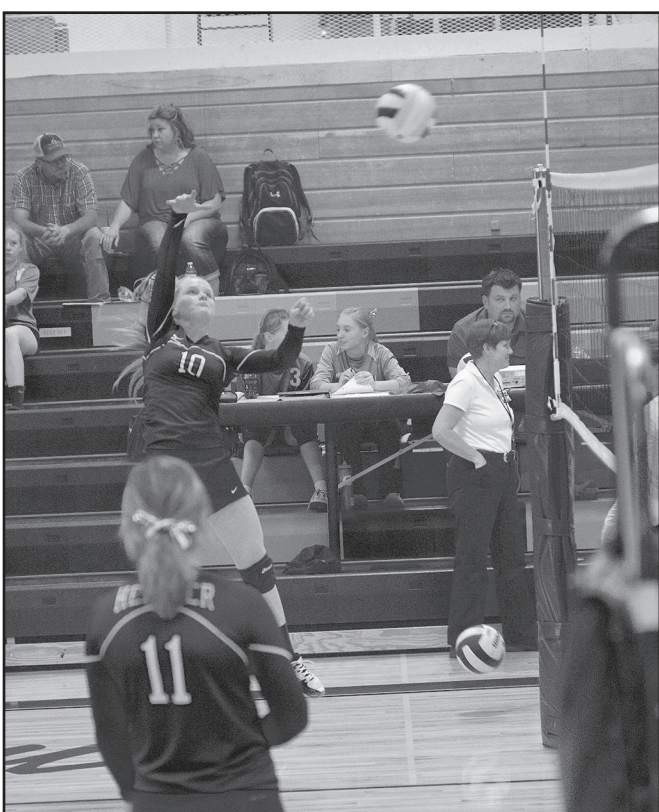


Mustangs kick off league play with hard-hitting victory



Mustang Jacee Currin (#10) gives it her all during the Sept. 29 game versus Pilot Rock while teammate Sydney Maben (#11) stands ready to assist. After winning their Pilot Rock game 3-2, the Lady 'Stangs went on to suffer losses against Union and Weston-McEwen, leaving them with a 9-10 overall record and 2-3 league record. Their next contest is at Pilot Rock Thursday at 5 p.m., followed by back-to-back battles at home on Saturday beginning at noon. —Photo by Sandra Putman

HHS celebrates homecoming

By Patrick Collins

Heppner High School celebrated its homecoming with lots of fun and festivities recently. The theme for the week was "Game On" and the games began on Monday morning when the classes battled it out in a game of trivia, which went well with the dress-up day of Nerd Day. As kids blurted out answers wearing their "nerd" attire, it made a pretty hilarious sight to see.

On Tuesday the dress-up theme was "Movie Character Day," where we had a wide range of characters from Harry Potter to Ricky Bobby and even an appearance from Princess Leia from Star Wars. That day students had another competition between the classes, which involved Pictionary, Charades, and Name That Song. After all of the games were over in the gym, they had some spare time while the points were being tallied so they even did a little impromptu dance-off, which created a lot of fun and loud laughing.

Wednesday was Super Hero Day, and the day for the school's big activity night that students have done for the last 10-plus years. After school and practices, they were able to enjoy some tough competition of ultimate Frisbee and the Human Knot. Mike Ehrsam helped with

Ultimate Frisbee. After the field events, they all stood together and listened to music and cheered like crazy. Dale Bates provided the awesome music and the speakers.

On Wednesday night students also got to enjoy their annual bonfire that was made possible by the Heppner Fire Department. They helped students find a safe location, start and keep the fire under control, and make sure that the fire was completely out before leaving—our hometown firefighters helped us keep this event as fun and safe as possible.

Thursday was the last day of the week and the last competition. The school's Noise Parade was high-spirited and a fun experience as students made their way to the football field for their last competition. The last competition was a relay race across the field, eating different types of food, and was finished off by a hula-hooping contest. The Heppner Fire Department helped out again by spraying off the bleachers at the field so they all had a clean place to sit.

On Thursday night the volleyball girls picked up a league win against Irrigon, winning 3-0. The Mustang football boys also picked up a big win on the following night, defeating Tri-Cities Prep with a score of 59-13.

Heppner opens league play with crushing victory over Rockets

The Heppner Mustang football team opened the Columbia Basin Conference season with a 52-19 win over the Pilot Rock Rockets. The Mustangs are looking to defend the CBC championship they won last year.

Heppner kicked off to start the game. The defense held and forced a punt, which gave the Mustangs good field position. Three plays later Heppner scored when CJ Kindle ran the ball in from 19 yards out for the touchdown. Tommy Bredfield powered the ball in for the two-point conversion to make the score 8-0. Pilot Rock fumbled the ball on their next possession and Weston Putman recovered it for the Mustangs. On the very next play, Bredfield scored from 33 yards out on a run up the middle. Quarterback Kaden Clark ran the ball in for the two-point conversion to make the score 16-0 with only three minutes gone in the game.



Mustang quarterback Kaden Clark (#10) runs the ball while Saul Castenada-Erickson (#52) blocks a Rocket player. The Mustangs won their first league game of the season by a score of 52-19. —Photo by Sandra Putman

tangs ended when Bredfield scored from one yard out. Clark ran the ball in on the two-point try and that made the score 24-0. The Mustang defense then forced a three-and-out Rocket punt. Just four plays later Clark ran the ball in for a 43-yard touchdown to make the score 30-0 at the end of the first quarter.

touchdown. Bredfield also scored the two-point conversion to make the score 38-0. The teams then traded possessions and the next time Heppner got the ball they scored again. This time Kindle scored the touchdown on a carry of 23 yards. Logan Grieb ran the ball in for the two-point conversion to make the score 46-0. The half ended as Clark intercepted a Rocket pass in the end zone. The halftime score was 46-0.

