

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97536
Phone 676-9228

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
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College Election Set April 2

In the few years that Blue Mountain Community College has been serving this area, sound and foresighted management has been shown by the board of directors and the administration.

The college has grown rapidly—considerably beyond expectations. Some difficult problems have been faced, and some real financial hurdles have been surmounted.

Today the college stands as one of the fine educational institutions in the state and maintains its promised balance of about half its students in vocational-technical courses and half in college transfer courses.

Its campus has blossomed with two new buildings serving students, and both these structures were constructed at moderate cost to taxpayers in the two-county district (Morrow and Umatilla).

The relatively short history of Blue Mountain is one of the finest success stories of the area in recent years and typifies the type of progress desired for eastern Oregon by the people who live here.

Many students who would not otherwise have opportunity to further their education have been able to continue through the facilities of Blue Mountain. The college also has used its resources to meet needs of adults through evening classes and has extended helpful aid in many areas of community service.

The college patrons have been very fortunate in its choice of directors and administration at BMCC with the result that development has been carefully and wisely planned, making best use of tax dollars and other funds available.

Most of those serving on the board of directors have been working in that capacity since the college was started. Bob Abrams of Heppner is one of those who was selected at the start and he has served solidly and capably, giving Morrow county excellent representation and contributing a great deal to the progress of the college.

Now the time has come that the third and final phase in the college building program is necessary.

The board, after giving careful consideration to the matter, has proposed a \$1,250,000 bond issue for the construction of this building. The bond issue will be one of two matters that will be on the Blue Mountain Community college ballot at the election on Tuesday, April 2.

This election, unlike most of those for BMCC in the past, will not be held at the time of the Morrow county school election. It is necessary to take action sooner because of the fact that the college district faces a deadline on the decision on the building. Unless the district can show by June that plans are underway for the new structure, it will lose \$250,000 appropriated by the state legislature towards the construction cost, and this sum will go to some other community college district.

So when a voter goes to a polling place in Morrow and Umatilla counties on April 2, he will be faced with just two decisions: 1. Whether he approves the college's regular operating budget for 1968-69. 2. Whether he is in favor of the proposed bond issue.

Rolling places are just the same as those used in county school elections and the personnel serving on the boards is also the same as for the local elections.

Operating budget for the district was published in a recent issue of the Gazette-Times and in other newspapers of the two counties. Despite the fact that costs have gone up, particularly in the areas of instruction and fixed charges, the directors have been able to "hold the line" by careful planning. The levy will be just about the same as that for 1967-68.

Increased receipts from resources other than taxes help make this possible. One of categories of increased receipts is that from tuition because of the rather surprising gain in the number of students. The college anticipated a rather heavy growth, but each year it has exceeded expectations.

If a taxpayer votes "yes" on the operating budget for the coming year, he will approve a tax of about 90c per each \$1,000 true cash value of his taxable property. This is close to the same figure that was approved by a large majority last year.

As to the bond issue, the board has shown some careful planning here, too.

The issue is designed to absorb a serial levy that was approved by a vote for the construction of phase II at the college. Since this levy was for a short period of years, and the bond issue would cover a 20-year period, approval of the issue would mean, for the upcoming year and two more, that taxpayers will actually pay less than they would under the serial levy. The indebtedness, of course, will be greater, but it will be spread out longer.

In proposing the bond issue, the directors are following their long range plan. Continued growth of the college, with a consequent need for a library, arts and music programs, more classrooms, student center, auditorium, book store and other needs, makes it imperative to build the structure if the college continues to serve the growing student body.

By encompassing the serial levy, the directors offer a package to the voters that will not increase taxes but—as pointed out above—will continue the present level for capital outlay requirements for a longer term.

Here are some reasons why they believe that this should be done now: 1. It will take advantage of the \$250,000 offered by the state without this going to some other college. 2. Costs are continuously increasing, and delay will mean a higher cost of construction at a future date. 3. The job can be done without an increase in amount of taxes being paid currently to the college district. 4. This will complete the college construction program, and it will not be necessary to ask voters for more money for further construction within the foreseeable future.

