

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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WESLEY A. SHERMAN  
Editor and Publisher

HELEN E. SHERMAN  
Associate Publisher



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## Our Team Loses a Crucial Game

When the Heppner High Mustangs lost an important basketball game to Sherman County Friday night in Heppner gym, one might expect the citizenry to wear black bands around their arms and go into solemn mourning. But such is not the case.

This was the important game. A victory would have meant that Heppner had a full two-game lead over the rest of the field and an almost certain Greater Oregon division championship. But the loss almost directly reverses this. The Mustangs have three games to go—two of them this week-end against Burns and Grant Union here—while Sherman County only has to face Pilot Rock in its last league tilt and then sit back and watch what happens to the Mustangs.

Should Heppner win all three remaining games, which includes Pilot Rock after the two games this week-end, the league championship would be in a deadlock, and Heppner and Sherman County then would have to enter into a sudden death playoff, perhaps on a neutral floor. The winner would play the eastern division winner, probably either Vale or Enterprise, for the right to go to the state tournament. This all, of course, is contingent upon a Sherman County victory in its last game with Pilot Rock (and Heppner will surely be rooting for Pilot Rock!).

So, after having pretty much the upper hand through the season, Coach Bob Cantonwine's lads now have quite a long uphill grind.

State tournament teams are quite a rarity for Heppner, and this makes the incentive so much more enticing. If the team wants it badly enough and they really have the ability to get there, they still have the opportunity to make the tournament, but they will have to produce.

While a basketball fan is prone to groan (and we are among them) when his favorite team suffers such a setback, it must be conceded that victory alone will not make a winner in life. The fellow who suffers setbacks and overcomes them is the one who gains strength and fortitude for other challenges ahead.

High school athletics can well become the case of youngsters looking for a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow if the wrong emphasis is given. It can become his obsession to the exclusion of other things perhaps more important to his total development as a worthwhile member of society.

Appropriate to this point is an editorial written last week by Earle Richardson in the Hemizer-Observer, Dallas.

"In sports it is not a matter of following but of producing, day after day, in the manner he customarily can. So a seasonal slump may take a top star back to the minors forever. It is a sobering thought that conditions men rather quickly about paying too much heed to his press clippings.

"The same is quite true of the high school athlete who displays marked prowess. If he goes on to college, chances are he has to be a superman to even get a look from the coach. His previous record may help, but it must be conditioned with considerable attention to his day by day performance and improvement. His brawn may be matched and bettered by dozens of other youths. His brain must be conditioned to stand up under both discouragement and over-encouragement. Most youngsters are aware of this before they finish high school and realize it is either the end of the trail, or a new start harder than before that takes all the courage they can muster.

"Years ago we read the following quotation from a man who at that time stood at the pinnacle of success which we felt carried a message to all young men and a lesson:

"To this day I thank difficulties. They were more numerous than the nice happy incidents. But the latter gave me nothing. The difficulties of life have hardened my spirit. They have taught me how to live.

"To me it would have been dreadful and fatal if on my journey forward I had by chance fallen permanently into the chains of comfortable bureaucratic employment. How could I have adapted myself to that smug existence in a world bristling with interest and significant horizons? . . . These energies which I enjoy were trained by obstacles and even by bitterness of soul. They were made by struggle, not by the joys of the pathway."

"We wish we could attribute the quotation to someone who in the light of history has continued along the path he indicated. It is from the life of Benito Mussolini as it appeared in the Saturday Evening Post May 5, 1928, at the peak of his power and adulation. The fact that success made him forget the steps he had taken to gain it is probably as good a lesson as a better ending."

## Our Silence on Boardman and Boeing

For some two years or more our area has been on tenterhooks about the future of the Boardman Industrial Park and the plans of the Boeing Company. Many obstacles have come up that were anticipated by no one in the beginning.

In June of 1961 this paper published a Welcome Edition under sponsorship of the Chamber of Commerce that was designed to be distributed to Boeing people with the thought that their coming was imminent. (However, Governor Mark Hatfield advised in a letter that this was premature).

At succeeding stages, it has been rumored and forecast that the project agreement would be concluded within a short time, only to find that some new stumbling block would come up to cause delay.

Because the development is so important to the future of Morrow county and this entire section of the state, the delay creates confusion, uncertainty and impatience.

Everyone would like to know what is going to happen and when, but the intergovernmental processes, which include the state, Bureau of Land Management, the Federal Government, the Navy and the Army Engineers, obviously grind slowly and ponderously. Indeed, one could scarcely think of a more cumbersome combination.

