

Mustangs fall short of state tournament

By Jennifer Wilson

The Mustangs came within three points of the Lakeview Honkers in the third quarter, but that's as close as they got. Lakeview led the entire game and got the 51-66 win to advance to the state tournament in Pendleton.

The Mustangs struggled from the free throw line, while the Honkers couldn't seem to miss. Kyle Fuchs came into the game for a couple last second buckets at the end of the first and second quarters.

"The kids exceeded the expectations that many people had of them. Their success was because of their hard work. We will be returning 11 of our 12 players for next year so we hope to improve and build on what we accomplished this season. Losing Joe Pranger is going to be a tough spot to fill. He as a kid that you could count on to work as hard as he could every practice and game, and he was a great leader," said Coach David Norton.

Jared Huddleston led the Mustangs with 14 points, 10 of which were in the third quarter. Kyle Fuchs and Brent Eckman had 12 points each. Cody Orr chipped in



Heppner Senior Joe Pranger gets fouled as he aims for the hoop during the mustang battle with Lakeview. -Photo by Sandy Matthews

six. Joe Pranger, Dan Jeffries, Bryan Holland, and Chris Lien combined for seven points for the Mustangs.

Jared Hedman, Alex Pickles, Devin Robinson, and Jake Bowles also contributed to the team.

Lady Mustangs lose close playoff game on the road

By Jennifer Wilson

The Lady Mustangs traveled all the way to Mill City to take on Santiam last Saturday in hopes of playing in Pendleton this weekend. After battling for three quarters, the Lady Mustangs couldn't top Santiam, who went on to win 44-35.

"I was proud of the girls' preparation for the game and their resulting performance," said Coach Mark Dowdy. "They showed the courage to come to that road gym and leave it all on

the floor. They earned a lot of respect as a result of that game."

The Mustangs led in the first quarter, were down by one at halftime, were up by three at the end of the third quarter, and then lost by nine in the end.

Jessica Hughes started out the game with a three point bucket and had 10 of the 16 points for the Mustangs in the first quarter.

Santiam was playing with two all state players. One of them posted

27 points, but the other only managed eight points and was shut down for a good portion of the game. The Lady Mustangs out-rebounded Santiam, 36-25. JoAnna Patton had 11 and Mercedes Garrett pulled down eight.

"We will miss our seniors Mercedes, Stephanie, and Matilda. They were vital to making us the team we were," said Coach Mark Dowdy. However, the Mustangs are looking forward to next year as they return 10 varsity players.

Jessica Hughes led the Mustangs with 12 points. Brynna Rust had eight points, while Mercedes Garrett added in six points. Taighler Dougherty chipped in three points. Catherine McElligott, JoAnna Patton, and Erin Price all had two points each. Emily Thompson, Stephanie Cutsforth, Lindsay Cutsforth, Torri Lovgren, and Matilda Hakansson also helped the team out in various ways.

Mustang Varsity Baseball Schedule

Following is the Heppner High School varsity baseball schedule for the 2009 season:

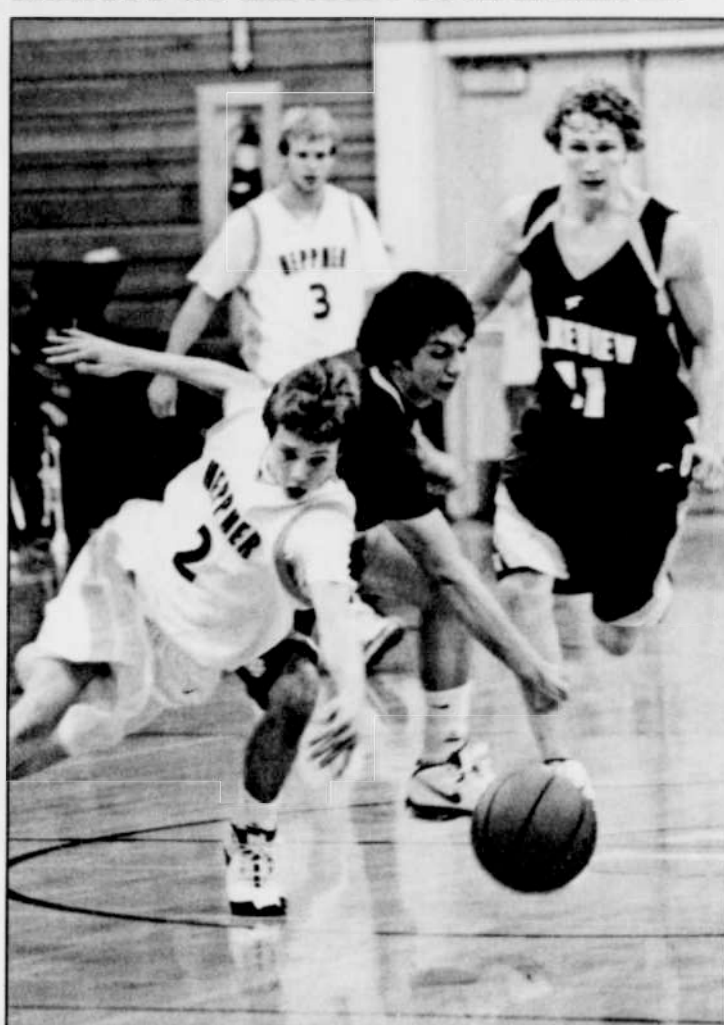
- March 17: Pendleton JV, 2 p.m.
- March 21: at La Grande, 12 p.m.
- March 24: Mac Hi/Salem
- March 27-28: Colfax Tourney.
- Apr. 4: Burns, 1 p.m.
- Apr. 7: at Baker, 2 p.m.
- Apr. 11: at Irrigon, 11 a.m.
- Apr. 14: Pilot Rock, 4:30 p.m.
- Apr. 18: Weston McEwen, 11 a.m.

