



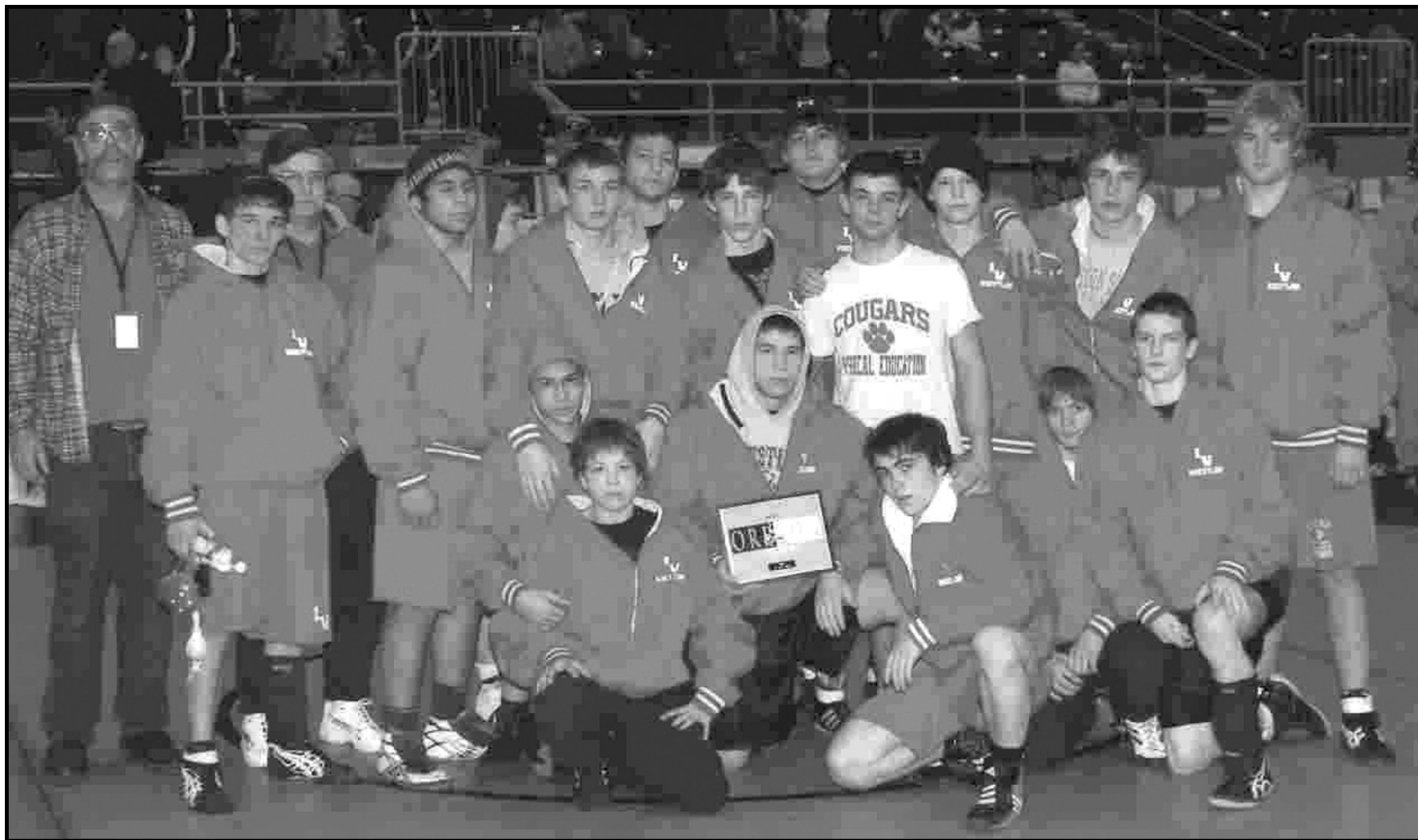
Griess-Swarts married

Diane Swarts and Michael Griess, both of Cave Junction, exchanged wedding vows on the beach at Cancun, Mexico on Dec. 11, 2006, where they also honeymooned.

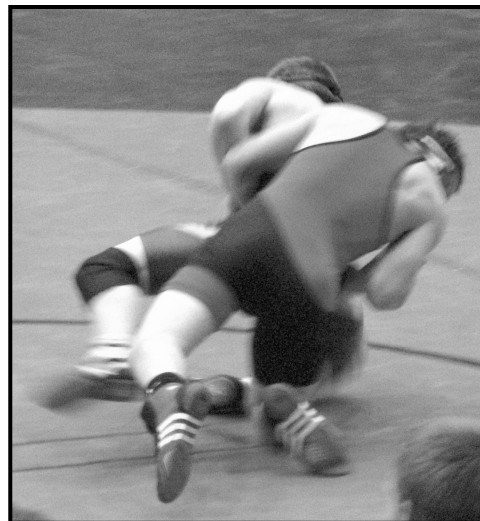
The bride is the daughter of Sharon Baker, of O'Brien; and Edward Swarts, of Crescent City, Calif. The newlywed is a free-lance photographer.

