

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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Activity Nights Point Recreation Need

Jaycees' activity nights on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer attracted more than 100 children and young people to the Heppner High school gym each time, the turnout amazing even the sponsoring club.

Last of the activity nights was held this week, it being necessary for the custodians to get the gym spruced up for the forthcoming opening of school.

The Jaycees sponsored the activity nights on a purely supervisory basis and games were not programmed nor planned. The idea was just to give the youngsters some wholesome summer recreation.

This surprising response, however, indicates that the city is ripe for a planned summer recreation program, which would give both boys and girls opportunity for various types of sports participation and other activities.

Don McClure, a Heppner High coach who spearheaded the idea, points out that there is particularly a dearth of activity for girls and suggests that a girls' softball league could be a part of a recreational program.

The city has its swimming program with a paid lifeguard, and we have the Little League baseball program, conducted by volunteers. These, with the use of the High school gymnasium, and incorporating more outdoor activities, could all be embraced in a city recreational program. It might even be feasible to incorporate the showing of movies once each week, which Shorty Hudson and Glen Ward have provided for children, in the program.

The Heppner community noticed quite a rash of juvenile troubles at the start of the summer, if readers will think back to that time. This came at a period when the youngsters apparently hadn't yet adjusted to the idea of being out of school and hadn't yet become acclimated to their summer schedules, if any.

During the latter part of the summer, however, the petty mischief around town has declined. It would seem entirely logical that the Jaycees' sponsorship of the activity nights has been a big factor in this. While 100 youngsters are playing in a gym, they are not abroad doing things they shouldn't do.

With the facilities which are already available, it wouldn't be very expensive for the city to set up a supervised summer recreation or activity program. Biggest cost would be hiring a director, who would plan, organize and supervise. This would give a chance for activities to be set up for various age groups for both boys and girls, and volunteers, those capable and willing, could assist.

Such a program would have the possibility not only of keeping the youngsters wholesomely occupied but might help pay for itself by eliminating some of the petty acts of vandalism that are performed by idle hands.

Jaycees and others in the community who are interested might give this a little study and come up with a plan to propose to the city for possible consideration in conjunction with next year's budget.

Mac Griffith Pegged Repeater For 'Big 4'

Mac Griffith, former Heppner cowboy and son of Mrs. Eva Griffith of Heppner, was pegged as a possible repeater for the "Big Four Award" in the rodeo circuit in a story printed in the Sunday Oregonian.

Griffith has been on the ascendancy as a cowboy and last year won the All-Around at Pendleton.

The Oregonian story gives other details of his recent career: Mac Griffith is a hard nosed, tough-as-nails rodeo cowboy who won the "Big Four Award" in 1963 and vows he'll do it again this year.

The Big Four Award—worth \$500 each year—goes to the cowboy who piles up the most points at Ellensburg, Walla Walla, Lewiston and Pendleton rodeos.

Last year, Griffith, a burly 190-pound six-footer, not only claimed the cash bonus but won the All-Around Cowboy championship at the Round-Up.

Last week at Cheyenne, he picked up \$1,600, one of the biggest purses in his seventeen year career. At this writing, the 25-year-old contender was high scorer in bull riding at the Casper, Wyo. rodeo.

Often, Griffith enters every event in a rodeo. His big win, \$2,643, at the Calgary Stampede last year, helped make him the nation's 9th leading money winner in rodeo's meanest event—brahma bull riding.

At the rodeo finals last year, he competed with a broken wrist and finished in the money.

Griffith will have plenty of top flight competition at the Big Four rodeos this year. The rodeos—Walla Walla on September 4-6, Ellensburg, September 5-7, Lewiston, September 11-13, and the Pendleton Round-Up, September 16-19—draw rodeo's elite because of proximity of dates and locations. And there's a total of \$28,500 in purses at stake plus the \$500 bonus.

"I'm gonna come home and win the Big Four again this year," Griffith promised. "You can tell 'em I'm giving two to one odds on myself."

He competes in steer wrestling, saddle and bareback bronc riding and brahma bull riding.

Last year, Pendleton fans cheered him as a "hometown boy." Actually, Griffith was born

Kinzua Golfers Coming Sunday

Willow Creek Golf club will be host to Kinzua Golf club here Sunday, August 9, in the third meeting between the two clubs this season. Each has won on its own course.

President Clint McQuarrie has designated this as "Maurice Brown Day," honoring Maurice and Nan Brown, members of both clubs, who will depart for California later this year.

Women of the Heppner group will begin serving breakfast at 7:30 in the morning and will have a lunch ready at 1 p.m. Guests and friends of the clubs are welcome.

