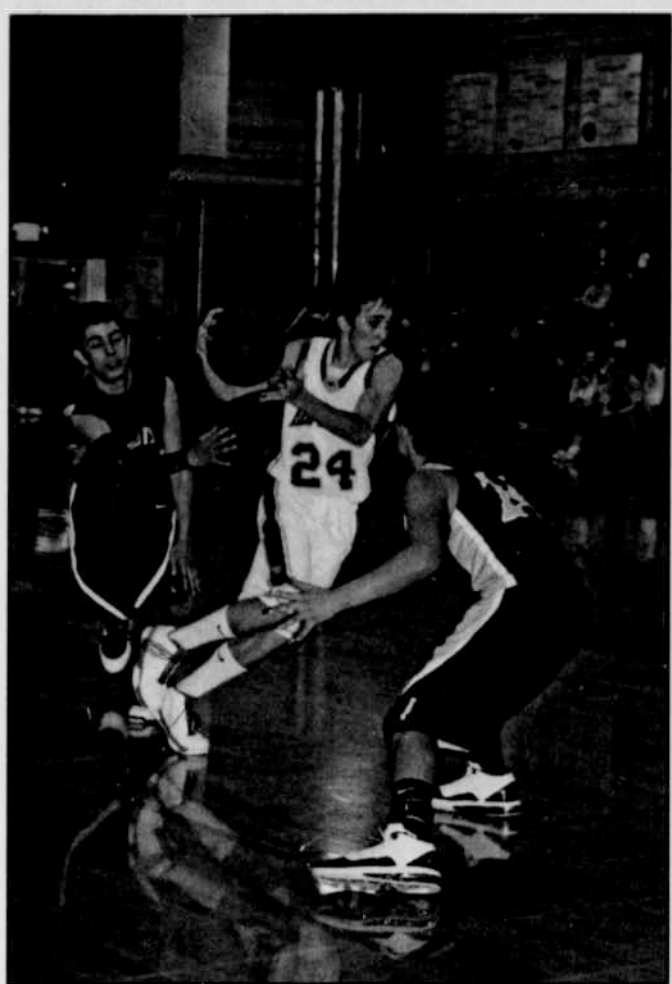


Heppner teams pull off wins over Irrigon



Bailey Bennett and Jake Bowles were two of the top scores in the Mustang games against Irrigon. The girls beat Irrigon 54-18. In the boys game the Heppner Mustangs worked hard to stay ahead of the Knights in a 51-49 overtime win. -Photos by Sandy Matthews

In Heppner on Saturday, January 8, the Heppner Mustangs hosted the Irrigon Knights. The Lady Mustangs executed well, leading the Knights 27-8 at the half. In the second half, everyone got some action as the Mustangs rolled over Irrigon 54-18.

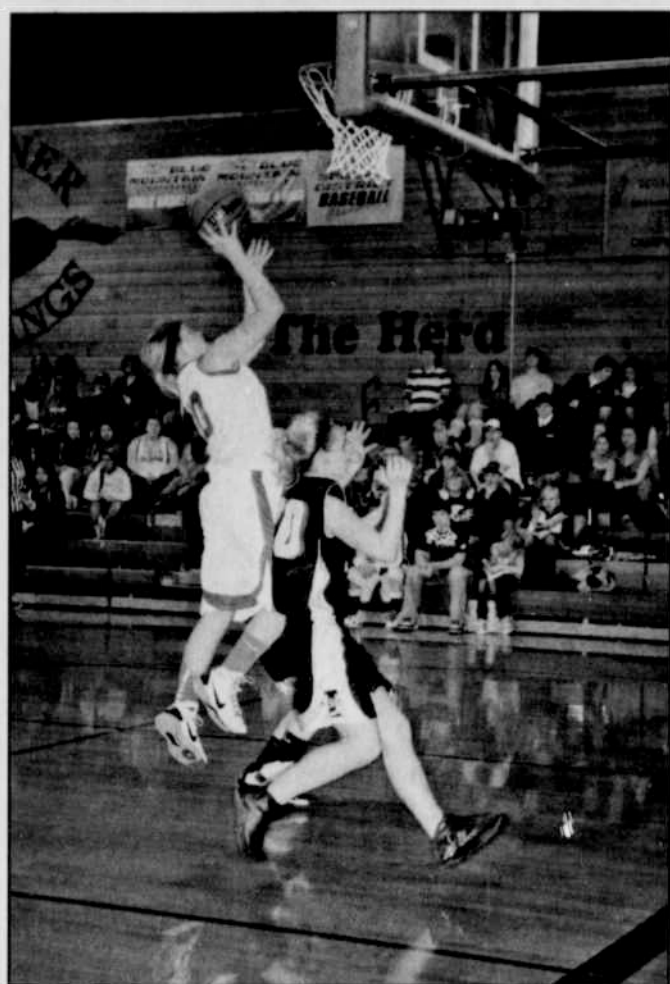
Bailey Bennett and Taighler Dougherty both had 12 points. Lindsay Cutsforth, Alana Wilson, and Makenzie Correa had

six points each.

