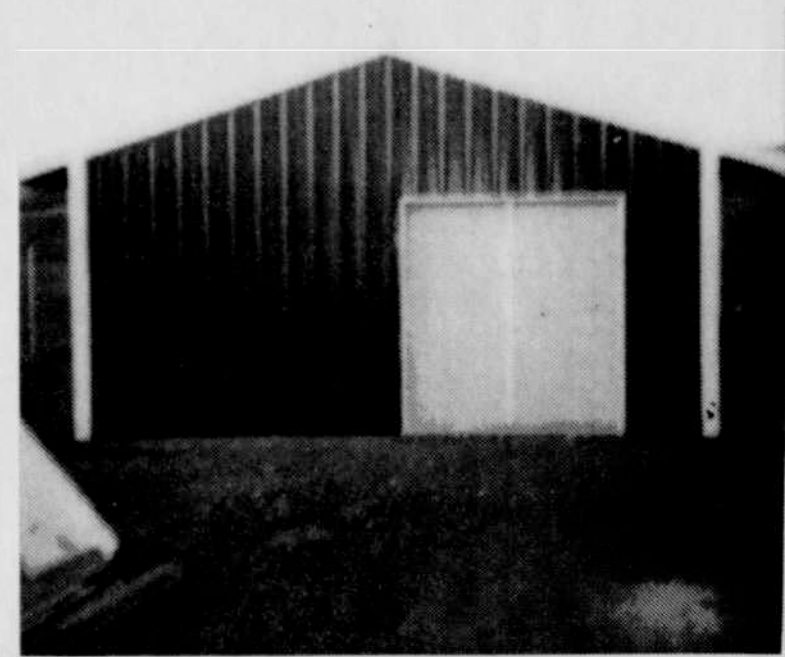


Donation funds new baseball storage shed



New baseball shed

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner High School baseball field got a much-needed addition last week as a new storage shed sprang up where the old one was.

A "very generous donation" from Pat Kilkenny provided two-thirds of the money needed with the rest coming from fund raisers by Heppner baseball players.

Ken Eckman Construction donated the labor of building the shed which butts up against a new batting cage. A hole is being cut out of the shed so the pitching machine can be inside and set up so anyone who needs to use it can.

The front of the shed has double doors and will house the new lawn tractor, baseball equipment and field equipment.

Mustang softball team splits with Wahtonka

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustang softball team got a clutch two-out double by Shelley Rietmann to score SanJuanita Elguezabal in the bottom of the seventh in the second game to give the Mustangs an 8-7 win and a split against the always tough Wahtonka Eagles. The games were the first in league play.

The Eagles won the first game, 8-1, with the lone Mustang run coming from a homerrun by Jesse Gutierrez in the first inning.

Trailing 2-0 in the bottom of the first in game two, Gutierrez doubled, then scored as Elguezabal bounced one over the fence for a ground rule double. Leah Denton singled but Elguezabal was thrown out at home to end the inning.

The Eagles led 4-1 in the bottom of the third when Alecia Geer singled, Gutierrez reached on an error and Marissa McCabe walked. Elguezabal then singled sharply to left field with the ball rolling between the legs of the left fielder to the fence to clear

the bases and give the Mustangs a 5-4 lead.

The Eagles tied it in the fifth but the Mustangs came back to take a 7-5 lead on back-to-back doubles by Gutierrez and McCabe and a single by Elguezabal.

The Eagles tied the game at 7-7 in the sixth but the Mustangs came back for the dramatic win in the seventh.

Rietmann went the distance on the mound to get the win.

Elguezabal went three for three with a double and two RBI's and Gutierrez went two for four with two doubles and scored three runs. Geer went two for three and made some nice plays in left field.

