

Mustang JV boys get off to fast start

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang JV boys have gotten off to a fast start as they are 6 and 1 so far in the 2006-07 season under coach Ken Grieb. The Mustangs will open the new year at Enterprise and Elgin on Friday, Jan. 5-6, and will be at home on Tuesday, Jan. 9, to face the Mac-Hi Pioneers in a make-up game.

The Mustangs opened the season on the road at Boardman and took a 42-32 win over the pirates on Dec. 5. They trailed after one, but came back to take a 21-18 lead at the half. They outscored the Pirates, 16-6, in the third quarter and carried that lead through the fourth to take the win.

Jordan Hatfield led the Mustangs with nine points, while Bryan Holland added five points.

Heppner 4 13 16 9 - 42
Riverside 6 6 6 14-32
Heppner: Jordan Hatfield 3 3-9 9, Bryan Holland 1 3-6 5, Joe Pranger 2 0-0 4, Brent Eckman 1 1-3 4, Daulton Wellman 1 1-2 4, Chris Lien 2 0-0 4, Jason Houweling 2 0-3 4, Braden Britt 1 1-2 3, Sam King 1 1-4 3, Sean Murray 1 0-0 2, Grant Smith, Tim Hauer. 15 10-29 42. Three-pointers: Eckman, Wellman.

Riverside: Martinez 3 1-2 8, Estralla 3 0-1 6, Hendrick 2 1-2 5, Armstrong 1 2-2 4, Van Gorder 2 0-0 4, Fisher 1 1-2 3, Kauffman 0 2-2 2. 12 7-11 32. Three-pointers: Martinez.

The Mustangs then suffered their only loss of the year so far at Pilot Rock on Dec. 15 by a score of 33-29. The Mustangs trailed 20-10 at the half, and got to within five points after three quarters, but couldn't overtake the Rockets and lost.

Wellman hit two three-pointers and finished with eight points, with Holland adding seven points.

Heppner 7 3 7 12 - 29
Pilot Rock 12 8 2 11 - 33
Heppner: Wellman 3 0-0 8, Holland 3 0-0 7, King 1 2-2 4, Eckman 1 0-0 3, Murray 1 0-2 3, Hatfield 1 0-0 2, Hauer 1 0-0 2, Pranger, Smith, Lien, Houweling, Britt. 11 2-4 29. Three-pointers: Wellman 2, Eckman, Holland, Murray.

Pilot Rock: Mitchell 3 0-1 6, Hulce 3 2-2 8, Snodgrass 1 3-7 5, Servi 2 0-0 4, Byrnes 1 2-4 4, Grosjacques 1 0-4 2, Norquist 0 2-2 2, Lazinka 1 0-1 2. 12 9-21 33. Three-pointers: none.

The Mustangs returned home on Dec. 16 and got back on the winning track by beating the Union Bobcats, 48-30. Wellman and Lien each hit three-pointers in the first quarter as they took an 8-7 lead at the half. King had eight points and Britt, four, in the third quarter as the Mustangs increased their lead to 36-19. King and Holland each had four points in the fourth as they coasted to the win.

King led the Mus-

tangs with 14 points, with Britt adding seven points, and Holland, six.

Union 7 6 8 9 - 30
Heppner 8 13 15 12 - 48
Union: Stout 4 2-4 11, Brian Savely 3 4-8 10, Smith 2 0-2 5, Brad Savely 2 0-2 4, 9 5-16 30. Three-pointers: Stout, Smith.

Heppner: King 6 2-2 14, Britt 3 1-2 7, Holland 3 0-0 6, Hatfield 2 0-0 4, Lien 1 0-0 3, Wellman 1 2-4 5, Pranger 0 2-2 2, Smith 0 2-2 2, Eckman 1 0-0 2, Hauer 1 0-0 2, Murray 0 1-4 1, Houweling. 18 10-16 48. Three-pointers: Wellman, Lien.

On Dec. 19, The Mustangs were at home against the Grant Union Prospectors and took a close 51-48 win. The Mustangs trailed 13-12 after one, but came back to take a 26-19 lead at the half, getting four points from Wellman and a three-pointer from Houweling. The Prospectors came back to tie it at 37-37 after three, despite six points from King, but the Mustangs took the win, getting five points each from Holland and Britt.

King and Britt each had 11 points to lead the Mustangs, with Holland adding nine, Wellman, eight, and Hatfield, seven.

