

# 4-H members practice shooting



**Pictured L-R: Radley Griggs, Calvin Rietmann, Gage Heide-man, Adam Sande, Conner Wilson, Tim Emmel and Carter Eynetich.**

Local 4-H members were hosted by Ruggs Ranch last Saturday morning to practice their shooting technique. Guides Tim Emmel and Adam Sande shared information and helped the kids.

The Morrow County 4-H shooting club will attempt their first mail-in tournament shoot Sunday, Jan. 27 at the Lexington Gun Club.

# JV boys take the win in two more games

The Heppner Mustang JV boys' basketball team won two more games last weekend to run their season record to 14-2. The Mustangs beat the Pilot Rock Rockets 43-30 and then defeated the Weston-McEwen Tigerscots by the score of 81-21.

The game against the Rockets started out slowly for the Mustangs. They could not get their game rolling like they have so many times this season. They trailed the Rockets 10-5 at the end of the first quarter. The second quarter saw the Mustangs get better and nearly double up the Rockets by outscoring

ing them 13-7. With their second lowest point total at halftime for the season the Mustangs led the game 18-17.

Once again the Mustangs struggled to score in the third quarter and only got seven points. The defensive effort by Heppner was outstanding as they held the Rockets to six points in the quarter and led 25-23 after three. The fourth quarter was another close one that saw the score tied 30-30 late in the game. The Mustangs then went on a scoring run by breaking the Rocket press for easy scores and attacking the basket after rebounding Pilot Rock



**Brock Hisler looks for fast break in JV game against Weston-McEwen.**

# Boys basketball team stays on top

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team swept a pair of contests last weekend to stay atop the Blue Mountain Conference standings with a perfect 7-0 record. The Mustangs traveled to Pilot Rock and beat the host Rockets by the score of 69-57 and then defeated the Weston-McEwen Tigerscots at home 82-39.

It seems as though it is always tough to play in the Rockets home gym and this night was no different. The Mustangs started out well and jumped out to a 17-9 lead at the end of the first quarter. Everything was working for them as they pounded the ball inside and scored with their superior height advantage. The team defense was clicking as Pilot Rock was having trouble scoring.

But then things began to change. The Mustangs led 34-15 midway through the second quarter and looked as if they would run away with the game. Pilot Rock then made a run and held the Mustangs to only three more points in the quarter while they scored 13. Heppner only led at halftime 37-28.

The momentum stayed with the Rockets and they actually took the lead early in the third quarter 41-40. After several more possessions, the Mustangs took back the lead 43-42 in the middle of the quarter. The Heppner team would continue to battle and was ahead 51-44 at the end of three quarters.

Heppner then stretched their lead out to 13 points at 57-44. They didn't let the Rockets get any closer than eight in the fourth quarter and won the game by the score of 69-57.

Tyler Carter led the team with 26 points, 13 rebounds, two assists and two steals. Justin McAninch also had a double-double in the game with 13



**Gibson McMurray (14) puts up a shot while Mason Lehman (24) looks for rebounding advantage**

points and 10 rebounds. He also recorded an assist and had four big blocks. Hunter Nichols followed with 10 points, four rebounds and four assists. Finishing with eight points was Trent Smith. He also hauled down eight rebounds, had two assists and a steal for the Mustangs. Logan Burright and Cason Mitchell each scored four points in the game. Burright also had three rebounds, three steals and an assist while Mitchell ripped down four rebounds. Dakota Howard scored two points, had a rebound and Mason Lehman had two points, three rebounds, one

assist and a steal for the team. Reno Ferguson had two rebounds, an assist and a steal while Gibson McCurry contributed three rebounds and an assist.

In the game with the Tigerscots, Heppner jumped out early and never looked back. Everything seemed to be clicking for the team and the outcome was never in doubt from the beginning.

The Mustangs raced out to a 20-7 lead at the end of the first quarter. Heppner continued the pressure in the second quarter and scored at will. They also held Weston-McEwen scoreless for the entire

quarter until they scored at the halftime buzzer. Heppner led at the break 41-9.

The Mustangs continued to score and had another big quarter in the third putting up 26 points. The Tigerscots did better and got 15 themselves but they still trailed 67-24 at the end of three quarters. Heppner worked on several different player combinations in the fourth quarter and played the Tigerscots even. The Mustangs had their biggest scoring night of the year and won by the score of 82-39.

Leading the way in scoring for Heppner was Smith with 19. He also recorded five rebounds and had five steals in the game. McAninch finished with 12 points, four rebounds, four blocks and a steal for the Mustangs. Carter was next with 11 points, seven rebounds, one steal and an assist. McCurry and Burright each finished with seven points in the game. McCurry also had four rebounds and Burright recorded three. Nichols had a good all-around game as he finished with six points, had six rebounds, three assists and three steals. Lehman had five points, three rebounds and four steals for the team. Gavin Hanna-Robinson also scored five points and he had four rebounds and a steal. Dakota and Derek Howard each scored four points on the night. Dakota also had five rebounds while Derek finished with three. Mitchell scored two points, had five big rebounds and an assist. Ferguson chipped in a rebound, a steal and an assist in the game.

The Mustangs, who are 13-6 overall, have two more BMC games this weekend. On Friday they host the Stanfield Tigers and then on Saturday they travel to John Day to take on the Grant Union Prospectors.

misses. Heppner outscored the Rockets 13-0 at the end of the game to get the win 43-30.

Gavin Hanna-Robinson and Jackson Lehman led the JV Mustangs with 12 points each. Brock Hisler contributed seven and with four points each were Kellen Grant and Roy Collins. Casey Fletcher had three points in the game and Derrick Smith finished with one.

As slow as the team started against the Rockets, it was the total opposite against the Tigerscots. The Mustangs jumped out to a 20-7 lead after the first quarter and never looked back. A 25 point second quarter for the Mustangs, along with holding Weston-McEwen to only three points meant the Mustangs led at halftime 45-10.

By outscoring the Tigerscots 20-3 in the third, the Mustangs led 65-13 as

the final quarter started. The fourth quarter was played at a little slower pace and the Mustangs won by the final score of 81-21.

Every member of the Heppner team saw significant playing time in the game and everyone scored.

Kannon Wilkins led the team with 16 points and Grant finished with 15. Hanna-Robinson was next with 13 points and Casey Fletcher added nine. Hisler chipped in eight points while Jordan Sweeney scored six. Cody Fletcher had five points for the Mustangs and Joe Sherman had three. With two points each in the game were Lehman, Collins and Smith.

The JV Mustangs will look to continue their winning streak on Friday as they host the Stanfield Tigers at 3 p.m. They will then travel to John Day to take on the Grant Union Prospectors.



**JV girls Sage Ferguson (5) takes a shot underneath and Kayla McAninch (23) is ready for rebound in game against Pilot Rock.**

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