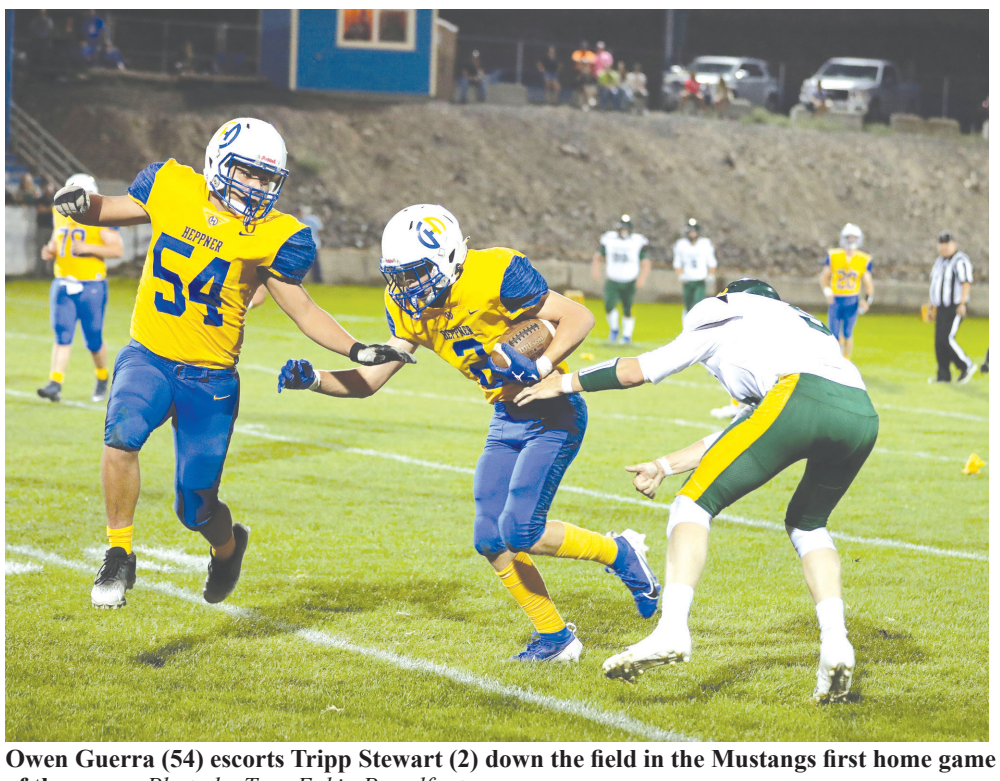
Mustangs defeat Vikings 34-14 in second game of the season



Owen Guerra (54) escorts Tripp Stewart (2) down the field in the Mustangs first home game of the year. - *Photo by Tara Eakin Proudfoot*

The Heppner Mustang football team won their second game of the new season as they defeated the Colton Vikings by the score of 34-14. It was the highly anticipated first home game of the season and there was a large crowd on hand. The atmosphere was electric as the cheerleaders and pep band got the crowd fired up right from the start.

The teams traded possessions to start the game and then the second time the Mustangs got the ball they scored the game's first touchdown. A nine-play drive ended in a score when quarterback Mason Orem handed the ball off to Alakae Rodriguez and he pounded it in from 3 yards out. Orem then threw to Rodriguez for the 2-pt. conversion to make the score 8-0 with just two minutes left in the first quarter.

On the next Colton possession, they tried to convert a fourth downplay deep in their own territory. The Mustang defense stopped them and gave the offense great field position at the Viking 18-yard line. Just four plays later, Rodriguez carried the ball in from 3 yards out for the touchdown. Orem then threw a pass to Keaton Coiner for the 2-pt. conversion to make the score 16-0 early in the second quarter.

Once again, the teams traded possessions, and Colton scored a touchdown just before the first half ended to make the score 16-6 at the break.

The Vikings would score again on their second possession after halftime. They converted the 2-pt. conversion to make the score of the game 16-14 with eight minutes left in the third quarter.

After the Colton kickoff, the Mustangs started a drive at their own 25-yard line. The Heppner offensive line dominated the line of scrimmage, and the Mustangs went on a 14-play drive that ate up over six minutes of the game clock. The drive ended in a score when Orem threw a pass to Nick Wenberg who carried the ball into the end zone for an 18-yard touchdown. That made the score 22-14 with slightly over two minutes to go in the third quarter.