The 45 point rule forced the entire second half to be played with a running clock. Most of the Mustang regulars did not see much action in the second half. The Heppner coaches rotated many of the other team members in so they could gain valuable experience in a varsity game.

The Rockets scored as the third quarter came to an end to make the score 46-6. Just two plays into the fourth quarter, the Mustangs scored again as Coby Dougherty outraced everyone for a 65-yard touchdown. That made the score 52-6. The Rockets scored two more times in

the quarter to make the final score 52-19.

Heppner had 16 first downs in the game and Pilot Rock finished with eight. The Mustangs had 353 total yards in the game and the Rockets had 230.

The powerful, strong and smart offensive line allowed six Mustang ball carriers to run for a total of 293 yards. Bredfield led the team with 74 yards and three touchdowns on six carries. Kindle gained 72 yards and scored two times on 10 carries. Grieb packed it five times and gained 71 yards on the night. Dougherty had one carry for 65 yards and a touchdown. Clark ran the ball a total of eight times for 41 yards and a touchdown. Kaden Corbin had two carries and gained a total of 11 yards in the game.

Clark only threw the ball five times in the game, but he completed four of them for 60 yards. Kindle caught two passes for 44 yards in the game. Bredfield had one catch for 15 yards and Ryan Smith caught a ball and gained one yard.

The Mustang defense was led by Kevin Murray, who was in on 10 tackles. Bredfield was next with five and Kolby Currin had four. Putman, Grieb, Patrick Collins and Tim Jaca finished with three each. Wyatt Steagall had two tackles for the team. Finishing with one tackle each were Ryan Smith, Saul Erickson, Jake Lindsay, Derek Howard and Corbin. Kindle and Clark each had one tackle and one interception in the game.

The next game for the Mustangs is this Friday night at Les Payne field. They will host the Culver Bulldogs in another CBC matchup.



Coby Dougherty (#28) keeps his grip on the ball as he slips past a Pilot Rock player. Dougherty ran the ball 65 yards for the Mustangs' last touchdown of the night in their first league victory of the season. —Photo by Sandra Putman

Kindle intercepted the Rocket quarterback on their next series and ran the ball back to near midfield. A nine-play drive by the Mus-

As the second quarter started, the Mustangs scored again. This time Bredfield carried the ball in from the 14 yard line for the

Mustang JV splits Monday contest

Team takes down the Vikings but falls to the Knights in three quarters of play

The Heppner Mustang JV football team travelled to Irrigon to play in a three quarter jamboree on Monday night. The Mustangs played two quarters against the Umatilla Vikings and then played one quarter against the Irrigon Knights.

Against the Vikings, Kaden Corbin returned the opening kickoff 18 yards to give the Mustangs good field position. A six-play drive that was highlighted by a 26-yard pass play from quarterback Kevin Smith to Beau Wolters led to a Heppner score. Coby Dougherty ran the ball in from three yards out for the touchdown to give Heppner a 6-0 lead.

The teams traded possessions, then Lane Wilhelm sacked the Viking quarterback for an 11-yard loss. That forced a Umatilla punt deep in their own territory. Dougherty returned the punt 38 yards down the right sideline for a touchdown. That made the score 12-0. On the next Viking possession Smith stepped

in front of a pass and intercepted it. The Heppner offense could not capitalize on their next drive.

Wolters then came up with a sack on the next Viking possession to force another punt. Jake Lindsay came in to quarterback the Mustangs and led them on a seven-play scoring drive. On that drive Corbin ran it for 17 yards, Hunter Nichols gained 18 yards on a run around left end, and Lindsay found Leo Waite open for a eight-yard pass completion. Lindsay capped off the drive when he scored from one yard out to make it 18-0. Mads Meltofte ran the two-point conversion in to make the score 20-0.

The Vikings scored late in the half and then tried an onside kick. Ethan Akers alertly jumped on the ball and the contest ended with the score 20-6.

In the one quarter against the Knights, Heppner kicked off first. Dougherty stopped the first Irrigon drive as he

intercepted a pass and returned it 40 yards to give his team good field position. A pass play of 37 yards from Smith to Peyton Lehman put the Mustangs close to the goal line. Heppner got it to the one-yard line but was stopped on downs by the Knights. Irrigon then went on a 10-play drive to score the only points in the quarter. Corbin did return the Irrigon kickoff 26 yards, but the Mustangs could not mount a scoring threat and the contest ended 6-0 in favor of Irrigon.

On the night, Corbin ran the ball seven times for 97 yards. Dougherty carried the ball 10 times for 19 yards and a touchdown. Nichols had one carry for 18 yards and Lindsay packed the ball two times for five yards and a score. Dougherty also scored a touchdown on a punt return. Smith was 2-7 passing

for 63 yards and Lindsay attempted three passes and completed one for eight yards. Lehman had one catch for 37 yards, while Wolters caught one ball for 26. Waite had one catch for eight yards.

On the defensive side of the ball, Wolters led the team with 11 tackles and a sack. Zach Bredfield was next with eight tackles and Derek Howard had seven. Dougherty followed with six tackles and an interception. Tristan Moses had five tackles while Lehman and Jacob Wallace had four each. Lane Wilhelm was next with three tackles and a quarterback sack. Lindsay finished with two tackles for the team. With one tackle each in the game were Waite, Smith, Akers, Cason Mitchell and Dakota Howard. Smith also had an interception for the Mustangs.



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SAGE Saturday Oct. 10

The next SAGE Saturday is set for Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman.

The event is sponsored by Northwest Farm Credit Services and is free for families. This month, participants will do a craft showing the life cycle of a pumpkin and make their own "dirt" pudding with chocolate pudding, cookies and gummy worms.

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