

Heppner girls outscore Tigers to win third seed in districts

After another weekend split, the Heppner High School girls' basketball team found itself in a tie for third place in the final Columbia Basin Conference standings. The Mustangs are 9-12 overall and 4-6 in CBC play.

In their games this past weekend, Heppner lost to the Weston-McEwen TigerScots by a score of 44-30. They then bounced back and beat the scrappy Culver Bulldogs 42-36.

The Mustangs jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead in their game at Athena. The TigerScots came back strong, and the score was tied 6-6 at the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter, Heppner was outscored 13-4 to trail 19-10 at halftime.

The Heppner shooters could not get it going in the third quarter, and Weston-McEwen outpaced the Mustangs 18-7 to take a 37-17 lead into the fourth quarter. The Heppner girls did win the last quarter 13-7, but it was too little, too late. The final score of the game ended up 44-30.

Kelly Wilson led the team in scoring with 17 points. She also had 1 rebound and 2 steals before fouling out of the game. Maddie Lindsay followed with 6 points and 6 rebounds for the team. Paige Grieb and Jessica Kempkin each scored 2 points and had 4 rebounds for the night. Kempkin also had 4 big blocks in the game. Macy Gibbs scored 1 point and had 3 rebounds. Kaelyn Lindsay also scored 1 point, had 2 rebounds and 1 steal. Morgan Correa contributed 1 point and 1 rebound.

Mustang player Sophie Grant was lost for the rest of the season when it was learned that she had broken a bone in her wrist during the Irrigon game.

In a crucial home game with the Culver Bulldogs, Heppner battled to a 12-12 tie at the end of the first quarter. They continued to play well and led the game 24-21 at halftime.



Mustang Paige Grieb works the ball while keeping out of range of a pursuing TigerScot during Friday's game. —Photo by Sandra Putman

The Mustangs turned up the pressure in the third quarter and outscored the Bulldogs 10-4. They took a 34-25 lead into the fourth quarter. Culver closed to within two points late in the game, but Heppner was able to take control and get the victory by a score of 42-36.

Maddie Lindsay scored 14 points to lead the team. She also recorded 12 big rebounds, and had 2 blocked shots and 1 assist to go along with 1 steal. Wilson had a busy night with 13 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists and 3 steals in the game. Correa scored 6 points, had 7 rebounds, 1 assist and 1 steal. Kempkin was busy in the game, getting 4 points, 7 rebounds and 1 blocked shot. Grieb and Gibbs each scored 2 points in the game. Grieb also had 2 rebounds and 1 assist for the team. Rylee Kollman scored 1 point and had 1 assist in the game.

The Mustangs played the Stanfield Tigers Monday in a game to break the third-place tie; the girls won the game to advance to the CBC District Tournament as the third seed. Heppner defeated the Stanfield Tigers by a score of 47-32.

The Mustangs controlled the game from the very beginning. They jumped out to a 13-6 lead

after one quarter and then extended the lead to 21-12 at halftime. Heppner outscored the Tigers 26-20 in the second half to get the win by a score of 47-32.

A balanced scoring attack was led by Kelly Wilson with 14. Jessica Kempkin had 13 points and Maddie Lindsay poured in 12. Paige Grieb was next with 4 and Kaelyn Lindsay scored 2. Macy Gibbs and Kacie Gray each scored 1 point in the game.

Kempkin led the team in rebounds with 12 and Maddie Lindsay had 11. Morgan Correa, Rylee Kollman and Wilson had 3 rebounds each. Gibbs was next with 2 and Grieb, Kaelyn Lindsay, Riane Dompier and Rian Wizner each had 1 rebound for the team. Wilson had 3 assists, Grieb followed with 2 and Correa finished with 1. Wilson also had 3 steals, Maddie Lindsay recorded 2, and Grieb and Kempkin had 1 steal each. Kempkin also blocked 1 shot in the game.

The Mustangs now move on to the District Tournament where they will play the number-two seeded Weston-McEwen TigerScots. The game is Friday night at 7 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center.

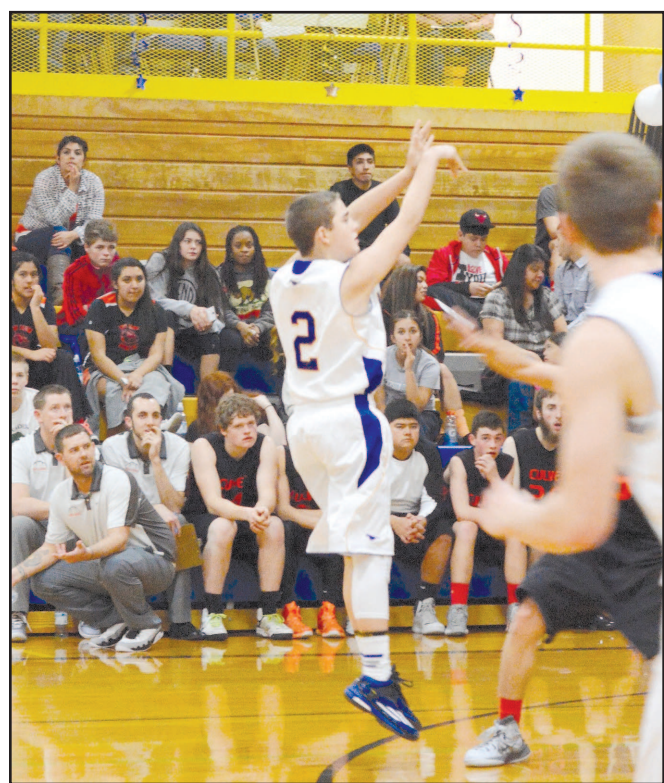
Mustangs end regular season with two conference wins