By offering good facilities for students at the community college, the district also helps relieve the burden on major higher education institutions in the state and thereby helps, to some degree, in keeping taxpayers' costs down at the state level.

The college administration has done a forthright job in trying to inform the public on these matters. It has published its budget in papers throughout the area to inform those in all parts of the district (publication in only one paper of general circulation is required by law). It has sent out plans, stories and notices regarding the proposals.

In short, the directors who were elected by voters have

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

LOST IN the flurry of excitement on basketball tournaments and other spring news was an important anniversary. The Gazette-Times is marking its 85th anniversary, which makes it a pretty venerable institution. The Gazette-Times was started March 30, 1883, and the Times started something more than 14 years later, on November 18. They were consolidated February 15, 1912.

Actually, the anniversary doesn't come for a few days yet, but the current paper is No. 4 of the 85th year. Each paper is numbered for the particular edition and 52 editions comprise a year. But because of odd days in some years, we have gained a few weeks in the 85 years and so will actually print paper number five of the 85th year before the paper is truly that many years old.

The Gazette-Times has a great history in the community and some fine editors have served the journalism role here, going back to John Watermelon Redington in the early days. The Crawford family was most prominent in the paper's history, covering 40 years of ownership of the 85-year history.

As was recounted recently, the Gazette-Times was once picked as the best weekly in the state, this during the time of the Crawford ownership. It has always held a leadership role in community service, and the expectation is that it will continue for years to come.

Its history shows that it is one of the county's oldest businesses and one of its valued institutions. As it reaches its 85th year, we salute the editors and publishers of the past. What a great assembly it would make if somehow all those who have gone on could come back and join in meeting with those still living.

SOME TIME ago we mentioned that Warren Merrill, industrial representative of Oregon's Economic Development Division, had been instrumental in finding a location for making the movie, "Paint Your Wagon," in Oregon. The production will be filmed near Baker and preliminary work is now underway.

On Merrill's visit to Heppner on March 11, he held a little bit more about this. The film will star Lee Marvin and is expected to cost more than \$14,000,000. Of this, about \$4½ million will be spent locally and stimulate the Baker economy.

The state's industrial representative said that his office is continuing work to attract motion picture locations to Oregon and is also stressing locations for TV series.

In seeking a site for "Paint Your Wagon" Merrill spent 27 days with Paramount representatives, going over the state by helicopter, airplane, Sno-Cat and other means to find the right spot. The decision was finally made for the historic area around Baker, scene of gold mining in the early days.

We proposed to him that Morrow county would have some advantages for certain types of movies and television series, and he seemed to agree that there is some possibility to this.

We pointed out that on some of our rolling hills and forested areas, there would be no trouble from power lines, highways and other evidences of modern civilization.

Merrill said that when utility lines mar a frontier setting, the movie company merely takes

down the lines and buries them underground.

We still think that the community of Heppner would make a great setting for some good movies.

Anyway, Mr. Merrill is going to keep Morrow county in mind.

THINKING OF the A-2 state basketball tournament in retrospect, we'd like to see the tournament moved to Eugene or Corvallis, and this statement is made notwithstanding the fact that Coos Bay has done its very best to be cordial and accommodating hosts for the past 10 years.

Coos Bay just isn't in a central enough location. It's a 380-mile trip from Heppner, and it is considerably farther for such Greater Oregon teams as Vale, Nyssa and Enterprise.

Some of our students had very poor accommodations at the tournament this year, one group using a section of a hotel that had not been used for a considerable length of time, and it was in bad shape.

Eugene would have ample accommodations. Corvallis might have to disperse some of its overnight guests to Albany and Salem, but they are not far distant.

Both Eugene and Corvallis have fine large coliseums—the University of Oregon's McArthur court and Oregon State's Convocation Center. It would make it much easier for supporters of upstate teams to make the trip to the tournament if it were at either of these locations.

Ron Daniels, Morrow county school superintendent is a member of the Oregon School Activities association board of control. He says this matter has been discussed but that the University and OSU officials don't relish the idea of having the high school tournament on their campuses during final exam week of winter term—which it normally would be since college spring vacation runs a week later than high school spring vacation as a rule.

