

# Heppner Gazette-Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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## Our Grammar Deficiencies

In the Letters to the Editor column of the Oregonian recently was one from Jo Allison of Portland, who happens to be the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Turner of Heppner and is the daughter of Mrs. Anabel Allison of Portland.

Miss Allison's complaint—and her point is well taken—is directed at all the criticism students have been receiving for their "insufferable English and grammar." She points out a number of deficiencies on the part of professors and other adults who should know better.

"How can he learn to apply the rules of English when many of his professors flagrantly violate them?" she asks. One such continuous violation to which she refers is the oft-repeated phrase by teachers, "Does everyone have their books?"

Miss Allison has noted, too, that many of Portland's city vehicles have signs neatly lettered on them, "Don't follow to close."

He letter reminds us of the old story about college professors who gathered to discuss the shortcomings of one of their students. They decided that he had not been taught correctly in high school—teachers there weren't giving the proper instruction. But the high school teachers turned to the grade school and blamed the shortcomings on a lack of fundamentals offered there. However, the grade school teachers refused to accept the blame and cited the parents for a lack of upbringing at home. Faced with this accusation, the mother declared, "Well, his father's family always was that way."

Far be it from us to cast the first stone. Some scholarly person might scrutinize this editorial and point out a grammatical error. We make many of them. Oddly enough, it seems to be more difficult as time goes on. Spelling of words that once came accurately without hesitation now send us scurrying to the dictionary.

In the same vein, the Multnomah county sheriff recently created quite a stir when he demanded certain standards of his personnel for correct grammar and spelling in official reports. Newspapers around the state were prone to scoff at this directive, among them The East Oregonian which editorialized the other day that the he-man qualities necessary for apprehension of criminals had nothing to do with the officer's grammar.

But we go along with Miss Allison's point. We think his grammar does have something to do with his job. An officer certainly needs the respect of his fellow man. In our experience as a reporter we have read official police reports, which, because of their gross grammatical errors, would have made hilarious scripts for radio or television programs. The public must think of its officials as something more than "dumb bunnies" with no capacity for intelligent decisions. There seems to be some correlation between grammar and intelligence, but, if not, at least there exists such a correlation in the minds of the public.

The other day we picked up a newspaper that had a big advertisement in it with a number of references to the "Gallup" (Gallup) poll. We couldn't help but cringe at the misspelling, yet we realize that we are similarly every day.

One may travel on the highway and spot a big billboard, erected and lettered in the best professional style, with some glaring grammatical error. This cannot help but detract from the message and bring jibes from those who spot the mistake.

In our modern society there seems to be a tendency to slip from the time-honored standards of grammar. One illustration pointed out by Miss Allison is the movement to accept "ain't" as a recognized word. But we need to hold to the accepted standards to be secure in our expression, and to communicate understandably with one another.

Everyone—student, professor, or plain citizen—needs to examine his English and become more conscientious about it, just as Miss Allison admonishes.

## SKI TRAILS

By KEN PECK

The recent warm weather spell is causing no little concern among the local skiers. In fact you can almost see the snow shrink. Usually most of the snow pack in the mountains comes after the first of the year but this season may well prove to be the exception to the rule. We hope not, for our new area is beginning to draw skiers.

The sport of skiing has grown so rapidly since World War II that no one knows for sure just how many actually participate each year. This information would be helpful in planning organizational activities and other aspects of ski business so the National Ski Association will survey every area in the country next Sunday and count the skiers. Yes, they have even heard of Arbutle Mountain for the club received a form to fill out listing information as to the number of people using the slopes. This middle of the season day should give a good cross section view.

I know many of you watched and enjoyed Walt Disney's "Fantasy on Skis" over channel 13 Monday evening. The theme was a natural to show to the viewing audience the many facets of the fun that are in skiing. The Festival near the end is an old custom usually held in all areas at the end of each season. Ever see cowboys on skis before? Did you notice the short skis the clowns and others were using? Tuesday evening was the first

meeting of the Red Cross first aid course. Several ski club members will be taking the training for their own good and to assist others as a part of the ski patrol work. Along this same line I think that the club can say with a certain amount of pride that we have not had to haul anyone off the hill in the three seasons that we have been organized. Skiing has its rules of the hill just as cars do on a road and we have tried to get these points across to people new at the sport.

Seen on the hill Sunday: Ann Jones, Don Clark, Frank Lovgren, and David Clark; the Stroebers instructing Judy and Ron Jones; forest service men, Charles McLean and Emory Clapp, checking over the tow and promising to bring along their skis next time.

