

Mustang volleyball takes first in districts

Senior players recognized during senior night

On Tuesday, Oct. 23, the Lady Mustangs hosted the Stanfield Tigers in the last home game of the year, also senior night for five Mustang players. The Mustangs won the contest in three sets against the scrappy Tigers, 25-20, 25-16 and 25-21.

Seniors Baily Bennett, Makenzie Correa, Hanna Lovgren, Emma Osmin and Alana Wilson all received special recognition for their commitment on the volleyball court. These five athletes have played together since joining the third-grade Colt volleyball program. Since that time, each one has formed her own volleyball identity, which could be described in her own unique way.

Baily (#3) "The Woodchopper" Bennett is an outside hitter who hits the ball like she is using an eight-pound splitting maul.

Makenzie "The Digger" Correa (#1) can return a volleyball from a fingernail's width off the floor.

Number 24 Hanna "Hurricane" Lovgren has a mean serve that lasers just over the net for devastating effects on opponents.

Outside hitter #5 Emma "Spike Only" Osmin is always on the hunt for a kill shot on the court.

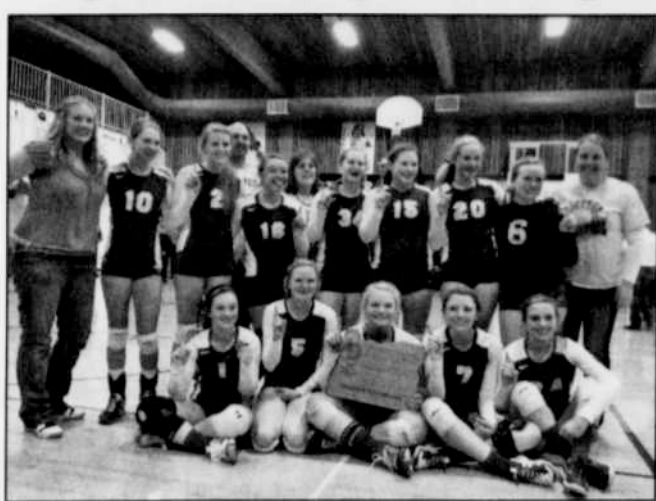
Middle blocker #7 Alana "The Realtor" Wilson owns the center of the court with a block and immediate kill for a score.

These girls all have great volleyball talent in all aspects of the game, as well as a will to win.

With a strong supporting cast of underclassmen in the form of Ryan Dougherty, Paige Grieb, Kelly Wilson, Nicole Kempkin, Micha Hintz, Maddie Lindsay and Kayla Kindle, and the guidance of head coach Pam Dowdy and her assistants, these athletes have honed their volleyball skills into one of the best teams in the state in OSAA 2A volleyball.

Those skills were in full force on Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Blue Mountain Conference district volleyball tournament at Stanfield High School. Weston-McEwen, Heppner, Union, Grant Union and Enterprise all played for a chance to advance to the 2012 OSAA 2A state tournament.

The first game put the Lady Mustangs (#2 BMC 12-4) against the union Bobcats (#3 BMC 13-3).



The Mustang volleyball team defeated Weston-McEwen in a hard-fought battle last weekend to become the 2012 Blue Mountain Conference District Champions. The team now advances to the first round of state playoffs in the first seed position. Pictured are (back L-R) Mindy Wilson, Kelly Wilson, Ryan Dougherty, Dieter Waite, Micha Hintz, Coach Pam Dowdy, Kayla Kindle, Nicole Kempkin, Maddie Lindsay, Paige Grieb, Nancy Matthews (front L-R) Makenzie Correa, Emma Osmin, Baily Bennett, Alana Wilson and Hanna Lovgren. -Contributed photo

The Bobcats were the only team to beat the Mustangs twice in league play, and were a known formidable opponent. The sets went back and forth in the contest, 27-25 H, 19-25 U, 25-21 H and 22-25 U, with great volleyball action on the floor. Tied going into the fifth set, the Mustangs got the job done 15-9 to advance into the final match with the Weston-McEwen TigerScots.