But Eugene had the A-1 tournament and hated like everything to lose it to Portland. We doubt if the college students would spend very much time away from studies to watch the A-2 games, unless they were inclined to "goof off" anyway.

For Eastern Oregonians, when the kids are as far away as Coos Bay, it almost seems as if they are in another world, and the home folks are anxious to keep in touch with how things are going.

THIS YEAR, we firmly believe the daily press and TV did the poorest job of covering an A-2 tournament within our memory. The pre-writes were very skimpy. The Oregonian's pre-tournament story was consigned to the bottom of an inside page of the Sunday sports section. Usually such a story gives a run-down on players of each team with a little dope on them, but only a few highlights were given of a few teams this year. Heppner scarcely got a mention, and this isn't right, because the kids really battled to get to Coos Bay and deserved a little more attention.

Home folks didn't have any opportunity to "get acquainted" with the teams they were to face. Contrast the publicity on the A-2 tournament with the A-1 tournament. The daily papers miss a big bet by glossing over the A-2 because there are thou-

TO THE EDITOR...

Club Says Thanks

Dear Mr. Sherman:
We of the Pep Club wish to thank you for donating and printing our booster stickers to help us go to the state tournament in a day and age when too often teen-agers are simply given what they want, we especially want to thank you for giving us the chance to earn our own way. By working for our money I assure you each of us who went enjoyed the trip just a little bit more.

Our deepest thanks,
Heppner High Pep Club
By Sheryl Britt

Donations Liked

To the Editor:
We at the E. O. Hospital and Training Center want to thank the women from Heppner who gave us all the wonderful books and games. Many of these are being used in our Mentally Retarded school room and in our hospital library.

We appreciate any and all donations such as this. Thank you for remembering our needs.
Sincerely,
Tom Higley,
Instructor for Mentally Retarded School
Mrs. Audrey Pulsom,
director, Volunteer Service

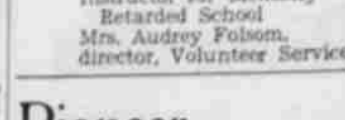
Examiner Coming

A drivers license examiner will be on duty in Heppner Tuesday, March 26, at the Morrow county courthouse between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. for the convenience of those wishing licenses or permits to drive, the Department of Motor Vehicles of Oregon announces.

Gary Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jones, was recently elected to serve as president for the coming year of the Hood River Jaycees, according to information received by the parents. The Hood River organization has a steadily growing membership and is involved in many of the community activities.

A house guest of Mrs. Mabel Chaffee during the past two weeks has been her sister-in-law, Mrs. Naomi DeChenne, of Spokane, Wash. Mrs. Chaffee took her to Pendleton last Wednesday where they were met by Mrs. DeChenne's daughter, Mrs. Harry Cobine, and accompanied her to her home in Walla Walla for a short stay before returning to Spokane.

Pioneer



Ponderings

By W. S. CAVERHILL

Debt has always plagued governments and societies of people, sometimes to the point of destruction. In the past many ways were employed to control it. England put debtors in jail. The Jews declared every 50 years a year of jubilee when all debts were cancelled. In China, debtors of over a fixed amount were beheaded. Our system is more pleasant but dangerous, "compound 'er and let 'er run." In the minds of many expert planners, any taxing unit that isn't bonded to the hilt and taxed to the limit is failing to meet its responsibility to society. The present volume of deficit spending and prolonged payment levied against the year's production would take, nearly if not all of the net profit out of business. So, we "compound 'er and let 'er run." We escalate wages and raise prices on the road to eventual devaluation of the dollar, if we are to share in world trade. We may even come to a year of jubilee in a flurry of paper money.

Coming Events

ROCKHOUND MEETING
Saturday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.
McMurtry Building, next to Wagon Wheel
Visitors welcome

LEGION DANCE
Saturday, March 23, 10:00 to 2:00
Heppner Legion Hall
Roy Quackenbush orchestra.
Public invited

TEENAGE DANCE
Saturday, March 23, 9:30-1:00
Heppner Fair Pavilion
Music by The Henchmen, local combo
Special welcome to college students

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE
Friday-Saturday, April 26-27
By Heppner Civic League
Rummage, baked foods and house plant sales
Old Tryco Building

HIGH SCHOOL PLAY
"Arsenic and Old Lace," 3 act play
Friday, Saturday, March 29-30, 8 p.m.
High School Multipurpose Room

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Heppner

The Rhyming Philosopher

CENSURE

THERE'S EULOGIES SAID FOR A MAN WHEN HE'S DEAD;
WHILE LIVING WE TAKE HIM FOR GRANTED.
HIS MANY GOOD DEEDS REMAIN DORMANT, LIKE SEEDS,
AND ONLY BRING FLOWERS WHEN HE'S PLANTED.

