

Fire Crews Start Mop-up Operation; 5000 Acres Burned

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fire that had covered an estimated 900 acres by Tuesday. Headquarters was at Tupper Work Center.

From there, Dave Yates, public relations officer, said Tuesday that despite rumors, the two big fires never burned close to each other, being perhaps ten miles apart. One report erroneously had it that they had merged.

This fire covered grass, Ponderosa pine, and open hillsides, reaching its peak Monday afternoon.

250 Men Fight

Some 250 men battled the fire which was controlled by 9 a.m. Tuesday. Some Mexicans composing the Snake River crew, were also included among the fire fighters, Yates said.

Latest methods of fire fighting were being used on both blazes. A dozen retardant drops of borate were used on "hot spots" of the Devil's Den fire with converted B-17's and B-24's coming out of La Grande. Two helicopters were also in service, one coming from Lewiston, Idaho, and the other from Missoula, Mont. The helicopters carry from 60 to 80 gallons of water that are dropped on hard-to-reach spots that flare up.

Forest Service personnel came to the Tupper center from the Fomeroy, Walla Walla and Pendleton district headquarters. Gordon Grogan, Pendleton, timber staff officer for the Umatilla National Forest, is fire boss on the operation, and Marv Chitty of Heppner is plans boss. Jimmy Wilkins of Pendleton is service boss and Dick Arney, Pendleton, is firelines boss. Loren Lucore, Heppner district fire control officer was directing small fire suppression and assisting with operations on the Devil's Den fire.

Yates said that the Heppner Ranger district had a total of 18 lightning-set fires. Nistad said that 19 were started in the state protected lands and on company ownership. It is quite possible, however, that some of these overlapped and were included in both areas.

Nistad said that 12 fires were started Friday afternoon and evening and seven on Saturday. Squaw Fire Suppressed

One of the other fires under federal jurisdiction was called the Squaw fire, near Ant Hill, which covered about 20 acres before being suppressed. By Tuesday, virtually all attention was being given by the federal crews to the Devil's Den fire and by the state crews to the Snowshoe Basin fire.

Nistad said that much of the Snowshoe fire was in logged off area below Wheeler Point but also burned green timber. Some of the company lands had been selectively cut. Fire kills the standing timber and destroys the undergrowth, and the company plans to move in operations as soon as possible to salvage the timber and then will proceed with reseedling, probably by helicopter.

The Kinzua Corporation manager said that many came to their assistance with tankers, crawler-type tractors and other equipment. Like the Devil's Basin fire, this one, too, was battled with helicopters and fire planes.

The Snowshoe fire plagued fire fighters who would get it circled by fire trails during the night, only to have it flare up in the heat of the following day. It was believed to be well contained Saturday, but all of a sudden "blew up" when unfavorable wind came up towards mid-day. Some of the weary fire fighters nearly were trapped but managed to elude the spreading flames.

Some of the spread was by crown fires in various places that seemed to run ahead of the main part of the blaze.

Despite the number of men on the fire lines and the fact that activity was at a feverish pace on both major fires, no serious injuries were reported through Tuesday.

Heppner was a supply line servicing a large part of the fire operations with groceries, gasoline, and other items going to the crews in large quantities.

Meanwhile, both the Dale and Ukiah ranger districts had their hands full with fires of their own, but the northern part of the Umatilla National Forest was spared by the electric storm.

Open House Set At Speech Camp

Meadowood Springs Speech Camp's annual "open house" and chicken barbecue will be held Sunday, July 14, at the camp in the Blue Mountains and, according to Jack Kessling, Milton-Freewater, president, the public is invited to come for lunch.

The barbecue will start at 1 p.m. and will be served until about 4 o'clock and tours of the camp will be conducted by campers and staff throughout the day.

The camp is located on the Weston-Elgin Highway.

Roy Bookman of Onalaska, Wash., has been a visitor this week with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Struthers and daughter Patricia. He was a resident here several years ago.

Chamber Cites Boys For Good Showing In Porcupine Race

Four boys who voluntarily entered the porcupine race at Condon's July 4 celebration in the name of the Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce were presented with Certificates of Recognition Monday at the regular meeting of the Chamber.

Certificates were awarded to Barney and Jeff Marshall and to Bruce and Mike Bergstrom. The boys' porcupine, which they captured especially for the race, took second place at the Condon event and came close to winning first place.

The boys offered to catch a "porky" and enter him in the race when they learned that the Chamber would not be represented otherwise at Condon's Fabulous Fourth.

Although there was some doubt from Chamber members that the young men could get a porcupine in time, they, with perhaps some help from fathers, captured an animal, which they named "Old Blue," in a garbage can, using bark to entice him.

John Venard of the Chamber agreed to assist the boys at the race and be an official envoy. He reported Monday on the outstanding work done by the boys and told how they just missed first place with a large crowd watching.

Barney was unable to be present at the meeting Monday, since he is working, but Wes Sherman, president, presented certificates to Jeff, Bruce and Mike, and to Barney, in absentia, lauding their community spirit and effort.

