

Mustangs slaughter Rams in semifinals, aim for state title



Weston Putman (#20) dashes through an opening made by the Mustang offensive line last Saturday. The Mustang offense dominated the game, while the defensive line held the Rams to three points. -Photo by Sandra Putman

-From PAGE ONE
The Heppner Mustang football team will be playing in the last game of the season for the second year in a row. The Mustangs earned the right to play again for the OSAA 2A State Championship by defeating the Regis Rams 26-3 in a semifinal game last Saturday. With the win, Heppner will now play the Kennedy Trojans for the title of the "Best of the Best," champions of 2A football in the state of Oregon.

The game against Regis was played in front of a large and loud group of Mustang fans at Liberty High School in Hillsboro. It was a cool and sunny day, which made for good and fast footing on the artificial turf field.

Both teams spent the first quarter trying to gain field position on the other. Penalties and two turnovers by the Mustangs stalled their first three possessions. The Heppner defense did not let Regis get anywhere near to scoring, and the quarter ended 0-0.

As the second quarter started, the Rams put together a drive that led to a 25-yard field goal that gave Regis the lead 3-0. The next time Heppner had the ball they were forced to punt. Logan Grieb punted the ball deep to the Regis 15 yard

make the score 20-3. As the fourth quarter started, the powerful Mustang defense forced another Regis punt. Heppner took over and started a long scoring drive. Kindle got it going by rushing for 38 yards to move the ball to the Regis 30-yard line. Nine plays later the Mustangs scored when Putman blasted through the line for a one-yard touchdown. That made the score 26-3 in favor of Heppner as time was running down in the game.

Grieb intercepted the Rams' quarterback on the next Regis possession. Heppner then punted the ball back to Regis, but once again they were intercepted. Jake Lindsay stepped in front of a pass and picked it off. Another Heppner punt gave Regis the ball back. A big 14-yard quarterback sack by Bredfield forced the Rams into even worse field position. A long pass attempt was then intercepted by Caden Hedman to secure the victory. Clark took a knee on the last play of the game to give the Mustang a 26-3 win.

Heppner dominated the game on the stat sheet as well. The Mustangs had 20 first downs to seven for Regis. Heppner had 297 yards rushing to only 45 for the Rams. The Mustangs had 357 total yards in the game to 95 for Regis.

Kindle led the team in rushing with 195 yards and two touchdowns on 28 carries. Grieb followed with 64 yards and one score on eight carries. Putman finished with 44 yards rushing and one touchdown on 12 tries.

Clark was 6-11 for 60 yards passing in the game. Putman caught four of those for 32 yards. Kindle had one catch for 15 yards and Grieb caught one ball for 13.

Another great team defensive effort was led by Bredfield with nine tackles and a sack. Kindle had seven tackles in the game and Clark finished with four. Putman, Patrick Collins and Wyatt Steagall each had three. Grieb had two tackles and one interception for the team. Kevin Murray and Tim Jaca also recorded two tackles each. Hedman had one tackle and one interception while Ryan Smith and Tre Cimmiyotti each also had one tackle. Lindsay finished the game with an interception.

The state championship game will be played this Saturday, Nov. 28, on Ken-nison Field at Hermiston High School. The game is scheduled to start at 6 p.m.

The game will be broadcast live at <http://www.osaa.org/radio-network/2407> and AM 1360 KOHU Hermiston.



Heppner's head football coach Greg Grant takes a moment to coach Mustang Jake Lindsay on the sidelines. Being on crutches hasn't kept Grant from coaching his team through the playoffs and toward the 2A finals. -Photo by Sandra Putman

Mustang fans invited to special practice

To show their appreciation for all the local support they receive, the Heppner High School football team and coaching staff invite parents, family, fans and friends to stop by Thursday, Nov. 26, for the team's Thanksgiving Day practice. The Mustangs will be practicing at Les Payne Field from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The Booster club will be serving hot chocolate and coffee.

Mid-Columbia Bus, MCGG help get Heppner football team back on the road

The Heppner Mustang team was able to get back on the road to victory thanks to "quick and helpful action" by Mid-Columbia Bus Company and Morrow Country Grain Growers last Friday.