The Mustangs are now 3-1 in league play.

The girls' varsity team is improving and looking forward to a tough schedule next week against Pilot Rock on Friday at home and Weston-McEwen away on Saturday.

In the boys' varsity game against Irrigon, it was a barn burner in the Heppner gym.



The Knights came to Heppner, defeating Weston-McEwen the previous night, as a team to be reckoned with. With a first quarter Mustang lead of 19-12, the Knights fought back into the game, coming within two points at the end of the third quarter. It took a three pointer by Jake Bowles and free throw from Cody Orr within the last 30 seconds of the game to seal

the win for the Mustangs, 51-49.

Jake Bowles led the Heppner scoring attack with 16 points, including three three-pointers. Jared Hedman had 12 points and Cody Orr had nine with 19 rebounds. Heppner shot 12 for 21 from the free throw line and out-rebounded Irrigon 32-22.

The Mustangs are now 3-1 in league play.

Mustang wrestlers win dual trophy, place 10 of 11 at Riverside Rumble

The Heppner wrestling team won the second place trophy in the Riverside Dual Tournament on Friday. The Mustangs won two of three duals defeating Colton 54-18 and Irrigon 42-15 before falling to Riverside 48-30 in the final match up. The two wins bring Heppner's dual record to 4-2 for the year.

Every Heppner wrestler contributed team points with individual match wins in the tournament.

Jared Lemmon, Shane Miles, Treston Maben, and Jarreid Miller each won all three of their matches. Highlights included Lemmon defeating a #2 ranked wrestler in 3A from Colton and Miller defeating a #10 ranked wrestler in 3A from Riverside, both by first period pins.

The remaining Mustang wrestlers and their win loss record in the dual tournament, including exhibition matches were Alex Smith 1-2, Earl Prophet 2-0, Wade Matthew 1-1, Clayton Cook 2-0, Andrew

Bara 2-2, Garrett Gibbs 2-3, Tim Nelson 1-2, and Jacob Moore 2-1.

On Saturday the team competed in the Riverside Rumble and placed 10 of the 11 Mustang competitors in the top six of their individual weight classes. The teams in the tournament were Colton, Heppner, Hermiston JV, Irrigon, Mac Hi, and Riverside.

Five Heppner wrestlers, Lemmon, Miller, Maben, Bara, and Nelson made it to the tournament championship bout of their weight classes. Miller came away a tournament champion, winning all three of his matches by pin. The remaining four brought home silver medals.

Propheter, Cook, Matthew, and Moore all finished fourth while Smith won fifth place.

Next Friday and Saturday the Mustangs compete in the Oregon Wrestling Classic in Redmond, one of the largest wrestling events in the nation.

Heppner JV girls bring home three wins

Heppner JV basketball girls had three games this past week against Lone, Stanfield, and Irrigon and managed to win all three.

On Tuesday the JV's played Lone and came out in their fastest start of the year outscoring the Cardinals 13-2 in the first quarter, led by Emma Osmin's seven points, and two each from Greenup, Kindie, Correa and Sanford. The Mustangs kept the offensive and defensive effort up and closed out the first half up 20-4. The third quarter the Mustangs kept up with the offense with 14 for the quarter. At the end of the game the Mustangs finished off with a 42-18 win over the Cardinals and were led by Lilly Sandfords 10 and Emma Osmins nine points. The rest of the scoring was Correa, seven; Greenup, five; Hintz, four; and two each for Dougherty, Lemmon, Kindie and Gray. The team was led in rebounding by Aimee Selnes and Blake Greenup with five each and three assists from MaKenzie Correa.

The Mustangs followed that win with a hard fought game against the Stanfield Tigers on Friday. After the first quarter both teams were tied at seven apiece, led by, MaKenzie Correa's four points. In the second the Mustangs turned it on scoring 16 points for their biggest quarter of the year so far with Blåke Greenup hitting for eight, and Lilly Sandford getting six. To take a 23-10 half time lead into the locker room. But that would almost be the end of the offense for Heppner. In the third quarter they got no points at all and were struggling at both ends of the floor letting the Tigers get seven points. Leading only 23-17 going into the 4th the drought kept going for almost another four minutes before Aimee Selnes finally made a layin to break the drought. Correa

hit a shot later in the quarter and Sanford make a free throw to close out the scoring for Heppner and seal a 28-25 win at Stanfield. The Mustangs scoring was eight for Greenup, seven each for Correa and Sanford, and six for Selnes. Rebounding leaders were Correa with six and five each for Selnes and Sanford. The Mustangs also had 22 steals for the game with three each from, Sanford, Osmin, Hintz, Kindie, and Selnes.

