Lady Mustangs look to redeem themselves over TigerScots Friday

Katie Spivey takes a shot in the game against Irrigon. *-Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti*

Hadlie Nation is met by defenders while running the offence against Irrigon. *-Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti*

Last week ended with another round of tough losses for the Heppner Mustangs girls basketball as the team dropped three places to land as the 25th-ranked team for OSAA.

They've got one more game this week before Districts, in a lineup against the Weston-McEwen TigerScots on Friday, Feb. 10, which also happens to be their senior night. It will also be an opportunity for some payback, as Weston-McEwen is a team that the Lady Mustangs fell to by only one point in the last minutes of the game when they played the TigerScots previously. This Friday's game will certainly be one to watch as the Mustangs continue to play some strong ball and will be looking to redeem themselves.

On Friday, Feb. 3, the Mustangs played the Enterprise Outlaws on their own home court. Heppner scored the first game points when Hailey Wenberg put her free throws in after being fouled on the shot. Enterprise quickly answered back with four points of their own. At 5:46, the score was 2-6, Enterprise. The Mustangs continued to fight and came close to overtaking the Outlaws but ended the first quarter close behind, 9-11.

In the second quarter, the girls from both sides came out playing hard and fast. At 6:06 in the second, the score was 11-15; minutes later, the Mustangs scored again. The Outlaws never let the Mustangs catch up; even as they added more points to the board, so did their opponent. The score was 19-22 with 1:21 left in the first half. Hadlie Nation was at the line shooting with 19 seconds on the clock. Unfortunately, neither fell, and Enterprise got the rebound and hustled down the court to score on the buzzer. The first half ended with the Mustangs only behind by five points, 19-24.

In the second half, Heppner worked to catch up and came within three points of the Outlaws. The Outlaws again closed out a quarter, adding some points on the buzzer at the end of the third. Heppner kept possession of the ball more during the second half but struggled to add points to the board. The Outlaws added to their lead; the final score was 30-39, Enterprise.

Hallee Hisler and Hadlie Nation led the Mustangs with six points, and Zandra Masterson added five more.

Stats: Zandra Masterson: 5 points, 6 rebounds, 2 fouls, 1 steal, 1 turnover. H. Hisler: 6 points,3 rebounds, 2 fouls 4 steals, 2 fouled. H. Nation: 6 points, 4 rebounds, 3 fouls, 3 steals, 2 turnovers, 3 fouled. Zalita Masterson: 3 points, 2 rebounds, 1 foul, 1 steal, 1 fouled. A. Gerry: 2 rebounds, 1 steal, 4 turnovers. M. Cutsforth: 2 rebounds, 1 foul, 2 turnovers. K. Spivey: 4 points, 2 rebounds, 1 turnover. H. Wenberg: 2 points, 3 rebounds, 2 fouls, 4 steals, 1 turnover, 2 fouled. K. Henrichs: 4 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals, 1 fouled.

On Saturday, the Heppner Mustangs traveled to Irrigon to take on the Knights. They were met with a fast offense and a tough defense, but the Mustangs still had to play their game. Irrigon put the first points on the board, and Heppner was behind no more than five points before they worked around the deficit and pulled ahead by one point in the second quarter. Heppner didn't keep the lead for long, and the first half ended with Irrigon leading by three, 15-18.

The second half of the game stayed in favor of the Knights, Heppner only scoring 13 to their 19 points. The final score was 28-37. Hallee Hisler led the Mustangs with eight points and six rebounds.

Stats: Zandra Masterson: 4 rebounds, 5 fouls, 2 steals, 2 turnovers. H. Hisler: 8 points, 6 rebounds, 2 fouls, 2 steals, 5 turnovers, 1 fouled. H. Nation: 1 point, 2 rebounds, 1 foul, 1 steal, 3 fouled. A. Gerry: 4 points, 3 rebounds, 3 fouls, 1 steal. M. Cutsforth: 3 points, 2 rebounds, 2 fouls, 1 steal, 1 turnover, 1 fouled. K. Spivey: 4 points, 1 rebound, 3 fouls, 1 steal. H. Wenberg: 4 points, 5 rebounds, 1 foul, 1 steal, 2 turnovers, 2 fouled. K. Henrichs: 4 points, 1 rebound, 3 fouls, 1 steal, 1 turnover.

Mustangs boys scorch opponents

Landon Mitchell takes a shot over a defender as Tucker Ashbeck looks on. *-Photo by Lane Critchlow*

Thomas Bales (#21) takes a shot over an Irrigon defender. *-Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti*

The Heppner Mustang boys varsity team continued its winning ways with two more Blue Mountain Conference victories this past weekend. The Mustangs (17-4,7-2) beat the Enterprise Outlaws 68-41 and then defeated the Irrigon Knights by the score of 81-46.

Against the Outlaws, the Mustangs started out fast by doubling up the Outlaws at the end of the first quarter by the score of 18-9. Heppner outscored the Outlaws 12-8 in the second quarter to lead 30-17 at halftime. The Mustangs exploded for 21 third quarter points to extend their lead to 51-28 as the final quarter started. Heppner then outscored the Outlaws 17-12 in the fourth quarter to win the game by the score of 68-41.

