

Mustang wrestlers place fourth at Mac Hi Christmas Tournament

Two years ago, the Heppner wrestling team made a trip to Milton-Freewater to compete in the Mac Hi JV tournament and was happy to come away with a few wins. This year the Mustangs challenged the big school varsity programs at the Mac Hi Christmas tournament and came away with some medals.

The tournament included two schools from Washington's largest class, Chiawana (Pasco) and Walla Walla, as well as Riverside and last year's OSAA 4A state runner up Mac Hi. Also competing were Irrigon and Columbia High Schools.

Jarreid Miller, currently ranked eighth in the state, finished the highest

for the Mustang grapplers. After receiving a bye in the first round, Miller pinned his next two opponents from Mac Hi and Walla Walla to advance to the championship bout where he suffered his only loss of the day to a Chiawana wrestler.

Heppner got third place finishes from freshman Austin Harris and fourth ranked senior Wacy Coil. It was Harris's highest finish of the season and his first high school medal. He earned it in dominating fashion by pinning his challenger from Walla Walla in the consolation championship match.

Coil had to hold off his Mac Hi opponent to come away with an 8-7 dra-

matic decision for his third place medal. Scoring in the final round came in such a flurry at one point that the scorekeepers didn't keep up and the scoreboard read 7-6 in favor of Mac Hi at the end of regulation. However, the Mustangs' alert stat crew caught the error and proved it to the officials in a post match conference with the competitors waiting at center mat. The score was then corrected and Coil's arm was raised as the victor.

Cody Nelson also made a trip to the podium as the fourth place finisher at 135 pounds.

The Mustangs got additional tournament wins and team points from Wade Matthew, Andrew Bara, and

Tyler Robinson.

In an exhibition match, freshman Earl Prophet got his arm raised for his first win of the season. Garrett Gibbs and Tim Nelson also had exhibition match wins.

Individual results by weight class were: 103 - Austin Harris, (3rd) 2-1; 119 - Alex Smith, 0-2; 130 - Jarreid Miller, (2nd) 2-1; and Earl Prophet, 1-2; 135 - Cody Nelson, (4th) 3-2; and Wade Matthew, 1-2, 140 - Andrew Bara, 1-2; 145 - Conner Pappas, 0-2; 152 - Tyler Robinson, 1-2; 171 - Wacy Coil, (3rd) 3-1; and Garrett Gibbs, 1-3; 189 - Tim Nelson, 2-2; 215 - David Berntsen, 0-1; and Jacob Moore, 0-2.

Junior high basketball in full swing



#3 Brian Rill drives past a Mt. Vernon player during a junior high basketball game this past Saturday in Heppner. -Photo by Autumn Morgan

Heppner JV girls now 4-2

The Heppner girls JV basketball team had two games this past weekend winning both to improve their record to 4-2.

On Friday the girls took on the Irrigon Knights. After one quarter the Mustangs led 10-6 with a balanced scoring attack from four players. In the second quarter the Mustangs had a hard time holding onto the ball and the knights turned it into a big quarter for themselves, scoring 17 to the Mustangs' 12, giving them the half-time advantage of 23-22. Again the Mustangs had a balanced attack getting production from five different players.

In the second half the Mustangs picked up on the "D" and took better care of the ball, only turning it over five times for the half. They outscored the Knights 23-17 for the half to take away a 45-40 win.

Eight Mustangs scored, led by Alana Wilson's 15 points, followed by

Maggie Collins' 10 points and seven rebounds. Bailey Bennett added six points and five rebounds. The rest of the scoring was by Emile Blak (four), Natalie Rauch (four), and two each for Carrie Haguewood, Emma Osmin, and Larissa Grey.

On Saturday the JV Mustangs traveled to Stanfield to take on a very short-handed Tiger team. Due to injuries and missing players, they only had enough for half a game.

The Mustangs used their press to jump out to a quick 7-0 lead and ended up winning 13-6. The rest of the shortened game they worked on running some new plays to get some experience in a game situation.

Maggie Collins led the team in scoring with seven points, followed by Alana Wilson, Natalie Rauch, and Bailey Bennett with two each. Bennett also led the team with seven rebounds in the short game.