Grant Union 13 6 18 11 - 48
Heppner 12 14 11 14 - 51
Grant Union: Born 5 3-4 15, Rath 5 0-0 14, Webb 5 3-8 15, Swift 1 0-0 2, Willy 1 0-0 2, Combs 1 0-0 2. 18 6-12 48. Three-pointers: Rath 4, Born 2.
Heppner: King 4 3-7 11, Britt 4 3-10 11, Holland 3 3-5 9, Wellman 2 4-8 8, Hatfield 3 1-2 7, Houweling 1 0-0 3, Hauer 1 0-3 2, Pranger, Smith, Eckman, Lien, Murray. 18 14-35 51. Three-pointers: Houweling.

The Mustangs traveled to Condon on Dec. 22 to take on the Condon-Wheeler Knights and came back in the fourth quarter to take a 54-50 win. The Mustangs fell behind 18-6 after one, but got six points from Wellman and four from Holland to get within 28-22 at the half. They still trailed 38-32 after three, but got seven points from Wellman and five from Holland to rally for the win.

Wellman led the way with 16 points, with Holland adding 11 points and Lien, nine.

Heppner 6 16 10 22 - 54
Condon 18 10 10 12 - 50
Heppner: Wellman 7 2-3 16, Holland 3 5-6 11, Lien 3 3-6 9, Eckman 1 2-2 5, Hauer 2 0-3 4, Hatfield 1 1-2 3, Murray 1 0-0 3, Britt 0 2-6 2, Houweling 0 0-1 0, Smith. 18 15-29 54. Three-pointers: Eckman, Murray.
Condon-Wheeler: McInnis 5 4-7 17, Conlee 4 0-1 8, Josey 3

0-0 6, Phillips 2 2-3 6, Stevens 1 2-2 4, Jogen 2 0-0 4, Fatland 1 0-0 2, Hanking 1 0-0 2, Thompson 0 1-2 1. 19 9-15 50. Three-pointers: McInnis 3.

The Mustangs traveled to Hermiston for two games on Dec. 27 and Dec. 28, the first against Weston-McEwen which they won, 58-26. After an even first quarter, the Mustangs outscored them 15-0 in the second, taking a 25-10 lead at the half. Hatfield had five points and Britt, four, in the third as they increased their lead to 40-18 after three, then got six points from Holland and five from Eckman in the fourth as they coasted to the easy win.

Holland led a balanced scoring effort with 10 points, with Hatfield adding nine points. Eckman, Hauer and Britt each added seven.

Weston-McEwen 10 0 8 8 - 26
Heppner 10 15 15 18 - 58
Weston-McEwen: Leon 13 0-2 15, Hearn 1 0-0 3, Carn 1 0-0 3, Batterton 1 0-2 2, Riddle 1 0-0 2, Penalzoa 0 1-2 1. 11 1-6 26. Three-pointers: Leon, Hearn, Carn.

Heppner: Holland 5 0-0 10, Hatfield 4 1-2 9, Eckman 3 1-1 7, Hauer 3 1-4 7, Britt 3 1-6 7, Murray 3 0-1 6, Lien 3 0-0 6, Wellman 2 0-0 4, Houweling 1 0-0 2, Smith 0 0-2 0, Pranger. 27 4-16 58. Three-pointers: none.

The Mustangs came back the next day, built a big halftime lead and carried it through the second half for a 68-56 win over the Umatilla Vikings. Eckman had five points and Murray and Britt each had four points as the Mustangs took a 19-13 lead after one. The lead was extended to 34-20 at the half. Murray had five points in the third and Eckman and Britt each had four points in the fourth as they held their lead to take the win.

Eckman led the way with 15 points, with Britt adding 13 points. Murray was also in double figures, with 10 points.

Heppner 19 15 16 18 - 68
Umatilla 13 7 18 18 - 56
Heppner: Eckman 5 3-6 15, Britt 6 1-1 13, Murray 3 2-4 10, Houweling 3 0-0 7, Lien 3 0-0 6, Hauer 3 0-0 6, Wellman 1 3-6 5, Hatfield 1 2-3 4, Pranger 1 0-0 2, Smith, Holland. 26 11-20 68. Three-pointers: Eckman 2, Murray 2, Houweling.
Umatilla: Campos 7 3-4 18, Punkey 4 0-0 11, Phillips 3 0-0 9, Anderson 4 0-4 8, Bedolla 1 0-0 2, Aparillo 1 0-2 2, Ramirez 1 0-0 2, Borden 1 0-2 2, Roxbury 1 0-0 2, 23 3-12 56. Three-pointers: Phillips 3, Punkey 3, Campos.

