



# the HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

50¢

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## Mustangs take Conference title, defeat Vikings



**Cameron Proudfoot (34) escapes tackle against Vikings**

The Heppner Mustang football team defeated the Umatilla Vikings 20-12 to win the Blue Mountain Conference championship. With the win, the Mustangs will host the Monroe Dragons, the second-place team from Special District 2, at noon on Les Payne Field this Saturday.

The highly anticipated game with the Vikings started with the Mustangs kicking off and the Vikings scoring on their first possession. The extra point was missed and the score was 6-0 with less than a minute gone off of the clock.

After the ensuing Umatilla kickoff, the Mustangs went on their own drive for a score. A thirteen-play drive ended when Caden George scored a touchdown on a three-yard run. That tied the score at 6-6 at the end of the first quarter.

A long drive by the Vikings that ate up most of the time in the second quarter ended in a score and gave Umatilla a 12-6 lead at halftime.

The Mustangs scored on their second drive of the third quarter when they put together a 68-yard drive that ended when George threw a 24-yard touchdown pass to Tucker Ashbeck. That tied the score at 12-12

as the third quarter ended.

As the fourth quarter started, Umatilla was driving and went for it on fourth down. Landon Mitchell made a big stop as he tackled the Viking quarterback for an eight-yard loss to give the Mustangs the ball back. Heppner took the ball right down the field for a score when Ty Boor punched the ball in from four yards out for the touchdown. George then ran the ball in for the two-point conversion to make the score 20-12 in favor of the Mustangs.

On their last possession of the game, the Vikings drove the ball all the way down to the Heppner 22-yard line when Mitchell intercepted a pass with just a minute left in the game. The Mustangs ran the clock out and got the big win by the score of 20-12.

The statistics of the game were as close as the game was. Both teams ran the ball for 206 yards. The Mustangs passed for 66 yards and the Vikings only 11. The Mustangs had 272 total yards in the game and the Vikings 217. The Mustangs had 18 first downs and Umatilla 17.

Leading the Mustangs in rushing was George with 81 yards on 18 carries. He



**Top-David Cribbs (2) ready to assist. Mustangs in huddle**

also scored a rushing touchdown. Cameron Proudfoot was next with 59 yards on eight carries and Hayden McMahon rushed for 40 yards on four carries. David Cribbs carried the ball for 15 yards, Saul Lopez had six and Boor finished with five rushing yards and scored a touchdown.

George was 3-6 passing the ball for 44 yards and a touchdown. Lopez threw one pass for 19 yards and Boor was 1-1 for three yards.

Leading the team in receiving was Ashbeck with two catches for 31 yards and a touchdown. Cribbs caught one pass for 19 yards and Jake Lentz had a reception for 13 yards. George caught one for a three-yard gain.

On the defensive side of the ball, Boor led the team with 14 tackles. Ashbeck recorded 11 and Cade Cunningham had 10 in the game. George had eight tackles, and Cribbs and Mitchell finished with five each. Mitchell also had the big interception in the game. Lopez and Proudfoot each recorded four tackles and with three each were Lentz and Jaime Cavan. Landon McMahon finished the game with one tackle.

## County ballot measure makes international spotlight



**A news team from Sweden's TV4 interviews Gazette-Times publisher Chris Sykes on the Greater Idaho movement and other issues dividing the U.S.**

-Photo by David Sykes

**By Andrea Di Salvo**

Morrow County has landed in the international spotlight as one of two Eastern Oregon counties set to vote on possible

secession from the State of Oregon next week. A film crew from Sweden showed up in Heppner, documenting a vote they consider a "microcosm" of larger divides in the U.S. Articles on the issue have also appeared on websites like Fox News and the UK's *Daily Mail*.