Griess is the son of Verl & Sandra Griess, of Rogue River. The bridegroom is employed as a wastewater treatment plant operator for the city of Cave Junction.

The couple are making their home in Cave Junction, where they raise and own American Paint horses.



IVHS WRESTLING TEAM took second place in the Oregon Classic in Redmond during the weekend of Jan. 12 and 13. Photo at right shows Cougar Jacob Miller in the final match where he earned the winning decision against Levi Weikel from Sweet Home with a score of 9 to 7. Jacob worked extremely hard for a pin, but his opponent used stalling techniques. If Jacob had gotten the pin, I.V. would have won the match and the tournament. Overall it was an outstanding effort by Miller. In the Classic, I.V. was in the 4-A Pool with 20 of the top high school teams in the state. IVHS wrestled in the championship round against Sweet Home and lost 35 to 36 thereby winning 2nd place. The Cougars did defeat class teams such as Cottage Grove, Cascade, Estacada, and Baker. Top photo shows the Cougar wrestling team with its 2nd-place trophy. (Photos courtesy of Ward Winter).



Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in O'Brien by Cheryl & Harry Johnson.

*Fri., Jan. 5: 39-28
 *Sat., Jan. 6: 53-39 0.55
 *Sun., Jan. 7: 51-40
 *Mon., Jan. 8: 47-41
 *Tue., Jan. 9: 44-40 0.04
 *Wed., Jan. 10: 44-31 0.02
 *Thurs., Jan. 11: 35-26 0.02
 3" snow

Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in Cave Junction at Mountain Wind Farm.

*Fri., Jan. 5: 43-34
 *Sat., Jan. 6: 52-32 0.27
 *Sun., Jan. 7: 47-39 0.89
 *Mon., Jan. 8: 50-35 0.03
 *Tue., Jan. 9: 51-32 0.30
 *Wed., Jan. 10: 54-49 3.34
 *Thurs., Jan. 11: 50-39 0.15

**I believe that
 the future is only
 the past again, entered
 through another gate.**
 - Arthur Wing Pinero -

Weather Watch

Illinois Valley

Wednesday, Jan. 17:
 Partly cloudy, unusually cold



High--47 Low--17

Thursday, Jan. 18:
 Periods of clouds, again cold



High--43 Low--20

Friday, Jan. 19:
 Sunny interludes with chilly wind



High--47 Low--24

Saturday, Jan. 20:
 Sunny, still cold



High--47 Low--25

Sunday, Jan. 21:
 A few clouds, cold, again.



High--48 Low--26

Monday, Jan. 22:
 Mostly clear, warmer



High--50 Low--37

Tuesday, Jan. 23:
 Fantastically sunny



High--52 Low--39

Governor urges priority for renewing O&C funding

A bill to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 should be a priority of the 110th Congress, urges Gov. Kulongoski.

He sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi regarding the bill. It was introduced on Jan. 4 by Oregon Congressmen Peter DeFazio and Greg Walden.

Without the federal O&C funds, counties including Josephine County stand to see huge budget deficits. Josephine County

has been receiving some \$20 million per year.

"Oregon's counties have relied on this law to provide stable funding for rural schools and communities as well as popular forest management projects," the governor said in his letter.

"This program has brought together people from both sides of the aisle -- and timber and environmental interests -- because it is a successful program that provides for our counties and protects precious forestland," Kulongoski said.

On Dec. 9, 2006 Congress recessed for the holi-

days without reauthorizing the act, which affects 40 states -- including Oregon -- and more than 700 counties throughout the nation. The program substitutes timber receipts with federal general funds to provide stable funding sources for counties to protect schools, roads, forest lands and the environment.

"Oregon is rebounding from a deep recession, and we need the continued support, commitment and partnership from the federal government to ensure all of our communities benefit from a strong economy," the governor noted in the letter.

He added: "Elimination of the Secure Rural School and Community Self Determination Act would default on the 100-year-old federal commitment to our rural communities and hurt thousands of Oregonians who depend on these payments for their communities."

In separate letters to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation, the governor thanked the delegation for its commitment and work to restore the act. He also offered his assistance in making this issue a priority for Congress and the administration.

When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you, 'til it seems as though you could not hang on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn.

- Harriet Beecher Stowe -

Subscribe to the....



'Illinois Valley News'

52 weeks of information & entertainment could soon be yours!

Phone 592-2541