

Mustang boys fall to Vikings

By Rick Paullus



Kory Paullus makes the shot for two. Photo by Sandy Matthews.

The Heppner Mustang varsity boys fought back to get within two several times after getting behind by eight in the fourth quarter, but couldn't get all the way back in losing 51-47 to the visiting Umatilla Vikings in Columbia Basin Conference play on Friday, Jan. 28. The Mustangs, now 2-6 in the CBC and 5-10 overall, will be at home on Friday, Feb. 4 and will be at Weston-McEwen on Tuesday, Feb. 8 in CBC play.

The Mustangs got off to a good start as Matthew VanCleave scored off a pass from Josh Gutierrez, Rory Kilkenny hit a jumper and VanCleave scored seven straight points to give them an 11-7 lead. The Vikings sandwiched two 3-pointers around and R.J. Farrens 3-pointer to get within 14-13 after one.

They went cold with too many turnovers in the second however, getting just a free throw from Gutierrez and a VanCleave lay-in as the Vikings took a 20-17 lead at the half.

The Vikings scored first to open the third, but the Mustangs came back as Farrens fed VanCleave for a lay-in then scored off a drive to get within 22-21. After five straight by the Vikings, Matt Kenny hit a short jumper, then the teams traded baskets the rest of the quarter as Gus Torres hit along jumper, Kilkenny a short jumper, Farrens fed

VanCleave inside for a lay-in, then hit a jumper at the buzzer to get within 35-31 after three.

VanCleave scored off another assists from Farrens to open the fourth, but the Vikings scored six straight to take a 41-33 lead. VanCleave scored off a drive then Torres fed Kory Paullus for a lay-in and scored off a tip-in to cut the lead to 41-39. The teams traded baskets as Gutierrez hit a running jumper to make it 43-41, VanCleave scored off a drive to make it 45-43 and Paullus hit a jumper from the free throw line to make it 47-45 with 1:35 left. After a Viking basket, Kenny hit a baseline jumper with one minute left to make it 49-47, but the Vikings hit two of four free throws in the final 22 seconds to hold off the Mustangs.

VanCleave led the Mustangs with 21 points and 11 rebounds, with Farrens added seven points and four assists. Torres had seven rebounds, three assists and two steals. Gutierrez had three steals and two assists and Kilkenny, Paullus and Mikel Britt each had five rebounds.

Heppner 14 3 14 16-

Umatilla 13 7 15 16-

51

Heppner- Matthew VanCleave 10 1-1 21, R.J. Farrens 3 0-0 7, Gus Torres 2 0-1 4, Kory Paullus 2 0-0 4, Matt Kenny 2 0-0 4, Rory Kilkenny 2 0-0 4, Josh Gutierrez 1 1-2 3, Mikel Britt and Matt McCabe. Team: 22 2-4 47. 3-pts: Farrens.

Umatilla- Campos 7 0-2 17, Olvera 7 1-1 15, Jensen 5 1-4 12, White 2 1-2 5 and Palomino 1 0-0 2. Team: 22 3-9 51. 3-pts: Campos 3 and Jensen.

Lady Cards win two

The Ione Lady Cardinals kept up their Big Sky Conference rampage with two wins last weekend including a huge come-from-behind victory against Condon on Friday, Jan. 28 and a Saturday, Jan. 29 win at home against Cascade Locks. The Cards now have a 9-0 league record and are 9-7 on the season.

Ione's league streak looked to be in serious danger for the first three quarters of the Condon game. Although only down 5-4 after one quarter, they were trailing 13-6 at the half and were having difficulty getting points on the board. Even after three quarters, the situation did not look promising with the score at 18-8 in favor of Condon. However, the fourth quarter treated the Ione fans to one of the most thrilling comeback victories in recent times, led by a group of freshman who were determined not to lose. Ione's 21-point effort in that quarter, coupled with Condon being held to just three led to the final score of 31-21 in favor of Ione.