The Mustangs were headed to Hillsboro Nov. 20 when a heater hose blew on the bus. The antifreeze soaked much of the team's equipment, including helmets and jerseys.

"The employees at MCGG came out immediately and assisted in rinsing clothes, providing bags

for equipment, and were everywhere helping," said Heppner Coach Greg Grant. "It shows once again the quality of the people and businesses in our community."

Mid-Columbia bus scrambled up another bus quickly and called ahead to the motel to arrange for laundry and replacement of any damaged gear.

"John Grace went out of his way to help," said Grant. "It was nice to have everything laundered and ready to go the next day."

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office has released the following report of marriage licenses:

November 20, 2015: -Charles William Ferguson, 45, of Lexington and Jodi Fae Ferguson, 42, of Lexington.

Sheriff's Report

September 29 (cont.): -A subject in Irrigon requested contact regarding a stolen vehicle.

-MCSO received request for contact regarding a possible assault that took place between two students at an Irrigon school.

-A female in Irrigon advised MCSO that her boyfriend was beating her up; he hit her with a stick with a fork in it. MCSO arrested Ashley Doris Ondina Pantoja, 23, on Umatilla County warrants.

-MCSO was advised by a subject in Irrigon that his brother was out of control. MCSO arrested Skyler Zachary William Clements, 20, on charges of Assault IV Misdemeanor and Menacing.

-A woman in Heppner advised MCSO that her nine-year-old daughter saw a male in a trench coat, carrying a gun. She advised it scared her daughter.

-MCSO was called to assist in a Umatilla 911 call concerning a male passed out on the stoop with a 9 mm in his hand.

-MCSO was advised of a large amount of carrots on the road at Rhea Creek Rd./ Hwy. 74. The caller advised it was slick there. ODOT was advised.

September 30: -A person in Boardman reported a violation of a No Contact Order. Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested Louis Anthony Mendoza Sanchez, 24, for Violation of No Contact Order X3. Subject was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO reported making contact with a subject and trespassing him from a property in Boardman.

-A female in Irrigon advised that her 52-year-old brother was yelling at his eight-year-old daughter. She advised that she did not know if he had any weapons. MCSO responded and made contact with the juvenile and male subject.

-Umatilla County Sheriff's Office advised MCSO of the arrest of Carlos Antonio Ramirez, 24, on an MCSO warrant for Failure to Appear on Disorderly Conduct. Subject was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-A female in Irrigon reported that someone stole her service dog, a two-year-old pug/Chihuahua/shih tzu mix male named trouble, wearing a service vest and tags. MCSO responded and determined the dog to be missing.

ONLINE CITIZENSHIP

-Continued from PAGE ONE that good citizenship isn't just here in Heppner. It's in the state. It's online," she says. "We want them to be good people in all aspects of their lives, and we want them to be safe and responsible."

So, Payne says, the focus is on digital citizenship, teaching students both their rights and their responsibilities in navigating the online world, both so they don't get in trouble and so no one takes advantage of them.

"It's like when a student writes something and doesn't know how to cite

things correctly," she explains, drawing a comparison with posting—or borrowing—media online. She also says they brought in a speaker from Morrow County Sheriff's Office to speak about some of the laws involved.

"There's also a lesson about how to be safe in a chat room, what to look for if someone is saying they're someone they're not," says Payne.

This week, the class is learning the warning signs for online scams and schemes. Payne says they will also be covering the "trillion-dollar footprint,"

teaching students about their own online "footprint" and the impact it can have on their lives.

"What you put online stays online," she says, adding that students need to be aware of that as they move beyond high school to college and the work force. "People can look at that footprint, and they can find out what kind of person you are when you're online."

She also said they covered a little on cyber-bullying, but that wasn't the main focus.

"We don't talk about sexting. We don't talk about harassment," she says, add-

ing that the focus is "to be safe, to recognize when something has crossed the line. To recognize the signs—what are those signals and signs that something's a red flag?"

"We just want them to be safe and responsible."

Three weeks into the class, Payne says she is optimistic about the impact she's having on students' lives, though she says she continues to try to improve the course.

"It's a new thing. It's evolving," she says. "I think we've already made some differences."

A friendly reminder – It's about that time!

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