The Heppner defense forced a Viking punt that Tripp Stewart made a nice return on to give the Mustangs the ball near mid field. Heppner scored seven plays later on a drive that was highlighted by a 29-yard pass completion from Orem to Caleb George. The touchdown was scored when Stewart ran the ball in from 5 yards out to make the score of the game 28-14 early in the fourth.

The next Colton drive stalled when the Mustang defense stopped them on a fourth downplay. Heppner took over with good field position near mid field. On the second play of the Mustang possession, Orem handed the ball to Stewart who took off around the left side of the Mustang offensive line and sprinted 58 yards through the Colton defense for a touchdown. That made the score 34-14 in favor of the Mustangs.

The Heppner defense stopped the Vikings on their next drive of the game. The Mustangs took over and then ran the clock out to get the victory by the score of 34-14.

For the second game in a row the Mustangs dominated the statistics as they had 19 first downs to only 7 for Colton. Heppner had 333 yards of offense for the game and held Colton to 137. The Mustangs rushed the ball for 234 yards and had 99 yards passing.

Orem was 5-7 passing the ball for 99 yards and a touchdown. Caleb George caught 2 passes for 75 yards and Wenberg had 1 reception for 18 yards and a touchdown. Hayden McMahon and Tripp Stewart each caught 1 pass in the game for 3 yards.

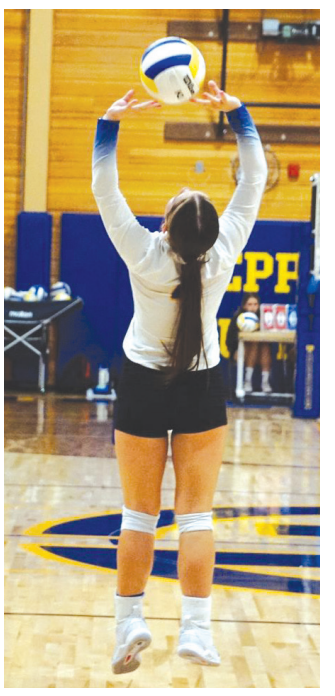
Leading the Mustangs in rushing was Stewart with 102 yards and 2 touchdowns on 10 carries. Rodriguez was the games workhorse as he carried the ball 15 times for a total of 55 yards and 2 touchdowns. Wenberg packed the ball 7 times for 36 yards and Hayden McMahon had 6 carries for 31. Other rushing totals were George with 6 yards, Orem and Zach Brown each carried the ball for 2-yard gains.

Rodriguez led the Mustang defense with 9 tackles in the game. Jaime Cavan was next with 8 and Wenberg followed with 6. With 3 tackles each were Brown, Stewart and Keaton Coiner. With 2 tackles each in the game were Owen Guerra, Kaden King and Caleb George. With 1 recorded tackle for the Mustangs were Ryan Haugen, Lane Critchlow and Landon McMahon.

The Mustangs have another home game this Friday as they host the Knappa Loggers at Les Payne Field. Game time is 7 pm.

HHS Volleyball beat Kennedy and Vernonia, but fall short to Powder Valley

Keeley Nairns Sr. hitter #24
-Photo by Susan Hisler



Maya Payne So.
-Photo by Susan Hisler

Healy Hisler So.
-Photo by Susan Hisler

Clair Lindsay
-Photo by Susan Hisler

Heppner VB Tournament at HHS on Sat 9/7. Heppner Beat Kennedy 3-0, and Vernonia 3-0, lost to Powder Valley 2-3. JV Tournament held at the Jr. High Gym.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

Ferguson repeats as WCCC Champion

Charlie Ferguson won the Club Championship this last weekend at Willow Creek Country Club. He repeated as champion with a two-day total of 129. Dale Boyd won the net championship with a 117. The tournament was played over two days and the daily and total results are as follows: Saturday September 7th- Net 1st Tie Tim Wright, Dale Holland 57, 3rd Kelly Fox 59. Gross 1st tie Charlie Ferguson, Jeff Watkins 64, 3rd Dennis Peck 68. KP #4-13 Tim Wright 9'9", KP 2nd shot 6/15 Dave Pranger. Sunday September 8th- Net 1st Tim Hedman 54, 2nd Dale Boyd 56, 3rd Dave Gunderson 57. Gross 1st Charlie Ferguson 65, 2nd Tie Derek Gunderson, Donald Mathews, Jerry Gentry 67. Kp#4-13 Rod Wilson 11'1", KP 2nd shot 6/15 Donald Mathews. Two Day Total- Net 1st Dale Boyd 117 2nd/3rd Dale Holland, Tim Hedman. Gross 1st Charlie Ferguson 129, 2nd Jeff Watkins 133, 3rd Tim Wright 137.