IT ALSO IS TRUE, THOUGH IT'S NOTHING THAT'S NEW,
HOW QUICK WE FIND FAULT WITH OUR NEIGHBOR,
CONDEMNING HIS ACTS QUITE REGARDLESS OF FACTS
OR UNDER WHAT STRESS HE MUST LABOR.

WHAT SOMEBODY DRINKS OR THE WAY THAT HE THINKS
GIVES NONE OF US REASON TO CENSURE,
THERE'S NOBODY FREE FROM REPROACH, YOU'LL AGREE,
OR GUILTY OF SOME MISADVENTURE.

SO WHO IS TO SAY IN A CRITICAL WAY
WHICH ACTIONS OF OTHERS ARE SENSELESS?
FOR JUDGMENT MUST BEND TO THE TRUTH IN THE END
SINCE NOTHING'S COMPLETELY DEFENSELESS.

OPINIONS ARE FREE, WHICH MAKES FOLKS DISAGREE,
FOR REASON HAS SERVANTS AND MASTERS,
NOT ALL CAN BE RIGHT, AND WHEN VIEWED IN THIS LIGHT
WE CAN SAVE OURSELVES MANY DISASTERS.

HARRY W. FLETCHER

Repeat of a sellout! New Mustang Sprint '68.

Where last month's Golden Nugget Mustang left off, this one takes over. Sporty extras included in special low price.

And all these special goodies are added to a Mustang already America's No. 1 sports car!

- GT stripeincluded
- Sporty wheel coversincluded
- Wheel lip moldingsincluded
- Flip-open chromed gas capincluded
- Bucket seats, stick shift, plush carpetingincluded



See the light. Spring is Sprint-time at your Eager Beaver Ford Dealer's

Heppner Auto Sales, Inc

Heppner, Oregon
NEED A GOOD USED CAR? SEE YOUR LOCAL FORD DEALER—THEY ARE A-1

done everything they can to present sound and reasonable proposals and to give them widest publicity. They are willing to answer any questions or give any needed information. Those in Morrow county may contact Director Abrams in Heppner or call President Wallace McCrae in Pendleton if further information is needed.

In view of the fact that the school administration has shown that it merits the maximum in voter confidence and because the proposals are sound, this paper recommends a yes on both the operating levy and the bond issue on April 2.

Voters should go to the polling places where they ordinarily ballot in county school elections. A list of these is on page three, section two.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Critical Issue--Vietnam

(Editor's Note: The following editorial from the Lane Cardinal is reprinted by request from some of the parents who read it in the school paper.)

By JANICE SNIDER
Editor, Lane High Cardinal

South Vietnam! What and where is this little country? The Encyclopedia tells us that it is a country on the east coast of the Indochinese Peninsula, southeast Asia, and is made up of some 55,948 square miles.

As Americans we know that it is much more than this. We have a large investment of fish and blood in Vietnam, over 500,000 of our boys. Stemming from this, Vietnam is probably the most controversial political and human problem facing us.

What are we doing in South Vietnam? This is a question asked every day by millions of Americans and each probably getting a different answer from a self-acclaimed authorized person. It is astonishing to find out how many people know more than the President and other government officials. Maybe if these people know so much they should seek the Presidency.

There has never been a good war, whether it is declared or not. It was stated in a recent report that nearly all U. S. officials in Vietnam, from Ambassador Bunker and General Westmoreland down, believe that the main battleground of 1968 will be that of public opinion in the United States.

As citizens we should do more to help win the war, rather than beat down morale and create sources for Communist propaganda to build on. As a nation united we are strong, but as a nation divided we are weak.