The TigerScots had previously shown their dominance by winning the BMC league title with a 15-1 BMC league record. The match about to be played was the same game played a year ago between Heppner and Weston-McEwen. The match began with the TigerScots being the bullies on the court, taking down the Mustangs convincingly in the first two sets, 25-20 and 25-16. The Mustangs found themselves in a deep hole and held their fate in their own hands going into the third set. They decided to fight back into the contest with will and determination by winning 25-21.

That was where the Mustangs grabbed hold of the bit and bucked and kicked their way back into contention for the district

HHS football to hold tailgate dinner

The Heppner High School football team will hold a tailgate dinner at the Morrow County Fairgrounds before the Mustang versus Weston-McEwen game this Friday, Nov. 2, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The meal costs \$5 and includes choice of chili and combread or clam chowder and a roll with dessert and a drink.

This home game is the final league game of the regular season.

Mustangs shoot down Rockets 56-21

The Heppner Mustangs hosted the Pilot Rock Rockets last Friday, Oct. 26, and sent them home minus their spark, defeating the visitors 56-21.

The Rockets started out strong, winning the coin toss and receiving the kick, which seemed to give the visitors the momentum they needed to secure a touchdown and an extra PAT during the first quarter.

The Mustangs took charge after that, when Aidan Wright (#24) received the ball from Stephen Thompson (#7) and ran it to the endzone for a seven-yard gain and the touchdown. An incomplete pass ended hopes for a home-team PAT. Still in the first quarter, Thompson handed the ball to #26 Earl Propheter, who secured another touchdown, leaving room for Wright to run the ball from the 6 and gain a two-point conversion.

In the second quarter, The Mustangs scored another touchdown and continued to keep the Rockets off the board.

The third quarter saw three touchdowns by the Mustangs with only one successful scoring attempt by the Rockets. The first touchdown was run in by Propheter for a 16-yard gain, after which JC Putman (#85) received a pass completion from Thompson and carried the ball to the endzone for a two-point conversion. The second touchdown of the quarter was another run by Propheter. That was followed up with a five-yard gain and



Senior Earl Propheter runs the ball for the Mustangs through the defensive lines of the John Day Prospectors during a hard-fought battle in Heppner Oct. 19. The Heppner Mustangs won 8-7. -Photo by Sandy Matthews

yet another touchdown by Wright, who also gained a two-point conversion on the PAT. The Rockets showed some momentary spark, gaining a touchdown that fizzled into an incomplete pass and no PAT for the visitors.

The beginning of the final quarter saw the Mustangs ahead 42-13. The home team used the momentum to secure another touchdown by Garrett Robinson (#2). The Rockets fought back, earning themselves a 20-yard gain and a goal by Rocket Skyler Leasy. Rocket Tanner Doherty tagged on the two-point conversion for the last points the Rockets would see during the game. The Mustangs took over and didn't let up. Propheter received the ball from Thompson at the 6 and carried it in for a final touchdown; #42 Tommy Bredfield then received the ball for the PAT attempt, running it in for the two-point conversion.

The Mustangs ended

the contest the winners 56-21, and one step closer to playoffs. Their next game will be a final league home game this Friday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. against Weston-McEwen. If the Mustangs take that game, they will be crowned district champs. If not, their future in the playoffs remains uncertain.

Game stats are as follows

Scores
Pilot Rock Rockets: 7, 0, 6, 8: 21
Heppner Mustangs: 14, 6, 22, 14: 56
Mustang Offense
Garret Robinson: 12 yds., 6 pts.
Jared Lemmon: 3 yds.
Stephen Thompson: 31 yds.
Jaden Orr: 10 yds.
Aidan Wright: 215 yds., 22 pts.
Earl Propheter: 173 yds., 24 pts.
Weston Putman: 6 yds.
Tommy Bredfield: 50 yds., 2 pts.
Jesse Corbin: 22 yds.
JC Putman: 2 pts.

