

# Mustangs enter second half of league play A View from the Hill

*Teams completed a three-game week heading into the final four games of the regular season*



ZaBrena Masterson goes in for the layup. -Photos by Damon Brosnan.

**By Blake Carter**

After a short week the Mustangs returned to action as they hit the final stretch of their regular season. The teams hosted Enterprise on Tuesday, marking the sixth league game and the halfway point of the league season. Friday Heppner would stay at home as the Prospectors of Grant Union came to town. Heppner finished the week on the road at Stanfield, for two games that will play huge roles in the final BMC standings.

Tuesday was a short day, where only the varsity teams would compete. The Lady Mustangs hosted a strong Outlaw team, who currently sit in third place at 4-1. Heppner would battle all night but fall just short as Enterprise held on for a 45-41 victory. Enterprise came out of the gates fast, jumping out to an eight-point lead. The second quarter was the complete opposite of the first quarter, Heppner quickly erased the eight-point first quarter deficit and tied up the game at halftime. Freshman Kadie Henrichs scored eight first half points to lead the Mustangs. Enterprise once again would jump out to an early lead in the second half, using a 15-8 third quarter to retake the lead, 36-29. Much like the second quarter the Mustangs quickly fought back and kept the game within one score until the closing seconds. Enterprise would knock down two late free throws to close the door on the Mustangs as they grabbed the narrow win. ZaBrena Masterson led the Mustangs with 13 as Kadie Henrichs followed with eight. Heppner fell back to sixth place, looking to move up quickly in the second half of the schedule.

Girls' stats vs Enterprise: Zandra Masterson, seven points, one rebound; Hadlie Nation, two points, one rebound; Brook Wilson, two points, two rebounds; ZaBrena Masterson, 13 points, four rebounds; Hallee Hisler, seven points, three rebounds, two steals; Morgan Cutsforth, two points; Katie Spivey, one rebound; Kadie Henrichs, eight points, one rebound, one steal.

The Mustang boys squad solidified a spotless league record at 6-0, with a 67-26 beatdown of the Out-

laws. Enterprise scored the first bucket of the game, but that would be the only lead the Outlaws held all night. Heppner used a quick start to build an early 11-point lead. Enterprise scored 12 first quarter points, after that the Outlaws only mustered up 14 points in three quarters. Heppner quickly doubled their lead with a 16-2 second quarter, as Heppner led 39-14 at half. Heppner would continue their success in the second quarter as they grew the lead to 61-24 at the end of the third quarter, before closing out the game on their way to a dominant win. The Mustang posts bullied Enterprise all night long as Kason Cimmiyotti scored 16 and Tucker Ashbeck followed with 15.

Boys stats vs Enterprise: Tucker Ashbeck, 15 points, one rebound, two steals; David Cribbs, two points, two assists, one rebound; Trevor Nichols, three points, one rebound, two steals; Caden George, three assists, one rebound; Landon Mitchell seven points, two rebounds; Cameron Proudfoot, one point, two rebounds; Derrick Smith, three points, two rebounds, two steals; Kason Cimmiyotti, 16 points, four rebounds, one steal; Blake Carter, two points, three rebounds; Brock Hisler, 10 points, two assists, two rebounds, one steal; Joe Sherman, nine points, two assists, four rebounds, one block; Brian Lindsay, five rebounds.

Grant Union made their way to Heppner on Friday afternoon where the girls varsity team picked up a huge win over the Prospectors, 37-35. This game remained a close one all the way until the final buzzer. Grant Union gained an early four-point lead after the first quarter, but the Lady Mustangs were able to cut the deficit in half at halftime, 15-13. Heppner would use a strong third quarter to take a 25-20 lead into the final period. The game remained a back-and-forth contest, luckily the Mustangs were able to pull out the victory in the closing moments. A strong second half from ZaBrena Masterson led the charge for the Mustangs as she scored nine, Hailey Wenberg added seven in the win.



Hailey Wenberg drives for the basket.

Girls' stats vs GU: Hannah Finch, one point; Zandra Masterson, five points, three rebounds, three steals; Hadlie Nation, six points, seven rebounds; Brook Wilson, two points; ZaBrena Masterson, nine points, three rebounds, two steals; Hallee Hisler, six points, four rebounds, one steal; Hailey Wenberg, seven points; Kadie Henrichs, one point, one rebound.

The varsity boys also picked up another win as they cruised past Grant Union 71-34. Heppner remained in control of the entire contest. A quick start and strong finish were a recipe for success for the Mustangs.

Heppner traveled to Stanfield the following day where the girls' team couldn't keep up with the fast-paced Tiger attack as they lost 54-24. The Lady Mustangs were able to keep it close for most of the first quarter, as Zandra Masterson sank a three at the end of the first quarter to keep the game within four at 11-7. From that point on the Tigers took control. Stanfield dominated the Mustangs in a 20-6 third quarter, as the lead quickly grew from four, to 14. Stanfield would continue the momentum into the third quarter as they quickly ran away from the Mustangs.