Cardinals win league opener

The lone Cardinals trailed at the end of the first quarter in their league opener against Horizon Christian on Friday, December 18, but came to life on offense in the second quarter, scoring 33 points to the Hawks 11. That offensive firepower put the Cards up 44-27 at the half and they rolled to a 76-55 victory.

Zac Orem led all scorers with 21 points, including 57% three-point shooting (4-7) and 62% shooting overall. Orem also dished out six assists. Tanner Rietmann had a big night, putting up 18 points and grabbing eight rebounds. Matt Hams also scored in double digits with 14 points and led the team



#21 Zach Orem shoots against the Horizon Christian Hawks. Lone won 76-55. -Photo by Theresa Crawford

with seven assists. Overall, the team shot 44% from the floor but had one of their

best three point shooting nights, hitting 55% on 6 of 11 shooting. The Cards

out-rebounded the Hawks 36-25 with Adam Collin grabbing eight boards to complement Tanner Rietmann's eight.

"It was good to start league with a win," said Coach Dennis Stefani. "I thought the kids came out flat, trailing after the first quarter. However, they picked up the tempo in the second quarter and took control of the game with a 33 point quarter."

The Cardinals will have one game before taking time off for Christmas, traveling to Helix on Tuesday, December 22. The week after Christmas will be a busy one, hosting Irrigon on December 28, Pilot Rock on December 29 and Stanfield on January 2.

Lady Cardinals hang on for win over Horizon Christian

The lone Lady Cardinals opened Big Sky Conference play with a win over Horizon Christian. In a game played in lone on Friday, December 18, the Cards built a halftime lead and withstood a Lady Hawk charge in the game to claim the 36-31 victory.

"This was a great win for us. Horizon Christian is a good ball club that we lost too last year by one in overtime," said Coach Mike Garrett. "They were at the district tournament last year and I would expect to see them there this year as well. We did an outstanding job of eliminating their post players and forcing them to play from the outside."

The Cards ran into early foul trouble, with nine fouls in the first six minutes, sending Horizon into a double bonus situation by the end of the first quarter. Even so, the Lady Cards led 24-15 at the half. Horizon was scrappy and narrowed the lead to four late in the third quarter, 29-25. Lone



Shadow Kendrick puts up a shot during last Friday's game against the Horizon Christian Hawks. The lady Cardinals won 36-31. -Photo by Theresa Crawford

stretched the lead back to 10 midway through the fourth but let nerves get the better of them down the stretch. The last minute of the game was nerve wracking and went on forever. The Lady Hawks once again closed the lead to four with 34 seconds to go but the Cards held on for the win.

"Early foul trou-

ble and poor free throw shooting kept this game closer than it should have been. These are areas that we can work on and I am pleased with where the team is at defensively right now," noted Coach Garrett.

Beth Morter led all scorers with 15 points before leaving the game midway through the fourth

quarter with an ankle tweak. Shadow Kendrick added eight. Stephanie Archer led the team on the board with 14 rebounds and a huge blocked shot that stopped Horizon's momentum in the final 30 seconds. Makenna Ramos led the team with four assists.

Lone 9 15 6
6 = 36

Beth Morter 15, Shadow Kendrick 8, Tyree Svetich 4, Makenna Ramos 3, Collette Cason 2, Stacey Halvorsen 2, Sarah Stillman 1, Mary Rietmann 1.

Horizon 5 10
10 6 = 31

Ione High School Basketball Schedule

Dec. 28 - Irrigon at home (GJV, BJV, GV, BV), 3 p.m.
Dec. 29 - Pilot Rock at home (GJV, BJV, GV, BV), 1 p.m.
Jan. 2 - Stanfield at home (GJV, BJV, GV, BV), 1 p.m.

Stocking Stuffers

- Gift Cards!
- Coffee Cards

Drink Special
Peppermint
Fudge Mocha

Christmas Store Hours:
December 24th - 9 am- 5:00 pm
December 25th - CLOSED
December 26 OPEN 9 am to 6 pm
for **1/2 PRICE CHRISTMAS SALE!**

Wedding Table

Brett Barber & Shannon Milligan

Wedding-December 5, 2009
Reception to be held in February

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