

Mustangs finish strong with district win over WM

Three players named to all-conference teams



Caleb George looks to pass the ball against Enterprise. -Photo by Susan Hisler

The Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team ended its season with a good showing at the Blue Mountain Conference Tournament. The Mustangs (9-15, 2-8) split their tournament games as they defeated the Weston-McEwen TigerScots 55-34 and then lost to the Enterprise Outlaws by the score of 40-30.

Having been beaten by the TigerScots twice during the regular season by a combined four points, the Mustangs felt as if they could get the win in this game. Heppner came out and started the game fast as they led at the end of the first quarter 14-7.

Another strong scoring quarter in the second, to go along with a stifling defense, saw the Mustangs outscore the TigerScots 17-8. Heppner led the game 31-15 at halftime.

A close third quarter that saw both teams score 10 points made the score 41-25 as the fourth quar-

ter started. Everyone on the Mustang team played in the final frame and the Mustangs were able to extend their lead in the game. Heppner outscored the TigerScots 14-9 to get the win by the score of 55-34.

Keaton Coiner led the team as he recorded a double-double in the game with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Mason Orem followed with 11 points and six rebounds while Gage Heideman also scored 11 points and hauled down five rebounds. Caleb George had nine points and three rebounds, Joseph Albitre filled the stat sheet with five points, seven big rebounds and he also had two assists. Caylan Proudfoot finished the game with three points, five rebounds and two assists, Alakae Rodriguez scored two points and had two rebounds and Marty Medina had one point and one rebound. Tripp Stewart ripped down three rebounds for the Mustangs.

In the third-place game against the Outlaws, Heppner had a good first quarter as they were tied with Enterprise 9-9. The Outlaws outscored the Mustangs 11-4 in the second quarter to lead at halftime 20-13.

The Mustangs struggled to stop the Outlaws 6'7" post player from scoring in the third quarter and Heppner was outscored 13-8. The Outlaws led at the end of three 33-21.

A furious rally by the Mustangs in the fourth quarter saw them outscore Enterprise 9-7. Heppner

did a great job defensively in the game as they held the high-powered Enterprise offense, which averaged 62 points a game during the season, to only 40 points in their 40-30 defeat of the Mustangs.

Caleb George led the team in scoring with nine points and he had two steals. Joseph Albitre followed with six points, five rebounds and two steals. Mason Orem had five points, four rebounds, three assists and a blocked shot in the game. Alakae Rodriguez finished with four points, three rebounds and one assist for the team. With three points, three rebounds, two assists and three steals was Caylan Proudfoot. Keaton Coiner scored three points and had two rebounds for the Mustangs.

At the conclusion of the tournament, the all-conference teams were announced. The Heppner boys' team had three players receive recognition for their play during the conference season. Second team honors went to Mason Orem. Caleb George and Keaton Coiner were included on the honorable mention team. Congratulations to those Mustang team members.

The Mustangs will lose three seniors off this team, and they will be missed. They are Jackson Coiner, Marty Medina and Mason Orem. The future of the boys' program certainly looks bright as many underclassmen saw lots of varsity playing time and the JV team had a very successful year.

Heppner falls in overtime to Weston-McEwen in Blue Mountain District Tournament



(Middle) Head Coach Robert Wilson gives the Mustang girls a pep talk, while Assistant Coach (Left) Russ Nichols looks on. -Photo by Susan Hisler



Hallee Hisler goes in for 2 of her 23 points against the TigerScots -Photo by Susan Hisler



Lily Nichols fires an open 3 point shot. -Photo by Susan Hisler



Cici Stefany drives past TigerScot defender. -Photo by Susan Hisler

The Heppner Mustangs battled through two tough matchups in the Blue Mountain Conference district tournament, falling to Weston-McEwen 54-48 in an overtime semifinal thriller before losing 53-41 to Enterprise in the third-place game at the Pendleton Convention Center.

