

Mustang volleyball claims victory over Tigerscots



Jenna McCullough #18, Nicole Prophetor #16, Jacee Currin #10, Sophie Grant #4, Morgan Correa #12, and Sydney Wilson #1. Background: Madison Combe, Claire Grieb and Shayna Osmin. -Photo by Staci Osmin

The Heppner Mustang volleyball team continued their strong play in the Columbia Basin Conference by defeating the Weston-McEwen Tigerscots in five sets. The Mustangs won the tough and exciting five set match by the scores of 13-25, 25-20, 16-25, 25-15, 19-17. With the win, the Mustangs stayed tied for first place in the conference with Culver at 6-1. Their overall record is 16-7, which has the team ranked 6th in the latest OSAA 2A volleyball rankings.

In a packed gym of Mustang fans and Tigerscot faithful who made the trip to see the matchup of two of the top volleyball teams in the area, everyone witnessed a back and forth, en-

tertaining volleyball match. A loud and rowdy group of Mustang football players wildly cheered on their team. It was an exciting match that ended up going down to the wire and either team could have won the match. For the Mustang fans it surely turned out the way they wanted to see it.

Heppner proved to be the scrappier team of the night and they fought hard to get to every ball that they could. They were the aggressor at the net and did a good job of blocking the taller Tigerscot hitters. The Mustangs served well all night and it paid off for them in the end.

Sophie Grant had a good all-around night as she had four aces, six kills and

11 assists. Nicole Prophetor led the team with nine kills and Morgan Correa was close behind with eight. Jacee Currin had a team high 16 assists and she also recorded six kills. Sydney Wilson had 24 digs on defense for the team.

It was a total team effort with all of the Mustangs chipping in to help get the victory. The bench players were loud and encouraging to their teammates and that helped in the victory.

Heppner finishes off their conference schedule on Tuesday night when they travel to take on the Stanfield Tigers. They will then move on to the district tournament, which will be held at Pilot Rock on Saturday, Oct. 21.

Mustangs stomp Bulldogs 64-31



Beau Wolters runs the ball up the field while Coby Dougherty (24) and Logan Burrigh (32) block. -Photo by Kirsti Cason

In a game with so many long runs that it sometimes looked more like a track meet and then ended with a basketball game score, the Heppner Mustang football team defeated the Culver Bulldogs 64-31 last Friday night.

Heppner kick returner, Beau Wolters, started the game by taking the opening kickoff back 21 yards to give the team great field position. Coby Dougherty then took a handoff and raced down the left side of the field before he was tackled at the one yard line. Gavin Hanna Robinson then blasted through the line to give the Mustangs its first of many touchdowns of the night and a 6-0 lead.

Culver scored a field goal to make the score 6-3 and then the Heppner offense went on a nine play drive to score their next touchdown. It came when quarterback Jayden Wilson dropped back and hit Wolters with a pass. The play covered 53 yards for the score and a 12-3 lead.

The Heppner defense forced the Bulldogs to turn the ball over on downs and then on the very first play from scrimmage, the Mustangs scored when Wolters took the hand off and outraced the defense for a 52 yard score. Hanna Robinson ran the two-point conversion attempt in and that made the score 20-3 at the end of the first quarter.

After another defensive stop by the Mustangs they scored again when Wolters caught a 56 yard touchdown pass. Hanna Robinson scored the two-point conversion and the

Mustangs led 28-3. Culver scored on their next possession to make it 28-9 and then the Mustangs came right back with a score of their own. Dougherty took a handoff and out ran the entire Bulldog defense 83 yards for a touchdown to give Heppner a 34-10 lead at halftime.

The Bulldogs scored the first time they got the ball in the second half to make it 34-17. The Mustangs quickly answered four plays later when Wilson carried the ball in from 30 yards out for a touchdown. Wolters ran in the two-point conversion to make the score 42-17 at this point.

The next time Heppner got the ball back, Wilson score another touchdown. This time he ran it in from 13 yards out for the score. He then threw to Wolters for the two-point conversion to make it 50-17. A Culver touchdown made the score 50-24 at the end of the third quarter.

The teams traded possessions early in the fourth quarter before the Mustangs would score again. This time Wolters ran it in from 37 yards out to make the score 56-24 with nine minutes left in the game.

Once again the teams traded punts and the Mustangs would score their final touchdown when Dougherty carried the ball in from 15 yards out. Wilson threw to Wolters for the two-point conversion to give the Mustangs a 64-24 lead.

Both teams began to substitute freely and the Bulldogs got their last touchdown with only sec-

onds left in the game, making the final score 64-31.

Both teams finished with 19 first downs but the Mustangs finished with 460 rushing yards compared to 117 for Culver. Heppner passed to 149 yards and Culver 237. The Mustangs finished with 609 total yards and Culver had 354.

Wilson finished the game 3-7 passing for 149 yards with 2 touchdowns. He also had 2 passes intercepted. Wolters caught all three of the passes for 149 yards and 2 touchdowns.

Dougherty led the team in rushing with 186 yards on only 8 carries. Wolters finished with 147 yards on 12 carries and Hanna Robinson ran for 75 yards on 15 carries. Quarterback Wilson ran for 52 yards and Kannon Wilkins finished with 3.

On the defensive side of the ball, Jason Rea led the team with eight tackles. Matt Orem was next with six and then with five tackles each were Peyton Lehman and Tyler Carter. Dougherty was next with four tackles and an interception. Kevin Smith, Wyatt Steagall, Logan Burrigh and Keegan Gibbs each recorded three tackles in the game. Hanna Robinson, Charles Cason, Evan Kollman and Jayden Wilson had two tackles each. With one tackle in the game were Dakota and Derek Howard, Zavier Glover, Wilkins, Roy Collins and Blake Wolters.

The Mustangs (2-0, 3-3) finish off their conference schedule this Friday night as they travel to take on the Stanfield Tigers.



Seniors and their parents were honored at senior night. Pictured back row (L-R): Virginia and Greg Grant, Christy and Mike Correa, Staci and Jess Osmin, Bridget and Dieter Waite. Front row (L-R): Sophie Grant, Morgan Correa, Shayna Osmin and Reiah Waite. -Photo by Kirsti Cason



Nate Merritt (38) and Ty Boor get a tackle during the JV Mustang game against the Bulldogs. -Photo by Kirsti Cason



Bryan Collins runs the ball up the field during Heppner Jr High's game against the Riverside Pirates. -Photo by Damon Brosnan

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