MC WDAC to meet Sept. 17th

The next meeting of the Morrow County Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee will be Tuesday, September 17th at 7:00 p.m. at 110 N Court Street, Heppner, Oregon 97836 in the upper conference room. The agenda will be posted to the Agendas and Minutes page of the Morrow County website by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 13th: https://www.co.morrow.or.us/meetings. Please contact Committee Chair Dean Robinson at 541-980-2350 with any questions, or the office of the Board of Commissioners at 541-676-5613.

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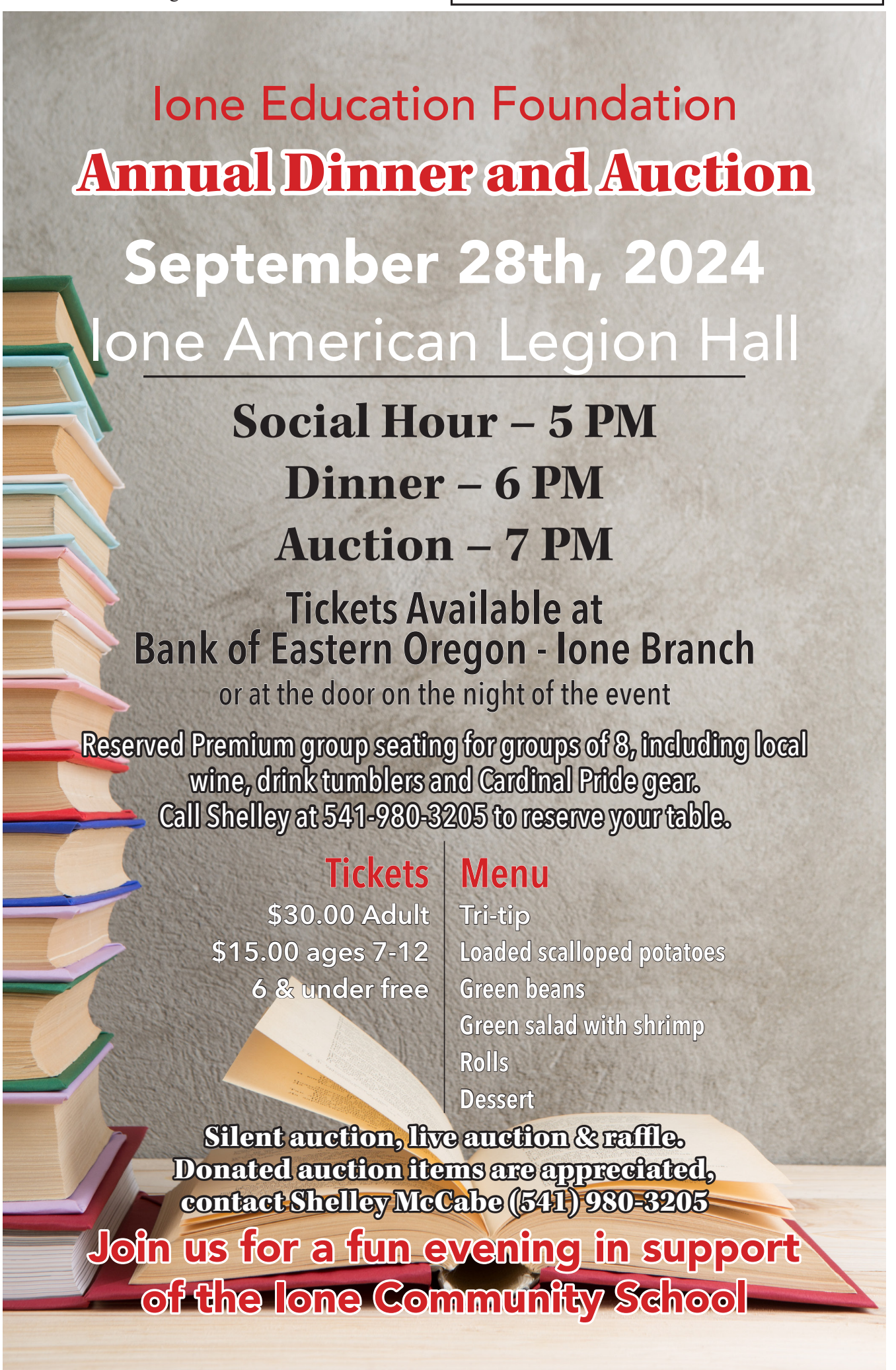
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