

Heppner cross-country makes good showing in inaugural district meet



The Mustang cross-country team placed eighth out of 12 in its first district meet. (Front L-R): Hunter Nichols, Reno Ferguson and Jimmy Adams. (Back L-R): Coach Alaina Lemmon, Head Coach Toni Nichols, Trent Smith, Gibson McCurry, Skyler Palmer, Hayden Qualls and Head Coach Russ Nichols. —Contributed photo

The Mustang boys' cross country team attended the 3A/2A/1A Special District 5 meet Oct. 23 at McKay Park in Pendleton, making a good showing at the team's inaugural meet.

SD 5 includes 21 schools, only 12 of which have complete teams. The Heppner boys placed eighth out of that field of 12, coming in behind Union, Nyssa,

Umatilla, Vale, Weston-McEwen, Stanfield and Burns but beating out Enterprise, Elgin, Griswold and Grant Union.

The individuals also made a good showing in the field of 117, all but one of the Heppner athletes running with personal record times. Individual places and times for the team in the 5,000M race were:

- 11. Hunter Nichols 17:51.51
- 31. Trent Smith 18:52.76
- 47. Skyler Palmer 19:39.42
- 60. Hayden Qualls 20:17.40
- 93. Gibson McCurry 22:19.52
- 104. Reno Ferguson 23:31.71
- 105. Jimmy Adams 23:33.77

Heppner girls rise to challenge in state cross country meet

Heppner was represented by Madelyn Nichols and Hannah Palmer at the PDXC State Middle School Championship Oct. 25 at Hidden Creek Polo Club in West Linn, OR.

The girls were among 1,300 runners of all levels who attended from around the state. Nichols and Palmer, both seventh-graders, competed against other seventh and eighth graders.

Despite the rainy, muddy and windy conditions, both girls made a good showing at their first state meet.

Nichols placed 19th in a field of 157 in the 3,000M Super Champs with a personal record time of 11:57.52.

Palmer had a time of 16:02.84 in the 3,000M Champs Heat 1.



Madelyn Nichols (right) and Hannah Palmer at the rainy, muddy and windy state cross country meet in West Linn. —Contributed photo

Heppner High School presents 'Drama Shorts'

The Heppner High School Drama Club will present "Drama Shorts" Tuesday, Nov. 3, and Thursday, Nov. 5, at the high school cafeteria at 7 p.m. Admission is free but donations are welcome. Dessert will be available for \$1.

Drama students will provide a variety show with short scenes, skits, piano duets, jokes and singing. Participating are Ryan Cecil, Caitlynn Bailey, Ryan Smith, Kaelyn Lindsay, Kane Sweeney, Cara Arbogast, Olivia Schmidt,

Meranda Lemmon, Emily Cecil, Trevor Chamberlain, Justice Petzoldt, Angel Matthew, Genevieve Smith, Gracie DeLoach, Brinley Dompier, Lexi Cutsforth, Leo Waite, Nicole Prophet, and Hannah and Madison Palmer.

Undefeated Mustangs #2 in 2A

The Heppner Mustang football team continued its winning ways with a 61-14 victory over the Irrigon Knights last Friday. The Mustangs (8-0, 4-0) have worked their way up to number two in the latest OSAA 2A state football rankings.

Heppner got the ball to start the game. On only the fourth play from scrimmage, Tommy Bredfield took a handoff and powered in for a touchdown from 11 yards out to make the score 6-0. The Mustang defense then stood strong and forced an Irrigon punt. CJ Kindle fielded the ball and sprinted 75 yards for another Heppner touchdown. Kindle then ran the two-point conversion in and the Mustangs led 14-0 just three minutes into the game.

After another Irrigon punt the Mustangs went on a nine-play drive that covered 83 yards. It ended with a touchdown when Kaden Clark ran the ball in from four yards out. Logan Grieb kicked the extra-point and the lead was now 21-0. Irrigon turned the ball over on downs and the Heppner offense wasted no time scoring another touchdown. Just four plays later, Bredfield powered in from eight yards out to make the score 27-0. Once again the Mustang defense forced a three-and-out by the Knights and got the ball back near midfield. Six plays later Kindle ran the ball up the middle of the field for a 23 yard touchdown. That made the score 33-0 early in the second quarter.