Heppner High news

By Jordan Jones

The Heppner Mustangs have their final home football game this Friday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m.; this game is against the Weston-McEwen TigerScots. Friday also will be senior night for the senior football players and cheerleaders.

On Saturday, Nov. 3, the volleyball girls will be playing in the first round of state playoffs.

One of this week's seniors is Ashlie Marie Hanson. Her parents are Mike and Dawn Brosnan and she has two siblings, Micheal Hanson and Joshua

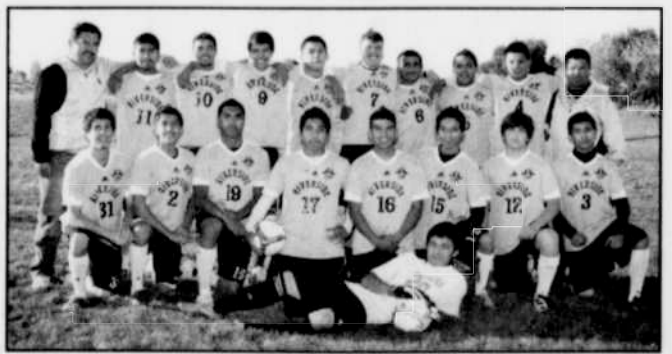
Townsend. For extracurricular activities, Hanson participates in FFA, TSA and FBLA. In her spare time, Hanson likes to read or play games with her brother. Her favorite color is purple and her favorite food is sweet and sour meatballs. After Hanson graduates from Heppner High, she wants to move to La Grande, OR so she can attend Eastern Oregon University and pursue a degree in business management.

The other senior for this week is Joslynn Nicole Troxell; her parents are

Kevin Troxell and Melanie Gates. Troxell has two siblings, Tarin Troxell and Kenneth Troxell. Her favorite food is grilled cheese with tomato soup; her favorite colors are turquoise and orange. Troxell participates in softball and is the FFA secretary. In her spare time, Troxell enjoys hanging out with her family and her boyfriend, Jake. After Troxell graduates high school, she wants to major in agriculture business, but she has not decided what college she would like to attend.

RHS soccer coach honored

At the Oct. 16 city council meeting, Boardman Mayor Chet Phillips announced long-time youth soccer coach Carolos Velasco had won the Oregon Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports' 2012 Fitness Leadership Award. Coach Velasco was unable to attend the meeting to accept his award; however, the 2010 award winner, Coach Francisco Velasquez, was on hand to accept the certificate on Velasco's behalf.



The 2011 RHS boys' state champion soccer team with Coach Carolos Velasco (left, back row). -Contributed photo

Phillips nominated Velasco for coaching the Riverside High School boys' soccer team to an undefeated 2011 season and for leading the team to win the 2011 OSAA Class 3A/2A/1A Boys' Soccer State Championship. This was Riverside High School's first state soccer championship. Velasco has also coached numerous other youth soccer teams for more than 12 years in Boardman.

**Medicare Part D
Open Enrollment is
October 15th - December 7th**

**Morrow County Health District
will conduct free Medicare Part D
Workshops from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
at the following locations:**

- > Nov. 1st - Hospital, Heppner
- > Nov. 6th - Ione Market
- > Nov. 8th - Hospital, Heppner
- > Nov. 13th - Hospital, Heppner
- > Nov. 14th - Ione Market
- > Nov. 15th - Hospital, Heppner
- > Nov. 27th - Ione Market
- > Nov. 29th - Hospital, Heppner

Additional dates will be announced soon.

Please call 541-676-9133 or 1-800-737-4113 to make an appointment.



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News deadline:
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WORK, STRONG
LEADERSHIP,
KNOWLEDGE &
INTEGRITY.

COLUMBIA BASIN ELECTRIC ANNUAL MEETING and LUNCHEON

Thursday, November 1,
2012

American Legion
Hall Ione, OR
Registration 11:15 a.m.
Lunch 12:00 p.m.

Meeting to Follow
Door Prizes

Free to all customers in our service territory