The governor and the State Department of Planning and Development have been the target of considerable criticism because of the prolonged negotiations, but theirs has not been an enviable task. There is indication that the agreement will be culminated in due time, and more patience and forbearance are called for.

As we see it, local clamoring will not hasten matters. Those trying to work out the project are goaded enough as it is.

In the early stages of negotiations this paper followed rather closely every little development on the Boardman project, and every tidbit of news concerning it was good for a headline. Some of our contemporaries are still following this policy, but we quit some months ago. There is no point in printing these "shadow boxing" stories until some news of real merit comes along. To do so serves no useful purpose and may indeed hinder those who are working towards culmination of the agreement.

When there is some real news on the Boardman-Boeing situation, this paper will report it. Until then it will be silent, content to watch, without trying to grasp a handful of clouds or to report a will-o'-the-wisp story.

# Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

THERE IS peace at the Harley Young household. The cat they lost in the flood scare has been returned, apparently as a result of the little story and ad in last week's G.T.

Harley apparently isn't like the man who appeared at the newspaper office to place a classified advertisement offering a reward of \$100 for the return of his wife's cat.

"That's an awfully high price for a cat," remarked the clerk. "Not for this one," said the man darkly. "I've already drowned it."

WE MUST report that Mrs. Fred Gimbel didn't come at us with a rolling pin after last week's remark about the tuna and noodles, but we think we may have done an injustice that we would like to correct. She is an excellent cook, and the Sheremans have had the pleasure of knowing this first hand as guests of the Gimbels.

It's just that Fred, like the writer, is not at all fond of tuna fish. In fact, we're thinking of founding the Anti-Tuna Fish Eaters' society. (And now we'll probably get an indignant letter from the Columbia River Packers.)

WELL, this is Valentine's day, and perhaps this little message of love, clipped from some publication by our friend, Howard Leigh of Salem, and mailed to us, is appropriate:

"You say you love me, but sometimes you don't show it. In the beginning you couldn't do enough for me. Now you seem to take me for granted. Some days I even wonder if I mean anything at all to you.

"Maybe when I'm gone, you'll

appreciate me and all the things I do for you. I'm responsible for getting the food on your table, for the clean shirt you wear every day, for the welfare of your children—and a thousand and one things you want and need. Why, if it weren't for me, you wouldn't even have a car to drive.

"I've kept quiet and waited to see how long it would take for you to realize how much you really need me.

"Cherish me. Take care of me, and I'll continue to take good care of you.

"Who am I?  
"I am your job!"

WE NOTICED on our last trip to Portland that the complex of the motel and hotel business has changed. The city is full of brand new hotels and swanky motels. This may bode well for the city, but it makes it pretty tough on the smaller establishments which have been in operation for a few years.

On these winter nights some of the excellent little motels only have three or four cars parked around them.

We feel a sympathy for these smaller operations that are getting the squeeze from the big time hostellers. Personally we prefer to stay in them when occasion calls us to Portland. They are just as nicely appointed and not encumbered with lavishness. One doesn't have to go up to several stories to get to his room, and the accommodations are first class.

The folks at the Caravan Motel, currently advertising in the Gazette-Times, are among those who feel this pinch. Theirs is one of those places with all the conveniences. One can drive

## Legal Point Kills a Good Idea

Those who worked diligently preparing preliminary steps from the citizens' standpoint for a municipally-owned but privately-operated recreation building in Heppner must now be sorely disappointed with the recent opinion from a League of Oregon Cities staff attorney that the proposal is unconstitutional.

Nevertheless, those who took the time and effort to implement action on a pressing local need are to be highly commended for their work, the prime movers being Earl Ayres and Clint McQuarrie.

Despite the fact that it is apparently unconstitutional, it still was a good idea with sound and honest motivation.

Could laws be made so flexible as to fit all conditions and areas, this might not be illegal in Heppner because there is no intention to fatten a private person's pocketbook at the expense of the public, but rather to meet a need that would serve the public interest.

It can readily be seen, though, that it is logical and reasonable that such a constitutional provision is made to safeguard the use of public monies.

Were the legal barrier one of statute and not embraced in the constitution, a special bill possibly could have been introduced in the legislature that may have succeeded in granting sanction to the local case, but it is in the constitution, and certainly there is no hope of the state voting a constitutional amendment for Heppner's benefit!

