# Mustangs run over and around Blanchet to advance

By Rick Paullus

A combination of senior Matt Kenny's 144 yards and junior Casey Maben's, 120 yards, rushing inside and outside led the Heppner Mustangs to a 22-6 win over the Blanchet Cavaliers in the quarterfinal round of the US Bank/Les Schwab's OSAA Class 2A football playoffs on Saturday, Nov. 26 in Heppner. The Mustangs advance to the semi finals to play the Vale Vikings, who beat Santiam Christian 14-0, in Hillsboro on Saturday, Dec. 3 at noon. Dayton and Nyssa will play in the other semifinal game at 3 p.m.

It looked like it was going to be an easy afternoon for the Mustangs as they held Blanchet to one yard on their first possession and had good field position at the Cavalier 40 yard line after a 15 yard punt return by Matt McCabe. Kenny ran four straight times for 30 yards and Maben took it in to the end zone from ten yards out for the touchdown. Maben ran in the two point conversion to make it 8-0 early in the first quarter.

The defense held again and McCabe again gave the Mustangs good field position at their 44-yard line with a 14-yard punt return. Quinn Peck ran for four and Maben went for ten and a first down but the drive stalled and the Cavaliers took over at their 13-yard line after a punt.

The teams traded punts as the second quarter started then the Cavaliers put together a drive, but Kenny picked off a pass on fourth down at the five and returned it to the 22-yard line. Kenny ran twice for eight and after an illegal motion penalty, McCabe went for nine and a first down at the 35-yard line. On fourth and one at the 44-yard line, Kenny sent for four yards and a first down. On a fourth and six Peck picked up just enough for a first down at the Blanchet 42 yard line. The clock ran out to end the first half before the Mustangs could add any more points.

The Mustangs were unable to move the ball on their first possession of the second half and Blanchet took over at their own 48-yard line after a short punt. Helped by a successful fake punt, the Cavaliers put together their only scoring drive of the day capped by a 7 yard run by Joe Jirges for a touchdown. The Mustangs held on to the lead though as Maben tackled the Blanchet runner for a loss on the two-point conversion try.

The Mustangs answered with a scoring drive of their own as they started at their own 31 yard line with two runs by Kenny for 7 yards, a Maben 15 yard run then Kenny broke free for a 47 yard touchdown run. Maben ran in the two-point conversion to up the lead to 16-6 with 2:59 left in the third.

The Cavaliers came back with another drive getting to the Mustangs 14 yard line with a first and ten as the clock ran out ending the third quarter.

The defense held though and the Mustangs took over at their own 12-yard line. Maben broke free around the left side for a 27-yard gain, Kenny went for three then Maben picked up 13 more and a first down at the Blanchet 45 yard line. One second and ten, Maben made a move outside they took off across the field for a 32-yard gain and another first down at the 13-yard line. Kenny took it to the one where Peck snuck just across the line for a touchdown. The pass failed on the conversion but the Mustangs led 22-6 with 8:37 left in the game.

On the Cavaliers next possession after the kick off, Kyle Carlson sacked the quarterback for a six-yard loss and Peck broke up a pass on fourth down and the Mustangs took over at the Blanchet 33 yard line. They were unable to pick up a first down and the Cavaliers got the ball back at their twenty-five.

Aaron Allstott sacked the quarterback for a 5-yard loss but the Cavaliers drove to the Mustangs 17 yard line with first and ten with 2:05 left. The defense held though as the Cavaliers came up inches short on fourth down with the Mustangs taking over at their own seven. Maben went for seven and Kenny ran three times for 21 yards, as they were able to run out the clock to take the win.

The defense was led by Maben with 27 points and Kenny adding 20 points. McCabe had 19 points, Peck and Peter Geer each had 18, Allstott had 13 points, Matt VanCleave had 12 points and Rory Kilkenny had 11 points.

Kenny ran 24 times for 144 yards with Maben packing the ball 10 times for 120 yards.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Blanchet | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | 0-6 | |
| Heppner | 8 | 0 |
| 8 | 6-22 | |