Mustang JV Baseball Schedule

Following is the Heppner High School JV baseball schedule for the 2009 season:

- March 19: Nixyaawii, 4 p.m.
- March 30: at Stanfield, 4:30 p.m.
- Apr. 3: Weston McEwen, 12 p.m.
- Apr. 6: Pendleton Frosh, 4:30 p.m.
- Apr. 7: at Baker, 2 p.m.

Six Mustangs received league honors at district tournament



Chris Lien fights for the ball against the Lakeview defense in the state game Friday in Heppner. -Photo by Sandy Matthews

By Jennifer Wilson

Jared Huddleston and Chris Lien both received 1st team honors for the Blue Mountain Conference. Erin Price earned a spot on the 2nd place Blue

Mountain Conference team for her outstanding efforts this past season. Brent Eckman, JoAnna Patton, and Jessica Hughes were also recognized with honorable mention awards.

NOAA issues monthly climate summary for Heppner

According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton Oregon, temperatures at Heppner averaged colder than normal during the month of February.

The average temperature was 35.1 degrees which was 3.1 degrees below normal. High Temperatures averaged 43.1 degrees, which was 4.0 degrees below normal. The highest was 61 degrees on the 3rd. Low temperatures averaged 27.2 degrees, which was 2.2 degrees below normal. The lowest was 20 degrees, on the 28th.

There were 24 days

with the low temperature below 32 degrees.

Precipitation totaled 0.86 inches during February, which was 0.37 inches below normal. Measurable precipitation -at least .01 inch- was received on 8 days with the heaviest, 0.24 inches reported on the 24th.

Precipitation this year has reached 2.00 inches, which is 0.69 inches below normal. Since October, the water year precipitation at Heppner has been 5.62 inches, which is 1.28 inches below normal.

Snowfall totaled 2.8 inches with at least 1 inch of snow reported on 1 day. The heaviest snowfall was 2.5 inches reported on the 26th.

The greatest depth of snow on the ground was 3 inches on the 26th.

The outlook for March from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner during March are 54.3 degrees and normal lows are 33.6 degrees. The 30 year normal precipitation is 1.60 inches.

The National Weather Service is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department.

Inland Northwest Musicians schedule concerts


The Inland Northwest Musicians will present Mendelssohn's "Elijah" March 14 and 15.

The 40-plus voice chorale, accompanied by full orchestra, will perform Mendelssohn's most expres-


sive work, ranging from raucous to harmonious bliss. Soloists RaNiel Dunn (soprano), Teresa Best (alto), Philip Ruud (tenor), and Harvey Foreman (bass) are high-lighted performers. For fans of Handel's "Messiah," this piece is a must-see.

The concerts will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday,

March 14, at the University Church, 212 S.W. 4th St., College Place, and at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 15, at Umatilla High School, 1460 Seventh St., Umatilla. Both concerts are free, but donations are accepted and are tax-deductible. For more information, call Teresa Best at 289-4696.



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By **DAVID SYKES**
REALTOR

PREPURCHASE LOAN

It is said that putting the cart before the horse is doing things backward. However, getting a mortgage loan BEFORE you buy a house makes sense to a lot of buyers. It's called a prepurchase loan.

Obtaining a loan commitment before buying a home has its appeal. With all those verifications, credit check and other steps out of the way, buyers are able to shop for a home they know they can qualify to buy. Sellers, too, are interested in buyers whose loans are assured. It eliminates the main bugaboo. The process

also speeds up the waiting time between contract and settlement — sometimes to only the time it takes to complete an appraisal.

There are possible downsides too. If a buyer's choice fails to meet the lender's appraisal standards, time may be lost in reapplying for loan approval. Interest rates may change so rapidly that the loan commitment gets out of date, since few lenders allow applicants to lock in an interest rate until a contract is signed.



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New ATV Safety Laws FREE online certification


New safety laws are now in effect for operating quads and three-wheel ATVs (Class I ATVs) and off-road motorcycles (Class III ATVs) on lands open to public use. (See chart below for age-related timelines.) In order to make training as convenient as possible, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department now offers this free safety and education program and certification online on the website www.rideATVoregon.org.

SAFETY TRAINING EXEMPTION: Safety training isn't mandatory for riders using an ATV or off-road motorcycle for farming, agriculture, forestry, nursery, Christmas tree growing operations or when riding on private land.

MANDATORY TRAINING AGES


Year	Mandatory Safety Training Age
Jan. 1, 2009	Youth 15 and under and adults supervising youth
Jan. 1, 2010	30 and under
Jan. 1, 2011	40 and under
Jan. 1, 2012	50 and under
Jan. 1, 2013	60 and under
Jan. 1, 2014	All riders must have an ATV safety education card

Morrow County OHV Park is active in these changes and do offer the hands on training. ATV Safety Institute and the MSF Motorcycle safety foundation do have instructors on site. Any questions or concerns please contact Morrow County 541-989-9500.



HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

PER/ Old Timers Night/ Ladies Night
March 5th
NY Steak Dinner



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Lodge Officers and Trustees
All Proceeds will go towards the
358 Foundation for youth activities

Morrow County Public Works

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