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team wrapped up one of its most successful regular seasons in school history last weekend. The Mustangs finished the regular season with a 16-4 record and were 7-3 in Columbia Basin Conference play. They are currently the third-ranked team in the latest OSAA 2A State Basketball rankings. Heppner won its last two conference games of the season by defeating the Weston-McEwen TigerScots 51-43 and the Culver Bulldogs by a score of 76-21.

The game with the TigerScots was a hard-fought contest to the very end. Heppner led 14-11 at the end of the first quarter. A strong second quarter, in which the Mustangs outscored Weston-McEwen 13-6, gave Heppner a 27-17 lead at halftime. A close game in the second half saw the TigerScots outscore the Mustangs 26-24. It was not enough in the end, however, as Heppner won the game 51-43.

Leading the way for the Mustangs was Logan Grieb with 15 points. He also recorded 6 rebounds and 3 assists in the game. Patrick Collins followed with 12 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals and 1 blocked shot. Kevin Murray came in and gave the team some quality minutes. He scored 9 points and had 6 rebounds. CJ Kindle was next with 6 points, 5 assists, 1 rebound and 2 steals in a good all-around game. Weston Putman had 4 points, 12 big rebounds and 2 steals for the Mustangs. Ross Cutsforth and Caden Hedman each scored 2 points in the game. Cutsforth also had 3 rebounds and Hedman chipped in 1 rebound and 1 assist in the contest. Jeremiah Petzoldt scored 1 point, had 2 rebounds and Jesse Corbin also grabbed 2 rebounds for the team.

The Mustangs shot only 38 percent from the field in the game, but they dominated the rebound total 37-25. The team took care



Mustang Jake Lindsay shoots the ball in the game against the Culver Bulldogs. —Photo by Sandra Putman

of the ball, as they only had 11 turnovers in the game.

In the game against the Culver Bulldogs, Heppner jumped out quickly and took an early lead and never looked back. It was 13-8 at the end of the first quarter and 35-15 at halftime. The Mustangs outscored the Bulldogs 41-7 in the second half to get the win by a score of 76-21. Everyone on the Mustang roster was able to get extended minutes of play in this game.

Kevin Murray led the team in scoring, as he went for 18 points on the night. He also had 9 rebounds and 2 steals. Cutsforth followed with 15 points, 9 rebounds and 1 steal. Collins had a good game with 12 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals and 2 blocked shots. Corbin scored 7 points in the game and also recorded 2 rebounds, 1 assist and 3 steals. Putman also had 7 points and ripped down 6 big rebounds for the Mustangs. Kolby Currin hit two three-pointers in the game and finished with 6 points and 2 rebounds. Petzoldt was next with 4 points and Grieb also scored 4 points and he also had 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 blocked shots and 1 steal. Hedman had 2

points and 2 assists, while Kindle checked in with 1 point, 3 rebounds and 2 assists. Jake Lindsay gave the team some quality minutes of play and had 2 assists in the game.

Heppner shot 55 percent from the field and 78 percent from the foul line. They outrebounded the Bulldogs 40-9 in the game. The Mustangs only had 8 turnovers for the night.

Mustang coach Jeremy Rosenbalm told his team after their last game, "At the start of the year we broke the season down into thirds. In the first third, you had a great pre-season as you went 9-1 against some highly-ranked teams. In the second third, you had a tremendous regular season. You went 7-3 in possibly the toughest conference in the state. It's now time for the last third, the post season. Let's go out and finish the season strong and keep playing for three more weeks."

The Mustangs start post-season play at the CBC District Tournament on Friday night. They will play the Stanfield Tigers at the Pendleton Convention Center. Game time is set for 7:45 p.m.

Mustangs on the mat



Above: Ryan Smith, Heppner, gives it his all in the championship bout last weekend. Upper right: The ref holds the arm of a victorious Jorgen Anderson after a bout last weekend. Lower right: "Oooohhh...I can't watch." An aspiring future wrestler seems to decide he's not quite ready to take to the mats. —Photos by Kandy Boyd



Heppner celebrates senior night



Heppner senior basketball players and band members and their families were honored on Heppner High School's Senior Night during the game versus Culver last Saturday. In the front row (L-R) are senior basketball players Ross Cutsforth, Macy Gibbs, Maddie Lindsay, Paige Grieb, Kelly Wilson, Jeremiah Petzoldt and Jesse Corbin, and senior band member Tom Gould. In the back row (L-R) are Missy and Jeff Cutsforth, Jay and Sue Gibbs, Cam George, Mindy and Steve Wilson, Bonnie George, Ken and Carri Grieb, Melissa and Todd Lindsay, Tina Corbin, John and Ashli Gould, Richard Schmidt, senior band member Joe Schmidt, Pam Schmidt, Misty and Aaron Petzoldt, and Terry Corbin. —Contributed photo

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