

Coach Weiper hands out accolades to all his players

By Paula Emmel

Ione Head Football Coach Stan Weiper gave seven "coaches' awards" to the seniors this past Thursday, November 17 during the annual football awards dessert.

Micah Stillman received MVP. Adam Collin received Most Improved. Omar Juarez, Luke Emmel, Trent Cannon, Zac Orem and Kaleb Dumler each received a Coaches' Award.

All-League awards went to Micah Stillman, 1st team running back and 1st team linebacker; Omar Juarez, 2nd team defensive tackle and 2nd team offensive end. Omar was nominated 1st team kicker by a unanimous vote. Zac Orem was designated 1st team defensive end. Kaleb Dumler received honorable mention for offensive linebacker and defensive back. Kirk Haguewood received honorable mention as center.

Micah Stillman was chosen to play in the eight-man All Star Game. Omar Juarez and Zac Orem were nominated as alternates for the game.

After thanking many individuals, the coach mentioned each player by name and had a unique story to tell about each one as he personalized the awards ceremony. He said the team was an example of the community in which they live, and honored the community for producing such fine young men.

"It was an honor for me to come from California and coach such coachable athletes," Weiper commented. "During the season, Micah ran the ball over 1,200 yards, Evan Rietmann also ran the football over 1,000 yards and Zac passed the pigskin for over 1,000 yards. That was quite a feat for one football team in just one season."

"We had fun. Our team won six games to four losses and we beat two of the teams that made it into the finals, Dayville/Monument and Joseph. Had we had a year where we normally had three teams

selected, we would have been there, too. I believe that we could have beaten both Dufur and Sherman had we played them near the end of our season, instead of the beginning.

"I am proud of the kids because they didn't tail off once the district title wasn't on the horizon. They continued to be competitors, holding teams scoreless in the second halves of multiple games. Our defensive game at Condon was proof of that. We played with heart and a competitive nature, preventing them from scoring, on a frigid night, while they were just feet or inches from their goal lines, at least four times. I am proud of the seniors for playing with pride and a solid foundation, and the juniors coming up are a good foundation in their own right."

"I am also proud of the fact that this team has kept with the tradition of good academics along with their athleticism. They earned the Oregon Dairyman All State Academic Award with a 3.26 GPA once again this year," Weiper continued. "The seniors have provided a good foundation for these men to look up to and I have awarded them for their exemplary playing and examples for the team. They are: Trent Cannon who is a good kid, coachable, and he continued to improve throughout the season. Luke Emmel is a small package with a big heart. He gives everything he has and is a competitor all around. Adam Collin has been a solid player all year for us and he is my most-improved player. Omar Juarez had some communication problems with me, being as he is bilingual, but he picked up in communication and had such infectious enthusiasm. He was voted unanimously all-league kicker. All the leagues' coaches said 'That boy can kick a football!'"

Kaleb Dumler, our safety, corner back and offensive guard, talked me into letting him be a guard eligible,



Above (L-R): Zac Orem, Micah Stillman and Omar Juarez, selections for All-League Awards and the eight-man All Star Game. Below: Coach Weiper (R) giving freshman Zack Irons his awards and varsity letter. -Photos by Paula Emmel

and it worked. It was great to have him and junior Tim Emmel, as offensive guards, run in the plays. It was also unusual at that position, but they both had the stamina and will to compete the whole game and report to me and the team. They are to be commended for their invaluable service. Our quarterback, Zac Orem, is gonna be missed both offensively and defensively. He was voted 1st team on defense and he was accurate on his passes. And Micah Stillman... 'little guy, big package'... with a great amount of playing, that was evident. He had been playing football with these men for a number of years. They knew they could count on him. He plays nose to ball, is a leader, a good person and it will be a hard time replacing him on the team.

"I look forward to next year with my freshmen gaining valuable experience and growth and, with my sophomores and juniors, I expect to have a stalwart team. Juniors, Sam Irons as a right guard and Tim Emmel as a good lineman, who'll be exceptional next year as an offensive and defensive guard and providing feedback as to what is happening on the field at all times. They will join Evan Rietmann, also good on both sides of the line, and running the ball, along with current juniors Kirk Haguewood, Jordan Braun, Jordan Synder, Tyrell Barnett and Stewart Syverson for a solid team again next year."

Coach Weiper thanked athletic director Ryan Rudolf, principal Jerry Archer, secretary Cathy

McCabe, Ashley McCabe in maintenance, Jim Swanson for being a runner for equipment and other errands, Becky Cannon as volunteer team doctor who made it to all the games—home and away—as did Paula Emmel, team reporter, who provided newspaper coverage and photographs for the players, the Ione community store's big-screen TV and the school publications class. He also thanked the announcer at home games, Dustin Padberg; his wife, Susan, for keeping stats and doing the yard work; lineman coach, Deacon Heideman, who has a love for these kids and for the game; assistant coach Dennis Stefani, who helped with the transition from 11-man football to eight-man, as well as being defensive coach and helping with the offense, doing the field prep, and washing the gear.

"We had a fun time together," said Weiper.

He thanked conditioning coach, Deputy Scott Carter, for providing the 'good cop/bad cop' routine.

"He helped the team be ready at a moment's notice, during any game," Weiper said.

Finally, the coach commended the community involvement, parental support and team-member responsibility instilled in the community.

"I told my wife when I came, 'I have to coach full-time.' Thanks to her and this community, I was able to do so," said Weiper.