First Quarter

Heppner- Casey Maben, 10 yard run (Maben run) 8:17

Third Quarter

Blanchet- Joe Jirges, 7 yard run (Run failed) 4:53

Heppner- Matt Kenny 47 yard run (Maben run) 2:59

Fourth Quarter

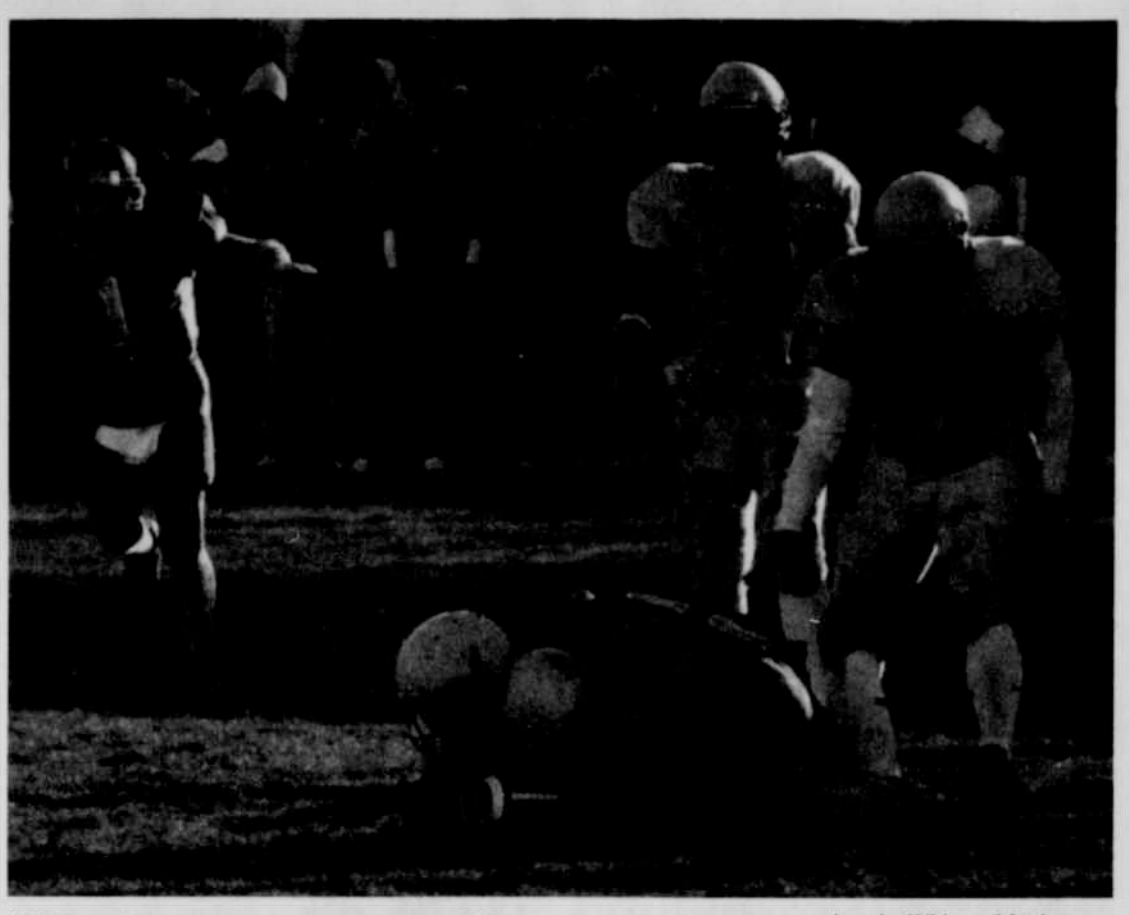
Heppner- Quinn Peck 1 yard run (Pass failed) 8:57

**Team Statistics**

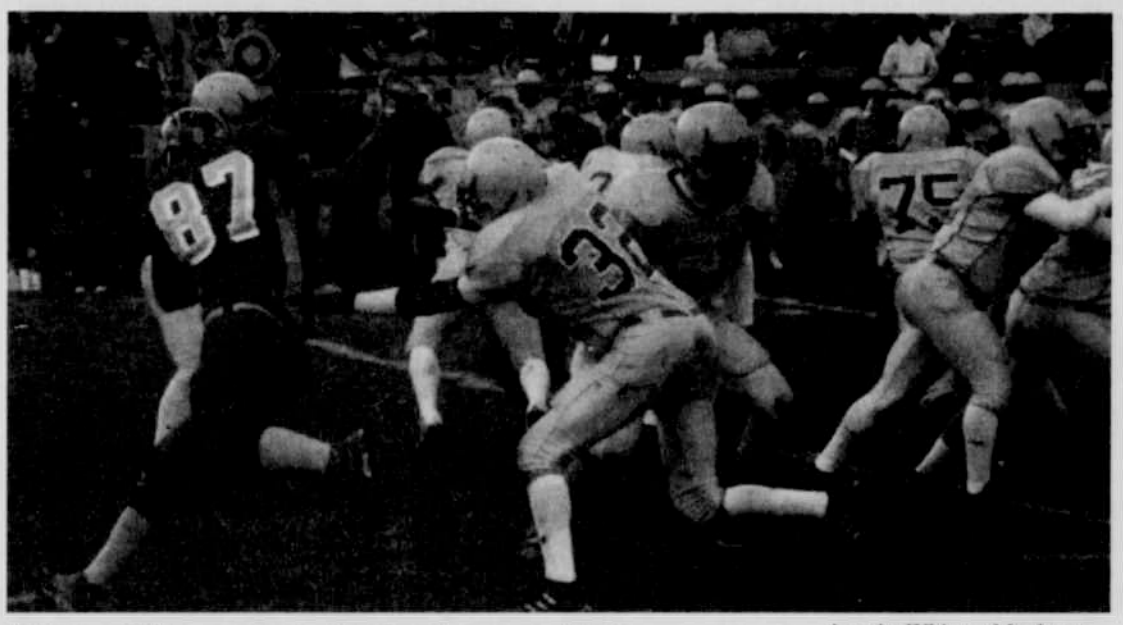
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Blanchet | | Heppner |
| First downs | | |
| 14 | 11 | |
| Rushing yards | | |
| 39-192 | 47-299 | |
| Passing yards | | |
| 62 | 0 | |
| Passes | | |
| 7-21-1 | 0-2-0 | |
| Fumbles | | |
| 0-0 | 2-0 | |
| Penalties-yards | | |
| 5-40 | 3-20 | |