Thus, this avenue to solve the recreation problem is dead. However, it may be hoped that with the manifestation of interest by the community some private parties may now realize the earnestness of local citizens in support of either a motion picture theater or bowling alley, or both. Petitions presented to the council carried well over 200 names and it is a certainty that more could have been obtained if more circulators had worked at it.

Among those on the petitions, to be sure, were a few who were probably opposed to the project but did not object to the people getting a chance to vote on it. These same persons might be happy to have a privately-operated facility established that would require no outlay of public funds and no tax levy.

The supporters of the recreation idea, though blocked on the bond issue proposal, are not quitting yet. They have some other ideas that would require no public funds. While their chances may not be too great, they are worth investigating, and they are going at it.

Meanwhile, those who may have been looking at Heppner with the possible idea of opening a theater or bowling alley could well take a second look. The interest and need are still here.

With the heavy support given by business people to the municipal building plan, it is a virtual certainty that there would be hearty willingness of most merchants to sponsor bowling teams, for instance, thus helping to assure success of lanes here.

Disappointment felt by the community committee leaders on the demise of the recreation plan by the legal opinion is not theirs alone. It is shared by many citizens who had hoped for a wholesome public recreation outlet, both young people and adults alike.

## TO THE EDITOR.

Mr Editor:

Ok Wes, you asked for comments on parking meters—here are a few of mine. Keep the meters and enforce them.

Add one hour free parking spaces between the First National Bank and Fulleton's Garage. This will rid the streets of some derelict cars and provide more parking for the man with no change.

Have twelve minute maximum on two meters each side of main street, with two or three more at the Post Office, maybe even five minutes free.

Clint McQuarrie mentioned delivery trucks. Don't any stores in Heppner have back doors? Why should deliveries be made from the front, parking meters be hanged, instead of off Main Street?

Outlaw the parking of long wheel base trucks on Main Street with the truck sticking out into

practically to the doorway of his room. There is a nice little restaurant on the lower level. Get up in the morning and just go down stairs to breakfast. Outside—not very inviting at this time of the year but a great attraction in the summer—is a swimming pool.

Oh, it's a great way to rough it!

If you don't know where you want to stay next time you go to Portland, we commend this place to you. Their ad is in this paper.

the traffic lane, or worse yet, making a blind corner at an intersection. How about a parallel truck parking only with a one hour limit, on the side street between the Hotel and Wagon Wheel.

The critics to all this will say "Too much to enforce," but all the spaces to check often will be within a one block area.

Although I live out of the City limits, I still manage to spend nearly every cent I make in Heppner, and after all this I'll probably be the first one to forget the parking meter, and get a ticket, but I'll be glad to pay it because with parking meters enforced, a parking space is nearly always available.

D. H. Jones, Jr.  
Heppner-Condon Highway

Dear Editor,

I favor the maintenance of a strong grade and high school program at Ione.

We are a sparsely settled county with long distances between farms. The school day, including time on the bus, must be kept as short as is reasonable. I do not agree with the state and local school planners that consider hauling children 10 to 20 miles west, south, and north of Ione through Ione and on to Heppner. This is not just or reasonable because of the lengthy transportation time involved.

I favor the maintenance of a strong curriculum at Ione. The county school system could shift teachers between the school plants rather than transporting the children. These teachers can bring to the students of Ione the same extra subjects that are of-

ferred students in Heppner.

We are faced with an unfortunate trend in the United States today which points toward centralized control with less and less contact with the people. It would seem that much better public relations should be possible between the school administration, the school board and the people, than there is at the present time. The democratic process dictates that more attention should be given to the policies of the local administrators and advisory boards of each school.

Yours truly,  
Don Peterson

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Hill and three girls, Pendleton, were week-end visitors at the homes of Howard Pettyjohn, John Graves, and Louis Carlson.

## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

### Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES  
No movies this week because of home basketball games.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL  
Heppner Mustangs vs. Grant Union, Friday night.

Heppner vs. Burns, Saturday night.  
JV game, 6:30. Varsity, 8:00  
Help Support the Mustangs!

WILLOW GOLF CLUB  
Annual Meeting  
Sunday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m.  
Elks Club

FREE MOVIE  
"The Big Blast," Multipurpose room, Sunday, February 17, 7:00 p.m.

EPISCOPAL SPAGHETTI FEED  
Parish hall, Sunday, Feb. 17, From 2 to 5 p.m.  
Tickets, \$1.25 and 75c

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