Landon Mitchell led the team in scoring with 18 points. Tucker Ashbeck had a good game with 14 points and nine rebounds. Caden George scored 11 points and David Cribbs had eight. With five points each were Cameron Proudfoot and Mason Orem. Cooper Wight followed with three, and with two points each in the game were Trevor Nichols and Thomas Bales.

The Mustangs traveled to Irrigon and had their game clicking from the opening tipoff. They shared the ball well and had their fast break going. Heppner jumped out to a quick 25-4 lead at the end of the first quarter. A 17-point second quarter pushed the Heppner lead to 42-16 at halftime. Both teams scored well in the third, but the Mustangs still won the quarter 26-20, to lead 68-36 as the fourth quarter started. Reserves for both teams played the final quarter with a running clock because of the score difference of over 30 points. Heppner won the game by the score of 81-46.

Ashbeck led the team in scoring with 21. Mitchell was next with 12 points and Cribbs had 11. George scored 10 points in the game and Nichols nine. Finishing with five points each were Proudfoot and Owen Cunningham. Bales was next with four, and with two points each were Wight and Jackson Coiner.

The Mustangs have their final conference game at home this Friday night as they host the Weston-McEwen TigerScots. It is also senior night, where the senior players from both the boys' and girls' teams and also the band members will be honored for their hard work and commitment to Heppner High School and the community.

Middle school wrestlers take top spots in tournament

On Saturday, Feb. 4, the Heppner High School middle-school wrestling team traveled to Milton-Freewater to compete in the Central Middle School Wrestling Tournament.

The team accumulated 141.5 team points, and 12 Mustangs placed in the top six. Of those, six were in the top three, earning medals.

Wrestlers who placed were: Zariah Martin, first place; Emillia Cavan-Harris, second place; Irelyn Tarvin, second place; Lincoln Ellsworth, second place; Elijah Quilter, second place; Alakae Rodriguez, third place; Kayden Hudson, fourth place; Shane Angelakis, fifth place; Brody Knutz, fifth place; Mason Seitz, sixth place; Quaid Jensen, sixth place; and Tyler Rice, sixth place.

Finch makes her mark in Vanguard track

Hannah Finch

Hannah Finch of Heppner, currently a Freshman at Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, CA, is continuing to make her mark on the track. Finch, who ran for the Heppner High School track team until her graduation, made her debut as a Vanguard track athlete in the 600 meter at the Westmont On Your Marks Open on Saturday, Jan. 28. She finished second overall with a time of 1:44.35 and claimed the eighth spot on the Vanguard all-time top-10 list.

Heppner JV boys gun down Outlaws, fall to Knights in split weekend play

The Heppner Mustang JV boy's team split their games this past weekend, beating the Enterprise Outlaws 53-35 but then losing to the Irrigon Knights by the score of 40-32.

In what may have been their best game of the season, the Mustangs avenged an earlier defeat at the hand of the Outlaws in Enterprise. The Mustangs jumped out to an 11-7 lead at the end of the first quarter and then led 23-16 at halftime. Both teams scored eight points in the third and the Mustangs still led the game 31-24. A huge fourth quarter saw the Mustangs erupt for 22 points, and they held the Outlaws to only 11. Heppner won the game by the score of 53-35.

Mason Orem had a big game and led the team in scoring with 20 points. Thomas Bales finished with 12 points and Cooper Wight had 10. Owen Cunningham was next with seven, and with four points in the game was Joseph Albitre.

The JV Mustangs struggled to get going in the cold Irrigon gym and trailed at the end of the first quarter 7-2. Irrigon led 20-9 at halftime and 29-14 at the end of the third quarter. The Mustangs warmed up some in the final frame and cut the Irrigon lead to six points at one point but couldn't get it any closer. Heppner outscored Irrigon 18-11 in the fourth quarter but still lost the game by the score of 40-32.

Wight led the Mustangs in scoring with 11. Orem was next with six points and Cunningham had four. Scoring three points each in the game were Albitre and Caleb George. Bales and Conner Wilson had two points each and Lane Critchlow scored one.

The JV team has two games left on the season. First is a rematch with the Irrigon Knights at home on Tuesday night at 6 p.m. Their final game of the season is Friday at 4:30 p.m. against the Weston-McEwen TigerScots.

Water control district to meet

The Heppner Water Control District will hold a meeting Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Ag Service Center in Heppner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Meetings of the Heppner Water Control District are open to the public.

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FEBRUARY 14TH, 7PM

GOAL 9: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The communities of the Willow Creek Valley along with the Morrow County Planning Department need your help to plan for future commercial and industrial land use. At this meeting our consulting partners will provide information about the supply of developable employment lands and regional economic trends and opportunities. We need your insights on commercial areas and growth opportunities to feed into this evaluation. This effort contributes to Oregon's statewide planning Goal 9: Economic Opportunities Analysis requirements.

Facilitated by POINTS CONSULTING

To learn more, ask questions, and provide input to better our community, join us at
7PM, following the Ione council meeting
385 W. 2nd Street, Ione Oregon
Or by Zoom at https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84708402334

Contact cityofioneor@gmail.com
or 541-422-7414 with questions.
Snacks will be provided.
cityofioneoregon.gov

We'll see you there!

In partnership with the Morrow County Planning Department