



the HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

50¢



VOL. 144 NO. 47 8 Pages Wednesday, November 27, 2024 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Mustangs lose semi-finals to St. Paul Buckaroos 18-12

The Heppner Mustang football team had their season come to an end with an 18-12 loss to the St. Paul Buckaroos in the OSAA 2A Football State Championships Semi-Final game. The Mustangs had a highly successful season, finishing the year with an 11-1 overall record. The Mustangs also won the Blue Mountain Conference title with a perfect 6-0 record.

St. Paul fumbled the ball on their first play of the game and the Mustangs recovered it at the Buckaroo 33-yard line. Heppner then went on a 6-play scoring drive that was highlighted by a 26-yard pass completion from quarterback Mason Orem to Tripp Stewart. Heppner got the touchdown when Stewart ran the ball in from 1 yard out. The Mustangs led the game 6-0 just three minutes into the game.

After the Heppner kickoff, St. Paul went on a 13-play drive that ended in a touchdown to make the score of the game 6-6.

The St. Paul kicker blasted the ball into the end zone for a touchback, so the Mustangs started their next drive at their own 20-yard line. Heppner went on a 17-play drive that ate up 9 minutes of the game clock. The Mustangs picked up 7 first downs on the drive and they scored a touchdown, when Stewart once again found the end zone on a run from 1 yard out. That put the Mustangs ahead by the score of 12-6 halfway through the second quarter.

The Mustang defense forced a St. Paul punt, and the Heppner offense took over deep in their own territory. The Mustangs moved the ball to near midfield on a drive that lasted 10 plays. The drive stalled there, and Heppner punted the ball as the first



Mason Orem, #20, throws the ball while Hayden McMahon, #13 provides backup. -Photo by Tara Proudfoot.



Jaime Cavan, #50, tackles the St. Paul ball carrier while Landon McMahon, #62, pursues close behind. -Photo Tara Proudfoot.

half ended. The score was 12-6 in favor of Heppner.

Heppner got the ball to start the second half and had to punt it away to St. Paul. The stout Mustang defense forced a Buckaroo punt on their next possession. Heppner couldn't get anything going on their possession and punted the ball right back to St. Paul.

The teams continued to trade possessions for the rest of the third quarter and early into the fourth.

St. Paul scored again on a long run midway through the fourth quarter to make the score 12-12. Heppner then went on a drive that took 3 minutes off of the game clock. The drive stalled and the

Mustangs had to punt the ball back to the Buckaroos. St. Paul started their drive at the Mustang 40-yard line. Seven plays later they scored on a 1-yard plunge with only :23 seconds left in the game. That made the score 18-12 in favor of the Buckaroos.

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Morrow County GIS analyst demonstrates cutting-edge drone applications



Morrow County GIS Analyst Stephen Wreccics readying his drone for a new aerial survey mission. - Contributed Photo

By Chris Sykes

In early November, Morrow County GIS Analyst and licensed drone operator Stephen Wreccics conducted a drone survey of a rock pit for the Public Works Department. The purpose of the survey was to capture aerial photo-

graphs and calculate the remaining gravel supply, demonstrating how drones are being utilized in local government operations to enhance efficiency and infrastructure management.

At the site, Wreccics prepared the drone by setting up a landing pad, in-

stalling a fresh battery, and mapping the target area on an iPad. Using an automated flight path laid out in a crosshatch grid, the drone systematically captured 167 high-resolution images of the site. Once the flight was complete, the drone returned to the landing pad for a precise landing. Back at his office, Wreccics used photogrammetry software to stitch the images into a detailed composite photo, which was then provided to Public Works Director Eric Imes for analysis.

Using Drones to Measure Gravel Volume

Drones equipped with photogrammetry software have become a common tool for calculating the volume of gravel piles in quarries, construction sites, and material stockyards. Photogrammetry, the science and technology of obtaining accurate measurements and creating 3D

models from photographs, works by using images taken from different angles to extract spatial information about objects, terrain, or structures. This technique is widely used in fields such as mapping, surveying, architecture, and archaeology.

The process begins

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Heideman makes history as Oregon Wheat Growers League President



Erin Heideman being sworn in to be President of the OWGL. -Picture from the Blown Away Ranch Facebook.



Erin Hansell-Heideman (R) with her husband Deacon Heideman. - Picture from the Blown Away Ranch Facebook.

Ione - Erin Heideman's recent election as President of the Oregon Wheat Growers League marks a historic moment for the agricultural community in Oregon. Heideman steps into this role as just the second woman in the League's 98-year history to hold this position, following in the footsteps of Judy Rea from Ione.

Heideman expressed her honor in taking on this leadership role, stating, "As the incoming President of over 2000 wheat growers in Oregon state, I am honored to lead this dedicated community of producers who are the backbone of

our state's agricultural heritage."

The significance of this leadership transition is underscored by Heideman's achievement as the second female president of the organization. Following the recent passing of Judy Rea, Heideman also remarked on the impact Rea had on her and the wheat-growing community.

The structure of the Oregon Wheat organization consists of two main branches: the grower side, also known as the League, and the commission side. As president, an elected

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Heppner Coaches Grant and Payne to be honored on Dec. 7



Coach Greg Grant



Coach Les Payne

There will be a celebration to honor the careers of Heppner Football coaches Greg Grant and Les Payne. They are both retiring from their football coaching duties at Heppner High School. The celebration will take place on December 7th, at the Gilliam & Bisbee Building. Doors will open at 5 pm. There will be a no-host bar available and Hors d'oeuvres will be served. This event is open to high school students and older. The program will start at 6:30 pm and end around 8pm. That will leave around an hour to sign the guest book, visit or take pictures with the coaches.

The event will end at 9pm.

The program will feature facts about their careers and football coaching accomplishments. There will be several guest speakers and a slide show of their long and illustrious careers coaching football at Heppner High School. Several gifts will be given to the coaches throughout the evening.

Please come and honor the long careers of two of the best, and most influential coaches in all of Oregon High School Football Coaching.

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