

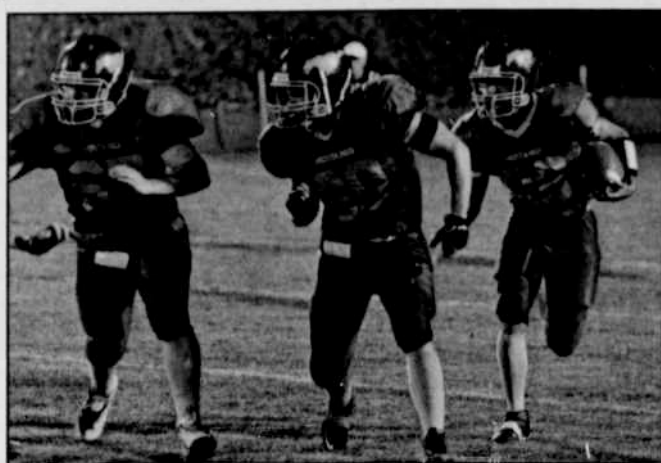
Mustangs ground Rockets 40-0

By Laurence Rill

It took the Heppner Mustangs Varsity Football team almost six minutes to get rolling Friday night against rivals Pilot Rock, but once they did, they wouldn't be denied. Heppner took an 8-0 lead with 6:45 left in the first quarter, and never looked in their rearview. The Mustangs jumped out to the lead on a 12 yard rumble by junior running back Drew Brannon. It only took the Mustangs another minute to score their second touchdown on an eight yard scamper by senior Alex Pickles.

Pickles, who rushed for 152 yards in the first half credited his offensive line for the productive day. "The decisions were made up front, and I just followed the line," said Pickles. "Anyone can do what I do, it's really the line that does it all." Heppner's ground attack was so diverse that Pickles finished the game with only 161 yards after his remarkable first half. Pickles tallied his second touchdown on a 28 yard sweep off the right side in the second quarter.

Brannon finished



Ian Murray #67 and Drew Brannon #39 open up a hole for Earl Propher #26 to gain yardage during the Mustang versus Pilot Rock 40-0 win in Heppner. -Photo by Sandy Matthews

the first half punching in a short run in with 1:23 left. Brannon finished the night with 69 yards of rushing and two touchdowns. Heppner's Devin Robinson also pounded for 82 yards of rushing on four carries.

Heppner's passing game was delivered by Willie Gentry and brought in by Cody Orr who hooked up twice for 80 yards which included Orr hauling in a 20 yard pass for a touchdown with almost nine minutes left in the third quarter. Heppner turned back to its ground game at that point and kept the clock running. Offensive lineman Ian

Murray got his name in the score book by pounding a four yard run in to start the fourth quarter which would end Heppner's scoring for the night.

Despite not being able to capitalize, the Rockets had their moments running their option against the stubborn Mustang defense. Pilot Rock's Logan Thourne finished the game with 68 yards on 12 carries.

Heppner continues to try to keep their clean record in the Columbia Basin Conference against other ranked opponent Weston McEwen on Friday night in Heppner.

Heppner loses tight one to Pilot Rock, but stays in playoff hunt

By Laurence Rill

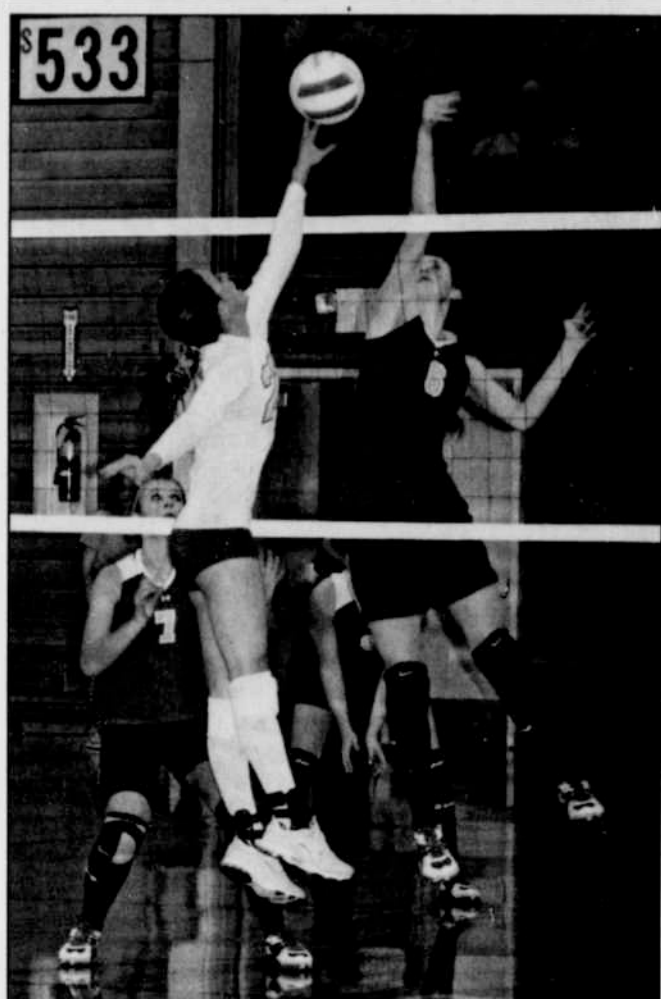
The Heppner High School varsity volleyball team lost a tight fight against Columbia Basin Conference rival Pilot Rock on Thursday in Heppner. Heppner jumped out to an early lead with a 25-18 win in the first game, powered by senior middle-blocker Taighler Dougherty.

