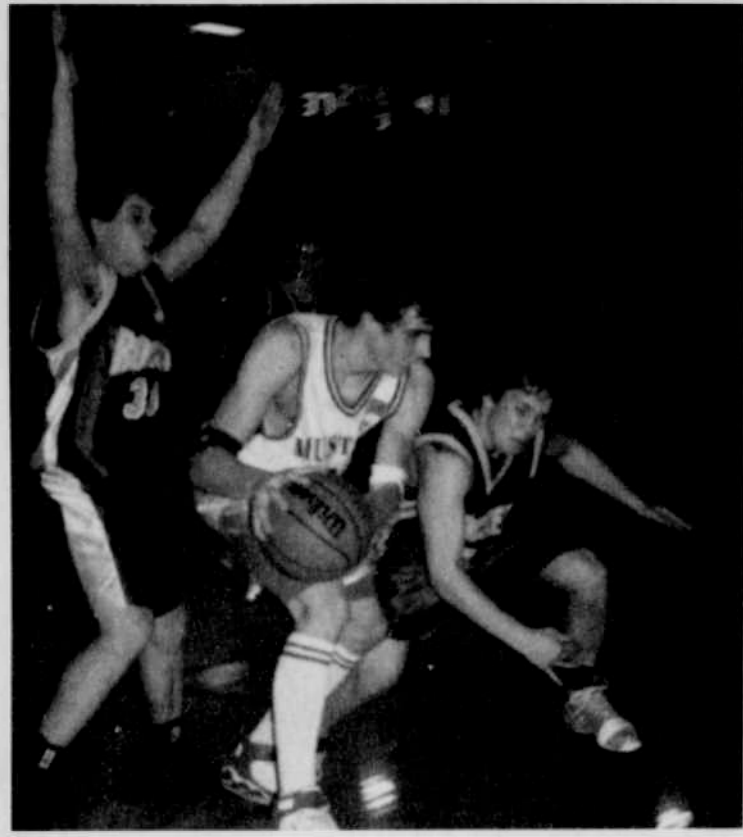


Mustang boys dropped by Rockets



Matt VanCleave takes control of the ball against the Rockets. Photo by Sandy Matthews.

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang varsity boys dropped a Columbia Basin Conference game to the visiting Pilot Rock Rockets 63-57 on Friday, Jan. 13 as they would fall behind, catch up only to fall behind again and could never get over the hump. The Mustangs dropped to 3 and 2 in the CBC and 5 and 4 overall with the loss.

The Rockets jumped out to a 12-6 lead after one, but got seven points, including a 3-pointer, from Lane Bailey, five points from Mikel Britt and four from Matt VanCleave to get within 25-24 at the half.

VanCleave had five points and Rory Kilkenny hit five of six free throws but the Rockets pushed their lead to 43-37 after three and VanCleave added 11 points in the fourth, but the Rockets held off the Mustangs to take the win.

Cardinals pull win from Knights

The Ione boys' varsity kept their league record perfect on the road against the Condon-Wheeler Knights on Saturday, Jan. 14, but it wasn't easy.

The Knights came out gunning for the Cardinals, outscoring them 11-3 in the first quarter. The Cardinals got their offense moving in the second, putting 21 points up and grabbing a slim 24-22 lead. The third quarter was played even with each team scoring 16 and the fourth showed a two-point advantage for Ione, giving them the final 55-51 margin.

Kelly Thompson was the game's high scorer with 22 points. Tyler Brown

VanCleave finished with 24 points, 12 rebounds and four steals, with Kilkenny adding 13 points and 12 rebounds. Britt had eight points and six rebounds and RJ Farrens had six assists.

Pilot Rock 63, Heppner 57
Pilot Rock 12 13 18 20-63
Heppner 6 18 13 20-57

Pilot Rock-Byrnes 11 2-12 24 Humphreys 6 4-6 17, Howard 2 2-2 6, Hoover 2 0-4 6, Doss 0 5-8 5, Norquist 2 0-0 5, Graham 0 0-2 0 and Murry. Team: 23 13-34 63. 3-pts: Hoover 2, Norquist and Humphreys.

