

Heppner Mustang girls take district title



Heppner High School girls' basketball team, Blue Mountain Conference winners.

Photo by Sandi Matthews

By Rick Paullus

After falling behind by 10 points in the first quarter, the Heppner Mustang girls shook off a sloppy first half to beat the Union Bobcats, 50-44, to win the Blue Mountain Conference District championship held at the Pendleton Convention Center on Saturday, Feb. 17. The Mustangs, now 20 and three on the year, earned the number-one seed from the BMC into the Les Schwab / US Bank OSAA Class 2A state tournament.

The Mustangs will be at home for the first round against the Central Linn Cobras, the number-three seed from the Mountain View League, on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. The winner will advance to the quarterfinals at the Pendleton Convention Center.

The Mustangs, who shot only 11 percent from the field in the first half, could manage just two free throws from Katie Kilkenny, as the Bobcats took a 12-2 lead in the first quarter. Regi Seitz hit two free throws and a three-pointer as they closed the gap to 12-7 at the end of one.

The Mustangs finally took the lead midway through the second as Taylor Kempas hit two free throws, Seitz hit two more, Sherilyn Peck hit one of two and Sarah Price hit a running jumper to make it 14-13. The Bobcats came back to hit two of seven free throws and regain the lead. Lyndi Patton then came up with a steal and lay-in to give the Mustangs a 16-15 lead at the half.

The third quarter was like a track meet compared to the first half as both teams came out hot and traded baskets for most of the quarter. Aftan Betsinger and

Kilkenny scored inside, Seitz hit two more free throws and hit a short jumper, Lyndi Patton scored off a pass from Betsinger and hit a long jumper and Amber Patton hit one of two free throws to make it 29-25. The Bobcats scored five straight, but Amber Patton scored off a rebound to give the Mustangs a 31-30 lead going into the fourth.

Kilkenny hit one of two free throws and Price hit three of four to open the fourth, but the Bobcats came back to tie it at 35-35. Megan Orr fed Kilkenny twice for lay-ins and Betsinger hit two free throws to make it 41-38, but a Bobcat three-pointer tied it up again. Kilkenny scored off a rebound and Lyndi Patton hit one of two free throws to make it 44-41. Betsinger then hit two more free throws to make it 46-42 with 1:07 left. Orr scored off a drive 20 seconds later and, after a Bobcat basket with :18 left, Seitz hit two free throws with less than a second left to seal the win.

Seitz led the Mustangs with 11 points, eight rebounds, two steals and two blocked shots, with Kilkenny adding 11 points and three rebounds. Betsinger had eight points, 13 rebounds, two assists and two blocked shots. Lyndi Patton had seven points, seven rebounds and four steals. Orr had eight rebounds and three assists. Price had seven rebounds.

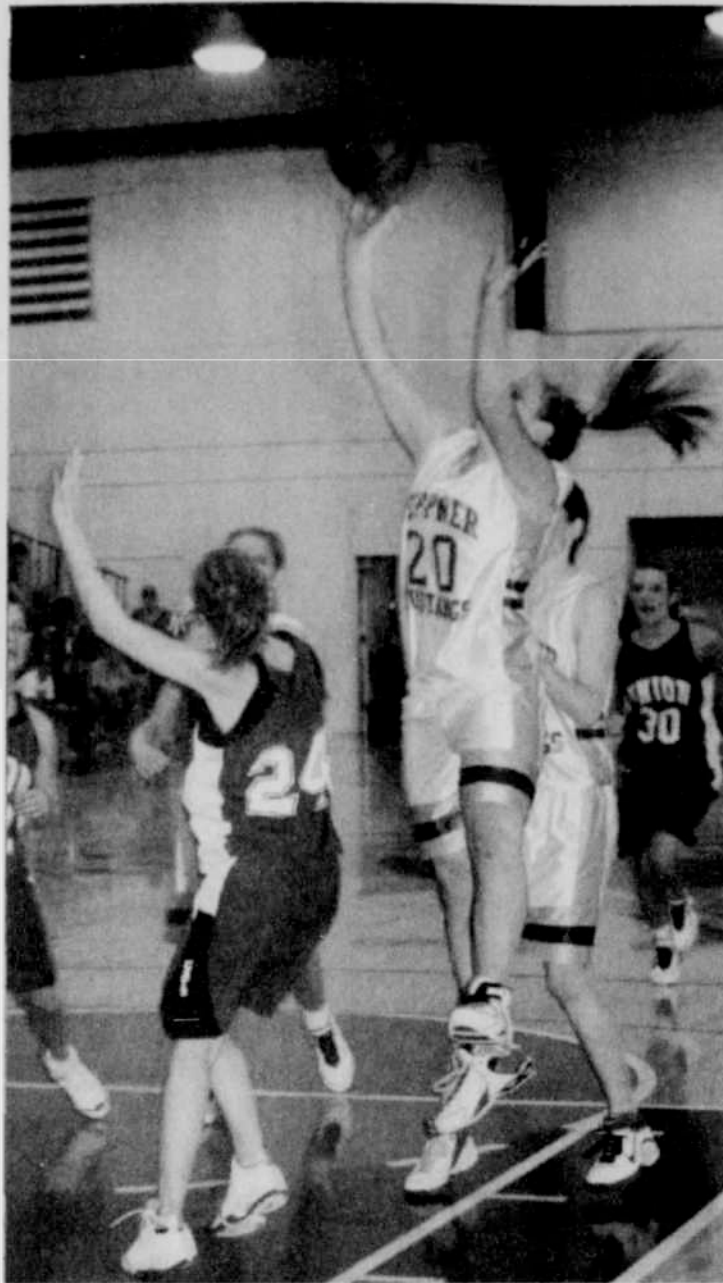
The Mustangs out-rebounded the Bobcats, 58 to 46, for the game.

