

Heppner Gazette-Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
PHONE 676-9228

The Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 15, 1912.

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Subscription Rates: Morrow and Grant Counties, \$4.00 Year; Elsewhere \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents. Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter.

OFFICE HOURS: 8 a. m. to 6 p. m.; Saturdays, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Wonders of the Columbia River Highway

If a person traveled the Columbia River Highway every day of the year, he could find something new and interesting each time he made the trip.

With the massive grandeur of its bluffs and cliffs on either side of the mighty river this highway is one of the most remarkable in the nation for scenic beauty. It's a geological laboratory if one has the eye to see the rock formations, strata and faults and the imagination to ponder, with wonder, the upheavals and changes that have come in the formation of the gorge through millions of years.

Every change of weather brings out a different hue. In the winter, its fierce wind and rain make it menacing and severe. But on a calm, sunny day it is beckoning and magnificent. When snow is on the surrounding mountains and the sun breaks through, it presents a dazzling brilliance of white. On a summer day, its waterfalls, timbered parks and waysides are cool and inviting.

Some of the bluffs and mountains that are hidden in midday spring forth into prominence with the deepening shadows of evening.

The gorge has a fickle bent in its nature. It is possible to leave Eastern Oregon in a dry windstorm at some seasons, only to hit driving snow in the gorge that may turn to rain by the time one arrives in Portland.

One of the most beautiful sights in our recollection was on a trip east years ago before the new water-level highway was constructed. Coming to Crown Point in brilliant sunshine, we looked upon the gorge filled to the brim with billowing fog. It seemed as if some giant had carefully placed fluffy cotton in the huge cut to the tips of the flanking cliffs.

The old highway, now happily called the scenic route, was a foremost engineering achievement of its day, its narrow paving perilously skirting the cliffs and protected by picturesque hand-laid rock fences on the outer edges. Its sharp curves and switchbacks, intriguing to the leisurely traveler, were maddening to the one attempting to get somewhere in a hurry.

One of the wonders is that there were no more accidents on the route than there were, but it had one built-in safety factor. Short of suicide, it was impossible to drive it too fast. A truck driver who spent nine years of his life herding a big rig over the route once said that he preferred driving it to the water level route. Its curves kept him occupied while the straight stretches of the new highway had a mesmerizing effect, and at night, the edges of the new highway, in places, vaguely blended with the edge of the river.

Another intriguing thing about the Columbia River highway is the rare harmonizing of the achievements of nature with the achievements of man. In the construction of the new highway, builders have performed herculean feats in challenging the most impenetrable of natural rock fortresses. In some places they have literally removed small mountains, the only choice in getting to where they needed to go.

Natural beauty of the gorge that some 30 years ago was supreme unto itself now has to share with the works of man. The Bonneville Dam, The Dalles Dam, John Day Dam under construction and the McNary Dam make it a showplace of power and progress.

Just as the ordinary traveler is awed by the magnificence of nature along the route, so is he awed by the engineering feats that he sees unfolded before his eyes.

Crews now are busy to complete the highway as a four-lane route. Today a person can make the transition from Eastern Oregon's wheatfields to the bustling city of Portland in but a fleeting few hours of travel, but with the completion of the highway several years hence, the time will be even shorter for those in a hurry. However, those who will slow down and take heed, the drive offers great rewards. In a way, it is too bad that the highway is at the same time our principal east-west artery of commerce as well as a route of singular scenic attractions, for it brings a conflict between those who want to savor its beauty and those who have nothing in mind but to get where they are going. Thus, on a Sunday afternoon a careful of leisurely lookers dams up dozens of other cars intent on rolling miles beyond them.

With the completion of the four lanes, though, this will be changed and both may be satisfied.

Yes, we enjoy a real privilege—and one that is so near to us that we take it for granted—in being located near the Columbia River highway.

Valuable Educational Experiences

Chamber of Commerce members and guests Monday were privileged to share the results of an exceptional educational experience by a sixth grade class that was made possible by a teacher with creative imagination.

Mrs. Harold (Inez) Erwin's class reported on their study of the Willow Creek watershed. The project broke the limitations of textbooks as it brought home to the children the principles they are learning by putting them in a setting that is familiar and important to the pupils.

This project took some dedicated work by the teacher. No textbook told of the Willow Creek watershed. Real research was needed, and Mrs. Erwin searched out the resources of the community in embarking on the science project, enlisting aid of the extension office, soil conservation office, state game agent and forest service personnel.