See you on the hill.

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## Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

WELL, WE have just about come full circle. The Charleston has been having a rebirth of popularity, and the yo-yo craze is once more sweeping the country. Kids around here last week quickly exhausted merchants' new supplies and had them digging for ones that may not have been touched since the days of the Model A Ford. Only now the manufacturers have turned them inside out and call them "Butterflies." Perhaps it won't be long until the flagpole sitters blossom forth once more and the dance marathons start again.

By the way, what happened to Hoola Hoops?

ONCE A WHEAT MAN, always a wheat man, it appears. City council was talking about its water needs for the future Monday night and figuring how much H<sub>2</sub>O would be supplied by drilling a new well.

"Yes," said Mayor Al Lamb thoughtfully, "As I understand it, that would give a million bushel of water per day—er, gallons."

CENTRAL MARKET'S Standby sale turned out to be quite a community festival Friday and Saturday. The free hotcake "breakfast" was "lunch" for a large group of latecomers Saturday. It would be hard to estimate how many enjoyed the repast. One of the Standby crew figured that somewhere around 500 to 550 appeared for the feed. Marie McQuarrie was working like a Beaver, but Clint confided later on that he wasn't a bit tired.

"Everyone else did all the work," he declared with a sly grin.

WE've been meaning for quite a while to say how enjoyable it is to see the girls' drill team at Heppner High present their halftime entertainment at the basketball games. They have a new routine to execute for each game, and they perform the drills with precision. There are quite a few "waits" for the audience at a doubleheader basketball bill—the swimmers before each game and the halftime intermissions. Work of the girls and the high school band make a more enjoyable evening to go with the games.

The girls are under the direction of Barbara Logan, physical education teacher, but Shan Mahoney is the student leader who takes care of much of the organization. The girls spend considerable time practicing in their spare hours.

SELECTION of Wayne Hams for the Shrine All-Star football game is a fitting tribute to this fine athlete. It seems to us that he broke away for at least one long run in every game he played last season, at the same time directing the Cardinals' outstanding football team from his quarterback post. His potent passing, often to End Ron Crabtree for touchdowns, was another big factor in Ione's march to the state B 8-man finals. We don't have his year's statistics immediately available but he must have racked up a good many country miles in total yardage.

The selection committee's choice of Crabtree for the team is understandable and would bring great cheers, too, except that he will not be a senior until next year and therefore is ineligible. Somewhere down the line the selection committee pulled a boo-boo, but it is a forgivable offense. We'll root for him to make it next year.

ANYONE who doesn't think Morrow county is heard of far and wide might like to see some of

the letters of inquiry we get as secretary of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce. They arrive at the rate of about a half-dozen per week and come from as far as New York. One wanted information on forestry in Oregon. We couldn't figure out why that was directed here and turned it over to Albert Wiesendanger of Keep Oregon Green and the State Board of Forestry for reply. Quite a number want information on the state at large. A good many would like to buy ranches, and a sizeable portion come from school children engaged in studies of the area. Some teachers must really long for Morrow county because suddenly will come a rash of letters and cards for brochures from one school—such as Coos Bay. Oh, yes, they are all answered.

WE SHED A tear for friend J. H. (Jack) Bedford who proposes that the Gazette-Times should be distributed in the post office here on Thursday afternoons in strict alphabetical order. He has gone to the (check) that he has seen Dick Wilkinson getting his paper before Jack gets his and that, according to Mr. Bedford, unfair treatment to the "B's" by the "W's" which are near the tail end of the alphabet.

Well, now this matter is principally in the hands of brother Jim Driscoll, postmaster. We usually start out alphabetically here, Jack, but they get scrambling somewhere en route and in the distribution through the P. O. cases.

Guess you only have one recourse, Jack. You'll have to picket the post office on Thursdays and declare the "W. X. Y. Z's" unfair to disorganized "B's."

For our part, we feel a little grateful that Jim and his crew put out the paper at all on Thursday evenings—as late as it sometimes gets printed in this h'yar plant.

inals carved an easy victory over Echo Saturday night at Echo, 55 to 35 but had to go the limit Friday night to defeat Riverside in double overtime at Ione 61 to 55.

A freshman forward, Dennis Gronquist of Riverside, caused the game to be knotted at 47 to 47 with regular time expired when he sank two free throws on a foul called just as the fourth quarter ended.

Through the three minute overtime period the squads battled on even terms and it was 55-55 going into the second overtime period. In the second overtime, Ronnie Ekstrom connected twice from the floor and Ron Crabtree hit one field goal for the 61-55 win.