At the conclusion of the game, it was announced that senior Regi Seitz and junior Megan Orr were named to the BMC first team, juniors Aftan Betsinger and Katie Kilkenny were

named to the second team, and seniors Lyndi Patton and Sarah Price were honorable mention.

Statistics

Union 12 3 15 14 - 14
 Heppner 7 9 15 19 - 50
 Union: Walker 4 4-9 13, Reynolds 4 1-2 9, Stratton 3 2-5 9, Bunkers 1 1-2 4, Bauer 2 0-0 4, Longwell 0 3-6 3, Williams 1 0-2 2, Anderson, A. Courtney, K. Courtney. 15-58 11-26 44. Three-pointers: Bunkers, Stratton, Walker.
 Heppner: Regi Seitz 2 6-6 13, Katie Kilkenny 4 3-6 11, Aftan Betsinger 2 4-5 8, Lyndi Patton 3 1-4 7, Sarah Price 1 3-6 5, Megan Orr 1 0-3 2, Sherilyn Peck 0 1-2 1, Amber Patton 0 1-2 1, Taylor Kempas 0 2-2 2, Kylie Doherty, 13-54 23-38 50. Three-pointer: Seitz.



First Team All-Star Regi Seitz make a shot to keep the Mustangs in front. The Mustang beat the Union Bobcats to win the League Championship 50-44.

Photo by Sandi Matthews



Heppner High School girls' team, league winners.

Photo by Sandi Matthews

Heppner basketball players named to all-conference



All conference players (left to right): Regi Seitz, RJ Farrens, Lane Bailey, Nacho Elguezabal, Megan Orr, Aftan Betsinger, Katie Kilkenny, Amber Patton, Sarah Price. Photo by Sandi Matthews

Heppner High School senior Regi Seitz and junior Megan Orr were named to the Blue Mountain Conference girls' first team and junior Ignacio 'Nacho' Elguezabal was named to the boys' first team.

Juniors Aftan Betsinger and Katie Kilkenny were named to the girls' second team. Seniors Lyndi Patton, Sarah Price and RJ Farrens and junior Lane Bailey received honorable mention.

Mustangs win Sportsmanship award



The Heppner Mustang Boys and Girls won the All-Conference Sportsman Ship award for the 2007-year. Photo by Sandi Matthews

Cruz-In to kick off St. Patrick's parades

The seventh annual St. Paddy's Cruz-In will take place Saturday, March 17, as part of the 25th annual St. Patrick's celebration in Heppner.

Vehicle enthusiasts will assemble at the north-west entrance to Heppner (former Kinzua Mill site) on Highway 74/207 from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The Cruz-In parade into Heppner will begin at noon.

Entrants are encouraged to arrive by 10:30 a.m. so the parade announce will have time to gather parade information on vehicles and owners. After the parade, the vehicles will be displayed on both sides of Willow Street for viewing.

Dash plaques will be given to those who register. Forms can be found on the website at www.heppnerchamber.com or by calling 541-676-5536, or by mail to P.O. Box 1232, Heppner, OR 97836. Registration before March 13 will be \$10 and on-site registration will be \$15.

Plaques will be awarded for Leprechaun's Choice, Judge's Choice, and the Mustang Award, which is sponsored by the Heppner High School student boy.

The 25th annual Great Green Parade will begin at 1 p.m. on March 17.

Library District has new travel books

The Oregon Trail Library District has recently purchased many new travel books that have information about sightseeing, hotels, and restaurants.

For travel to far away, exotic locations, try New Zealand, France, Italy and Ireland. If you were thinking of staying closer to home, there are books about Colorado, Idaho, Vancouver and British Columbia or even Florida.

Just taking a road trip? Maybe the Roadside Geology of Oregon or Washington would be a good book to take along. There are even travel e-books available to read online at home.

If you prefer armchair travel, there are also many titles available. One such title is "Honeymoon with my Brother" by Franz Wisner. In this true story, Franz Wisner is jilted by his fiancée and then demoted at work. In spite of this, he decides to go on his honeymoon to Costa Rica and take his brother Kurt with him - a honeymoon without a bride.

After their adventurous trip to Costa Rica, they quit their jobs, sell their houses and belongings and travel the world for two years. In all, they visit 53 countries. There are letters to their grandma, which she shares with the others in the assisted living facility. The trip is charted with pins on a map in her room.

After this extensive travel, the author recommends, "throw the guidebooks out and just talk to the locals."

You decide. Either way, all you need is your library card.

Men's Citizen Watch



Water Resistant
 Mineral Crystal