Freshman Kaylee Palmateer, starting in place of the injured Alyssa Rietmann, played like a seasoned veteran, knocking in six points in that critical fourth quarter. Emily Rietmann, another ninth grader, made key steals and added six points herself, staying cool in the pressure cooker Condon gym. Kylee Svetich, also a frosh, added two points in the fourth.

Amber Patton led all scorers in the game with 12 points and recorded several key blocked shots. Jenny Griffith scored five points but her biggest contribution to the game was dogging Condon's Katie Humphrey for the entire game, holding her to just seven points. The last time the two teams met, Humphrey scored 20.

Coach Ryan Rudolf was ecstatic with the win. "The fourth quarter was great. Our press finally worked and we went on an 11-0 run to finally take the lead," he said. "Condon tied it at 21 but great defense by everyone and finally hitting some shots secured the victory. The girls never gave up and I think that was really the key to the win."

On Saturday night, a scrappy Cascade Locks team stuck with the Cards for longer than they would have liked, but the team pulled through in the end to record a 40-30 win.

Ione had a sluggish first quarter scoring only three points and only took a 14-9 lead with them to the locker room. The offensive output picked up in the second half for both teams, although the Lady Cards were able to maintain a 26-18 advantage after three quarters and stay just ahead of their opponents in the fourth quarter for the final 10-point margin.

Patton again led the team with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Sara Peck and Svetich each added six, Griffith had three, Palmateer and Rietmann each had two and Kayla LaRue had one point.

"We didn't play that well against Cascade Locks. They were pretty scrappy and we let them hang around and keep the score close. We played just good enough to win," said Coach Rudolf. "We are continuing to play good team defense. We just need to continue to get better every game to get us ready for District," he added.

Cardinals lose to Echo

The Ione Cardinals looked tired and unfocused in the Tuesday, Jan. 25 loss to Echo. Down 13-8 after one quarter, the Cards were still within striking distance at the half, down 21-29. However, Echo widened the lead after halftime, leading 42-27 at the end of three and coasted home with the win 50-37.

Nick Christman led the Cardinals with 10 points, followed by Tony Bolin with nine and Tyler Brown with eight. Rounding out the scoring was Arthur Ekstrom with four, Kelly Thompson with three and Alan Rietmann with three. Ekstrom was also credited with a strong defensive effort. Bolin led the team with five assists and Brown led the rebounding effort with eight, although the taller Cougars out-rebounded the Cards teamwise, 31-29.

"We didn't play well," said Coach Dennis Stefani. "We looked tired and seemed to have lost focus. I hope the loss will wake us up and get us focused."

Greenfield Grange plans Valentine's fun

Greenfield Grange in Boardman is looking for couples to enter a contest about "How well do you know your mate?" on Feb. 14, 2005. There will be prizes awarded and fun for all.

The evening will begin with a potluck at 5 p.m., the contest at 6 p.m., and the regular meeting of the Grange will be held at 7 p.m. If you wish not to enter the contest, you are welcome anyway.

The contest is free to enter, so bring your mate out for a fun time. For more information, call Jane Dean at 481-5223.

Cardinals win two against Condon and Cascade Locks

The Ione Cardinals got back on the winning track last weekend, winning on the road at Condon on Friday, Jan. 28 and also at home on Saturday, Jan. 29 against Cascade Locks. The Cards Big Sky record now stands at 7-2 and they are 12-5 overall.

At Condon on Friday, the Cardinals played in the lead for most of the game but lacked their offensive spark. Ione led 10-8 after one quarter and 20-14 after two. The Cards widened the lead a bit in the third period, scoring 12 points to their opponent's seven, but the fourth quarter was almost even, leading to the final winning margin of nine points, 40-31.

Tyler Brown and Nick Christman shared high point honors with 11 points each. Tony Bolin chipped in six, Kelly Thompson and Arthur Ekstrom each had four and Tyler Raible and Alan Rietmann each added two. Brown led the team with three assists and 13 rebounds. The Cardinals were out-rebounded by Condon, 36-27.