The next Irrigon drive ended when Grieb intercepted a pass and ran it back to the 35-yard line of the Knights. Grieb then scored a touchdown on a run of 19 yards around the left side of the Mustang line. Clark threw the ball to Weston Putman for the two-point

conversion to make the score 41-0 at halftime.

On the first drive of the second half for the Mustangs, Kindle ran the ball in from 33 yards out for another touchdown. That made the score of the game 47-0 with seven minutes left in the third quarter. The game clock would continue to run

The Mustang offensive line, which consisted of Patrick Collins, Saul Erickson, Weston Putman, Kevin Murray, Kolby Currin and Wyatt Steagall dominated the game. They blocked so well that the Mustangs were able to run for an amazing 424 yards in the game. Kindle carried the ball 12



Logan Grieb crashes through an opening made by the Mustang offensive line last Friday. The game against the Irrigon Knights was mostly a ground game, dominated by Mustang offense. —Photo by Sandra Putman

the rest of the game because of the 45-point rule. The Mustangs have seen this rule come into play many times this season.

On the next Irrigon possession, Putman intercepted a pass to give the Mustangs the ball. On the very next play, Caden Hedman took the handoff and scampered 34 yards for a touchdown. Kaden Corbin took a pitch and raced into the end zone for the two-point conversion to make the score 55-0. The dominating Mustang defense forced another Irrigon turnover. Grieb intercepted a pass and ran it all the way back for a 39-yard touchdown. That made the score 61-0 with a little over a minute left in the third quarter.

Reserves from both teams played most of the remainder of the game. Irrigon scored two touchdowns in the fourth quarter to make the final score 61-14.



Mustang Quarterback Kaden Clark looks for any opening in Friday's game against Irrigon. —Photo by Sandra Putman

times for 195 yards and two touchdowns. Grieb gained 86 yards on six carries and scored one touchdown. Bredfield packed the ball eight times for 60 yards and two touchdowns. Clark finished with 35 yards on seven carries and scored one touchdown. Hedman had 34 yards and one touchdown on his one carry. Corbin ran for 23 yards on two carries and Coby Dougherty had two rushes for one yard in the game.

With the running game working so well, Clark only threw the ball five times in the game. He completed one pass for 12 yards to Putman.

Overall the Mustangs had 436 yards of total offense. They held Irrigon to 165 yards on the night. Heppner had 19 first downs to 10 for Irrigon.

On the defensive side of the ball, Putman led the team with 13 tackles and an interception. Collins, Murray and Tim Jaca each recorded eight tackles and a quarterback sack in the game. Bredfield and Currin followed with six tackles each and Kindle had five. Steagall had four tackles and Grieb finished with three. Grieb also had two interceptions and ran one back for a touchdown. With two tackles each in the game were Clark, Erickson, Corbin and Tre Cimmiyotti. Finishing the game with one tackle each were Hedman, Jake Lindsay, Peyton Lehmen, Beau Wolters, Derek Howard, Jacob Wallace, Keegan Gibbs and Hunter Nichols.

This week the Mustangs travel to Athena to take on the Weston-McEwen TigerScots in their final game of the regular season. Game time is 7 p.m.

LES SCHWAB CONGRATULATES THE HEPPNER VOLLEYBALL TEAM ON THEIR SEASON

THE HEPPNER VOLLEYBALL TEAM IS RANKED 3RD IN THE 2A-5 COLUMBIA BASIN CONFERENCE



Team members: #2 Kaelyn Lindsay, #4 Sophie Grant, #7/5 Onna DeLoach, #8 Riane Dompier, #10 Jacee Currin, #11 Sydney Maben, #12 Morgan Correa, #15 Jessica Kempken, and #17 Rylee Wagonor. Head Coach Dieter Waite and JV Asst. Coach Terri Gentry

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