

Heppner boys prepares for Stanfield after tough BMC losses



#3 Senior Marty Medina flies high to shoot over Grant Union defender. -Photo by Brian Blake



#0 Freshman Gage Heideman goes up for a basket vs Grant Union. -Photo by Brian Blake



#4 Junior Joseph Albitre avoids a Grant Union defender in mid air. -Photo by Brian Blake

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team faced two hard-fought losses in Blue Mountain Conference play this past weekend. The Mustangs (7-9, 1-3) fell to the Grant Union Prospectors 52-39 and the Weston-McEwen TigerScots 52-49.

Grant Union started strong, scoring the first four points, and Heppner was unable to close the gap throughout the game. By the end of the first quarter, Heppner trailed 16-9. A three-pointer by the Prospectors early in the second quarter stretched their lead to 10, and they held a 24-13 advantage at halftime.

The third quarter saw Grant Union extend their lead to as much as 17 points, with the Mustangs being outscored 17-12. Heading into the fourth quarter, the score was 41-25. Despite a late rally where the Mustangs outscored the Prospectors 14-11, the effort

came up short, ending in a 52-39 defeat.

Gage Heideman led the Mustangs with 14 points and seven rebounds. Mason Orem contributed 10 points, three rebounds and one assist. Other key players included Keaton Coiner with six points and three rebounds, and Caylan Proudfoot, who had four points and three assists. Caleb George was instrumental with five assists and two rebounds.

Against the Weston-McEwen TigerScots, the Mustangs came out strong, building a 19-11 lead by the end of the first quarter. They maintained control through much of the second quarter until the TigerScots tied the game at 25-25 with just over a minute left in the half. A late three-pointer gave Weston-McEwen a 28-27 lead at halftime.

The third quarter featured three ties, the last at

39-39. Weston-McEwen pulled ahead by four, but Heppner responded to cut the lead to 43-41 entering the fourth. The Mustangs tied the game at 43-43 and briefly regained the lead at 45-43 before the TigerScots surged ahead. Despite a well-designed final play for a three-pointer, Heppner's shot missed, and they fell 52-49.

Keaton Coiner led the scoring with 15 points, five rebounds and a blocked shot. Joseph Albitre added 11 points, five rebounds and three assists. Mason Orem had 10 points, four rebounds, and a game-high seven assists. Caleb George contributed six points and two assists, while Jackson Coiner added five points and three rebounds.

The Mustangs will play one Blue Mountain Conference game this week, traveling to Stanfield to face the Tigers on Friday, Jan. 24. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

JV Mustangs improve to 8-1 with two wins



#22 Darby Spivey

The Heppner Mustang JV boys' basketball team ran its season record to 8-1 with two wins last week. The JV Mustangs beat the Grant Union Prospectors 48-43 and then defeated the Weston-McEwen TigerScots by the score of 49-15.

In the game with the Prospectors, the teams started the game out evenly matched. The score at the end of the first quarter was tied 13-13. Darby Spivey led the Mustangs in the quarter with six points. Mason Haugen hit a three, and with two points each were Tripp Stewart and Jace Wilson.

Heppner outscored Grant Union in the second quarter 9-4 to lead the game at halftime 22-17. Alakae Rodriguez scored six points in the quarter and Gage



(L) #2 Mason Haugen

Heideman contributed three for the Mustangs.

A 13-10 scoring advantage in favor of the Mustangs in the third quarter extended the Heppner lead to 35-27 as the final frame started. Wilson exploded for 10 points in the quarter and Haugen chipped in two.

The Prospectors made a run at the Mustangs in the fourth quarter and cut the lead down to two points late in the game. The Prospectors outscored the Mustangs 16-13 in the quarter to make things interesting. Heppner stepped up to play some great defense and they hit four free throws with only seconds left in the game to secure the win by the score of 48-43.

