

# Mustangs remain undefeated with Friday thrashing of Tigers



Close but not close enough: A Stanfield player falls short of stopping Mustang Logan Grieb Friday night. The Mustangs dished out a bitter defeat to the Tigers, maintaining both their undefeated status and their top spot in the conference. —Photo by Sandra Putman

The Heppner Mustang football team took control of the Columbia Basin Conference race with a 60-6 trashing of the Stanfield Tigers last week. With the win, Heppner (7-0, 3-0) is the only undefeated team in the CBC. They are also one of only three teams at the 2A level to be undefeated at this point in the season.

Early in the game it was hard-fought in the trenches. Both teams' lines had lots of size and strength. On the second drive of the game for Heppner, they scored. A seven-play drive ended with a touchdown when CJ Kindle ran the ball in from three yards out. That gave the Mustangs a 6-0 lead.

The next time Heppner got the ball it took only two plays to score again. Receiver Logan Grieb got behind the Tiger defense and Kaden Clark hit him with a long pass. The touchdown catch and run covered 71 yards. Clark then threw

to Weston Putman for the two-point conversion and the Mustangs led 14-0. The Tigers then put together a drive that led to a touchdown; that made the score 14-6.

The next time they had the ball, Stanfield was forced to punt from deep in their own territory. Tommy Bredfield busted through the Tiger line and blocked the punt. The ball rolled into the end zone and Patrick Collins fell on it for another Mustang touchdown. Clark ran the ball in for the two-point conversion to make the score 22-6.

The Mustang defense forced a fumble on the next Tiger possession. On the very next play, Kindle raced around the right edge of the Mustang line and sprinted down the sideline for a 69-yard touchdown. Kindle then threw a pass to Grieb for the two-point conversion, and that made the score 30-6 at halftime.

Heppner scored each time they touched the ball in the second half. Their first score came on the first play of the half. Clark threw a strike to Grieb, who ran it in for a 60-yard touchdown. Putman caught the two-point conversion pass from Clark to make the score 38-6 just 10 seconds into the half.

The Mustang defense forced a Tiger punt and the offense went back to work. A six-play drive that covered over 60 yards ended with a seven-yard touchdown pass from Clark to Putman. A run by Clark for the two-point conversion was good and Heppner led 46-6 at this point.

The next Heppner drive started near midfield. A pass from Kindle to Grieb that covered 21 yards helped set up the score. Clark found Grieb open again and threw him a pass. Grieb caught it in stride and ran for a 31-yard touchdown. Clark carried the ball in for the two-point conversion and the score was 54-6 with four minutes left in the third quarter. The 45-point rule would come into play at this point and the clock would run the rest of the game.

Kevin Murray recovered a fumble the next time Stanfield had the ball. That gave Heppner good field position at the Stanfield 35-yard line. A steady diet of running plays ended in a touchdown when Bredfield ran the ball in from eight yards out. That made the final score of the game 60-6 in favor of the Mustangs.

Heppner had 14 first downs to nine for Stanfield. The Mustangs rushed for 187 yards and the Tigers 153. Heppner passed for

216 yards and Stanfield nine. Total yards for the game were Heppner 403 and Stanfield 162.

Clark finished the game 5-12 passing for 195 yards. He threw for four touchdowns and had one interception. Kindle completed one pass for 21 yards.

Grieb caught four passes for 183 yards and three touchdowns. Putman had two pass receptions for 33 yards and one score.

Kindle led the team in rushing with 109 yards on eight carries. He scored two touchdowns running the ball in the game. Clark gained 27 yards rushing and scored one touchdown. Bredfield packed it seven times and gained 23 yards on the night. Grieb and Caden Hedman each gained 14 yards rushing in the game.

The Heppner defense was led by Bredfield and Murray. They each had 13 tackles in the game, and Murray also recovered two fumbles. Putman contributed 12 tackles and a fumble recovery. Patrick Collins finished the game with 8 tackles and a blocked punt touchdown. Grieb and Saul Erickson each had six tackles for the Mustangs. Kolby Currin had five tackles, while Kindle and Tre Cimmiyotti each recorded four. With three tackles each in the game were Clark, Hedman, Tim Jaca and Wyatt Steagall. Clark also had a fumble recovery for the team. Jake Lindsay had two tackles and Ryan Smith, Coby Dougherty and Derek Howard each had one.

The Mustangs will host the Irrigon Knights on Friday night at Les Payne field. Game time is 7 p.m.

# Nichols places third in tough invitational



Heppner seventh-grader Madelyn Nichols placed third out of 135 middle school girls at the Wildhorse Invitational cross country meet last Thursday with a time of 12:05. —Contributed photo

# Day care receives grant funds

The Heppner Day Care recently received a boost in nutrition and expansion in the form of several grants.