A news team from Sweden's TV4 came to Heppner Tuesday as part of a larger story on the current political divides in America. TV4 correspondent Tomas Kvarnkullen is based in Washington, D.C., but said he knew he needed to get out of the city to get a feel for what Americans are

thinking. He and photographer Claes Isander are covering the election for the Stockholm, Sweden-based network. He says the news piece that includes Heppner should air next Monday. It can be streamed on <https://www.tv4.se>.

Wheeler County is the other county set to vote on whether to look more closely at the Greater Idaho movement, while nine other Eastern Oregon counties have already voted to pursue the idea.

The Greater Idaho movement seeks to redraw Oregon's border so that the eastern two-thirds of the state become part of Idaho. Proponents of the move cite the political differences between eastern and western Oregon—exacerbated by the west side's larger population—and Idaho's more conservative political leanings.

"We would welcome the creation of a new state, or kicking Portland out of this state, but that would

-Continued to PAGE TWO

## Update: Recall election scheduled for late November

Morrow County Commissioner Jim Doherty has decided to move forward with a recall vote rather than resign from office, and Commissioner Melissa Lindsay has until 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2, to make her decision, says Morrow County Clerk Bobbi Childers.

Recall organizers had earlier turned in enough signatures to send the recall decision to voters, with Childers expecting the ballots to be mailed out sometime around Nov. 7 and an election date of Nov. 29. Doherty will be on the ballot for sure. If Lindsay decides to proceed rather than resign, she also will be on the ballot.

## Postal service warns of text scam

Heppner USPS Postmaster Roslyn George is warning local residents of a new text scam currently circulating.

The text message, which says it comes from the United States Postal Service, says, "The package is on hold and cannot be delivered due to an incorrect address. Please check and update. Otherwise it will be returned."

The text then gives a link which, if followed, leads to a page that tells the consumer there is postage due on their package and that they need to enter a credit card number to receive the package.

While the amount of the "postage due" is small, access to credit card information allows such sites, known as phishing sites, to continue stealing from the consumer.

George says she has heard from 10 people who have received the text message in South Morrow over the past two weeks, and those are only the ones who have asked about it.

"Don't be shy about asking before you do something like that," George says. "It's not from the postal service."

## There's a new Sheriff in town Bowles sworn in



**Above: Morrow County Clerk Bobbi Childers swears in John Bowles as the new Morrow County Sheriff on Tuesday, Nov. 1, at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner. Bowles was appointed as sheriff upon the retirement of previous sheriff Ken Matlack. I'm humbled and honored," said Bowles, who is the 17th county sheriff. "I have a great staff, and I'm looking forward to leading them into the future." -Photo by Chris Sykes**



**Below: Retiring sheriff Ken Matlack, center, with Morrow County commissioners Don Russell and Melissa Lindsay. Matlack retired as sheriff on Nov. 1. -Contributed photo**

## Ballots due Nov. 8



**Ballots may be dropped off or postmarked by Nov. 8 for this year's general election. Drop boxes are located throughout the county for voter convenience. -Contributed photo**

Ballots are due by next Tuesday for the Nov. 8 General Election. Remember, ballots are not forwarded. Those who haven't received ballots but believe they should have should contact the Morrow County Clerk's office as soon as possible at 541-676-5604.

All ballots are due by 8 p.m. Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8. Ballots must be postmarked no later than Nov. 8 to be counted. For voter convenience, 24-hour drop boxes are located throughout the county. Drop boxes close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Locations are as follows:

**Heppner:** In the parking lot behind the Bartholomew Building (24 hours) or the Morrow County Clerk's Office, Room 102 inside the courthouse. Open 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m., M-F and Election Day (Nov. 8) from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

**Lexington:** 365 West Hwy 74 (Public Works Parking lot). Open 24 hours.

**Ilone:** Spring St. (in front of the turn to 3rd Street). Open 24 hours.

**Boardman:** NW Boardman Ave. (24 hours).

**Irrigon:** 205 NE 3rd St. (Irrigon Annex). Open 24 hours.

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