

## Mustang boys open CBC with win at Culver

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang varsity boys got their Columbia Basin Conference season off on the right foot by taking a 46-39 win at Culver on Tuesday, Dec. 21. The Mustangs, now 2 and 3 overall, have a non-league game at DeSales, WA on Tuesday, Jan. 4 before getting back into CBC play at Umatilla on Friday, Jan. 7 and at home against Sherman County on Saturday, Jan. 8.

The Mustangs trailed 8-6 after one as Brandon Seitz had all six points, but they came back to take a 24-18 lead at the half getting seven points, including two 3-pointers, from Josh Gutierrez and four each from Gus Torres, Matthew VanCleave and Rory Kilkenny in the second quarter.

The Bulldogs came back to get within 33-30 after three, but the Mustangs

got seven points from Torres and four more from Kilkenny to pull away for the win.

Torres led a balanced scoring effort for the Mustangs with 11 points with Gutierrez adding nine points and Seitz and Kilkenny adding eight points each.

Heppner 6 18 9 13-46  
Culver 8 10 12 9-39  
Heppner- Gus Torres 5 1-2 11, Josh Gutierrez 2 3-4 9, Brandon Seitz 2 4-6 8, Rory Kilkenny 4 0-0 8, Kory Paullus 2 0-0 4, Matthew VanCleave 2 0-0 4, Mikel Britt 1 0-0 2, Kyle Huddleston, Matt Kenny and Matt McCabe. Team: 18 8-12 46. 3-pts: Gutierrez 2.

Culver- O'Gorman 6 0-2 14, Blood 4 0-2 10, Bodin 1 3-6 5, Roen 2 0-0 4, Rhoan 1 2-2 4 and Chavez 1 0-0 2. Team: 15 5-12 39. 3-pts: O'Gorman 2 and Blood 2.

## Mustang boys hold off Prospectors 50-48

By Rick Paullus

After building a big 12-4 lead after one, the Heppner Mustang boys varsity held on to take a 50-48 win over the visiting Grant Union Prospectors on Thursday, Dec. 23 in a non-league game. The Mustangs evened their overall record to 3-3 and will get back to Columbia Basin Conference play at Umatilla on Friday, Jan. 7 and back at home on Saturday, Jan. 8 against the Sherman County Huskies.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 9-0 lead to open the game as Matthew VanCleave hit one of two free throws, Matt Kenny hit a jumper, Brandon Seitz scored off a drive and off a rebound and Rory Kilkenny hit two free throws. Kory Paullus scored on a pass from Gus Torres to make it 11-2 and Seitz hit one of two free throws to make it 12-4 after one.

Kilkenny opened the second by making two free throws and after the Prospectors scored five straight, VanCleave scored off a rebound and made two free throws to make it 18-9. Seitz scored off a drive to make it 20-11. Paullus scored inside off a pass from

Kenny and Josh Gutierrez hit a 3-pointer, but the Prospectors scored five straight to get within 25-20 at the half.

Gutierrez opened the third with two free throws, Seitz scored off a drive and VanCleave scored off a rebound to make it 31-23. Torres scored off a drive and Kilkenny hit one of two free throws, but the Prospectors wouldn't go away as they closed to within 34-32. VanCleave got a breakaway dunk on a steal and pass from Torres and Kilkenny scored off a rebound to give the Mustangs a 38-34 lead at the end of the third quarter.

Torres scored off a drive and Gutierrez hit one of two free throws to open the fourth, but the Prospectors came back to tie it at 42-42 with five minutes left. Seitz scored off a rebound and Kilkenny hit two free throws, but the Prospectors came back to tie it at 46-46 with 2:51 left. Seitz scored off a rebound with 1:20 left and Torres hit two free throws with 22.7 seconds left to make it 50-46. A Prospector basket with

11.6 seconds left cut the lead to two and after two missed free throws they had one last chance, but a shot at the buzzer from inside bounced off the rim giving the Mustangs the win.

Seitz led the Mustangs with 12 points, 10 rebounds and two assists, with Kilkenny adding nine points and 10 rebounds. VanCleave had nine points and five rebounds and Torres had three steals and two assists.