Heppner vs. Weston-McEwen

The Mustangs started strong against the TigerScots, jumping to a 14-7 lead after the first quarter. However, Weston-McEwen closed the gap before half-

time, trailing by just three, 19-16. By the end of the third quarter, Heppner held a narrow 36-34 advantage, but the TigerScots forced overtime with a 43-43 tie at the end of regulation.

In the extra period, Weston-McEwen took control, outscoring Heppner 11-5 to secure the victory and advance to the district championship.

Hallee Hisler led the Mustangs with a game-high 23 points and 12 rebounds, while Healy Hisler added 13 points and seven rebounds.

Heppner vs. Enterprise Following the loss to WestonMcEwen, Heppner faced Enterprise in the consolation game. The Mustangs took an early 11-9

lead after the first quarter but trailed 27-26 at half-time. The Outlaws broke the game open in the third quarter with a decisive 17-6 run, extending their lead to 44-32. Heppner struggled to regain momentum and ultimately fell 53-41.

The Mustangs' free-throw struggles proved costly, as they missed 15 attempts from the line.

Hallee Hisler recorded 13 points, seven rebounds, and four steals, while Delaney Stefani contributed eight points, four rebounds, and four steals.

Weston McEwen eventually fell to Stanfield in the district championship 41-46

Heppner girls will play at Knappa, Friday the 28th at 5:00pm.

Mustang pep band lit it up at the district tournament



Heppner Mustang Pep Band. -Contributed Photo

Heppner, OR—The Heppner Mustang Pep Band, under the direction of Brook Baker, dedicated countless hours throughout the basketball season to energizing home and away crowds with their spirited performances. Their commitment culminated in an outstanding effort at the district basketball tournament in Pendleton, where they traveled alongside the team and fans for two days of high-intensity competition.

From the first tip-off of the season to the final buzzer at districts, the pep band played a crucial role in rallying school spirit and supporting the Mustang athletes. Their performances kept the energy high in the gym, creating an electric atmosphere for players and fans alike. Their unwavering enthusiasm and dedication showcased the important role music plays in uniting the Heppner High School community.

"We are incredibly proud of our students for the time and effort they put into this season," said director Brook Baker. "They have spent hours practicing, performing at games, and ensuring Mustang fans had an unforgettable experience. Traveling to the district tournament was a rewarding experience and a testament to their hard work."

The band would also like to extend a special thank you to Heppner High School teacher Dave Fowler, who made sure they had a brand-new vinyl sign just in time for their trip to districts, helping them represent their school with pride.

The Heppner Mustang Pep Band remains a cornerstone of school events, fostering pride, unity, and excitement for students, athletes and fans throughout the year.



BUCKNUM'S TAVERN
146 N Main Street
Heppner
541-676-5274

Lunch & Dinner Menu

2/27 - 3/5

Thursday - chicken tortilla soup & quesadilla
Friday - bratwurst with mac n cheese
Saturday - SW Grill chicken salad
Sunday closed
Monday - popcorn chicken mashed potato bowl
Tuesday - chicken dumpling soup & salad
Tuesday Night - 6-9pm \$2 hard shell tacos
Wednesday - 1/4 bacon cheeseburger with pork n beans & deep fried chips
2/28 Live Music Starting at 8pm featuring James Hunnicutt



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Price Reduced



\$170,000

Charming 1900 Victorian Home in Heppner, Oregon – A Unique Opportunity! Step into history with this 1900 Victorian gem, located in the picturesque town of Heppner, Oregon. This two-story home offers 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Classic Victorian Style: From its timeless architecture to intricate woodwork and high ceilings, this home exudes vintage appeal. 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms: Plenty of space for a growing family. Detached Garage & Basement: A versatile space for storage, a workshop, or future renovations. Ideal for those with a vision, this property offers the opportunity to restore and personalize to your taste. With a little love and care, this house could become a stunning blend of classic and modern. Enjoy the charm of small-town life in Heppner while crafting the home of your dreams. Don't miss out on this rare chance. Selling as-is. 195 N COURT ST Heppner MLS#:24426505

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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

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