Heppner- Matt VanCleave 11 2-2 24, Rory Kilkenny 3 7-10 13, Mikel Britt 3 2-5 8, Lane Bailey 3 0-0 7, RJ Farrens 1 0-2 3, Matt McCabe 1 0-0 2, Matt Kenny, Quinn Peck, Justin Delveaux and Nacho Elguezabal. Team: 20 11-19 57. 3-pts: none.

was the only other Cardinal in double figures with 14 points. Thompson also led the team with six assists and four steals while Brown was the leading rebounder with seven. The teams were very close in team rebounds, 22-21 in favor of Ione and in shooting percentages, 48 percent to 47 percent Ione.

"Condon gave us all we could handle," said Coach Dennis Stefani. "Their post game is strong but I felt that Dan Long did a good job when he came in on defense."

The win moved the Cardinals season record to 8-4 and their Big Sky Conference record to 3-0.

Mustang boys split over weekend

By Rick Paullus

After thrashing the visiting Umatilla Vikings 79-44 on Friday, Jan. 6, the Heppner Mustang varsity boys ended the weekend getting beat 61-41 at Sherman in Columbia Basin Conference play. The Mustangs, 3 and 1 in the CBC and 5-3 overall, will be at Weston-McEwen on Friday, Jan. 20 and back at home on Saturday against the Stanfield Tigers.

Matt Kenny and Matt VanCleave each had four points and RJ Farrens hit a 3-pointer as the Mustangs and Vikings were tied at 11-11 after one. Then Quinn Peck brought in nine points, including two 3-pointers, and Mikel Britt had six points as the Mustangs took a 34-22 lead at the half.

The Mustangs kept the pressure on in the third as Rory Kilkenny had seven points and Peck hit another three to increase the lead to 54-28 and Farrens had nine points, including another 3-pointer as they coasted to an easy win.

Peck finished with 17 points as four Mustangs scored in double figures and had five rebounds and three assists with Farrens scoring 16 points, getting five steals and four assists. Britt had 11 points and nine rebounds, Kenny had 10 points and six rebounds and Matt McCabe had seven rebounds. The Mustangs shot 29 of 56 for the game.

In Moro, VanCleave had six points in the first as the Mustangs took a 12-10 lead after one and had six more in the second, but the Huskies came back to take a 33-22 lead at the half.

VanCleave had eight points in the third as they narrowed the gap to 43-34, but the Huskies hit 13 of 17 free throws in the fourth to

pull away for the win. The Huskies hit 22 of 29 free throws for the game compared to the Mustangs three of 12.

VanCleave led the way with 22 points, eight rebounds and two steals with Britt adding seven points and four rebounds. Farrens had seven assists.

Heppner 79, Umatilla 44
Heppner 11 23 20 25-79
Umatilla 11 11 6 16-44

Heppner- Quinn Peck 6 2-4 17, RJ Farrens 5 4-4 16, Mikel Britt 5 1-2 11, Matt Kenny 5 0-0 10, Rory Kilkenny 2 3-3 7, Matt VanCleave 3 0-2 6, Nacho Elguezabal 2 0-0 4, Justin Delveaux 1 1-2 3, Lane Bailey 1 0-0 2, Nathan VanCleave 1 0-0 2, Matt McCabe 0 1-2 1. Team: 31 12-19 79. 3-pts: Peck 3 and Farrens 2.

Umatilla- Routson 5 1-7 11, Williams 5 0-0 10, Olvera 3 3-4 9, Creason 3 0-0 7, Russell 1 2-2 4, Murrillo 1 0-0 2, Navarro 0 1-2 1, White and Bow. Team: 18 7-15 44. 3-pts: Creason.

Sherman 61, Heppner 41
Heppner 12 10 12 7-41
Sherman 10 23 9 19-61

Heppner- M. VanCleave 11 0-1 22, Britt 3 1-5 7, Elguezabal 3 0-0 6, Bailey 1 0-2 2, Peck 0 2-2 2, Kenny 1 0-0 2, McCabe 0 0-2 0, Farrens, Delveaux, Kilkenny and Rauch. Team: 19 3-12 41. 3-pts: none.