Heppner trialed early in the second game and couldn't overcome the deficit in the end losing the second game 25-21. Good serving led the way in the third game as Heppner flipped the script with a 25-21 reversal of fortune. Pilot Rock once again fought back in the next game taking an early lead and pushing the match to a fifth and final game with a 25-18 victory.

The final game was dominated by a Pilot Rock team that seemed to find their momentum. The Rockets jumped out to a 13-6 lead and went on to score the last two points to take the win from Heppner.

"Momentum is a funny thing," said Heppner coach Pam Dowdy after the game. "We are going to get back in the gym tomorrow and take the next couple games one at a time." When asked about the seating for the district tournament, Dowdy responded, "The seating is going to be what it is. We have Enterprise and Elgin this weekend and Stanfield on Tuesday and then we will see where we stand."

Dougherty was honored before the game



Top Photo: Taighler Dougherty jumps to make a play during a volleyball match against Pilot Rock last Thursday. Bottom Photo: Lindsay Cutsforth and Taighler Dougherty were honored Thursday night. The pair are the only seniors on this year's volleyball team. Pictured with them are their parents. -Photos by Sandy Matthews

Lady Cards defeat Echo and Arlington

The lone Lady Cardinals closed out the regular season of volleyball play with two convincing wins last week, defeating Echo on the lone home court on Thursday night and easily putting away Arlington on the road on Friday night. In rolling through the last two league matches, the Cardinal ladies finished one of the most successful volleyball seasons in recent history, losing just one league match and not dropping a single game in all their other league contests. Due to the early-season loss to Condon/Wheeler, lone finished the season tied for first place in the Big Sky East.

On Thursday, October 21, the Cardinals hosted their final east side

opponent Echo in a not very hospitable manner taking the match 25-16, 25-11, 25-12. Joanna Patton continued her strong play at the net, leading the team with 11 kills. Shadow Kendrick and Siren Endresen each added eight. Joanna Patton also served 19-19 with three aces.

"They played with intensity in all three games," said head Coach Dawn Eynetich. "It was a good team effort."

The team traveled to Arlington on Friday, October 22 where they ratcheted up the intensity in each game, taking the match 25-13, 25-12, 25-11. Joanna Patton had another 11 kills while Shadow Kendrick had six kills and served 9-9 with one ace. Makenna

Ramos was 20-20 at the service line with one ace and both Mary Rietmann and Collette Cason tallied three aces each.

The team now looks towards the district tournament, scheduled for October 30 at Umatilla High School. Due to the first place tie with Condon/Wheeler, the teams will play off in Arlington for the number one spot on Tuesday, October 26, at 6 p.m. The winner advances to Saturday play as the number one ranked team from the east side of the Big Sky. The loser will host the number three team from the Big Sky West at home on Thursday to see who progresses on to the district tournament.

Pasta feed planned for Friday

A pasta feed will be held beginning at 5:30 p.m. before the football game on Friday, October 29. The menu will include pasta, bread, salad, dessert, and a drink. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Heppner Junior High falls short at finish 12-6

By Laurence Rill

The Heppner Junior High School football team came up 25 yards short from tying the game, 12-12 against Stanfield on Friday afternoon.

After a Stanfield drive from their own five yard line the length of the field, threatening a score on the Heppner eight yard line, Heppner held them to a turnover on downs. Heppner took over with

along with fellow senior Lindsay Cutsforth for their years of dedication to the program. Along with the two seniors, Heppner also

celebrated Breast Cancer awareness month by honoring almost 20 breast cancer survivors who were invited to attend by the team.

40 seconds remaining on the clock, when Tommy Bredfield rumbled down the field for a 52 yard sprint. Heppner ran out of time on the 25 yard line, just shy of tying up the score, losing 12-6.

"It was a tough loss, but we fought the whole time and didn't quit," Heppner coach Chad Dougherty said of his young team after the loss. "We are a

young team and we are getting better every game. I'm really proud of the kids." Heppner has had a rough road to their finally coming up on Tuesday, October 26, against Dufer. "We have lost all our games, and had one tie, but we have gotten better every single game," said Doherty. "All our skill positions are seventh graders, so we are still learning and improving."

Edmundson, Sonstegard honored at annual meeting



The Oregon Golf Association held its annual meeting at the Waverley Country Club on October 15. At the dinner, following golf and a business meeting, statewide awards were presented to recognize outstanding work by members during the year. Pat Edmundson (right) was announced as the 2009 OGA Handicap Chair of the Year, and Luvilla Sonstegard (left) the 2009 OGA Handicap Co-Chair of the Year. -Contributed Photo

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