

Mustangs boys secure spot in BMC district tournament



Heppner's Alakae Rodriguez jumps to miss pile up against Irrigon. -Tara Eakin Proudfoot



Heppner's Marty Medina takes to the skies in their win against Irrigon. -Tara Eakin Proudfoot

The Heppner Mustang boys' varsity team split their Blue Mountain Conference games last week. The Mustangs were beaten by the Grant Union Prospectors 54-30, but they then came back and defeated the Irrigon Knights 61-30. With the win over Irrigon, the Mustangs (8-14,2-8) qualified for the BMC District Tournament.

In the game against the Prospectors, the Mustangs trailed at the end of the first quarter 14-9. Heppner struggled to score in the second quarter and trailed 27-14 at halftime.

The shooting struggles continued for the Mustangs as they were outscored 18-5 in the third quarter and trailed 45-19 as the fourth quarter started. Heppner did outscore Grant Union in the fourth quarter, but it wasn't nearly enough, and the Mustangs fell to the Prospectors by the score of 54-30.

Mason Orem led the team in scoring with 9 points. He also had 3 rebounds and 1 assist. Keaton Coiner followed closely with 8 points and 4 rebounds. Gage Heideman recorded 7 points and 5 rebounds while Joseph Albitre had 5 points, 3 rebounds and 3 steals. Marty Medina had 1 point and 2 rebounds

for the Mustangs. Caylan Proudfoot didn't score in the game but he contributed 4 rebounds and 2 assist for the team. Alakae Rodriguez finished with 1 rebound, 2 assist and 2 steals, Tripp Stewart had 3 rebounds and 1 assist while Jackson Coiner and Jace Wilson each contributed 1 rebound and 1 assist in the game.

In a game they had to have to qualify for the BMC District Tournament, the Mustangs stepped up and dominated the Irrigon Knights. In their last game of BMC Conference play, the Mustangs may have played their most complete game of the season. A close start to the game saw the Heppner lead 9-8 at the end of the first quarter. The second quarter is when Heppner started to pull away. The Mustangs outscored Irrigon 16-8 and led at halftime by the score of 25-16.

Heppner then outscored the Knights 17-6 in the third quarter to take a commanding 42-22 lead entering the fourth. Another strong scoring quarter saw Heppner score 19 points and hold Irrigon to only 8. This was one of the top scoring games of the year for the Mustangs, but what really stood out was the defensive pressure and effort

the team showed throughout the game.

A balanced scoring attack saw Gage Heideman lead the team with 13 points. Gage also had 4 rebounds and blocked 3 shots. Keaton Coiner followed with 12 points, 5 rebounds and 1 assist. Marty Medina erupted for 10 points, had 8 rebounds and 1 assist for the Mustangs. Caleb George recorded 8 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assist and he also had 2 steals. Alakae Rodriguez tallied 7 points and had 4 assists while Mason Orem filled up the stat sheet with 2 points, 6 rebounds, 5 assists and he had 4 steals. Caylan Proudfoot scored 3 points, had 4 steals, 3 assists and 1 rebound for the team and with 2 points each were Joseph Albitre, Jackson Coiner and Jace Wilson. Joseph also had 2 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals while Jackson had 1 rebound and 3 assists. Rounding out the stats for the Mustangs was Darby Spivey who had 2 rebounds and 2 assists and Tripp Stewart who hauled down 2 rebounds for the team.

The Mustang boys' team will play the last game of the day on Friday at the BMC District Tournament which will be held at the Pendleton Convention Center.

Lady Mustangs secure No. 2 seed with dominant win over Irrigon



Healy Hisler #3 shoots over an Irrigon defender. - Photo by Tara Eakin Proudfoot



Lily Nichols throws an open court pass to her teammate. - Photo by Susan Hisler

Heppner 38, Irrigon 21 Heppner's girls' basketball team wrapped up conference play in dominant fashion, defeating Irrigon 38-21 at home to secure the No. 2 seed for the Blue Mountain Conference district tournament.