After the youngsters had studied the plant and animal life of the watershed, made maps and charts, learned of the importance of water, soil conservation and other matters, they capped the project with a field trip to the upper reaches of the creek. With help from the various local agencies, they saw first hand illustrations of the points they had studied, graphically fixing them in their minds.

That they learned the material well was confirmed by the reports of the four who appeared on the Chamber of Commerce program. As a result of this study there will be a good many households where a new respect for Willow Creek will be engendered in its role as a lifeline for Morrow county.

The same program saw the results of more good work of another type as Mrs. Ola Mae Benson presented fifth and sixth grade pupils in a musical program. Their harmony was excellent, and the audience was impressed with the skill of the youngsters, deftly channeled by a teacher really interested in their development, who truly appreciates their varying abilities and capacities.

Such examples of teaching are gratifying to school patrons and help remove the sting that a taxpayer may feel in pungling up his share of the cost of education.

Mahon Transferred To Missouri Base

Pvt. William H. Mahon left Sunday, May 20, by bus from La Grande for Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., where he will be stationed for an eight weeks period and receive further training in the field of combat engineering. He was home on a week's leave following the completion of basic training at Ft. Ord, Calif., where he was stationed since his induction in March.

Pvt. Mahon is the son of Mrs. James M. McCabe and the grandson of Mrs. Joe Mahon, Sr.

Swaggarts In Portland To Attend Graduation

Mrs. Geraldine Dolvan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Swaggart, was a member of the graduating class at Washington High school, Portland, last Thursday night. She recently completed her requirements through attendance at night school classes.

Mr. and Mrs. Swaggart, accompanied by their son Paul, another daughter, Mrs. Jerry Buschke and son, made the trip to Portland to be present for the graduation exercises.

Departments Present High School Awards

All departments of Heppner High school were represented with honors at the Awards Night last Tuesday evening in the high school gymnasium. This was the first time the awards were given at night with parents present, and considerable interest was shown with a large crowd on hand for the 2½ hour program.

Among those making presentation of the awards and honors were Principal Gordon Pratt to the student council and student body officers; Laura Lee Sumner on behalf of Mrs. Grace Schmidt, who was ill for the FHA; Mrs. Hazel Hamlin for the American Legion auxiliary; Gerald Jonasson for the FFA; Coach James Sutherland, Pete Glennie and Don McClure for the athletic departments; Mrs. Bernice Struckmeier, business department; Mrs. Margaret Kirk, journalism awards; Willard Staley in the field of science; Mrs. Janet Groves, speech and drama; Barbara Logan, Girls' Athletic association; and Principal Pratt, scholastic honors.

New student body officers were introduced, including Shan Applegate, president; Mike Smith, vice president; Linda Valentine, secretary; Jennifer Brindle, assistant treasurer; Laura Lee Sumner, treasurer; Gail Hoskins, historian; and Bill Sherman, sergeant-at-arms.

Next year's cheerleaders are Karen McCurdy, Barbara Blake, Kathy Ray, and Malene Fetsch. Song leaders will be Ginny Lou Turner, Ginny Moore and Jean Siewert.

Student council pins were awarded to the following council members. Special council pins to top four officers: Libby Van Schoiack, president; Sandra Harshman, vice president; Judy Schmidt, treasurer; Beverly Davidson, secretary.

Future Homemaker's Awards—Rose Nash, president's pin; Diane Warren, award for selling most cookbooks; Sandra Harshman, Betty Crocker homemaker award; Libby Van Schoiack, plaque for outstanding student in FHA.

Junior Homemaker's degrees—Linda Thornburg, Judy Smith, Jean Siewert, Cheryl McGhee, Judy Schmidt, Diane Warren, Carole Thurston, Jean Stockard, Darlene Anderson, Sherri Olson.

Chapter Homemaker's degrees—Marlene Fetsch, Shannon Mahoney, Ginger Springer, Jacquie Brindle.

Future Farmer's award—Harold Gray, certificate of merit, farm mechanics; William Hill, FFA Foundation award.

Journalism awards—George Turnbull award for yearbook service, Julie Pfeiffer and Beverly Blake; Eric Allen certificate for newspaper service, Don Hughes and Bob Irby; outstanding reporter awards, Linda VanWinkle, Judy Schmidt, Mary Shannon, and Shirley Carlson; Law Day editorial award, Judy Schmidt.

