

NUGGET FLASHBACK – 20 YEARS AGO...

THE Nugget

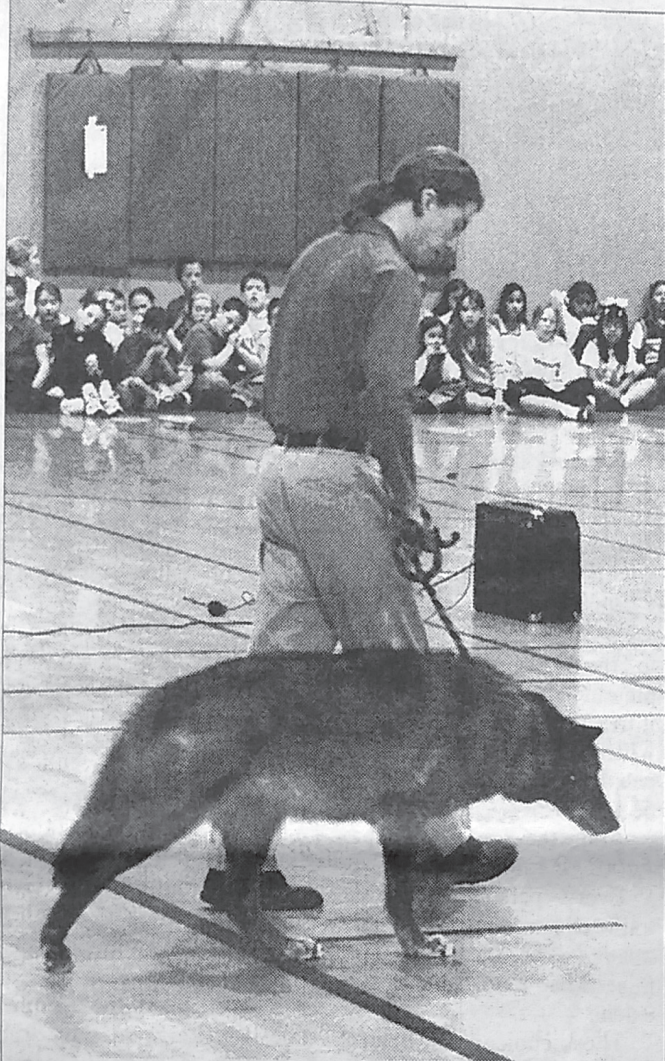
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SISTERS, OREGON

Wednesday, May 3, 2000



Rami, a female gray wolf, visited Sisters Elementary School, assisted by handler Tamus Brooks.

Photo by Jim Cornelius

Outage inquiry stalled

A Deschutes County Sheriff's Office investigation of possible gunshot vandalism to the Tollgate power substation on April 11 has turned up no leads.

According to sheriff's office reports, the investigating deputy is not certain the outage, which affected some 850 Central Electric Cooperative customers, was actually caused by gunshots.

A CEC technician reportedly told the deputy that the damage to the substation equipment could have been caused by an animal crawling around.

See **OUTAGE** on page 6

Sewer action on hold till summer

By Jim Cornelius

It will be late summer before the backhoes roll on the Sisters' wastewater project.

According to project engineer Dick Nored of HGE, Inc., the city is still waiting for final approval of plans from the major funding agency, the federal Rural Utilities Services.

"They've got a plan review process, just like anyone else," Nored said. "We're still in that cycle."

According to Nored, the

See **SEWER** on page 21

Northwest Forest Pass debuts in Sisters

By Craig F. Eisenbeis

The controversial Trail Park Pass is gone. In its place is the perhaps equally controversial Northwest Forest Pass.

More activities are covered by the new pass; however, it is likely that more recreation sites needing a financial boost will require a pass.

Sisters District Ranger Bill Anthony described the change as the "rollout of a new product."

Foremost among the Forest Service's selling points is that all Northwest National Forests, including Oregon Coastal forests, may be accessed with one pass.

Previously a separate pass was required for the Oregon Coast and other forests.

Also included are camping in undeveloped areas, boat launches, picnic areas and most visitor centers. Locally, the

Lava Lands Visitor Center is included; and the pass holder's admission fee is included at Lava River Cave.

Sites in North Cascades National Park may also be accessed with the Forest Pass.

The forest fee concept dates to a 1996 Congressional plan authorizing collection of fees for recreation services. In the Northwest, the authorization spawned 16 different fee programs.

According to Anthony the confusing variety of programs caused more discontent than the fees themselves.

The Northwest Forest Pass consolidates half those fees into one.

Anthony believes that the new pass is a big improvement because it's good throughout the Northwest and valid for a full 12 months from the month

See **PASS** on page 20

Sisters students get a glimpse of a wolf

By Jim Cornelius

Voices silent, eyes wide in awe, breath caught in their throats, Sisters Elementary School students got a rare look into the heart of the wild on Friday, April 28.

Rami, an eight-year old

female gray wolf, paid a visit to the school as part of a Central Oregon tour by Mission: Wolf, a Colorado wolf refuge and education organization.

Kent Weber, director of Mission: Wolf, prepared the students for the visit with a

See **WOLF** on page 15



Lauren Marcy, Jordan Weber, MacKenzie McClain and Ford Bauer are worried about the future of Sisters Middle School.

Photo by Jayme Vasconcellos

Citizens ponder Cascade Avenue traffic

By Jim Cornelius

Sisters area residents rolled up their sleeves on Tuesday, April 25, and got to work on solving Sisters' looming traffic problems.

The citizens looked at options ranging from a bypass around the city to a one-way couplet to more moderate pro-

posals such as removing some parking from Cascade Avenue to create extra travel lanes.

The citizens' advisory committee is working on the city's Transportation System Plan (TSP), which will guide road construction and traffic control decisions in the City of Sisters

See **TRAFFIC** on page 30

Students react to proposed budget cuts

By Jayme Vasconcellos

Sisters Middle School students have begun to notice the sting of budget cuts.

Lauren Marcy, MacKenzie McClain, Jordan Weber, and Ford Bauer suspended their vigorous basketball game on Friday, April 28, to share their thoughts on the projected cuts

to their school.

Marcy says that changes to the choir program have had an impact.

"It used to be my favorite class but getting a different teacher right at the end of the year makes it really hard to adjust," she said.

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