HHS players named to BMC All-League

Heppner High School announces its players named to the 2011 Blue Mountain Conference Football All-League. Players are as follows:

Earl Propheeter (26) and Cam Day (1), 1st team defensive backs; Drew Brannon (39), 2nd team linebacker; Cody Orr (17) and Jacob Moore (64), 1st team defensive line; Cody Orr, 1st team receiver; Cam Day, 2nd team quarterback; Jacob Moore, 1st team offensive line; Ethan Ashbeck (74) and Bryce Fowler (68), honorable mention offensive line; and Earl Propheeter, 1st team running back.

Players nominated from other schools include:

Defensive backs: Dallas Reich (10, WM) and Marcus Lynn (24, Enterprise), 1st team; Ulises Ibarra (3, Stanfield), Jacob Ramirez (22, WM), Calvin Thacker (9, WM), Blu Risseuw (3, Elgin) and Devin Haefler (5, Stanfield), 2nd team; Drake Davidson (1, Elgin) and Osvaldo Macias (81, IHS), honorable mention.

Linebackers: Michael Baty (64, Enterprise), Tyler Peterson (45 WM), Elliot Salter (32 WM) and Nick Lively (6 WM), 1st team; Ross Mendiola (33 Stanfield), Chris Diaz (50 Stanfield) and Andy Aguilera (5 IHS), 2nd team; Jordan Wulff-Castilleja (3 Enterprise) and Kevin Dechenne (50 Elgin), honorable mention.

Defensive line: Jared Bond (3, WM), Riley Sederburg (64 WM) and Greg Papineau (33 WM), 1st team; Erich Roepke (34 Enterprise), Jacob Curtis

(74 Enterprise) and Tristan Morehouse (81 Enterprise), 2nd team; Kyle Ludwig (74 Elgin), Andrew Naughton (61 Elgin) and KJ White (WM), honorable mention.

Receivers: Jared Bond (3 WM) and Tristan Morehouse (81 Enterprise), 1st team; Osvaldo Macias (81 IHS), 2nd team.

Quarterback: Dallas Reich (10 WM), 1st team; Tyler Simmons (23 Pilot Rock), honorable mention.

Offensive line: Michael Baty (64 Enterprise), Nick Pease (52 WM), Michael Guerrero (70 WM) and Michael Martinez (61 Stanfield), 1st team; David Nichols (79 Stanfield), Efrain Nunez (71 Stanfield), Tice Waite (Pilot Rock), Kyle Ludwig (74 Elgin), Duncan Christman (54 Enterprise), 2nd team; Andrew Naughton (61 Elgin) and Leon Luna (Irrigon), honorable mention.

Running back: Elliot Salter (32 WM) and Marcus Lynn (24 Enterprise), 1st team; Ross Mendiola (33 Stanfield) Ulises Ibarra (3 Stanfield) and Bryce Linker (2 Stanfield), 2nd team; Andy Aguilera (5 IHS), Skylar Leasy (25 Pilot Rock), Justin Harris (10 Elgin) and Corey Baros (12 Stanfield), honorable mention.

Punter: Justin Harris (10 Elgin) and Skylar Leasy (25 Pilot Rock), 1st team; Dallas Reich (10 WM) and Francisco Nunez (10 IHS), 2nd team;

Place kicker: Erich Roepke (34 Enterprise), 1st team; Vladimir Caldera (20 Stanfield), 2nd team; KJ White (73 WM), honorable mention.

Ione celebrates state championship

Everyone is invited to a dinner to celebrate the Ione Lady Cardinals' state championship in volleyball Tuesday, November 29 at 6 p.m. in the Ione School cafeteria.

The Cardinal Booster Club will provide dinner, but attendees are asked to bring a dessert to share. A representative of the OSAA will be in attendance to present the trophy.

Everyone is encouraged to attend this dinner in honor of the Lady Cardinals. Anyone who would like to help with the dinner can contact Anne Morter at 541-422-7429 or amorter@hughes.net.

Heppner wrestler pivotal in win

Heppner boy Brian Lemmon contributed to Southern Oregon University Raider's wrestling win over Great Falls on November 17.

The top-ranked team picked up the dual win, their first dual of the 2011-2012 season, with a down-to-the-

wire 19-18 victory over number-four ranked Great Falls. Lemmon, a senior at SOU, picked up the upset of the night when he knocked off Great Falls' Noah Hatton by a 7-3 decision. Hatton is ranked number 1 in the 165-pound pre-season NIAA rankings. The Raiders will next face number-seven team, Montana State-Northern, in Havre, MT.



Brian Lemmon

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HEPPNER DAYCARE & PRESCHOOL PRESENTS AN EVENING WITH BILL WALTON

Featuring John Turner & Pat Kilkenny



Bill Walton is a former Portland Trailblazer and NBA All-star and will focus the evening on the great lessons of life and his one-of-a-kind experiences.

John Turner, president of Blue Mountain Community College and Pat Kilkenny, former University of Oregon Athletic Director and retired Insurance Executive will also be speaking.

An auction will take place and include Bill Walton Memorabilia, courtside basketball tickets at the new Matthew Knight Arena, Oregon State Beaver & Oregon Duck Items, a prime rib dinner for six at the Paradise Rose Catering Lounge, etc.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12TH AT THE HEPPNER ELKS LODGE SOCIAL HOUR AT 5:30 WITH TRI-TIP DINNER AT 6:30

You must have a ticket to attend - only 175 tickets are available \$25 per person • Call 541-676-9226 to purchase tickets

ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO THE HEPPNER DAYCARE AND PRESCHOOL

Chamber lunch meeting

The chamber meeting on Thursday, December 1 will be an all entities report. Andrea Fletcher and Shelley Wight will also take a few minutes to talk about a health promotion starting up. The meeting will be held at All Saints Episcopal Church at noon. Cost of the lunch is \$9; Willow Creek Diner will cater.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by Wednesday morning of each week.