First Game
 Wahtonka 060 101 0-8 0
 Heppner 100 00 0-1 4 6
 Kaufman and Thompson; Shelley Rietmann and Jesse Gutierrez. 2B-Ziegler (W). 3B-none HR-Gutierrez (H)
Second Game
 Wahtonka 220 012 0-7 11 2
 Heppner 104 020 1-8 10 2
 Smith, Kaufman (S) and Thompson; Rietmann and Gutierrez. 2B-Krol, Smith (W); Gutierrez 2. San Juanita Elguezabal, Rietmann (H). 3B-none. HR-none

Mustangs pound Pirates

By Rick Paullus

The Heppner Mustangs pounded out 11 hits, including three home runs, in beating the visiting Riverside Pirates, 18-2, on Friday, March 31. The Mustangs evened their record to four and four in the pre-season in their first game of the year.

The Mustangs got going early as Michael McCabe led off with a walk, followed by walks to Stefan Matheny, Stanley Cutsforth and Allan Gribskov forcing in a run. Josh Hill scored two more with a single off the fence in right-center before Dylan Pettyjohn hit a long homerun to left field to give the Mustangs a 6-0 lead after one.

The Pirates scored a run in the top of the second but the Mustangs came back with three more as Matheny walked, Cutsforth reached on an error and Kelly Paullus hit a home run to make it 9-1.

In the bottom of the third, Hill led off with a walk, McCabe singled with two outs, Nick Anthony singled to scored Hill and Matheny walked to load the bases. Cutsforth then crushed a long home run for his second grand slam of the season.

The Pirates scored a run in the top of the fourth, but the

Saddle captures memories for Heppner alum

When Tom Green and his wife, Annette, came to Heppner on March 18, they had not visited the town since 1992, the year he came to reminisce with classmates about their years at HHS before their 1961 graduation.

When he and Annette came to Heppner this year, he came again to capture some memories, this time family memories. And this time, Tom took home a symbol of an important segment of his family's history and heritage, a saddle.

Tom's father, Ken Green, had an affinity for horses. As a young man, he worked as a trainer and traveled from track to track with his parents' thoroughbreds. His marriage, followed by a growing family, influenced Ken to settle down in one place as a provider.

In Union, he learned shoe repair from an experienced cobbler, from whom he eventually purchased the business. While in Union, Green's interest in horses remained strong, and he learned, also, to make saddles.

From Union, he, his wife, Verle, and his family of four children moved to Elgin, but in 1954 they moved on to Heppner, where Ken planned to continue his saddle making.

In Heppner at that time, Joe Snyder was an established saddle maker. Business was good enough for a very busy Snyder that when Kay Anderson asked him to build her a saddle, he recommended she go to a new

man in town, Ken Green. Mrs. Anderson says that Green did not wait for her to come to him. He drove to her country home and asked if he could make her a saddle. Kay agreed.

This saddle would be the first of those made by Green while in Heppner, where he stayed until 1959. It was the first saddle hand-tooled by his wife. Though Verle was a beautician, she also "was the artistic one of the two," Tom reports, and her creativity grew from the floral design on the Anderson saddle to the depiction of horses and horse heads on later saddles.

Anderson says that the saddle afforded her a comfortable ride, but she had difficulty getting it on a horse because of its weight.

Recently, Mrs. Anderson decided to sell the saddle, for which she no longer had a use, and placed it on consignment at Green's Feed and Seed. A seeming lack of interest in the pleasure saddle led Anderson to contact Diana Ball in March to arrange donating it to the St. Patrick's Auction. Ball relayed the history of the saddle to fellow committee member Doris Brosnan.

As Brosnan began an auction-promotion article for the Heppner Gazette Times, to accompany a picture of the saddle, she thought of her classmate Tom Green and wondered if a saddle made by his father would be of special interest to him. She contacted Shirley George, another classmate "who has everyone's address," told her the story, and suggested a call to Tom.

Green telephoned Brosnan that evening to say, "Yes, I am definitely interested in getting one of the saddles my parents made." He explained that he had kept his eye open for a Green saddle for about 10 years. As the two discussed methods of bidding on the saddle, Green suggested that he and his wife might make the trip from Los Gatos, California, to bid in person.