Beverly Blake and Julie Pfeiffer announced that the seniors had dedicated this year's annual to Mrs. Conley Lanham, outstanding helper for the senior class. Outstanding production work on the annual, Diane McCurdy; outstanding production work on the paper, Rose Nash, Ginger Springer, Fran Heath, Pat Mahon, Cheryl Crist; Quill and Scroll membership pins presented to Beverly Davidson, Sandra Harshman, Linda VanWinkle, Cheryl Crist, Mary Shannon; Bill Struthers was listed as the journalism student making the most improvement during the year; Ronnie Belsma was recognized for her art work on the yearbook.

Girls' State—Shannon Mahoney, Shirley Carlson (by American Legion auxiliary).

Lexington-Heppner FTA workshop scholarships—Laura Sumner, Jacquie Brindle.

Micro-biology scholarship by National Science Foundation—Martha Doherty.

Speech Department—local soil conservation, 1st, Beverly Davidson; 2nd, Libby Van Schoiack; 3rd, Sandra Harshman. Upper Columbia district soil conservation, 1st, Beverly Davidson, Areas 7 and 8 soil conservation 1st, Beverly Davidson. State Soil Conservation, 3rd, Beverly Davidson. Voice of Democracy contest, Sandra Harshman, district winner. "My Hope for My Country," Beverly Davidson, second place winner at Pendleton. Debate team, Laura Lee Sumner, Martha Doherty, Sandra Harshman and Libby Van Schoiack, first place in district B debate tournament. Linda Van Winkle, first place in district contest for humorous interpretation. Ann Jones, United Nations speech won the 4th place in the district and in the state in oratory. At the state speech meet the debate team placed 3rd. Mary Shannon, 3rd place in district contest for humorous interpretation.

One Act Play Festival—At Forest Grove the one-act play festival is sponsored by Pacific University. The play received special recognition for excellence, given a plaque. Linda Valentine received an award of excellence for acting in the play. Mary Shannon and Judy Hamilton received recognition for outstanding work on the play.

Recognition for outstanding work on plays—Linda Van Winkle, Linda Valentine, Nat Webb.

Mrs. Hazel Hamlin presented Legion auxiliary awards to Judy Schmidt and Chris Brown for their essays on "My America."

Mrs. Struckmeier announced first place speed and accuracy typing award for Don Clark who made 87 words per minute on a

one-minute write and to Lorraine Leonnig for second year.

Outstanding work in Girls League: Beverly Davidson, Linda Van Winkle, Sandra Richards, Laura Lee Sumner, Ginny Lou Turner. Outstanding committee work in Girls League over the two year reorganization period, Shanny Mahoney and Phyllis Nelson. New officers announced for Girls League: President, Shanny Mahoney; V. Pres., Diane Fullerton; Secretary, Karen McCurdy; Treasurer, Phyllis Nelson.

Varsity football letters: Archie Ball, Bruce Moyer, Eddie Howard, Merlin Hughes, Ladd Dick, Joe Yackley, LeRoy Gardner, Dick Springer, Gene Wallace, Bill Cox, Mike Lesser, Harold Gray, David Prouffoot, Kenny Smith, Larry Muessig, Dan Wardwell, Mike Healy, Raymond Nichols, Shan Applegate, Doug Dubuque, Darrell Dick, Outstanding linemen—Merlin Hughes, Ladd Dick. Outstanding backfield—Bruce Moyer. Most valuable football player—Merlin Hughes. Football Managers—Bill Weatherford, Dale Vance, Dennis Warren.

Jayvee Football: Douz Anderson, Eric Anderson, Carl Bauman, Larry Heath, Dean Lovgren, Greg Pierce, Mike Sweek, Paul Swaggart, Larry Brinda, Richard Clark, Don Creswick, Aaron Smith, Stuart Dick, Dan McQuarrie, Bruce Spencer, Lee Daggett, David Hanna, Melvin McDaniel, Dave Morris, Don Munkers, Dean Robinson, John Cole.

Baseball varsity: Bill Cox, John Porter, Dick Springer, Shan Applegate, Doug Dubuque, Lee Padberg, Bruce Moyer, K. I. George, LeRoy Gardner. Managers—Don Creswick, Bob Massey. Most inspirational basketball player: Shan Applegate.

Jayvee basketball: Raymond Nichols, Kenny Smith, Kenny Wright, Richard Clark, Mike Ayers, David George, Rodney Ayers, Bill Sherman, John Cole, Dan Wardwell.

Freshman basketball: Dave Anderson, Carl Bauman, Leland Carlson, Stuart Dick, Tony Doherty, Wayne Evans, Dean Lovgren, Sherri McDonald, Don Munkers, Kip Morris, Bruce Spencer, Bruce Thomson, David Hanna. Managers: Mike Warren, John Pfeiffer.

