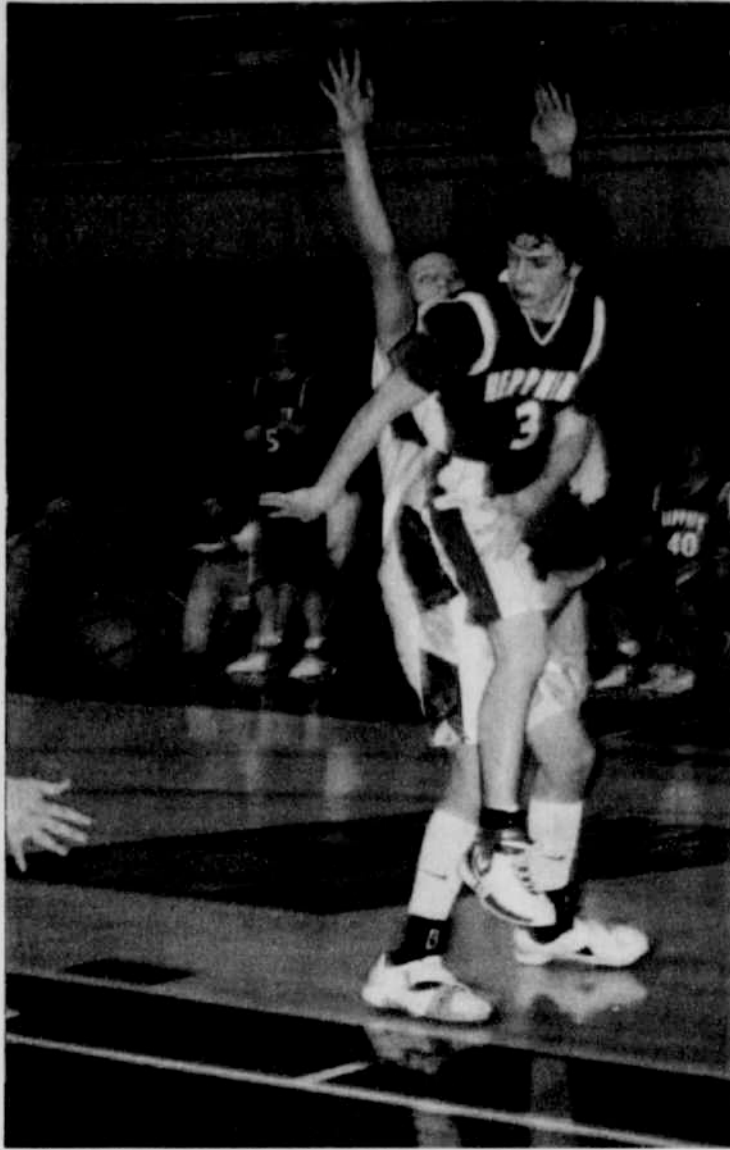


Mustang boys rebound to take third seed



R. J. Farrens completes a pass for the Mustangs during the Friday night game against Pilot Rock. The Heppner Mustangs had a poor second quarter putting them behind and unable to come back for the win.

Photo by Sandi Matthews

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang boys hit almost 54 percent from the field to beat the Weston-McEwen Tigerscots, 66-54, on Saturday, Feb. 17, in the Blue Mountain Conference District tournament to earn the number-three seed in the Les Schwab / US Bank OSAA Class 2A State tournament. The Mustangs, now 14 and 10 on the year, lost a hard-fought game on Friday, Feb. 16, to the Pilot Rock Rockets, 68-60, in the first round as they cut a 22-point deficit to three points, but couldn't quite finish the comeback.

By earning the third seed, the Mustangs will travel to the number-one seed from the Northwest League, the Knappa Loggers. The game will be played Friday evening, Feb. 23, in Knappa.

Friday's first quarter started out well for the Mustangs as Lane Bailey scored off a Matt McCabe steal, then hit a jumper. Nacho Elguezabal hit a short baseline jumper and McCabe hit a

three-pointer to make it 9-3. The Rockets came back to tie it before Elguezabal scored off a pass from R.J. Farrens to give the Mustangs an 11-9 lead after one.

The Rockets scored the first five points of the second quarter before Farrens hit two straight long three-pointers to make it 17-14. After Andre Rauch hit one of two free throws to make it 18-16, the Mustangs were blanked the rest of the quarter.

The Rockets eventually led 30-18 at the half and 38-18 before Elguezabal broke the scoring drought by hitting a turnaround jumper, but the Rockets pushed the lead to 42-20. Rauch converted a three-point play, Bailey and Farrens hit three-pointers and Bailey hit one of two free throws to cut the lead to 44-30. Farrens scored off a rebound but the Rockets still led 48-32 after three.