Hallee Hisler led the Mustangs with a standout performance, scoring 15 points and pulling down five rebounds. Heppner (16-6 overall, 7-3 BMC) took control early, limit-

ing Irrigon to just three first-quarter points while building an 8-3 lead. A strong second-quarter push saw the Mustangs outscore the Knights 15-5, sending them into halftime with a comfortable 23-8 advantage.

The sixth-ranked Mustangs remained in control after the break, dominating the second half with a 15-3 scoring run to seal the victory.

Lily Nichols provided

an offensive spark with 11 points, sinking three shots from beyond the arc. Cici Stefani contributed four points and five rebounds in the win.

Despite the loss, Alivia Gridley put up a strong effort for Irrigon leading the Knights with 13 points.

With the regular season behind them, the Mustangs now turn their focus to the district tournament, where they look to continue their strong play.

JV Mustangs Dominate Irrigon in Season Finale, Finish 11-3

The Heppner Mustang boys' junior varsity team won their final game of the season as they defeated the Irrigon Knights by the score of 68-35. With the win, the JV Mustangs finished the season with an 11-3 record.

A quick start by the Mustangs saw them lead at the end of the first quarter 16-7. Another fast paced second quarter also saw the Mustangs score 16 points. Heppner led at halftime by the score of 32-16.

The third quarter was much closer, 13-12 in favor of the Mustangs. Heppner led 45-28 as the fourth quarter started. A big scoring outburst by the Mustangs saw them score 23

points in the fourth quarter and they held Irrigon to only 7. That led to the final margin of victory for the Mustangs by the score of 68-35.

Everyone on the Heppner roster scored in the game and they had four players scored in double figures. Jace Wilson led the team with 17 points. Gage Heideman had 12 and with 10 points each were Brody

McDaniel and Darby Spivey. Mason Seitz recorded 7 points for the team and Tripp Stewart had 5. Alakae Rodriguez had 3 points and with 2 points each were Caylan Proudfoot and Mason Haugen.

It was a great season for the JV team and with their 11-3 season record, the future of the Mustang basketball program certainly looks bright.

Holly Rebekah Lodge monthly meal and BINGO

Holly Rebekah Lodge will be hosting their monthly meal and BINGO Day on Sunday, February 23 at the Lodge Hall in Lexington. The meal (which is available for \$5) will start at 3pm with BINGO following at approximately 3:30. The cost for a 10 pack of BINGO cards is

only \$5 and is good for 15-20 games, including 3 blackout games. Everyone is welcome to come and participate whether it's for just the meal, BINGO, or both. So, grab your friends and come eat, visit, and play BINGO. Watch for signs and the big BINGO banner.

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Upcoming Events

Feb 21st & March 7 - Western Dance Lessons by the Lindsay Family 7:30pm, Dinner off the menu served from 5pm to 8pm
March 6th - Old Timers Night, Steak Dinner 6pm, Lodge at 8pm
March 15th - St Patrick's Day - Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner 5pm, Music by Musically Unstable 8:30pm

Lodge Hours:

Wed 4pm to close with dinner at 6pm
Thurs 4 pm to close (Lodge at 8pm)
Fri & Sat 4pm to close with dinner from 5pm to 8pm



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New Listing



\$550,000

More than meets the eye! There is plenty of room in this 3,680 sq. ft. 5 bedroom 4 bath home on 5.29 acres located on Dee Cox Rd near Heppner. Has family/game room, office space and a deck for summer barbecuing. Beautiful bamboo floors with an open kitchen and dining area. Top of the line induction cook top convection oven with air frying included. Daylight basement opens out to the backyard, where there is an outbuilding & chicken coop. These small acreage homes are hard to come by, so come and have a look soon. Property is located in the flood zone. 61476 DEE COX RD
Heppner MLS#: 639453591