A grant from the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation will aid in providing fresh and local produce to day care and preschool children attending the center. The stated mission of the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation is to enhance the quality of life and general health of residents living in west Umatilla and Morrow County. Resources are provided to worthy projects best illustrating foundation ideals and fulfilling the health needs of our region.

The center board and staff say they are excited about this opportunity, as they say the nutrition that each child receives is important to staff and board members. With this grant, they "look forward to helping the children explore healthier food options and embrace a healthier lifestyle," the day care stated in a release.

Heppner Day Care was also a recipient of the Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group Community and Public Enhancement Grant. Day care staff say this grant is especially valuable to the center as it ensured that enough funds were secured to move forward with the opening of a toddler/infant center.

Morrow County Grain Growers and the Bank of Eastern Oregon also provided match money to a previously-awarded Wildhorse Foundation grant to update the play area behind the center. Plans are in place to update basketball hoops, outdoor play equipment and recreate a play area where the swings once were. Due to safety concerns the swings had to be removed and left a large empty space. A committee of board members and staff are looking at options to maximize the potential of the space by providing an appealing play area for all ages.

# Mustang JV stomps the Vikings

The Heppner Mustang JV football team won their game with the Umatilla Vikings Monday night by a score of 38-14.

The first time the Mustangs had the ball they went on a 14-play drive to score. Coby Dougherty ran the ball in from three yards out for the touchdown to make the score 6-0. The Heppner defense forced the Vikings to punt and Dougherty returned the kick 38 yards to give the Mustangs good field position. Kevin Smith scored a touchdown on a four-yard run up the middle; that made the score 12-0 at the end of the first quarter.

Umatilla scored a touchdown early in the second period. Beau Wolters flew over the Viking line and blocked the point-after

attempt. The score at this point was 12-6. Another long drive by the Mustangs, this one eight-plays, ended when Smith passed the ball to Wolters for a touchdown. That score stretched the lead to 18-6 in favor of the Mustangs. The teams traded possessions and then Tristan Moses intercepted a pass to stop a Viking drive. The score at halftime was 18-6.

Heppner got the ball to start the second half and went on one of their long scoring drives. This was a 10-play drive that ended with a touchdown when Kaden Corbin punched it in from nine yards out. The two-point conversion was scored by Mads Meltofte to make the score 26-6. The Mustang defense forced a three-and-out by the Vi-

kings and Heppner got the ball back in good field position. Eight straight running plays led to a touchdown when Dougherty scored on a one-yard run. That made the score 32-6 at the end of the third quarter.

When the Mustangs got the ball early in the fourth quarter, they scored again. Another eight-play drive ended when Dougherty scored from nine yards out to make the score 38-6. Umatilla scored again with only seconds left in the game. They then successfully executed an on-side kick. That threat was stopped when Smith intercepted a Viking pass. He then took a knee on the very next play to end the game and give the Mustangs the win by the score of 38-14.

Corbin led the Mustangs in rushing with 142 yards on 14 carries and a touchdown. Dougherty packed the ball 21 times for 131 yards and three touchdowns. Smith had eight

carries for 21 yards and one touchdown. Hunter Nichols gained nine yards on three carries and Zach Bredfield rushed for five yards on two carries.

Smith was 4-13 passing the ball for 74 yards and one touchdown in the game. Wolters caught two balls for 34 yards and a touchdown on the night. Dougherty had one reception for 28 yards and Peyton Lehman caught one pass for 12.

The defense was led by Wolters with 14 tackles. Derek Howard was next with eight tackles and Bredfield had seven. Corbin followed with six tackles and Nichols had four. Moses also finished with four tackles and had one interception. With three tackles each were Lehman, Dakota Howard, Ethan Akers, Jacob Wallace and Keegan Gibbs. Having two tackles each were Cason Mitchell and Zavier Glover. Smith had one tackle and one interception for the Mustangs.

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# New public meetings to discuss Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision

The Forest Service has scheduled new public meetings to discuss the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision.

A meeting regarding livestock grazing will be held in Heppner City Hall Wednesday, Nov. 4, from 6-9 p.m. Doors open at 5:30. An additional meeting on the topic will be held at the N. Fork John Day Ranger District in Ukiah

from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Nov. 2, a meeting on access and wilderness will take place at the La Grande Armory from 6-9 p.m. A meeting on pace and scale of restoration will take place at the same location Nov. 12 from 6-9 p.m.

A facilitator will ensure that everyone in attendance has time to speak, listen and propose solutions.

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