

GU students test scientific process

Judged science fair draws 16 biology students

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – Sixteen students of Grant Union teacher Randy Hennen took center stage Thursday, April 16, at the school’s juried science fair.

The biology and advanced biology students presented projects demonstrating the scientific process.

Dawson Quinton, a junior, received Gold and Best of Fair with “What is the Effect of Soil pH on Plant Growth in Grant County?”

Three students received silver: junior Samantha Brock, “Which Routine For Brushing Teeth Kills the Most Bacteria?”; soph-



Grant Union Best of Fair winner Dawson Quinton is quizzed by Ryne Smith at the school’s science fair.

omore Hailey Carter, “The Effects of Preworkout Meals

on Athletic Performance”; and sophomore Jessica Carter, “The Effect of Age and Wormer on Wormload in Cattle.”

Junior Mackenzie Woodcock received bronze with “Does Temperature, Light, or Bread Type Affect Bread Mold Growth?”

When the Eagle asked Hailey Carter how she decided on her project, she said that deworming cattle is a routine on her family’s ranch.

“I just wondered if worms were very prevalent and had a ready project,” she said.

Brock said that at first she’d had difficulty deciding on a topic, but was inspired by her teacher’s recounting of his recent dentist visit.

She performed trials to discover which method of brushing teeth would kill the most bacteria, and found a combination of hydrogen peroxide and salt showed the least amount of bacterial growth in a petri dish.

Judges for the fair were Neil Bauer, Ryne Smith, Jennifer Barker, and Dr. Anthony Tovar, who is a physics professor at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande.

Hennen said one of the keys to the science fair is having judges with



Grant Union science teacher Randy Hennen gives instructions during the judging portion of the school science fair.

a science background.

“It validates the students’ work,” he said. “I greatly appreciate the judges’ efforts.”

He added the students’ involvement in the fair includes a lot more than just typing something up to turn in.

“The students have to know how to set up an experiment, explain and defend their work and draw a valid conclusion,” he said. “It’s like an interview – these kids are doing it and participating in the scientific process.”




Grant Union science student Hailey Carter answers questions of judge Jennifer Barker at the April 16 school science fair.



Jennifer Barker, science fair judge, listens as Grant Union student Samantha Brock answers questions about her project.



Grant Union science student MacKenzie Woodcock describes her project to judge Neil Bauer at the school science fair.




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COUNTRY FINANCIAL



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Please remember that delinquent taxes accrue interest at the rate of 16% per year.


If you have any questions, please call the Tax Office at 541-575-0107 or 541-575-0189 PO Box 185 Canyon City, OR 97820

The High Desert League Prom would like to thank the John Day Elks Lodge and the Best Western Inn for their generous support.

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COURT SHORTS

Labhart was excused to attend a Physician and Hospital Trustee Conference in Arizona. A Pledge of Allegiance was given to the United States flag. The invocation was given by Flora Cheadle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Britton met yesterday with John Bastian, Prairie City District Ranger Greg Moon and Shannon Wineger about the Lake Creek Camp annual plan. Britton had proposed the idea of Grant and/or Harney County taking ownership of Lake Creek Camp in exchange for county property (yet to be determined). Britton talked about “heritage” issues and his intent to try and garner support from the Burns-Paiute Tribe as they have property in the area.

Myers said the final Budget Committee meeting was last Thursday. The VSO Interview Panel held interviews all day last Friday which included Harney County VSO Guy McKay and ODVA Veterans Services Trainer Mitch Sparks. Myers reported on his site meeting with Tim Clem earlier this week about progress of the elevator project ... Friday he and a Road Foreman will tour CR 24 near Granite with Ian Reid (North Fork JD Ranger on the Umatilla Forest) about a proposed road realignment Umatilla NF / Title 2 project.


GEOGRAPHIC NAMES.

Commissioner Britton provided a draft letter to Roberta Conner, Director of the Tamashtli Cultural Institute of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The letter acknowledges the Institute’s contact with US Board on Geographic Names about proposed geographic names for Grant County and other areas, and invites the Institute to meet with the court (as elected representatives of Grant County citizens) to talk about the proposed geographic names. Britton and Myers talked about the court previously acknowledging that Britton’s invitation to Washington DC was on the county’s behalf. Myers noted the only thing not discussed was the fact that the trip would cost over \$500 and needed court approval. Britton provided background about the ongoing issue of proposed geographic names to replace existing “squaw” names. He noted that the county would like to keep the names Squaw Meadows and Squaw Creek. He talked about the importance of historical significance and an existing federal rule to achieve local consensus. Britton recommended to the board that the county take the lead and reach out to local tribes. He recited the proposed letter and talked about potential difficulties for emergency responders and local citizens created by Indian replacement names. Myers felt there has been an impasse on this issue for too long. Britton and Myers signed the letter as presented; Commissioner Labhart would be asked to sign when he returns.

FLOORING CONTRACT.

The court reviewed and signed a Contract for Goods & Services Less Than \$25,000.00 with Trent’s Carpet Service dba Trent’s Floors To Go to replace flooring in the Circuit Courtroom and the entire Court Operations Area May 7-10, 2015 estimated to cost \$13,682.00 plus an additional \$5,529.30 for tile areas (in case it is found that epoxy does not work).

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