Baseball letters—Stuart Dick, Carl Bauman, Spencer Sampson, Don Creswick, Richard Clark, Kenny Smith, Rodney Ayers, Bill Cox, LeRoy Gardner, Dick Springer, Larry Geen, Ladd Dick. Manager—John Pfeiffer.

AAA Awards—Beverly Davidson, Marlene Fetsch, Diane McCurdy, Sandra Richards, Ginny Lou Turner, Linda Valentine, Ginger Springer.

Track letters—Archie Ball, Doug Dubuque, Bruce Moyer, Lee Padberg, John Porter, Dale Robinson, Bill Weatherford, Merlin Hughes, Eddie Howard, Lee Padberg.

Senior class—received sportsmanship trophy presented by Pep Club.

HONOR AWARDS
National Honor Society made the following scholastic awards to top people in academic subjects:

English I—Lee Daggett, Stuart Dick; English II—Bill Sherman, Gail Hoskins, Jennifer Brindle; English III—Shan Applegate, Martha Doherty, Ann Jones, Laura Lee Sumner; English IV—Linda Van Winkle, Don Clark, Beverly Blake, Ken Daggett, Judy Schmidt, Mary Shannon, Sandra Harshman.

World Geography—Wayne Evans, Carol Thurston, Lee Daggett, Carl Bauman, John Wagenblast, World History—Gail Hoskins, Bill Sherman, U.S. History—Ann Jones, Martha Doherty, Shan Applegate, Laura Sumner, Social Studies—Judy Schmidt, Beverly Davidson, Sandra Harshman, Mary Shannon.

French I—Bill Sherman, French II—Ann Jones, Shan Applegate, Laura Sumner.

Biology—Stuart Dick, Shan Applegate, John Wagenblast, Chemistry—Shan Applegate, Physics—Kenneth Daggett, Ron Creswick.

Mathematics—Ladd Dick, high score on National Mathematics test. Algebra I—Jean Siewert, Carl Bauman. Geometry—Bill Sherman, Sandra Harshman. Algebra II—Shan Applegate, Martha Doherty, Ann Jones. Advanced Math—Kenneth Daggett.

(Editor's Note: Because of the length of the list of awards, it is possible that some were inadvertently omitted. The paper would appreciate receiving names and honors of any students who were not properly recognized in this story).

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

SCHOOL'S OUT, and an abrupt change comes. The hustle and bustle of student activity, engulfing parents and families, suddenly ceases, and the stage is set for the summer scene. Visitors come for reunion, the first holiday of the season arrives, and a number of families leave for vacation trips. It won't be long until the swimming pool opens (perhaps next week), but the demand this year hasn't been so great for the cooling waters because late May has not brought the heat of the same time last year.

We particularly recall this time last year because the new publishers were just getting ready to take over operation of the paper. We will observe our first anniversary here Friday and look back on an enjoyable and rewarding year, although busy and in some ways hectic.

By June 1 of 1961 we were already starting the rather frantic preparations for the Welcome Edition which got us acquainted with a great many Morrow county people and quickly demonstrated to us what fine people they are.

After our first year here we find ourselves very happy with our choice. Our continued hope is that we can make some contribution through the paper to the good life in Morrow county.

REUNION of the classes of 1931, '32, '33 and '34 of Heppner High school at the fair pavilion Sunday was a real noisy success from what we can gather. Charlie Ruggles who took pictures for us (to be in the paper next week) said that the room full of people sounded like an amplified beehive, everyone talking at once.

Jeanette Huddleston of Valdez, Alaska, and June Anderson of San Francisco, Calif., probably came the farthest distance. All of those who came, from near and far, had a wonderful time.

Herman Green, one of the guiding lights of the affair, said he never had so much fun in his life. Teachers of the classes, once separated by the necessary classroom decorum from the pupils, were just members of the gang as they "let down their hair" and joined the fun with the former barriers removed.

As Herman points out, social position, degree of prosperity and diversity of achievements mean nothing at such a reunion. Reminiscing of the old days levels all to one station in life. That's the beauty of such a reunion.

IN VISITING with the Elmer and Roger Palmer families recently with County Agent Neil Anderson following their selection for Conservation Men of the Year, we thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality they offered. We shared the Elmer Palmers' thrill in their new home, visited the far reaches of their ranch and went out into the relatively rugged Rock Creek area where they engage in some of their conservation practices.