Crabtree took high point honors with 23 and Ekstrom followed with 18. The win avenged an earlier defeat of Ione by Riverside who took a close victory in the two teams' first league game of the year. This has been the Cards' only league loss.

Crabtree led the triumph over Echo Saturday night with 21 points, and the Cards had the game all their way virtually from the start. Halftime favored the winners, 26 to 11.

Tom Pointer was second high in the game with 13.

In a preliminary Saturday night, the Echo grade school defeated the Ione grade school five, 22-29.

Riverside jayvees outpointed the Cardinal jayvees Friday night, 40 to 28.

Scores:

Riverside 55 Ione 61  
F Hobbs, A Ekstrom 18  
F 2 Gronquist, K Martin  
C 12 Partlow Pointer 13  
G 23 Obermeier Hams 6  
G 8 Taylor Crabtree 23

Reserves: Riverside — Gronquist, D 6, Boothman 4, Ione—Klinger 1, Davidson.

Ione 55 Echo 34  
F 8 Ekstrom Flanagan 7  
F 7 Martin O'Brien 8  
C 13 Pointer Hays 9  
G 4 Hams Thompson 6  
G 21 Crabtree Ammon 4

Showing improvement after taking a loss at the hands of Condon by one point last week, Heppner elementary school's basketball team defeated Stanfield here Friday afternoon, 57-20. Bill Snyder topped the scoring with 18, just two short of Stanfield's total. Jim Driscoll of the Ponties followed closely with 16.

The grade varsity now has a record of five wins against one loss. On the same afternoon the jayvees won, 40-38, over the Stanfield jayvees. Jeff Turner and Jim Doherty each scored 10 for the winners, but Clark of Stanfield was high man with 12.

The teams played Hermiston Wednesday afternoon, too late to be reported in this paper, and next games will be with Umatilla there Saturday at 1:30. After this week, only two games remain—with Condon and Hermiston.

Scores:

HEPPNER VARSITY 57—Driscoll 16, Snyder 18, Barratt 7, Helker 8, Clark 3, Brown 3, Hutchins 2, Matheny 0, Warren 0, Grey 0.

STANFIELD 20—Sutton 11, Masuda 4, Tucker 2, Walls 2, Siebel 1.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

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## Cardinals Down Riverside, Echo In League Games

## Over The Tee Cup

By DEE GRIBBLE

With the sudden burst of good weather, many players showed up on our Golf Links on Sunday. It's strange, thinking back, but remember the sudden down-pour of water that put three holes out of play last summer? It hasn't spoiled the game for hard work, mostly all donated, the mess was all cleaned up in a jig-time, grass seed was sown and a pessel of prayers for good growth were said. Results? It's almost ready for full nine holes of play again.

The club had a meeting in January at which time Clinton McQuarrie was chosen president; Donna McCurdy, secretary; and Conley Lanham, treasurer. Lowell Gribble is in charge of activities, with Marie McQuarrie and myself handling activities that involve the ladies.

Newcomer's attention! Now is the time to join our club and get in on the fun. (Our club cards entitle you to "out of town" fairways, too.)

Dues are past due and payable to Donna or Conley. Playing Sunday for the "fun-

first time," sore muscles and all, were the Conley Lanhams, Hazlan McCurdy, Jack Loyds, Clint Agees, Ed Gundersons, Lowell Gribbles and Stuart, Mr. Salter and grandson, Jim Driscoll and Tim, Van Marter, Sr., Ed Bennett, Fran Doherty, Morrie Groves, Judge Carmichael and Gordon Pratt. A very warm welcome to two new teachers, Don Cole and Bob Johnson, who played for the first time.

Weather permitting, the Ladies Day play can start February 13, with a Valentine play planned. Get someone special and come on out at 12:30 p. m. The new grass green on number 6 is something. Good thinking, men.

Trapper Ed Bennett has his work cut out. Already he is setting traps.

Francis Doherty has turned "fire bug." Result—the creek bed, the length of our course, is burned off. A much needed task.

Clint McQuarrie and Morrie Groves were dumping sand on Number 3 on Sunday. That hole is the last one to get a beauty treatment and is nearly ready.

And LaVerne Van Marter, Sr., has been sowing grass seed in some other badly needed spots.

So you see, golfing on Willow Creek Links isn't just "tote your clubs." Saying "thank you, fellows," is hardly enough, but I'm saying it for all of us.

Come out, golfers, and join the fun.

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