coil had four points and two assists, Mahaley Huddleston had five rebounds and Kylie Doherty and Aftan Betsinger each had three steals.

Riverside 6 11 8 7-32

Heppner 8 5 4 11-28
Riverside- Pedro 5 3-10 13, Mittlesdorf 3 0-3 6, Sands 2 0-0 4, Purcell 1 0-0 2, Kroske 1 0-0 2, Costello 1 0-2 2, Wilson 1 0-0 2, Baker 0 1-2 1, Wise 0 0-2 0, Sullivan and Toury. Team: 14 4-19 32.

Heppner- Lynan Bingham 3 2-5 8, Regi Seitz 1 2-4 4, Cyde Coil 2 0-0 4,

Kylie Doherty 1 0-0 2, Aftan Betsinger 1 0-0 2, Mahaley Huddleston 0 2-5 2, Katie Kilkenny 1 0-0 2, Whitney Matthews 1 0-0 2, Kelsie Fox 1 0-0 2, Baillie Keithley, Jenna Bowman and Jaylene Petit. Team: 11 6-15 28.

St. Patrick's Senior Center news

Volunteers for the St. Patrick's Senior Center Dec. 22 Christmas meal are members of St. Patrick's Catholic parish. The menu for the day will be baked ham, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, Christmas fruit salad, hot rolls and pudding. The regular director's meeting convenes at 12:30 p.m., Dec. 15. The major agenda item is to complete plans for the annual meeting in January 2005.

Bingo will continue on Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. in the dining room. Any changes will be arranged and announced at that time.

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Mustang JV boys lose to Pirates



photo by Sandy Matthews
Quinn Peck fights for a rebound

By Rick Paullus

The Riverside Pirates outscored the host Heppner Mustang JV boys in each quarter to take a 56-43 win in the Mustangs first game of the season.

The Mustangs will be back on the hardwood on Monday, Dec. 20 at Hermiston, Tuesday, Dec. 21 at Culver and back at home on Thursday, Dec. 23 against Grant Union.

Quinn Peck had five points in the first, but the Mustangs trailed 11-10 after one and 22-18 at the half. Peck had nine points, including a 3-pointer, in the third to keep the Mustangs close, but still trailed 36-30 after three and the Pirates pulled away in the fourth despite six points from Peck and four from Andre Rauch. Peck led the

Mustangs with 22 points, with Rauch and Matt McCabe adding four points each.

Riverside 11 11 14 20-56
Heppner 10 8 12 13-43

Riverside- Kegler 5 4-8 15, Turner 6 0-0 13, Jones 4 3-5 11, Filarski 3 0-2 6, Calvillo 2 2-2 6, Morelli 1 0-0 2, Doherty 1 0-1 2, Youder 0 1-2 1, Martin 0 0-2 0, Reikkola, Norling and Callow. Team: 22 10-22 56. 3-pts: Turner and Kegler.

Heppner- Quinn Peck 8 5-6 22, Matt McCabe 1 2-4 4, Andre Rauch 1 2-3 4, Casey Maben 1 1-2 3, Nathan VanCleave 0 3-4 3, Justin Delveaux 1 0-1 2, Lane Bailey 0 2-6 2, Tony Haguewood 1 0-0 2 and Nacho Elguezabal 0 1-2 1. Team: 13 16-28 43. 3-pts: Peck.

"B" team Ponies defeat Irrigon

By Larry Palmer

It's on the road again for the Heppner "B" team Ponies as they traveled to Irrigon to take on the Knights of Columbia. In this duel, the Knights were no match for the quick-footed Ponies who grabbed a quick 11-2 lead. By the half, the Ponies lengthened their lead to 16-5.

In the second half, the Knights tried to hide behind their shields, but the onslaught was on and the Ponies were running wild, out scoring them 18-4. By the time it was said and done, the Ponies had won 34-9 and it was time to say "Good Knight."

Leading a balanced attack was Chris Wellington with four points, Tomas Elguezabal downed four, Brian Holland chipped in seven, Brent Eckman had two, Jordan Hatfield sank seven, Zach McCarl iced two and Luke Young exploded for eight. Others who contributed to the victory were Justin Key, Lane Wright, Drew Johnson and Jared Huddleston.

Heppner 11 5 9 9-34
Irrigon 2 3 0 4-9

"A" team Ponies overthrow Irrigon

By Larry Palmer

Traveling to Irrigon to take on the Knights of Columbia, the "A" team Ponies staked their claim and came away as 35-29 victors.

In a jousting match, reminiscent of days of old, the Knights took a 6-5 lead, but the Ponies were still struggling in the second with the home team taking a commanding 12-7 edge at the half.

The Ponies came back gallantly in the third, outscoring their opponent, 15-6, to send the Knights reeling from the attack in this decisive duel. The Knights tried to stage a comeback, but couldn't forge any ground and the Ponies out shot them 13-11 in the fourth and the Knights stumbled to the ground never to rebound. The Ponies ended the game with a 35-29 victory.

The jousters who commandeered this victory were Josh Shank with four points, Braden Britt with two, Dalton Wellman canned seven, Spencer Palmer swished in 13, Joe Pranger had two, Sam King brought three and Jared Huddleston finished with four. Others contributing were Brent Eckman and Matt Holland.

Heppner 5 2 15 13-35
Irrigon 6 6 6 11-29

Justice Court report

Ronald Melvin Gorski, 43, Milwaukie, No Written Record of Transfer- Spike Elk, fine \$75.

Thomas E. Cox, 26, St. Helens, Shooting from a Public Roadway, fine \$150 and Failure to Validate Buck Deer Tag, fine \$150.

Steven P. Kauffman, 49, Umatilla, Taking Bobcat Closed Season, fine \$343, 30 suspended days in jail and one year probation.

Loren John Fisher, 69, Clackamas, Aiding in Wildlife Violation, i.e. Taking Cow Elk-Closed Season, fine \$359.

Thomas M. Fisher, 42, Clackamas, Taking Cow Elk-Closed Season, fine \$359.

James C. Benson, 49, Boardman, Hunting Branch Bull Elk- Closed Season, fine \$333.

Dale F. Johnson, 69, Maupin, Taking Cow Elk-Closed Season, fine \$359.

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