

Heppner wrestlers compete in Grant Union Invitational



Junior High wrestler Bryan Collins competes at the Grant Union Invitational. -Photo by Kirsti Cason

Heppner wrestlers were part of over 200 varsity and junior varsity wrestlers that flocked to Grant Union Junior-Senior High school in John Day last Friday.

Wrestlers from Hermiston, Crane, Enterprise, Irrigon, Baker, Union, Pine Eagle, Grant Union and others joined the Mustangs, competing in the round-robin

tournament. HHS will travel to Halfway for the Pine Eagle Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 27.

Lady Mustangs ranked 11th in state 2A standings

After a successful pre-season where the Heppner Girls Varsity Basketball team recorded a 6-3 record, they opened up Columbia Basin Conference play on Friday, Jan. 12 with a 59-34 win at home against the Stanfield Tigers. Leading the way for the Lady Mustangs were Sydney Wilson with 19 points and Madison Combe with 12 points. Jenna McCullough provided energy off the bench and was a solid contributor in the run-away victory over the Tigers.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, the Lady Mustangs dropped a hard fought home game to Weston-McEwen by a score of 69-48. Sydney Wilson led the team with 19 points and Jacee Currin added eight points.

The Lady Mustangs traveled to Culver on Thursday, Jan. 18 and beat the tough Culver team by a score of 48-46. Leading scorers were Sydney Wilson with 16 points followed by Sophie Grant and Jacee Currin who each had 11 points. Madelyn Nichols came off the bench to provide some solid minutes and chipped in four points.

At Pilot Rock the Lady Mustangs continued their winning ways on Saturday, Jan. 20, beating Pilot Rock with a close and hard fought 54-53 victory. The Lady Mustangs had three players with double-digit

scoring led by Jacee Currin with 18 points, followed by Sydney Wilson with 12 points and Morgan Correa with 10 points. The road win improved their CBC

league record to 3-1 and 11-4 overall.

The Lady Mustangs next action will be another away game on Saturday, Jan. 27 at Stanfield.



Morgan Correa (center) tips off in the game against the Huskies. Jacee Currin and Sydney Wilson assist. -Photo by Staci Osmin



Suzy Cason maneuvering to break free from Sam Marsengill (Hermiston) grasp at the John Day invitational. -Photo by Kirsti Cason



Leo Waite pins Christian Reyes (Riverside) in Semifinal for the win. -Photo by Kirsti Cason

Mustangs sitting second in conference play

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team split their Columbia Basin Conference games last week. They traveled to Culver and beat the Bulldogs 59-32 and then lost at Pilot Rock by the score of 45-34. The Mustangs (8-7,3-1) are the second place team in the CBC as the second half of the conference schedule begins.

In Culver, the Mustangs didn't let the long bus ride slow them down as they came out fast and took control of the game from the opening tip. Heppner led 18-10 at the end of the first quarter and then 34-20 at halftime.

A great defensive effort by the Mustangs saw them hold the Bulldogs to only 12 points in the second half. The Mustangs scored 25 points themselves to get the win by the score of 59-32.

Leading the way for the Mustangs was Trent Smith with 18 points. He also had two rebounds and two assists. Wyatt Steagall was next with 10 points, one rebound and one assist. Kevin Smith had six points, 12 big rebounds, two assists and he blocked three shots. Beau Wolters and Tyler Carter each scored six points in the game. Wolter's also had five rebounds and an assist while Carter recorded three rebounds and two steals. Gibson McCurry scored four points, had two assists, one rebound, one steal and one blocked shot. Derek Howard also scored four points in the game. Hunter Nichols had three points, five assists and three rebounds for the Mustangs. Coby Dougherty scored two points, had one assist, one rebound and a steal. Justin McAninch, Alex Lindsay, Logan Burright and Dakota Howard did not score in the game but contributed in other ways. McAninch had five rebounds, two assists, one steal and he blocked a shot. Lindsay had three rebounds, two steals and an assist while Burright recorded a rebound. Dakota Howard had a rebound for the team.

In the game against the Rockets, both teams came out strong and the game was tied at the end of the first quarter 10-10. A slow start in the second quarter saw the Mustangs only able to score 2 points. Pilot Rock



Kevin Smith shows how it's done at the game against the Pilot Rock Rockets. -Photo by Staci Osmin

scored 13 and had the lead at halftime 23-12.

The teams played even the rest of the way. They both scored 22 points in the second half to give the Rockets the win by the score of 45-34.

Once again, Trent Smith led the team in scoring with 11. He also had two rebounds, one assist and a steal. Kevin Smith followed with five points, nine rebounds, one assist, two steals and two blocked shots. McCurry also scored five points and he had three rebounds and two blocks.

McAninch had four points, four rebounds, one assist and he blocked three shots. Steagall finished the game with three points and seven rebounds while Lindsay scored two points, had a rebound and a blocked shot. Nichols had two points, five assists, four rebounds and two steals for the Mustangs. Wolters did not score but contributed two rebounds and a steal in the game.

Up next for the Mustangs is a trip to Stanfield to play the Tigers on Saturday, Jan. 27.

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