Council Awards Study Contract

Contract for making a more intensive study of the Columbia River shoreline for industrial sites was let to Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield, consulting engineers, by the Mid-Columbia Planning Council last Thursday. Representatives from the counties on the council met in The Dalles.

Board members making the selection were Judge Oscar Peterson of Morrow County, Judge D. R. (Sam) Cook of Umatilla county, Judge Harris Higgins of Hood River county and Dewey West of the Port of Morrow.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

DON ROBINSON stood in the midst of his cattle herd Saturday while his wife, Merlyn, on horseback, kept them bunched and under control. Interested visitors on the Hereford cattle tour, coming from all parts of the west, listened intently as Don singled out many of the calves and described them in detail—when they were born, blood lines, unusual things about them.

This amazed us. We turned to three visiting ranchers standing nearby. "How do you cattlemen do it?" we asked. "They all look alike to me, but you fellows seem to know all about every animal in a herd."

Dick Hibbard, rancher at Imbler, from where the tour had started two days earlier, chuckled.

"Not all of us do," he said, "only the good ones." And there was obvious respect for Robinson in the tone of his voice.

When a city dweller travels the highways of eastern Oregon and sees Herefords on the range, he probably has the idea that he could abscond with one, if he so chose, and no one would know the difference.

But we find that the rancher knows every animal in his herd almost as well as he does his own children.

JOINING this tour for a few hours in Morrow county was quite an experience, but when one of the tour leaders congenially gave us one of those red and white stickum badges, bearing the likeness of a whiteface and the words, "The Trend is Polled Hereford," we really felt like an impostor.

The only thing we really know about Herefords is that there are some mighty fine looking animals in this county and the steaks that come from them are super-delicious. But a lot of the animals we observed at the Robinson and Ekstrom ranches are of too good breeding to ever be relegated to steaks.

A rather distinguished looking rancher leaning against a fence beside us at the Ekstrom place Saturday must have thought we knew something about Herefords (at least we wore the badge!).

He was admiring the Ekstroms' yearlings. "I wonder what he feeds them?" he inquired.

We could have answered, "Probably table scraps," but that wouldn't sound very intelligent. So we just had to shake the old noggin.

WE CAN SEE that the Morrow breeders are held in high respect by their fellows from all over the west, and they are well acquainted with some of the champion animals that have come from this county.

The Ekstrom home is filled with trophies and awards that they have won at fairs and shows.

WHEN GAYLORD HUSTON of Portland addresses a letter to us, it gives us quite a patriotic twinge of pride. He renewed his subscription the other day, and the address on his envelope was as follows: "Heppner Gazette-Times, Morrow County's Newspaper Since 1883, Heppner, Oregon."

We could hardly open that letter without holding our right hand over our heart. Thanks, Mr. Huston!

COUNTY SCHOOL officials held a meeting on transportation the other night. When the meeting was over, two of the participants went out to the parking lot, got into their respective cars and backed into each other, as they started to leave—so a little bird tells us. Sorry, we can't identify them and probably wouldn't dare if we could. It was

BAND REHEARSAL Set Wednesday

First band practice for Heppner students who will play in the Shrine all-star football game activities in Pendleton August 22 has been called by Arnold Melby, instructor, for Wednesday, August 12. Practice will start promptly at 10:30 a.m. in the grade school band room.

It is important that all band students who this year will be in the 7th, 8th and 9th grades, be present for this first rehearsal.

Combined high school and junior high bands will start practices Monday, August 24, for participation in Fair and Rodeo parade and other events on the 29th and 30th, according to Melby.

Director Carol Miller has announced a band rehearsal for all 7th, 8th and high school students at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 12, 7:30 p.m. in the band room. The band will enter parade competition before the Shrine game in Pendleton August 22.

The lone band will also participate in the parade August 29 for the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo, and evening practices will be set through the month to get the band in shape.

Lone Director Sets Band Meet

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Furor Increases On Wheat Grading In Two States

While USDA field men are evaluating effect of new wheat grading regulations on inspection tours in the Pacific Northwest, furor over the effect of "contrasting classes" in the new grain standards gained momentum during the past week.

The North Pacific Grain Growers mimeographed bulletin, "Date Lines," reported in its July 31 issue as follows:

"Widespread reports of an alarming number of white wheat samples being discounted for an admixture of hard red winter kernels were received from Gilliam, Morrow and Umatilla counties in Oregon, and Benton, Franklin, Adams, Grant and Douglas counties in Washington.

"The problem was forcibly called to the attention of the U. S. D. A. and the Congressional delegations of the two states. Herschel Ellis, recently named West Coast Area Supervisor of the Inspection Branch, Grain Division, U. S. D. A., made an extended trip through the affected areas to objectively analyze the problem. Plant breeders discount the theory that the Burt, Orford, Fortyfold and Regua varieties are experiencing genetic throw-back. They point out that the areas affected have past history of red wheat production in some locations and suggest the possibility that there has been 'field-crossing' or 'mutation' of the red and white varieties.