Heppner 12 13 13 12-50  
Grant Union 4 16 14 14-48

Heppner- Brandon Seitz 6 1-2 13, Matthew VanCleave 3 3-5 9, Rory Kilkenny 1 7-9 9, Gus Torres 2 2-2 6, Josh Gutierrez 1 3-6 3, Kory Paullus 2 0-3 4, Matt Kenny 1 1-2 3, Kyle Huddleston and Matt McCabe. Team: 16 17-29 50. 3-pts: Gutierrez.

Grant Union- Thomas 5 0-0 12, Page 5 0-2 10, Kowing 4 1-2 9, Moore 3 0-2 6, McClure 2 0-0 5, Thunnell 1 1-2 4, Ferguson 1 0-0 2, Rawlins and Heiple. Team: 21 2-8 48. 3-pts: Thomas 2, Thunnell and McClure.

## Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Exec. Dir.

"2005 and we're gonna thrive." It's a new year. We have change to deal with and Heppner can handle it. We come from hardy stock. Sometimes we just have to look at new ideas, new venues, put more faces in the mix and get on with it. Being down in the mouth won't solve anything. Standing at the bottom of a mountain and looking up doesn't get you to the top, but heading up one angle at a time will get you there. Help us make the trek.

The Chamber Board of Directors will be meeting for goal setting on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2005 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at John's Place. Input from all Chamber members is welcome.

Board members Victor Vander Does, Nancy Snider, Dave Sykes, Barb Hayes, Bert Houweling, John Murray, Brenda Sherrell, Tim VanCleave and Jeff Bailey, under the leadership of incoming president Nancy Gochner, will be looking at ideas for marketing Heppner. Whom do we wish to target? How? Why? What method? The biggest challenge for the entire community is bringing in business and retaining the businesses we have. Other small communities are facing the same challenges. We will tell our story. Rural Oregon will stay alive and thrive in 2005.

Mark your calendars for the annual Chamber of Commerce luncheon at All Saints Parish Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP to the Chamber at 676-5536. Then plan to kick up your heels at the annual Town and County Banquet on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2005. It's tradition. All will be highly entertained by country western singer, poet and storyteller Marty Campbell, sponsored by CenturyTel. Tickets will be available soon.

Thought for the Week: "It's easy to say you can't sing, it's easier to prove it." Those who attended the Chamber Christmas luncheon will understand this quote. Those who did not missed the only opportunity ever to hear the new female Chamber quartet. Sometimes it's good to have fun.

Happy New Year.

## Bingo back at Senior Center

Bingo is back at St. Patrick's Senior Center. The new Bingo year will start at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 4. Everyone is invited to come and join the fun.

## "B" Ponies take win from Weston by one

By Larry Palmer

The "B" team Ponies traveled to Weston on Dec. 17 to take on the Panthers. Playing in their second overtime game, the Ponies found a way to come out on top.

The first quarter was as cold for the Ponies as an arctic blast from Jack Frost and the Ponies were down by

10 with the Panthers leading 10-0. The Ponies started thawing out in the second and were down 8-15 at the half.

The third quarter is when the Ponies got ripped and outscored the Panthers 9-4 and the score was tied at 19. The fourth quarter ended in a stalemate with both side scoring six and the

game ended in regulation tied at 25.

In overtime the Ponies shined, using tough defensive pressure and getting the lead, pulling out a 30-29 victory.

Chris Wellington and Brent Eckman both pulled in eight points each for the team, with Luke Young following with five points. Jordan Hatfield with four, Brian Holland with three and Drew Johnson with two points. Other contributors were Justin Key, Tomas Elguezabal, Lane Wright and Zach McCarl.

Heppner 0 8 9 6 5-30  
Weston 10 5 4 6 4-29

## "A" team Ponies fall to Panthers

By Larry Palmer

The "A" team Ponies took a trip to visit the Panthers den in Weston on Dec. 17. The Ponies were looking for revenge from their last meeting, but the Panthers had other intentions.

The Ponies started slow and couldn't get much going in the first, trailing the Panthers 13-6. The second period wasn't much better for the Ponies as they were down by 10 at the half, with the Panthers leading 22-12.