"The defense looked quite a bit better but we seem to be having some problems with the offense," said Coach Dennis Stefani. "The whole team played great defense and Tyler Brown did a great job on the boards."

On Saturday night, the Cardinals offense began to click again as they outscored Cascade Locks 68-47. Ione raced out to an early 14-2 lead and led 37-18 by the half, capitalizing on Cascade Locks' 36 team turnovers. The Cards continued to build on that lead, scoring 20 points in the third quarter and coasting home for the win.

Bolin scored 17 points to lead the team in scoring and also dished out five assists. Christman and Thompson each scored 11, followed by Raible and Dan Long with six each, Ekstrom and Rietmann with four each and Paul Hams with two.

Bolin had a great game, running the point. "This was one of Tony's best all-around games of the year," said Coach Stefani. "It feels good to see our offense click again. We also played great defense, causing 36 turnovers."

Cardinal JVs take two

The Ione Cardinals' JV team racked up 64 points, two nights in a row, defeating Condon on the road on Friday, Jan. 28 and handling Cascade Locks at home on Saturday night, Jan. 29.

The Cards used a full court press to come up with 22 steals against Condon. After a fairly even first quarter, the Cards rolled through the next two, building up a 36-18 halftime lead and a 52-31 third quarter advantage. Condon made a gallant run in the fourth quarter, scoring 21 points but the Cards still maintained their lead and won 64-55.

Dan Long had an outstanding game scoring 26 points and pulling down 10 rebounds. Paul Hams had 10 points in the game, followed by Alan Rietmann and John Walton with eight each, Justin Archer with six, William Bergstrom with four and Kip Krebs with two. Hams was the assist leader with six and Taylor McElligott led with five steals. Walton had three blocked shots.

Coach Jim Swanson was pleased with the effort, especially liking the effective full court pressure and great movement on offense.

On Saturday night, the JVs again raced out to an early lead, holding a 16-2 advantage after one and a 38-13 lead at the half. But Cascade Locks came to life in the third period, outscoring the Cards 26-11 to pull within ten. A strong final quarter held off the challenge, resulting in the final score, 64-48 in favor of the Cardinals.

Long led the team in scoring with 18 points, followed by Hams with 13. Walton came in with nine, followed by Rietmann and Krebs with seven each, Archer with five, McElligott with three and Kyle Palmateer with two.

"They played some of their varsity players in the third and fourth quarter and cut our lead from 25-9," said Coach Swanson. "Our kids really held their own though. I was really proud of them."

IMS "A" team drop two at Helix tournament

By Beth Morter

The Ione Middle School girls' "A" team traveled to Helix for a three-game tournament on Saturday, Jan. 29.

The first game was against Echo. The girls played two 20-minute running halves. In the first half, Ione scored five points and Echo scored eight, making for a tight game. In the second half, Ione scored five points again, but Echo scored 12 points, leaving the final score at 20-10 Echo.

Brenna Rietmann lead the Cardinals scoring five points, followed by Tiana Camarillo and Beth Morter with two points each and Beka DesBouillons with one.

"The team came out a little sluggish against Echo, but seemed to pick it up a little in the second half," said Coach Lynn Dee Ramos. "They had a lot of looks at the basket, but the ball just didn't seem to drop in for us."

In the second game of the day, Ione came up against a tall, fast and

talented Helix team that showed no mercy.

In the first half, the Cardinals scored eight points, but Helix scored 25 points. In the second half, the Cardinals came alive and scored 12 points, but the Grizzlies again outscored them, leaving the final score at 49-20 Helix.

Camarillo led the Cardinals with six points, followed by Tori Heagy with four points. Heather Wiggers, Rietmann, Morter, DesBouillons and Brianna Peterson scored two points each.

"We just couldn't seem to find a fit that would work and shut down Helix. We only shot 17 percent from the free throw line and that really hurt us," said Coach Ramos. "The girls hustled, but in the end we came up short."

Marriage License

Jan. 25: Chad Alan Landon, 38, Umatilla and Connie Lee Johnson, 38, Umatilla.

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