

## Regis rams Mustang hope for state championship

The magical season for the Heppner High School football team came to an end on Saturday. The Mustangs lost to the Regis Rams in the OSAA State Football Championships Semi-Final game by a score of 21-14.

The game was held at Hillsboro Stadium in front of a large group of loud Heppner fans. The loss ends the team's season with an 11-1 record and a Blue Mountain Conference championship.

It was a hard-fought contest that was a defensive battle throughout. The Mustang offense had a hard time moving the ball against the big and athletic Regis defense. The Heppner defense controlled the Regis offense for most of the game and did a great job of holding Regis running back Jeremiah Grieser to half of his normal yardage for a game. They held him to only 96 rushing yards on 35 attempts. The game was even closer than the final score indicates, as only a couple of plays one way or the other decided the game.

The Mustangs got on the scoreboard first when Brian Rill scored from five yards out in the middle of the first quarter. The PAT kick by Jesse Corbin made the score 7-0. Later in the quarter Regis scored on a short run by Grieser and that made it 7-7 at halftime.

In the third quarter both teams struggled to move the ball and each team fumbled. Neither team could score off of the turnovers and the quarter ended still tied.

In the fourth quarter Tom Gould blocked a Regis punt and the Mustangs recovered the ball on the eight-yard line. Quarterback Kaden Clark then threw



Heppner senior Jordan Bailey goes up for a pass. —Photo by Sandy Matthews

a quick slant pass to CJ Kindle and he stretched the ball over the goal line for a touchdown. The Corbin kick was good and the Mustangs led 14-7.

The Rams scored again with just under five minutes left in the game on a short run up the middle. They missed the extra point and the Mustangs still led at this point 14-13. Regis recovered the ensuing onside kick and had the ball in good field position.

The Mustang defense then forced a fourth down and ten play for the Rams. The Regis quarterback scrambled around and found a receiver open for a 39-yard score. They then added the two point conversion that gave them their first lead of the game 21-14.

After the Regis kickoff, Heppner only had a little over two minutes left to try and score. The team did move ball down field, but failed to convert on a fourth down play and that was the end of their season.

For the game the Mustang offense had 161 total yards. Clark was 8-19

for 69 yards with one TD and two interceptions. Jordan Bailey caught five balls for 53 yards, Kindle two for 18 and Jaden Orr one for eight yards. Rill led the team in rushing with 84 yards on 24 carries. Kindle had three carries for 14 and Bailey four for six yards.

The defense was led in tackles by Logan Grieb with nine. Patrick Collins had eight and Weston Putman and Kindle each recorded six tackles.

It was a great season for the Mustangs and they gave their friends, families, community and themselves something to be proud of. They all worked hard to be the best they could be and it showed in the way they played and acted on the field. This reporter had one gentleman in Hillsboro, who was there to watch another game, comment on how impressed he was with the way the team would tackle the opponent and then help them up. This was only one of the examples of what an outstanding group of young men represented Heppner High School. The coaching staff, of course, worked hard to prepare them for every game.

The Mustangs lose five seniors from this team who were true leaders on and off the field. Their spirit and play will be greatly missed.

But tradition never graduates. The Mustangs will be ready to defend their championship again next year.

## THREE GENERATIONS OF PHARMACY

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She graduated with her bachelor's degree in general science in 2010 before going on to the four-year PharmD program at OSU.

Murray says she studied the science of pharmacy, such as medicine chemistry, early in her doctoral program. She then spent her third year at Oregon Health and Sciences University taking classes from professors rotations. Her fourth year was spent doing clinical rotations around Oregon; she had to complete seven six-week rotations during that final year. She says she travelled all over the state but spent a lot of time at St. Charles, doing rotations that included work in the Intensive Care Unit, the cancer center and more. The success of those rotations, she says, led to her continued involvement there.

"Each year was difficult for a different reason. Each year had its own challenges," says Murray. She says it was tough learning the medicine chemistry and disease stages early on, but later years had their own trials. "The fourth year was challenging because I moved every six weeks, had a new specialty every six weeks."

"It was just a really intense process. I'm glad I went through it but I'm glad I can now add other things to my life," she says. "It was really stressful at times. Ultimately, though, I think I made the right decision. I can see that it made me a well-rounded pharmacist, now that I'm out practicing."

She graduated with her PharmD in June of this year. That was when she had to decide where to go from there. The family business became the logical choice.

"Eastern Oregon is near and dear to my heart so it isn't much of a stretch to be back now," Murray says. "There's just a different atmosphere working in a small, family pharmacy. There aren't many small family pharmacies left, but I get to work in that environment."

Ann Murray says it's great having her daughter involved in the business.

"She brings so much of the clinical skill they're teaching at pharmacy school now. That wasn't available when John and I went to school," Ann says. "She has a great personality; she's great with people."

Murray says that while she loves the friendly atmosphere of Heppner and Condon, she also appreciates working in the faster-paced, large-hospital environment of St. Charles in Bend.

"They're two different worlds, and I get to do both," says Murray. "It's the best of both worlds."

"She's going to be skilled in both hospital and retail (pharmacy). It's a great learning experience," Ann agrees. "She can do anything after this."

Murray admits there is something special about being the third generation in the family business, especially in a day when not so many people follow in their parents' footsteps.

"I think it's neat because I get to be involved in the family business. I



Laurie Murray, who now works alongside her parents and grandfather at Murray's Drug in Heppner and Condon, is the third generation of pharmacists in the Murray family. —Photo by Mallorie Jones

get to give (my parents) a day off. And it's really nice working in a small community pharmacy. The community here is great, the people are friendly," she says.

She not only gets to work with her parents, she also works side-by-side with her grandfather in the Condon store; Rod Murray, though in his 80s, still works the pharmacy there one day a week.

Though working and travelling between stores and down to Bend keeps her busy, Murray says she also has time to enjoy things her school schedule didn't allow her to do. She says she likes to be in the family cabin in the mountains, and enjoys snowmobiling.

"Anything with family and friends that I didn't have time for in school," she says. "It's nice to have free time."

## Successful youth hunt held at OHV park

The Morrow/Grant County Off Highway Vehicle Park (MGCOHV) held its sixth annual Special Spike Only Youth Hunt Nov. 2-10.

This hunt is a general second-season spike elk hunt that is held through an application/draw system that encourages outdoor family recreation.

The special hunt is available to Morrow and Grant County residents only. Hunt coordinators said the hunt is a way to give back to the communities for their support of this park.

This year there were a total of 10 applicants from across Morrow County; there were no applications received from Grant County. All 10 of the applicants were successfully drawn and provided with packets with information pertaining to the special hunt.

Weather typical for this time of year produced a variety of conditions from beautifully sunny skies to rain to snow flurries.

Reports from the youth



Josey Evans bagged her first bull elk during this year's sixth annual special youth hunt at the OHV park. —Contributed photo

hunters indicated that they were seeing signs of elk and other wildlife.

The first weekend, the elk seemed to have the advantage, but on the morning of Nov. 8, Josey Evans took careful aim and tagged her first bull elk.

Zack Henrichs who

participated in the special hunt, also tagged a bull during the season, although not at the OHV park.

"This program is a great opportunity for area youth; it is our hope that more youth will take advantage of the program in the future," said one coordinator.

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