Being new to this Morrow County land, we are still enthralled by it, having not yet succumbed to the indifference of what, to some becomes the commonplace. Such an operation as the Palmers' has a real fascination for us.

We couldn't help but muse that, in practicing soil conservation, ranchers like the Palmers are earnestly trying to thwart the irresistible forces of Old Mother Nature. They are working to get full utility from the soil and preserve it so that

it will benefit man to the utmost. Yet geology textbooks report that the land inevitably undergoes a cycle, just as a human does, of youth, maturity and old age. This is done through a process of erosion. The sharp peaks and deep valleys represent youth in the land. Erosion wears away at the peaks and fills in the valleys, and the earth enters a mature stage. Finally, the hills are flattened, the valleys are leveled and the cycle enters old age, taking millions of years in geological time.

People like the Palmers won't stop the cycle of Old Mother Nature and don't intend to, but they help soften it and direct it in a more orderly and controlled method with their strip cropping, diversion ditches, stubble mulching and other conservation practices.

The county can be justly proud of its work in conservation, and the Palmers, by choice of their neighbors, now step as an example to all of the job being done.

FOR GRADUATING seniors, printing of commencement programs brings forth the horrible moment of truth. Middle names that have been carefully kept secret or first names that have been disguised by using a better-liked middle name now emblazon forth with the stark formality of the program. We wouldn't embarrass any of the class of '62 by pointing the finger at any particular member, but we had to stifle a chuckle or two in seeing how some senior had succeeded in reducing a 17-letter moniker, cherished as a family name, to a 3-letter nickname that became his identification through high school years.

Oh, it is just one of those things which have to be endured. But there is considerable pride and tradition in some of those names. Regardless of the "handle," too, the pictures reveal the students of '62 as a handsome lot in Morrow county, and they are backed by four years of fine achievement.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

MOTHER'S CLUB BREAKFAST
Saturday, June 2 at 8:00 a. m.
Bob Brindle Home

BIRTHDAY CARD PARTY
Episcopal Parish Hall
Saturday, June 2
Dessert Luncheon, 1:15 p. m.
Bridge and Pinchle Following
Tickets \$1
Everyone Welcome!

WILLOW CREEK COUNTRY CLUB
Hosts to McNary Golf Club
Sunday, June 3
Men's Tee-off, 9:00 a. m.
Women's Tee-off, 10:00 a. m.

This space will be used each week to announce coming events of a public service nature at no charge.

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Grain Movements Through Portland

More grain moved into Portland terminals and out to sea in the first four months of 1962 than in corresponding 1961.

Records of Grain Division Chief T. Ralph Harry, Oregon Department of Agriculture, show: Portland grain receipts January-April: 1962—25,747,782 bushels; 1961—25,944,566 bushels. Export from Portland, same period: 1962—24,503,868 bushels; 1961—23,910,685 bushels. Or 74 vs. 71 cargoes.

Grain inspection is at the branch offices in Pendleton and Merrill in these four months kept pace with the increases at the Portland terminal.

The Pendleton office inspected 980,113 bushels of incoming wheat in 1962. This compares with 399,605 in the same 1961 period.

At Merrill, the 1962 figure is 283 truck and truck inspections, with 188 in 1961's first four months.

At Portland, movement by truck and barge slowed from early 1961, as did also in movement from states east of the Rocky Mountains. These figures, counted in the already-mentioned total receipts, for January-April, each year:

Barge: 1961—6,293,033 bushels in 183 loads; 1962—5,840,064 bushels in 177 barges.

Truck: 1961—4,698 carrying 3,061,038 bushels; 1962—3,217 trucks carrying 2,251,989 bushels. Receipts from east of Rockies: 1961—3,094 carloads; 1962—2,635 carloads.

(Editor's Note: Because of the length of the list of awards, it is possible that some were inadvertently omitted. The paper would appreciate receiving names and honors of any students who were not properly recognized in this story).

Lady, That is No Place For Your Cash!



It Doesn't Make Sense To Put Dollars Where They Can't Grow!

Dollars can't grow under the flooring or in the mattress... and no matter where you hide them, they're far from safe! Put your surplus dollars in a savings account here, where they will be safe and earn interest at

4%

OPEN AN ACCOUNT TODAY
FIRST FEDERAL
SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION
BOX 739 PENDLETON

REMINDER!

Isn't there some one you should call? A visit back home—or just keeping in touch with folks you miss.

CALL TONIGHT!

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BELL