"Whatever the cause, the red kernels are in the white wheat! The grower will suffer a substantial discount and the elevator operator has his problem with avoiding admixture. This seems to be a problem peculiar to the Pacific Northwest so the area can expect little support from other areas for a change in the standards at this time. The full extent of the problem will not be known until harvest is further along, but more than 10% of the first 1100 inspections at

THIS WEEK'S QUOTE, taken from a little card on the desk of County Judge Oscar Peterson: "As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way."

SAY, DO YOU realize that fair and rodeo are just around the corner? All our loyal citizens are going to have to start spreading the word. We have a supply of posters, bumper strips and advance programs at the Gazette-Times office, for any who care to pick up a supply. Jack Locke, rodeo secretary, left town here while he is on vacation for a couple of weeks. Many helpers have been taking posters and materials to other towns. If you can use some, just drop in.

WITH THE cleaning and painting being done in the downtown district, we're hoping that it will spread to other areas in town—like the Union Pacific depot. A couple of new coats on that building would certainly add a brighter appearance to the town for those coming in on the highway from Lexington.

We understand that some tourists have stopped to take pictures of the building, perhaps an old covered bridge—for scrapbook purposes. One called the structure a "real classic" of construction. But a couple of coats of paint plus a little sprucing up, and the building would still be a credit to the U. P. line.

CONGRESSMAN Al Ullman, in a letter to Al Lamb, manager of Morrow County Grain Growers, said that he has advised Secretary Freeman of the impact on wheat growers and told him that it is "totally unreasonable to permit the new grading standards to prevail in the current crop year."

He added in the letter, "You may be sure that I will do everything possible to bring about a satisfactory solution to the problem, and your views have been very helpful."

TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor: My sister wrote me lately that she had not seen anything in the Gazette-Times written by me, so here goes with another list of "Old Timers" who used to live in and around Heppner and Morrow county.

Sunday, July 19, I visited two sisters and old time school mates. We had not seen each other for over 62 years. One is Mrs. Otto Metschan (Nora Matlock) and her younger sister, Juanita Matlock. We had a nice two hour visit before I had to leave for home. We talked of many old Heppner friends of years ago.

Then I read the nice letter from Mrs. Frank Barclay in the letter to the editor of July 30. Here it is in part: "I have enjoyed your paper and look forward to Saturday when it is delivered. I was born and raised in Heppner. Not many people I know any more there, but interested in what the town is doing." I am going to write her as I must have known her before her marriage. I, also was born and raised in Heppner and I intend to be in Heppner next Memorial Day, if I can possibly make it. But unlike Mrs. Barclay, I still have many old friends there and a few old school mates.

Here is the list of old timers I remember: J. K. Carr; Be Baisey; Jim Frisco; George Conser; Bill Stafford and his brother Sam; Abe Wells; Hugh Fields; Pres Looney; Harry Cummings; Frank Natter; Harve Rush; Dave Hamilton; Will J. Leezer; Oscar Borg and his

father, Peter Borg; Joe Dauber; I. N. Hughes; Andy Stevenson; Billy Beard and Joe Williams. There will be more "Old Timers" mentioned in my next letter.

All my best wishes to Wesley A. and Helen E. Sherman.

O. M. Yeager
Box 476,
Castle Rock, Wn. 98011

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COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES
Friday, August 7, 8 p.m.
American Legion Hall
"The Maze"
35c per person (one admission for all.)

FAIR and RODEO DANCE
Honoring Princess Terryl
Greenup, Lena Community.
Saturday, August 8, 10 p.m.
Supper served.

RHEA CREEK GRANGE PICNIC
Sunday, August 9
Anson Wright Memorial Park,
Rock Creek.
Picnic dinner, 1:30 p.m.
Grangers, families and friends.

WILLOW CREEK GOLF CLUB
Entertain Kinzua Golf Club
Sunday, August 9
All day tourney, both men and women.
Breakfast at 7:30 a.m., lunch at noon. Guests welcome.

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C. A. RUGGLES
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P. O. Box 247 PH. 676-9625
Heppner

DANCE

FOR

MORROW COUNTY
FAIR AND RODEO

Princess
**TERRYL
GREENUP**

Sponsored By

LENA COMMUNITY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

ADMISSION
\$1.50
PER PERSON

American
Legion Hall
IONE

DANCING
10 To 2
SUPPER SERVED

MUSIC BY

'SLINKARDS'

of Kinzua