**Individual Statistics**

**Rushing-** Blanchet: Jirges 17-92, Justin Russell 10-43, Danny Welch 8-23, Nathen Torres 4-4.
Heppner: Kenny 24-144, Maben 10-120, Matt McCabe 9-21, Peck 4-14.
**Passing-** Blanchet: Torres 7-18-0 62 yards, Jirges 0-1-1 0 yards, Fabina Schleck 0-1-0 0.
Heppner: Peck 0-2-0 0.
**Receiving-** Blanchet: Welch 3-32, Cart Beyer 2-22, Jirges 1-14, Russell 1-(-6).
Heppner: None.



#75 Peter Geer makes an important tackle. photo by Whitney Matthews



#87 Rory Kilkenny crowds the Blanchet quarterback. photo by Whitney Matthews

## Morrow SWCD/ Weed Board meeting set

A regular meeting of the Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District and Weed Board is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 3 p.m. at the Boardman Fire Hall, 300 SW Wilson Rd., Boardman.

Agenda items include: manager/staff report, OACD update, building update, annual meeting agenda and agency reports.

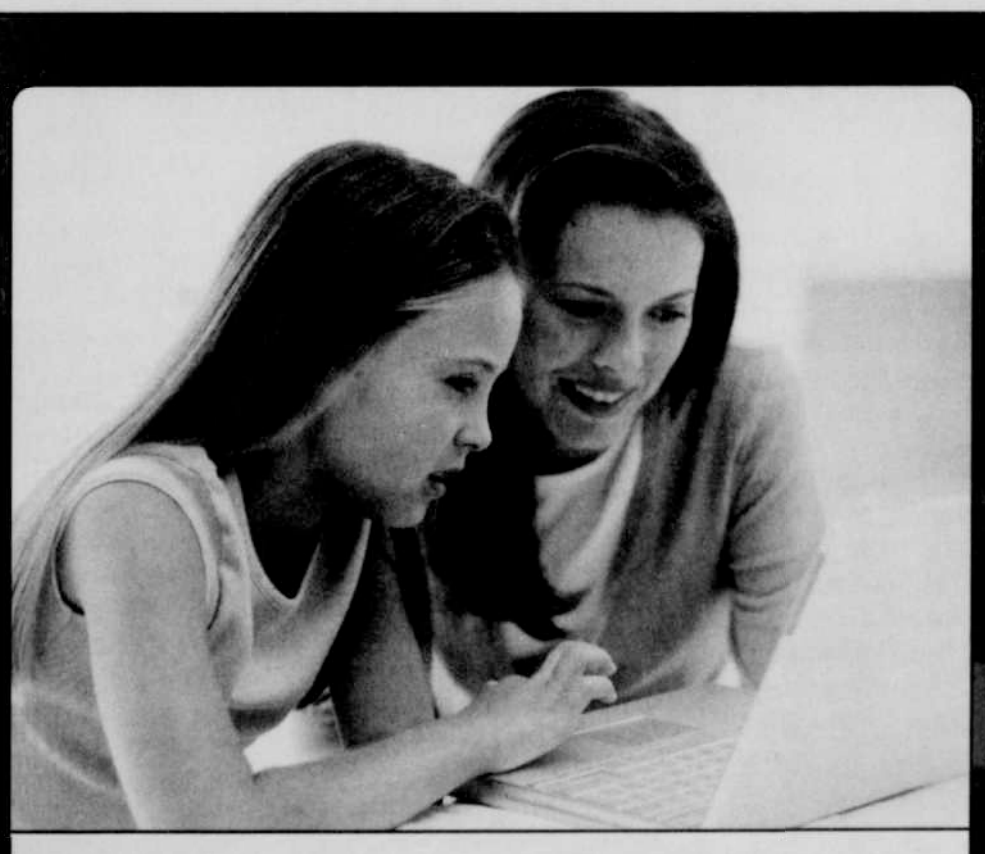
The public is welcome to attend.

## Student financial aid forms available locally

Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms (FAFSA) are available at the Oregon Trail Library in Heppner and the Ione City Library in Ione. Students or prospective students interested in receiving financial aid for college in the 2006/07 academic year are encouraged to submit financial aid information beginning January 1, 2006.

Students may submit a paper FAFSA via the mail or enter the information on the Internet. In the past, many applicants filled out the paper FAFSA and then attempted to transfer that information onto the Internet. It was discovered that the two processes did not complement each other very well. In response to that issue, a new form called the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet was created. Applicants submitting information electronically should benefit from organizing the information on the worksheet prior to electronic submission. These worksheets are also available at the libraries, while supplies last.

Additional information about financial aid is available on the Internet at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

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