

# Enterprise native crowned Pendleton Round-Up queen

East Oregonian

The Round-Up Association named a new queen Saturday, but you can still call her Kylie.

2015 Round-Up Queen Kylee Jensen will cede the crown to the 2016 queen — 21-year-old Kylie Willis.

The Enterprise native and 2014 Round-Up princess is a dean's list student at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, and has deep Round-Up roots. Candi Willis, her mother was a Round-Up princess, her grandfather Dave Turner was a stock contractor and her grandmother Darlene Turner was a long-time Round-Up secretary. Also, her great-grandfather Harley Tucker was one of the nation's top producers of rodeo stock and one of Wallowa County's most prominent ranchers.

Willis will be served by four Round-Up princesses.

Marlene Bodmer, 19, is a Blue Mountain Community College student and a Round-Up volunteer, continuing a family tradition going back to her grandfather and great-grandfather, who were on the Round-Up Board of Directors.

One of Bodmer's volunteer duties was carrying the flag in the 2015 Round-Up grand entries.

"No thrill ride can compare to the adrenaline rush of hearing the firing of the can-



Queen Kylie Willis

non and taking a leap over the rail," she said.

Makenzi Hughes, 18, is a BMCC student and is active on her family's ranch in Hep- pner.

In addition to volunteering at the Round-Up, Hughes participates in Future Farmers of America and 4H and will follow in the footsteps of her sister, who was a princess in 2012.

Ashley Moore, 20, is an honor roll student at Oregon State University and an accomplished equestrian, having won English, western, dressage and barrel-racing competitions.

Eliza Wagner, 19, has been volunteering at the Round-Up since she was age 7 and was a pennant bearer from nine to her freshman year in high school.



Princess Ashley Moore



Princess Eliza Wagner



Princess Marlene Bodmer



Princess Makenzi Hughes

# Librarian ready for new chapter

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

After 22 years as Joseph librarian, Genee Kingsford recently decided her retirement was long overdue. The city threw a day-long retirement party for Kingsford on Nov. 20 at the back of the Joseph City Hall, where a steady stream of admirers, including numerous children, stopped for cookies and punch and to offer cards and thanks for her service.

Kingsford started at the library in 1993 as a volunteer. She didn't have a library science degree, so she earned her spot through hard work and devotion to the job.

"I'd been on the library board a couple of times and did fill-in work, then more and more of that, and when (former librarian Becky Cartney) left, I applied for and got the job."

And why retire now? "I'm 62, and it's time," she said. "My husband's been retired for over a year. I'm not disappearing, I'll still see everyone at Safeway."

Of course, Kingsford isn't completely distancing herself from the library.

"I'll be keeping in touch, but I won't be hands-on or anything like that. There's a lot of other stuff out there to do."

Kingsford said that serving the public, particularly the children, was her favorite part of being the librarian.

"I enjoyed the reading programs. I started the holiday reading program and others. Just helping the kids and people was the best part."

Emerging technology



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Joseph librarian Genee Kingsford holds up one of the multitude of cards she received during her retirement celebration Nov. 20.

proved to be the most challenging part of her career and also provided the biggest changes she oversaw.

"The job has changed so much. The technology has increased, and we provide so many more services than we used to with interlibrary loans, computers and more and more technology stuff."

Kingsford has no regrets about her choice of a career.

"This has been a great job. I've made a lot of friends here over the years. Today, I've had so many people and good friends tell me how much they appreciate me, and I feel good about that."

Kingsford said she thought her work with reading programs for kids would stand as a crucial part of her legacy.

"I know kids who attended all the programs when they were young, and one of them is now on my library board because of that," she said. "Hopefully, I made a real pleasant place for people to come and feel comfortable and for kids to love."

# ODFW denies request for lethal wolf action

Depredations trigger request, but ODFW says criteria not met

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife denied a lethal-action request made by Wallowa rancher Levi Hermens stemming from a Nov. 19 confirmed wolf depredation that injured a calf. Hermens also reported a depredation for an injured calf on the Imnaha Divide U.S. Forest Service allotment the previous week on Nov. 11. Both injuries were attributed to a wolf or wolves from the Imnaha pack.

Wallowa County Chief Sheriff's Deputy Fred Steen said the evidence left little doubt in his mind that wolves were responsible for the latest depredation.

"It was obvious it had been chewed on," Steen said. "I certainly confirmed it."

Steen suggested ODFW

officials may classify the two depredations under the same event.

ODFW Assistant District Wildlife Biologist Mike Hansen confirmed the depredation and said the two calves were probably attacked at the same time, with the former calf sustaining the most damage.

"The initial report was that wolves were chasing two calves," Hansen said. "We went out and found the first one. (The rancher) found the second one. We determined from the age of the wounds on the animal that it was probably from the same incident."

District Wildlife Biologist Pat Matthews said it's not unusual for wolves to attack without necessarily killing and eating their prey.

"It's hard to know not being there, but wolves are wired to attack things," Matthews said. "Sometimes they attack and kill and eat things right there. Sometimes they chase and bite and move on. Maybe these calves were too much for them. We don't know how many wolves were

involved."

Since wildlife officials are working under Phase II of the state wolf management plan, the recent depredations may have warranted lethal action against the pack. Under Phase II, the stock owner has to request the lethal action, as Hermens did in this case. The decision regarding potential lethal action is not made locally. Rather, it is submitted up the chain of command, culminating at the director's office.

On Nov. 24, the ODFW denied Hermens' lethal action request, citing three reasons:

- The cattle already are off of the allotment, so there's no livestock present that requires protection from future depredation. "Next spring it's a different story," Hansen said.
- The cattle were supposed to be removed from the allotment by Oct. 21. Because the presence of the cattle was not

legal, no action could be taken. Hansen said ultimate confirmation of the depredation is not affected by the removal deadline.

The type and scope of non-lethal measures taken by Hermens to prevent depredations was vague.

The state last took lethal action against wolves in May of 2011 when two wolves of the Imnaha pack were killed by ODFW officials.

Hermens declined to comment on the depredations or the denial of his request for lethal action.



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