On Saturday the Mustangs closed out the week with a win over the Irrigon Knights. They took control in the first half with their press working and taking a good lead at half 20-12 but could not put them away in the half because of to many missed lay ins. Carrie Haguewood and Micha Hintz led the scoring with seven and six points respectively. In the third the Mustangs went to half court man to man defense and added to the lead with a 10-9 quarter over the Knights. In the fourth the Mustangs kept up the scoring with 11 but the defense started to beak down along with to many turnovers and letting the Knights get with in four points. The Mustangs got things settled down in the end and pulled out a 41-36 win. The team was led by Haguewood's nine points, followed by Blake Greenup's seven, Micha Hintz with six, Lilly Sandford with six, Makalya Kindie with five, and two each for Aimee Selnes, MaKenzie Correa, Emma Osmin, and Larrisa Gray. Rebounding was led by Selnes and Greenup with four each and 19 team steals led by Hintz with five and three each for Selnes and Sanford. The win puts the JV's record at four wins and three losses. Their next game will be Friday, January 14, at 3 p.m. against Pilot Rock.

Cheerleaders-in-training provide halftime entertainment



Marlie Mitchell, Samm Lemmon, and Bridgett Wizner were part of the halftime entertainment during the game on Saturday in Heppner. -Photo by Sandy Matthews

Lady Cardinals soar above Golden Eagles 60-55

The Lady Cardinals rose to the challenge of the offensive-minded Nixyaawii Golden Eagles on Friday, January 7, and came away with a huge league win 60-55. The game was played in the cozy confines of the "Eagles Nest" in Mission, and was one of the lone girls' highest scoring games ever.

The Cards hit the court with a tenacious man-to-man defense and kept the Golden Eagles from scoring a field goal during the entire first quarter. At the end of one, Lone led 8-2 with all of Nix's points coming from the free-throw line.

Nix got their inside game going early in the second and with two minutes gone in the second quarter, erased the deficit. Shadow Kendrick returned from an injury layoff to score eight points of her 15 points in the second quarter as the Lady Cardinals competed furiously. Nix had their biggest lead of the game midway through the second quarter, 14-10 but Lone closed out the quarter with a 10-2 run to lead 20-16 at the half.

Both teams kicked up the scoring in the third quarter. Nix tied the game at 24 and then again at 26 midway through the period. Behind 21 points in the frame, the hosts led briefly 37-36 with less than half a minute to play in the third. But Lone put up 18 points of their own and led by one, 38-37, to start the final quarter of play.

The lone team went on a scoring rampage in the fourth quarter, putting up 22 points, with the majority coming in transition. Once they unlocked the secret of the Nix press, they converted numerous scoring opportunities either on the press break or putting back offensive rebounds. JoAnna Patton scored eight of her team high 19 points in the fourth quarter, all on put backs. Stacey Halvorsen, a first time starter for the Cards, scored five points in a 30-second span, first hitting a three and follow-

ing up with a little jumper. When she turned around and a fed Lacey Thompson a pass for the very next bucket, the Cards held the biggest lead of the day 49-41.

The battle continued and with 1:04 remaining in the game, Nix hit two free throws to pull back within two points, 55-53. The Cards tried to slow it down and hold the ball, forcing the Golden Eagles to foul. The Cards went through a stretch of iciness at the line at just the wrong time. In that fourth quarter, they made just five of 13 attempts. With 32 seconds remaining, Stacey Halvorsen hit the second of two shots to build Lone's margin to three points. The whole gym knew that Nix's sharpshooters would be looking to put up a three. Kristy Miller forced up a shot from the top of the key and Beth Morter made contact, getting whistled for the foul, sending Miller to the line for three shots and the chance to tie the game. When Miller missed the middle shot, the Cardinals held a one point lead. After a bad stretch at the line, the Cardinals finally put down the free throws they needed. Beth Morter hit a pair with 8.2 seconds on the clock and Shadow Kendrick canned two more with 3.3 seconds remaining for the final 60-55 margin.

JoAnna Patton notched a double-double with 19 points and 14 rebounds, 11 of those off the offensive glass. Shadow Kendrick had 15 points and Stacey Halvorsen had 10. Lacey Thompson had six points and nine rebounds while Collette Cason had six points, six rebounds and four steals. Beth Morter had four points, nine rebounds and six assists.

"I was thrilled," said Coach Mike Garrett after the monumental win. "We took a big step. It was the best game I've been able to coach." He liked what he saw in almost every aspect of the game. "Execution, rebounding, following



Top Photo: Senior Beth Morter shoots a free throw during the Cardinals' game against Nixyaawii. Bottom Photo: Lone sophomore Shadow Kendrick puts up a jump shot against Nixyaawii last Friday. -Photos by Paula Emmel

through with a game plan we put in place all week, not losing our composure and handling the press, especially against one of the best teams in the state." He also noted that Nixyaawii had just two three pointers and both were contested. "It was a great win there," said Garrett.

Last Saturday's game with Arlington was postponed until January 18 but the Lady Cards look to the upcoming weekend for a couple key match-ups. Condon/Wheeler on the road is set for Friday and the teams will host Sherman on Saturday.