

Mustang Volleyball wins two of three matches

'Some first game jitters,' Coach Wilson



Kayla McAnnich reaches high for the ball. -Contributed photo.

The Heppner Mustang Volleyball team lost their first game of the year, and their home opener, to the Irrigon Knights, but then bounced back later to beat both Weston-McEwen and Pilot Rock.

At the non-league Irrigon game March 4 the Mustangs played well but had some first game jitters they couldn't overcome; Head Coach Mindy Wilson says. "We played well but have some little things to work on. But I think most of it was first game jitters especially since it's been almost a year and a half since we have been on the court," she says.

The Mustangs lost to Irrigon in five sets (18-25, 25-23, 17-25, 25-18, 15-17)

Stats: Sydney Wilson - 19 Kills, 22 Digs, 2 Blocks
Marlee Mitchell - 15 Digs, 17 Assists
Genevieve Smith - 14 Digs, 7 Assists
Zabrena Masterson - 5 Kills, 1 Block, 1 Ace
Alexis Cutsforth - 32 Digs

Downs Tigerscots in four sets

The Mustangs bounced back the next week, however, to beat Weston-McEwen in a league game in front of the home crowd March 9 in four sets 1-3. "We played very well as a team. Worked hard and together and the outcome showed their effort," Coach Wilson said of the contest.



Aubri Rodriguez jumps for the ball. -Contributed photo.

Won in four sets (25-19, 25-15, 22-25, 25-17)

Stats: Sydney Wilson - 18 Kills, 25 Digs, 2 Aces
Marlee Mitchell - 10 Digs, 20 Assists, 1 Ace
Genevieve Smith - 13 Digs, 11 Assists
Aimee Turrell - 6 Kills, 7 Digs, 2 Aces
Alexis Cutsforth - 21 Digs
Sage Ferguson - 6 Digs, 2 Aces

Shoots down Rockets three-zip

The girls came out on March 11, played an all-around game and shut out the Pilot Rock Rockets, 0-3. "They played an all-around

good game, and everyone contributed," said Coach Wilson of the effort.

Won in three sets (25-11, 25-22, 25-11)

Stats: Sydney Wilson - 8 Kills, 7 Digs, 2 Blocks, 8 Aces

Marlee Mitchell - 6 Digs, 11 Assists
Alexis Cutsforth - 12 Digs

Kayla McAninich - 4 Kills, 2 Blocks

The girls' next game will be a non-league contest Thursday, March 18 at 1:30 pm at Irrigon. Then they are home again Friday, March 19 for a 12-noon league match against Grant Union.

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541-980-6674 Cell (call or text) • 541-676-9228 Office
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