After intermission, the Arctic Express hit again as the Ponies went cold as they could muster only two points in the third and were looking for the catch up the

rest of the way, trailing the Panthers 28-14.

The fourth saw a lot more production offensively from the Ponies as they scored 13 points. However, the final score still saw the Ponies down and the Panthers winning 43-27.

The Ponies who tallied points were Jared Huddleston with six, Dalton Wellman with three, Spencer Palmer and Josh Shank with six each and Braden Britt, Sam King and Brent Eckman with two each. Joe Pranger also contributed to the team effort.

Heppner 6 6 2 13-27  
Weston 13 9 6 15-43

## "B" team Ponies lose by two against Umatilla

By Larry Palmer

The Umatilla Vikings came to town looking to stomp the "B" team Ponies down on Dec. 11, but the Ponies had plans of their own and showed the Vikings what it's like to play at home.

Both teams came out flat in the first quarter only gardening three points, but in the second the Vikings had tacked on eight to the Ponies five and the Vikings led 11-8.

In the second half, however, the game got a little tense as the Ponies outscored the Vikings 13-12 and found themselves down by two to start the fourth quarter, 21-23. Using pressure defense the Ponies made a run at the Vikings and closed the gap and were ready to set them afloat, but the free throws wouldn't fall and the game went into overtime.

Ready with the hot shot to send them on their way, the Vikings came ready to play and walked away with the victory 35-33.

The Ponies had some outstanding play from buzzer beater Chris Wellington who made 11 points and Brian Holland who also landed 11 points. Also adding to the team points were Tomas Elguezabal and Grant Smith with one point each, Drew Johnson with six and Brent Eckman with three points. Helping round out the team effort were Justin Key, Lane Wright, Jordan Hatfield, Zach McCarl and Luke Young.

Heppner 3 5 13 10-23  
Umatilla 3 8 12 8 4-35

## "A" team Ponies fall to Umatilla

By Larry Palmer

The Umatilla Vikings landed in town on Dec. 11 to take on the "A" team Ponies.

The Ponies played valiantly in the first quarter, down 7-10. In the second quarter they were cold, being outscored 4-8 and found themselves trailing 11-18.

In the second half, the Ponies came out blazing, but it didn't do the trick and as time expired in the third, it was Ponies 20, Vikings 28.

Once again another cold quarter in the fourth spelled the game for the Ponies, as the final score read Ponies 24, Vikings 41.

The Ponies received scoring from Sam King with one point, Spencer Palmer with eight, Josh Shank with four, Jared Huddleston with seven, Matt Holland with two and Brian Holland with two. Other contributors were Joe Pranger, Dalton Wellman, Brent Eckman, Braden Britt, Luke Young and Jordan Hatfield.

Heppner 7 4 9 4-24  
Umatilla 10 8 10 13-41

## Ione Legion not to meet in January

The Ione American Legion and Auxiliary will not be meeting in January.

## Mindy Smith joins Hair I Am

Mindy Smith, a 2001 Heppner High School graduate, and a graduate of Mt. Hood Community College's School of Cosmetology has joined Leah Hyatt at Hair I Am in Heppner as a nail technician.



Mindy Smith

Smith has been doing nails professionally for the past year and is also working in White Salmon, WA cutting hair.

She will be working at Hair I Am, Mondays through Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can contact Hair I Am at 676-9644 to make a nail appointment. Smith will be performing manicures, pedicures, fills, repairs, polish changes, gel nails, paraffin dips, etc.

Prices for nail services will be: Fills- \$17, Full Set- \$30, Manicure- \$17, Pedicure- \$25; and add a paraffin dip to any service for \$5.

As a special to welcome Smith, during the month of January, with any Hair I Am hair service receive 10 percent off any nail service and 25 percent off a tanning package.

Have a Safe and Happy New Year!

From all of us at Peterson's Jewelers:  
Gayle, Judy, Carmen, Katie, Bonnie, Marlene and Randall

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Season's Greetings

From the Mortgage Division at Bank of Eastern Oregon

Warmest holiday wishes and sincerest thanks for all your support and friendship throughout the year!

Tobey & Kim  
Christy & Melissa

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