On March 17, the two began their 14-hour drive in a recently purchased company pickup, for Green was confident of returning



Tom Green

home with the saddle, and they arrived in Heppner in time for the parade on Saturday.

The Greens used their time in Heppner before the Sunday auction for visiting with their hosts, the Georges, and taking drives around country that holds many memories for Tom.

The fourth item on the auction block on Sunday was the saddle. True to his intention, Tom Green placed the winning bid, of \$950, carried the saddle out on his shoulder after time for a photograph, and headed back home to a daughter who was eagerly awaiting its arrival.

Tom and Annette have a son, John, and a daughter, Shelly. Shelly seems to have inherited her grandfather's interest in horses. Now the mother of three young daughters who show signs of following in their mother's footsteps, Shelly has been a

horsewoman since a young age.

For 14 years, "until she replaced her interest in horses with interest in boys," her dad says, she competed in vaulting on horseback. Shelly traveled to Holland and Germany and competed in her home state and Texas.

Today, Shelly owns several horses and teach riding to handicapped children, as well as to her own daughters. Tom says that the saddle will surely be more important as a keepsake but will also be Shelly's preference for some special events.

Tom reports that his father did not continue his saddle making after leaving Heppner but he did continue his association with horses. Today Ken Green, now 84 years old, lives near a daughter in Arnegard, North Dakota.

Pastors invited to submit Easter message

The Gazette-Times will feature a special section with Easter messages from local ministers in the April 19 issue of the newspaper. Easter is April 23.

Pastors who wish to participate should have their message at the Gazette office by 5 p.m. Monday, April 17.

Messages may be typed or hand written as long as they are legible and double spaced.

For more information, call April Sykes, 676-9228.

Lex Baptist to host signspiration

The Lexington Baptist Church will be the host of this month's signspiration on Sunday, April 9, at 7 p.m.

The South Morrow County Mininsterial Association sponsors this event with various churches hosting it each month. People are invited to come to

sing, listen, and share in the music.

Special music is provided by volunteers from area churches and the Easter choir will share a preview of what they have in store for Easter.

Refreshments will be served following the Signspiration to provide "a time of sharing and enjoying each other's company."

Colleges release honor rolls

Blue Mountain Community College has released its honor roll for winter term. Following are the students who qualify:

President's List, 4.0-Sharon Norick, Boardman; Nola Binschus, Heppner; Marie Tworek, Hermiston; Debora Parks, Ione; Dulcie Peterson, Irrigon.

Dean's List: Boardman-Brooke Barton, Jason Calloway, Michele Cowan, Lee Dawson, Elizabeth Martinez, Charles Van Gorder; Heppner- David Bates, Timothy Davidson, Rollie Marshall, Bobbie Rankin, Raymond Rhode, Daniel Sharp-Petit, Virginia Sweeney and Hud Wilkins; Irrigon- Gregory Henderson, Jennifer Samson. Pendleton- Kathryn Tworek and Lindsey Waterland.

Honor Roll: Boardman-Maria Aguiar, Valerie Bradley, Jorge Cuevas Rodriguez, Joan Ratchford and Jessica Renken; Heppner-William DeBoer, Jeni Miller, Shelly Sieler; Ione-Brenda Burright, Johnny Collin, Amanda Gutierrez; Irrigon-Gloria Brasure, Ilene Osborne, Matthew Schilling; Lexington-Phillip Tellechea; Pendleton-Maci Childers and Katie Riney.

Jacob McElligott, a sophomore from Ione was among the 427 students named to the Gonzaga University president's list for fall semester.

Students must earn a 3.7 or better grade-point average to be listed.

Founded in 1887, Gonzaga is an independent, comprehensive university with a student enrollment of approximately 4,500.

Wedding Tables

Sheryl Carty & Marc Angell
 wedding: April 8, 2000

Angela Currin & Nate Williams
 wedding: April 8, 2000

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