Sherman- Moore 9 7-9 25, Wood 2 6-7 10, Ev. Kaseberg 4 0-1 9, Mobley 1 3-4 5, El. Kaseberg 1 3-5 5, Walker 2 0-0 4, Quintero 0 2-4 2 and King 0 1-3 1. Team: 19 22-29 61. 3-pts: Ev. Kaseberg.

Ione JV boys take win at Nixyaawii

The Ione boys' JV team overcame some ball-handling difficulties to take a win on the road against Nixyaawii on Jan. 10.

The game was close in the early going, with Ione taking a slim 19-15 lead after one quarter. The game began to swing the Cardinals' way in the second, as Ione outscored Nix 16-8 for a 35-23 halftime lead. The Cards outscored their opponent 18-9 in the third before coasting home to a 65-51 victory.

Dan Long and Clay Morter led the Cardinals in scoring with 16 points each. Also scoring for Ione was Kevin Fowler with 11 points, William Bergstrom and Justin Archer with seven each, Derek Davidson with six and William Wehrli with two points.

Ione had a fine effort on the boards out rebounding the Golden Eagles 39-23. Cory Peterson led the way with eight rebounds, followed by Long, Fowler and Morter with seven each. Archer had five steals and Davidson had five

assists to lead the team.

Coach Jim Swanson was concerned with the high number of turnovers committed by the team but was pleased to come out with the win in spite of that situation. "Nixyaawii is a very tough place to play. They can shoot the lights out but we were able to keep them from getting into any rhythm," said Swanson. He noted that Long had a good effort, especially playing just two quarters and complimented the full court pressure applied by Davidson and Archer.

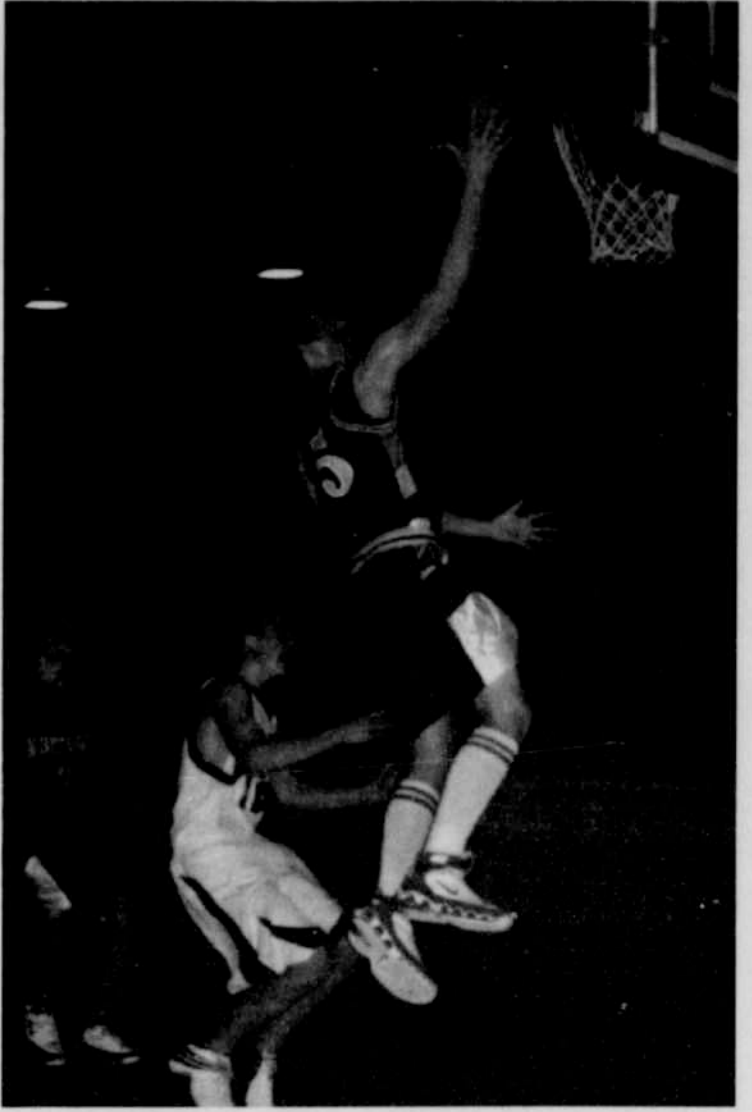
Births

Brayden James Locey- a son, Brayden James, was born Jan. 6, 2006 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Tiffany and Dan Locey of Irrigon.