Mustangs host South Morrow tourney Mustang boys split conference openers

By Rick Paullus

After a disappointing loss in their opening game of the South Morrow County basketball tournament to the Umatilla Vikings, the Heppner Mustang girls rebounded with a double overtime, 54-51 win over the number-four-ranked 3A Rainier Columbians. The tournament was held on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 29-30, in Heppner. The Mustangs, 7-2 overall, now return to Blue Mountain Conference play, traveling to Enterprise and Elgin on Jan. 5-6, then have a non-league make-up game with Mac-Hi on Tuesday, Jan. 9.

The Mustangs tried to stay with the hot-shooting Vikings on Friday night as Regi Seitz had five points, while Megan Orr and Aftan Betsinger each had four points. Umatilla held a 17-15 lead after one.

The Vikings went on an 11-4 run to open the second before Lyndi Patton and Seitz each made two free throws, then Amber Patton hit two more to close out the quarter and cut the lead to 32-25 at the half.

Seitz hit a long jumper to make it 34-28, then Kylie Doherty and Taylor Kempas scored inside to make it 37-32, but the Vikings still led 39-32 after three.

Seitz completed a three-point play to open the fourth, then Betsinger scored off a rebound to cut the lead to 43-39. The Vikings wouldn't stumble as they scored six straight before Orr scored off a rebound. The Mustangs could come no closer than seven points the rest of the way as the Vikings held on for the win.

Seitz led the way with 12 points, with Orr adding nine points, seven steals, six rebounds and two assists. Betsinger had seven points and 12 rebounds. Amber Patton had five rebounds and two steals. Sarah Price had six rebounds and Lyndi Patton had two assists and two steals.

Orr scored all of the Mustangs' points in the first quarter as they took a 10-8 lead over Rainier on Saturday, the Seitz had five points in the second as the Mustangs clung to a 20-19 lead at the half.

The Mustangs built a 29-24 lead in the third, getting six straight points from Amber Patton, Orr and Price, but the Columbians came back to take a 30-29 lead at the third quarter buzzer.

Lyndi Patton hit a three-pointer and Orr scored off a rebound to open the fourth. Katie Kilkenny scored off a rebound to make it 36-31 but Rainier came back to tie it up with 2:06 left. The Mustangs clung to a one point lead with Rainer shooting three free throws with :10.6 left. They hit just one and the teams headed for overtime.

The Columbians hit a three-pointer to open the extra period. Seitz hit one of her own to tie it again. The Mustangs again clung to a one point lead with the Columbians shooting three free throws with :08.3 left. Again they hit just one to tie it up and send it to a second overtime.

Kilkenny and Seitz scored inside to open the second extra period and after a Rainier basket, Orr hit two free throws. After two free throws by the Columbians, Kilkenny scored and Lyndi Patton hit one of two free throws with 1:10 left to make it 52-47. After two Rainier free throws, Lyndi Patton hit two more with :24.8 left to seal the win.

Orr finished with 19 points, 12 rebounds, six steals and five assists. Seitz added 10 points, eight rebounds and two steals. Lyndi Patton had eight points, five rebounds and four assists. Kilkenny had seven points, five rebounds and two assists.

Game One:
Umatilla 17 15 7 14 - 53
Heppner 15 10 7 13 - 45
Umatilla: Borden 6 2-4 15, Campos 4 4-8 12, Phillips 3 2-5 8, Vandever 3 0-3 7, Bieven 2 1-2 5, Lindquist 2 0-2 4, Hodges 1 0-0 2. 21 9-21 53. Three-pointers: Vandever, Borden.
Heppner: Regi Seitz 4 3-5 12, Megan Orr 4 1-4 9, Aftan Betsinger 3 1-4 7, Amber Patton 1 3-4 5, Kylie Doherty 2 1-2 5, Lyndi Patton 1 2-4 4, Taylor Kempas 1 1-2 3, Sarah Price 0 0-2 0, Sheryllyn Peck, Katie Kilkenny. 16 12-27 45. Three-pointers: Seitz.

Game Two:
Rainier 8 11 11 7 6 8 - 51
Heppner 10 10 9 8 6 11 - 54
Rainier: Jackson 5 5-7 15, Schwegler 7 2-5 17, Hanks 3 0-0 6, Getzlaff 2 0-2 4, Benson 0 2-2 2, Naguast 1 0-0 2, Wright 1 0-0 2. 19 9-16 51. Three-pointers: Jackson 3, Schwegler.
Heppner: Orr 5 7-12 19, Seitz 3 3-5 10, L. Patton 2 3-4 8, Kilkenny 3 1-2 7, Betsinger 2 0-4 4, A. Patton 1 1-3 3, Price 1 0-2 2, Peck 0 1-2 1, Kempas, Doherty. 17 16-32 54. Three-pointers: Orr 2, L. Patton, Seitz.

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