The teams traded baskets through the early part of the fourth as Bailey scored off a drive, and Elgu-

ezabal scored eight straight to make it 56-42. Farrens fed Jared Huddleston and Elguezabal for lay-ins, then scored off a pass from McCabe to cut the lead to 57-48 with 2:50 left. After a Rocket basket, Huddleston scored off a rebound, McCabe scored off a drive and Huddleston hit a three-pointer to cut the lead to 59-55 with 1:41 left. After a Pilot Rock free throw, Elguezabal hit two free throws with 1:02 left to make it 60-57. The Rockets hit six of eight free throws in the next 30 seconds to pull away and a Huddleston three-pointer at the end wasn't enough.

Elguezabal hit seven of eight shots and finished with 18 points, nine rebounds and two steals with Farrens adding 13 points, eight assists, four rebounds and two steals. Bailey had 10 points, two assists and two steals, and Huddleston was also in double figures with

with a three-pointer. Rauch scored twice on passes from Bailey and once on a pass from Farrens. Elguezabal scored on a pass from Huddleston, but the Tigerscots came back to tie it at the end of one at 15-15. The tying shot came from about 60 feet away at the buzzer.

The teams traded baskets to open the second as Elguezabal scored inside and McCabe scored off a drive. The Mustangs then went on a 14-0 run as Aaron Allstott scored off a pass from Elguezabal, Huddleston hit a three-pointer, then converted a three-point play, Bailey scored off a drive, Elguezabal scored off a pass from Brendan McElligott and McCabe scored inside to make it 33-21. The Mustangs eventually took a 35-25 lead at the half as Elguezabal scored off a rebound to end the second quarter.

Bailey hit two three-



Justin Delveaux and Nacho Elguezabal jump for a rebound during the Saturday District game against Weston-McEwen. Andre Rauch led the Mustangs with 17 points helping the Mustangs beat the TigerScots 66-54.

Photo by Sandi Matthews

10 points and two assists. McCabe had five steals and four assists while Rauch had seven rebounds.

The Mustangs were hurt at the free throw line as they hit only seven of 13, while the Rockets hit 27 of 42.

On Saturday against the Tigerscots, Farrens fed Rauch for a lay-in and McCabe scored off a steal to open the game for the Mustangs. Weston-McEwen came back to take the lead, but McCabe tied it at 7-7

pointers and Rauch had five points to help the Mustangs take a 46-30 lead midway through the third and Rauch hit a running jumper to make it 48-33. However, the Tigerscots went on a 10-0 run to end the third and get to within 48-43.

Two Tigerscot free throws to open the fourth cut the lead to three, but Elguezabal scored twice and Rauch hit a hook shot to make it 54-47. The Mustangs then put the game away as Elguezabal scored

twice, McCabe scored off a drive, Justin Delveaux scored inside and Farrens scored off a drive to make it 64-48. Farrens wrapped up the scoring for the Mustangs on a nice drive and reverse lay-in.

Rauch led the Mustangs in double figures by hitting eight of 11 shots, good for 17 points, and grabbed seven rebounds. Elguezabal had 16 points, nine rebounds and two blocked shots, with McCabe adding 11 points, on five of seven shooting, and three steals. Bailey had eight points and four assists. Farrens had five assists and three steals. Delveaux had two steals.

After the championship game; it was announced that junior Nacho Elguezabal was named to the BMC first team and senior R.J. Farrens and junior Lane Bailey were named honorable mention.

Statistics

Game One
Heppner 11 7 14 28 - 60
Pilot Rock 9 21 18 20 - 68
Heppner: Nacho Elguezabal 7 4-6 18, R.J. Farrens 5 0-1 13, Lane Bailey 4 1-2 10, Jared Huddleston 4 0-0 10, Matt McCabe 2 0-1 5, Andre Rauch 1 2-3 4, Justin Delveaux, Aaron Allstott, Tony Haguewood, Sam King. 23-56 7-13 60. Three-pointers: Farrens (3), Huddleston (2), McCabe, Bailey.
Pilot Rock: Doss 5 8-14 18, King 3 9-12 15, Bronson 4 0-0 8, Graham 3 2-4 8, Bandy 1 4-6 6, Low 2 2-4 6, Humphreys 2 0-0 5, Woods 0 2-2 2, Mitchell. 20-40 27-42 68. Three-pointer: Humphrey.
Game Two
Weston-McEwen 15 10 18 11 - 54
Heppner 15 20 13 18 - 66
Weston-McEwen: Eastwood 6 3-4 15, Webb 3 1-2 8, Lindell 4 5-8, Giger 2 1-2 5, Duke 2 1-1 5, Jackson 2 0-0 4, Broncheau 1 0-0 3, Aldrich 1 0-0 2, Nelson 1 0-0 2, Alford 1 0-0 2, Schroeder, Huntsman. 21-53 10-14 54. Three-pointers: Webb, Broncheau.
Heppner: Rauch 8 1-1 17, Elguezabal 8 0-0 16, McCabe 5 0-0 11, Bailey 3 0-0 8, Huddleston 2 1-1 6, Farrens 2 0-0 4, Delveaux 1 0-0 2, Allstott 1 0-0 2, Brendan McElligott, Haguewood, King, Dalton Wellman. 30-56 2-4 66. Three-pointers: Bailey (2), McCabe, Huddleston.

