

Millers earn August yard of the month



By Kay Proctor

Creating an attractive home with a well-kept yard from a commercial building with a hard-pan, gravel parking lot has earned Dennis and Pennie Miller August Yard of the Month honors.

When the Millers purchased the building over 30 years ago, it had been used as a retail store for snowmobiles. Dennis used it for his carpenter contracting business until the couple moved in about 1984. He gradually turned it into a more traditional house as they had time and money and states that they are still working on it.

Using their own dump

truck, countless loads of dirt were brought in to build up enough soil to plant a yard and carve out bordered beds in the old parking and scrap pile areas. Dennis poured concrete for sidewalks and added a storage building. Digging for plantings or fencing was a challenge, but some square nails and old horseshoes were uncovered along with an unlimited supply of rocks.

Eventually, their hard work took effect and a yard took hold, including lilacs, roses, Rose of Sharon, ornamental cherry tree, irises and hybrid morning glories. Recently, automated total underground sprinklers were installed watering the

entire yard, bed, and all planters. A lush Japanese Maple tree that started from a spindly stick 10 years ago is given extra water.

The two enjoy their covered front deck in the mornings where grandmother's peonies bloom in season in lengthy planters. Afternoons are spent on the cooler back patio where a recirculating water fountain attracts birds. Birdhouses hang from a dead tree artfully trimmed back and feeders sit on a fence across the lane so the birds can be easily watched.

When asked what sparked her love of gardening, Pennie laughingly replied "I have no love for gardening," but likes things to look tidy. Her favorite plants are marigolds since they don't need a lot of work to look nice. She just plants, waters and feeds plants and they either live or die. She was unaware that Hostas in our area like some shade, so hers are planted in almost full sun. The leaf tips crisp somewhat, but it is loaded with blooms and has thrived for years, a testimony to her 'get tough or die' gardening philosophy.

Dennis states that he loves a garden, but not gardening. Then he mentions future plans to add pavers by the back gate and bring in some pea gravel. His favorite plants are hollyhocks because they grew so well in the short growing season of his hometown, Ketchum,

Mustang football begins season



Gavin Hanna Kicks the ball in the season opener game.

-Photo by Damon Brosnan.

The Heppner Mustang football team opened the season with a long bus ride to the Oregon coast to take on the Clatskanie Tigers. The Tigers are a perennial 3A powerhouse and are the seventh ranked 3A team in the coaches pre-season poll. The Mustangs fell to the Tigers by a score of 46-0.

The Mustangs had trouble moving the ball and could only come up with six first downs in the game. Their first four possessions led to punts and a busy night for the Heppner punter. The Mustangs also had a hard time stopping the high powered offense of the Tigers as they had 24 first downs in the game.

Clatskanie scored 20 points in each of the first two quarters to take a 40-0 lead at halftime. Heppner did play better in the second half and held the Tigers to only six points.

The Mustangs totaled 49 yards of rushing and 64 yards of passing for a total of 108 total yards of offense. Clatskanie totaled 357 yards for the game.

Jayden Wilson was 7-13 passing the ball for 64 yards. Kannon Wilkins caught two passes for 29 yards in the game. Gavin Hanna-Robinson hauled in three balls for 16 yards and Logan Burrigh had one catch for 15 yards. Mason Lehman caught one pass for four yards.

Mason Lehman led the team in rushing with 24 yards on six carries. Wilson had 16 yards rushing on eight carries and Blake Wolters carried the ball seven times for six yards.

On the defensive side of the ball, Tyler Carter led the team with eight tackles. Matt Orem recorded seven while Wilson and Jackson Lehman had five tackles each. Hanna-Robinson had four tackles and with three each were Wolters and Roy Collins. Kevin Rea had two tackles and with one each were Charles Cason, Reno Ferguson, Mason Lehman, Kellen Grant and Burrigh.

Next up for the Mustangs is a home contest with the Santiam Wolverines.

Heppner hosts volleyball tournament

The Heppner Mustang volleyball team hosted a tournament that brought in some of the best teams in the state: Vernonia, Portland Christian, Crane, Weston-McEwen and Grant Union. Although the host Mustangs didn't win a match they got lots of experience as they played some of the top teams in the state.

Heppner started the day off by playing the Crane Mustangs. Crane is a team that has lots of state tournament experience and is loaded with many tall and athletic players. Heppner lost a close match by the scores of 25-20, 24-26, 20-25, 27-25 and 13-15.

The Mustangs then took on the Vernonia Loggers. Heppner lost to the Loggers in a hard fought five set match by the scores of 26-24, 27-29, 25-14, 20-

25 and 14-16.

In set one, Heppner jumped out to a quick 7-1 lead. Vernonia fought back to tie the score at 8, 11 and 15. The Loggers took control from there and led the set 21-15 before the Mustangs rallied to tie the score at 24. Heppner then got the win 26-24.

In the second set the score was tied at six before the Mustangs took the lead 11-6. The score was then also tied at 17, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27. Heppner would ultimately lose the close set by the score of 27-29.

The third set saw the score tied four times with the final time being 11-11. Heppner then took control and outscored the Loggers 14-3 to take the win 25-14.

The Mustangs were down the entire time in the

fourth set and lost by the score of 20-25. In the fifth and deciding set, there were six ties in the shorted set. Heppner ended up losing the set by a score of 14-16.

Up next for Heppner was the Portland Christian Royals. The Royals brought a very talented and athletic team to the tournament. They defeated the Mustangs in three by the scores of 25-14, 25-19 and 25-7.

Leading the way at the tournament in serving for the Mustangs was Jacee Currin who went 34-35. Jenna McCullough was 23-25 and Maddie Combe finished 20-20. Sydney Wilson and Nicole Prophter each went 20-22. Genevieve Smith was 14-15, Aimee Turrell 7-7 and Claire Grieb went 4-5.

Sydney led the team in digs or serve receives with

83. Maddie was next with 45 and Nicole had 42. Jacee finished with 41 and Alexis Cutsforth had 36. Jenna had 17, Aimee 15 and with 13 each were Claire and Genevieve.

Jacee had the most assists with 18. Claire had 10 and with six each were Maddie and Genevieve. Jenna finished with 13 kills and Sydney had 12. Claire, Maddie and Jacee finished with five each. Nicole had 10 blocks, Jenna five and with one each were Jacee and Sydney.

The Mustang volleyball team has a busy week ahead of them as they travel to Irrigon to take on the Knights and the South Wasco County Redsides. They then finish the week looking to defend their team title at the Helix Tournament.



Bryan Collins runs the ball up the field in the JV game.

-Photo by Damon Brosnan.



Dessert Fundraiser For:


POOL

Elizabeth Allen

Swim Lesson Fund

Ione Community Church
Will be hosting a
Dessert Sale
Sunday, Sept. 9th
From 6—8 pm.
During Ione Music in the Park
Music by Charlie and Anna Ross
Sales by Donation— funds in memory of
Elizabeth Allen
(will be moved to Ione Legion Hall with inclement weather)




Madison Combe passes the ball to Nicole Prophter while Jacee Currin and Sydney Wilson keep an eye on the action.

-Photo by Kirsti Cason

The Heppner Gazette-Times wants to see pictures of your trophy animals from this hunting season. Stop by to have your picture taken, drop off photos, mail them to PO Box 337 in Heppner, email them to editor@rapidservice.net or text cell phone photos to 541-980-6674.

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