Magnetic Door Signs HERE

Heppner Gazette-Times 676-9228

Mustang boys win at Culver



Lead rebounder of the game Rory Kilkenny makes a shot against the Culver Bulldogs. Photo by Sandy Matthews.

By Rick Paullus

A 40-25 advantage in the second and third quarter carried the Heppner Mustang varsity boys to a 63-51 win at Culver on Saturday, Jan. 14 in Columbia Basin Conference play. The Mustangs, 4 and 2 in the CBC and 6 and 4 overall, will be at Weston-McEwen on Friday, Jan. 20 and will be back at home on Saturday against the Stanfield Tigers in CBC play.

The Bulldogs took a 13-9 lead after one, but the Mustangs got six points, including a 3-pointer, from RJ Farrens and five points from Mikel Britt to take a 28-25 lead at the half.

Matt VanCleave had 12 points and Peck five, including another three, as the Mustangs increased their lead to 51-38 after three and got six points from Rory Kilkenny and four from

Justin Delveaux as they held on for the win.

VanCleave led a balanced scoring attack with 14 points and 13 rebounds, with Kilkenny adding 13 points and 18 rebounds. Farrens had 10 points and six assists and Peck had nine points. The Mustangs hit on 26 of 45 shots for the game.

Heppner 63, Culver 51
Heppner 9 17 23 12-63
Culver 13 12 13 13-51

Heppner- Matt VanCleave 6 2-3 14, Rory Kilkenny 6 1-2 13, RJ Farrens 3 2-3 10, Quinn Peck 4 1-2 9, Matt McCabe 3 0-0 6, Mikel Britt 2 1-1 5, Justin Delveaux 2 0-0 4, Matt Kenny, Lane Bailey and Nacho Elguezabal. Team: 26 7-11 63. 3-pts: Farrens 2 and Peck 2.

Ione JVs take win over Condon-Wheeler

The Ione boys' JV team recorded the biggest win of the day at Condon on Saturday, Jan. 14, downing a tenacious Condon-Wheeler squad 61-50.

The Cardinals jumped out to an early lead with a score of 11-4 at the end of the first quarter and kept it going throughout the second and third period. After three quarters, Ione led 48-22. However, Condon was not done for the day as their outside shooters came alive, scoring 28 points in the final quarter. The Cards were able to hang on though for the hard fought win.

Dan Long, playing just two quarters, led the team in scoring with 16 points. Also in double figures for Ione were Clay Morter with 12 points and Derek Davidson with 10. Morter paced the team with eight rebounds and two assists, while Justin Archer had two steals. The tall Condon-Wheeler team out

rebounded the Cards 30-26. "Condon-Wheeler is the best 1A team we have played so far," said Coach Jim Swanson. "We had a 26-point lead that our second unit let slip a little but they played with a lot of energy."

Swanson also noted that a highlight of the game was a three-pointer swished in by exchange student Michael Mayer early in the second quarter. Mayer, who had never played basketball before attending Ione, found his way into the scoreboard for the first time this season. "Mike is always there, working hard at practice and in the games. He is a real joy to have on the team," said Swanson.

Elks announce annual local hoop shoot

The Elk's Lodge #358 will hold their annual local Hoop Shoot for kids 8-13 (as of April 1, 2006) on Sunday, Jan. 22 at the Ione Community School gym. It is a free event that kids can do year after year. The kids will compete in the following divisions: 8-9 girls, 8-9 boys, 10-11 girls, 10-11 boys, 12-13 girls and 12-13 boys. The top two free throw shooters from each division will receive a trophy. The top shooter from each division will go to the District Hoop Shoot in Hermiston on Sunday, Feb. 4. If you have questions please call Marc Orem at 376-5048.



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