Eleventh grade: Luke Basile 4.0, Latosha Bowles 4.0, Baillie Keithley 4.0, Whitney Mathews 4.0, Sean Murray 4.0, Kelsey Wolff 4.0, Kendra Rayburn, Ignacio Elguezabal, Katie Kilkenny, Keshia Richmond, Kelsie Fox, Taylor Kempas, Jason Houweling, Jenna Bowman, Cyde Coil, Jessica Connor, Jason Hotwell, and Megan Orr.

Red Hat Rowdies hold meeting

The Red Hat Rowdies met for lunch at Sweet Productions, on Tuesday, Feb. 6. The new Chapter Queen is Lenna Smith.

The next luncheon will be on Thursday, March 1, at noon at Sweet Productions.

Women over 50 wear red hats and purple, and those under 50, pink and lavender - hats are not mandatory, but add to the festivities. All ladies are welcome to attend.

HHS first semester honor roll announced

Heppner High School announces its honor roll for the first semester. To be on the honor roll, students must maintain a 3.5 to 4.0 GPA. The following students achieved that goal:

Seventh grade: Justin Pranger 4.0, Zechariah Hintz, Carrie Haguewood, Seth Palmer, Justin Bailey, Natalie Rauch, Ashlee Ames, Jared Gorham, Trent Cannon, and Cody Orr.

Eighth grade: Joseph Armato 4.0, Lindsay Cutsforth 4.0, Justin Gutierrez 4.0, Brett Harrison 4.0, Julia Meyer 4.0, Ian Murray 4.0, Kelsi Putman 4.0, Devin Robinson 4.0, Donald Mathews, Brooke Thompson, Willy Gentry, Daisy Victorio, and Keshawna Talamantes.

Ninth grade: Keenan Jack 4.0, Christopher Lien 4.0, Emily Thompson 4.0, Ashley Wolff 4.0, Lane Wright 4.0, Curtis Harper, Jared Huddleston, Brynna Rust, Jordan Hatfield, Frank Meyer, Jodessa Chapa, and Jessica Hughes.

Tenth grade: Maggie Armato 4.0, Sarah Ballard 4.0, Spencer Palmer 4.0, Sherilyn Peck 4.0, Jordan Shepherd 4.0, Joseph Pranger, Kathryn Moore, Grant Smith, Stephanie Rill, Joshua Shank, and Luke Young.

Twelfth grade: Aaron Allstott 4.0, Brendan McElligott 4.0, Sarah Price 4.0, Regina Seitz 4.0, Justin Delveaux, Casey O'Neal, Ambrosia Patton, Lyndi Patton, Mahaley Huddleston, Quinn Peck, Kylie Tasker, Chesley Little, Tony Haguewood, Roland Farrens, and Mya Southworth.

HES to hold reading night

Heppner Elementary School would like to invite the community to a reading night on Thursday, March 1, from 6 until 7:30 p.m. The reading night is in honor of Dr. Seuss, and the fiftieth anniversary of The Cat In The Hat. The school will be having guest readers, a Dr. Seuss video, and lots of time to read Dr. Seuss stories with the kids.

Heppner Elementary School is promoting literacy and the joy of reading for the students and friends in the community. If you do not have kids in school, come anyway and enjoy reading with our kids. Bring your blanket and pillow, so you can get comfortable while you read.

Please come and join the fun. All community members are welcome.

Senior Center lunch menu

The Nazarene/Seventh Day Adventist Churches will be serving dinner at the St. Patrick's Senior Center on Thursday, February 21. The menu will consist of baked ham, au gratin potatoes, mixed vegetables, hot rolls, cookies, and fruit juice.

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