Wilson led the team in scoring with 16 points. Rodriguez followed with eight points and Spivey six. With five points each were Stewart and Haugen. Proudfoot finished with four, Heideman three and Brody McDaniel one.

Heppner traveled to Athena to play the TigerScots and the Mustangs controlled the game from the start. Heppner outscored the TigerScots 12-2 in the first quarter. Spivey scored

six points in the quarter, and with two points each were Stewart, McDaniel and Wilson.

Another big scoring quarter by the Mustangs, where they outpaced the TigerScots 15-3, led to a 27-5 lead at the half. Rodriguez led the team in the second quarter with five points, Heideman had four, and with two points each were Proudfoot, McDaniel and Wilson.

The Mustangs beat the TigerScots 10-4 in the third quarter to lead 37-9. Stewart tallied five points in the quarter, while Mason Seitz and Wilson each recorded two. Spivey made a free-throw for one point in the quarter.

Another strong scoring quarter in the fourth saw the Mustangs outpace the TigerScots 12-6 to take the victory by the score of 49-15. With five points each in the final frame were Seitz and Wilson, while Haugen had two.

A balanced scoring attack that saw everyone on the team score in the game was led by Wilson with 11. Scoring seven points each were Seitz, Stewart and Spivey. Rodriguez finished with five points, McDaniel and Heideman had four, and with two points each were Proudfoot and Haugen.

The JV Mustangs have one game this week when they travel to Stanfield to play the Tigers on Friday at 4:30 p.m.

DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5PM

Lady Mustangs roll over Prospectors ahead of key matchup



#2 Hallee Hisler goes up for 2 of her team high 20 points vs Grant Union. - Photo by Susan Hisler



#1 Ciciley Stefani takes her shot against Grant Union. - Photo by Susan Hisler



#15 Lily Nichols floats a shot by Grant Union. - Photo by Susan Hisler

The Heppner Lady Mustangs secured their seventh consecutive win with a dominant 59-24 victory over Grant Union on January 16th. The Mustangs (12-3) took an early lead, finishing the first quarter ahead 19-3, and never relinquished control. Hallee Hisler scored 12 of her

game-high 20 points in the first quarter alone.

The Mustangs extended their lead to 26-8 by half-time and 52-17 by the end of the third quarter. Freshman Isa Payne contributed 11 points, and sophomore Healy Hisler added 8 points to the scoreboard. In the fourth quarter, the coaches

pulled the starters and gave all players time on the court.

With a big game against Weston-McEwen coming up on Saturday, this win provided a strong boost for the team. Starter Delaney Stefani was sidelined with an ankle sprain and missed both games.

Weston-McEwen overpowers Lady Mustangs 44-32



#23 Kadie Henrichs hangs in the air vs Weston McEwen. - Photo by Susan Hisler



#3 Healy Hisler drives past Weston McEwen defender. - Photo by Susan Hisler



#5 Katie Spivey fires a three against Weston McEwen. - Photo by Susan Hisler

The top-ranked TigerScots of Weston-McEwen dominated the Heppner Lady Mustangs on Saturday, cruising to a 44-32 victory. Both teams experienced early game jitters, but Weston-McEwen settled down with an 11-2 run and extended their lead to 24-4 by halftime.

Heppner's Kadie Henrichs went to the bench in

the second quarter after picking up three early fouls, and the Lady Mustangs managed only four points in the first half. Hallee Hisler was held to just five points for the game.

Weston-McEwen's Charlotte Hansel led all scorers with an impressive 21 points, while teammates Kelsey Graham and Addy Hall contributed 8 points

apiece.

Kadie Henrichs led Heppner with 11 points, adding multiple rebounds and free throws in an all-around effort. The Lady Mustangs will look to rebound next Friday against Stanfield, another top team in the state 2A rankings. Weston-McEwen and Stanfield continue to sit high in the standings.



The Heppner band, directed by Brook Baker, performed hits during the Heppner vs. Grant Union game last Friday night in Heppner. - Photo by Susan Hisler

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