Girls' stats vs Stanfield: Hannah Finch, one point, one rebound, one steal; Zandra Masterson, eight points, three rebounds, one steal; Hadlie Nation, three points; Brook Wilson, one rebound, one steal; ZaBrena Masterson, four points, two rebounds; Hallee Hisler, four rebounds; Morgan Cutsforth, four points; Katie Spivey, one point, one rebound; Hailey Wenberg, three points, three rebounds, one steal.

The Mustang boys' varsity suffered their first league defeat at the hands of a 61-55 effort from Stan-

field. The Tigers took control early, extending the lead out to double digits early in the ball game. Heppner tried to make a couple runs, however the Tigers hot shooting pushed them out to a 33-16 lead with five minutes in the second quarter. Heppner would hold the Tigers scoreless for the next seven minutes of play, as they used their defense to spark the offense. Heppner went on a 22-0 run from the second quarter and into the third quarter. Heppner made it 33-31 at halftime, before extending the run into a 38-33 lead early in the third. Stanfield quickly responded as they used a 9-0 run to take the lead right back, 42-38. Stanfield would continue to maintain the lead; the Mustangs would pull within a point before Stanfield quickly regained the four-point lead. Stanfield's scorching hot shooting performance put them back in front of Heppner in the league standings.

Boys' stats vs Stanfield: Tucker Ashbeck, 10 points, six rebounds; David Cribbs, three points, one assist, one steal; Caden George, seven points, one rebound; Landon Mitchell, nine points, five rebounds, two steals; Kason Cimmiyotti, two points, two rebounds, one steal; Brock Hisler, five points, one assist, three rebounds, four steals, one block; Joe Sherman 19 points, two rebounds, two steals.

Heppner will now be away from home next weekend, as they travel for their annual Enterprise and Union road-trip. Heppner will be in Enterprise Friday night, before heading over to Union on Saturday. The Heppner wrestling team will be hosting their annual Bank of Eastern Oregon meet while the basketball teams are away. Games begin at 3 p.m. on Friday, and 1 p.m. on Saturday.

**By Doris Brosnan**  
With sadness, the residents and staff at Willow Creek Terrace learned of Norma French's passing away recently, just months after Raymond preceded her. Fond memories of these two vivacious people who lived with them for several years will linger.

The Willow Creek Terrace community view the weather as still too chilly for outdoor activities, so they appreciate being warm and being among neighbors to visit with and share some activities with. Today, will some residents and staff be wondering if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow? Groundhog Day trivia contributed to a fun start of the day.

A new young face is another welcome addition to the staff, and residents look forward to working with Hailey Holmgren. She has joined the community in time to get in on Rita Bowman's birthday celebration on the 8<sup>th</sup>, when Rita will turn 94.

One of the highlights for some of the residents each day is the morning exercise followed by the discussion group because both can be stimulating. Often times, the topic of a day will stem from the national or world day of special recognition, so on the 8<sup>th</sup>, the Boy Scouts might be discussed, as it will be the organization's 112<sup>th</sup> birthday. Pizza apparently gets a special day on the 9<sup>th</sup>, so the lunch menu might be a greater focus than the morning discussion of this favorite of many that came to America in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century with Italian immigrants. Cheddar cheese must be included in the menu on the 13<sup>th</sup>, its day of recognition, but one might have to guess how Nutella

will be used in the menu or as a discussion topic on its special day, the 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Super Bowl LVI will be on TV on the 13<sup>th</sup>, so several residents and staff will be keeping an eye on the action and enjoying some snacks. Each quarter's score will be of special interest to the persons who have made some selections on the game board. Of interest to some residents on the 20<sup>th</sup> could be the televised NBA All-Star game, as well. That morning's discussion will probably be pets since it is designated Love Your Pet Day.

The special Valentine's lunch on the 14<sup>th</sup> is always a pleasant occasion. And the apartment doors will be displaying the Valentine crafts the residents were working on last week. On the 18<sup>th</sup>, they will begin working on a St. Patrick's Day craft, following on the 28<sup>th</sup> with applying their talent to making floral designs, as that will be National Floral Design Day.

One favorite activity every February calls for some sensitivity, and on the 17<sup>th</sup>, residents and staff will be especially tuned into Random Acts of Kindness Day. Memories of such actions usually stimulate an interesting morning discussion.

Many residents have seen several presidential elections, so they will have plenty to add to a discussion on Presidents' Day on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

And residents and staff will have plenty to say if a new neighbor should choose to move into the Terrace this month: "Welcome." "So glad to see you." "This is so great." They view new experiences and new faces as great contributions to life on the hill.

## Local students named to EOU dean's list

Hunter Nichols, Heppner, Payton Miller, Ione and Eva Martin, Lexington have been named to the Eastern Oregon University Dean's List for the 2021 fall term. EOU named 565 students to the dean's list.

Qualifying students achieve and maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale while completing a minimum of 12 hours of graded EOU coursework. The full list is available at [eou.edu/ua/deans-list](http://eou.edu/ua/deans-list).

EOU congratulates each of these high-achieving students and acknowledges their dedication to academic excellence. As Oregon's Rural University, EOU serves as a center for education, culture, and scholarship. Students receive personal attention from their professors while building strong relationships with peers and mentors.

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