Meanwhile, "Old Blue," with his moment of glory behind him, has been restored to his natural haunts.

The Marshall boys are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Marshall, and the Bergstrom boys are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bergstrom.

Mrs. Lott Breaks Leg in Accident

Mrs. Randy Lott underwent surgery Tuesday morning in St. Anthony hospital, Pendleton, after breaking her left leg near the ankle in an accident Sunday.

With other members of her family she was at the Ron Curran place. The Lott's 4-year-old son, Donnie, was riding a horse and Mrs. Lott mounted the horse to help him ride. When she dismounted, she twisted the leg in some manner, resulting in a break that apparently caused bones to splinter.

Her husband and Curran brought her to Pioneer Memorial hospital here, but on the advice of their physician, she was taken to Pendleton for care of a specialist.

The injury was painful, but she was reported in good condition after the surgery Tuesday.

Her husband was with her Monday, and her mother, Mrs. William Kennedy of Walla Walla, went to Pendleton to give aid. Lott said that it appears she will be in the hospital for a week or 10 days.

Mrs. Johanne Taylor and Mrs. Ed Gonty drove to Hayden Lake, near Spokane, Sunday to take Mrs. Taylor's daughter, Peggy, and two other girls, Lucy Huber and Terri Jones, to Seventh-day Adventist church camp. Peggy is going to camp on a scholarship awarded her by the Soroptimist club. The other Taylor children also went on the trip. Before returning, the Heppner group went to Sandpoint, Idaho, to visit Mrs. Taylor's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson, formerly of Heppner.

Full Accreditation Granted BMCC; Hailed Major Step

Blue Mountain College this week won maximum accreditation by the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools.

Announcement of the accreditation was made by Dr. James F. Bemis, executive director of the Association, in a letter to college President Wallace McCrae.

The action culminates a year of preparation by the college, highlighted by a two-day visit by the association's accreditation committee to the campus May 9 and 10. The association is made up of member schools in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah and Alaska.

Accreditation by the Northwest Association means that the college's own goals are soundly conceived, that its educational programs have been intelligently devised, that its purposes are being accomplished, and that the college is so organized, staffed, and supported that it should continue to merit such confidence for a specified number of years. It applies to the entire college and all of its programs.

Although BMCC has, since its inception six years ago, been accredited by the State Department of Education and the State System of Higher Education, official accreditation by the Northwest Association assures transferability of credits nationwide.

In his letter to President McCrae, Dr. Bemis said: "On behalf of the Higher Commission, it is a pleasure to forward notice of this official action and to congratulate you and your staff. We are confident that good progress will continue."

HOSPITAL NEWS

Those admitted to Pioneer Memorial hospital during the past week, and still receiving medical care, are the following: Tom Campbell, Kimberly; Theresa Methvin, Heppner; Betty Jespen, Ione, and Maymie Winslow, Heppner.

Those dismissed, after having medical care, were Dean Kin-die, Heppner; William Nichols, Ione, and Lila Finlayson, Pilot Rock.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hilderbrand, Heppner, are parents of a second daughter, born Friday, July 5, weighing 8 lb., 1/2 oz. She has been named Jenamarie, and joins a 4-year-old sister, Jane Ann. Grandparents are Mrs. Ora Lee Ewing and Elmer R. Ewing, Sr., Alexandria, La., and Mrs. Ruth Hilderbrand, Pineville, La.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wright, Heppner, are announcing the birth of their first child, a daughter, born Tuesday, July 9, weighing 6 lb., 13 oz. She has been named Kimberle Anne. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wright, all of Heppner. Great-grandparents are Mrs. Della Murray, Union; Mrs. Wave Jackson, Monument, and Mrs. Mary Wright, Heppner.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gonty and family went to Yakima on July 4 where they met their son, Ray Gonty, and family of Seattle for a visit and picnic, since Yakima is about halfway for both families. On the return to Heppner the local family stopped in Prosser to visit the Phil Blakney family, formerly of Heppner. They learned that Blakney was selling fireworks in a civic enterprise and so didn't get to see him. While there, they learned that the Paul Koenigs, formerly of Heppner, are now at Heber, Utah.

Lightning Friday Sets Range Fires

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said that the department received six calls during the night. One 4-wheel drive rig was dispatched to Frieda Slocum's farm on Rhea Creek where about two acres of grass were burned before it was extinguished. Another small fire was at first believed to be on the Kirk and Robinson ranch but proved to be on Pat O'Briens. A 4-wheel rig was also dispatched to extinguish this fire.

A fire started in grasslands on the Bill Healy ranch Friday evening and covered about 150 acres, damage being limited to grass and fences. The Healsys said that quick action by neighbor Jerry Dougherty saved them from much greater loss. He could reach the fire much faster than they could and acted immediately.

Wheat Field Threatened
On Saturday morning another fire started beside a wheat field of the Healsys and burned around the edges, covering an estimated 50 acres. Little damage was done to the wheat since it is yet too green to burn. This probably was not started by lightning, the Healsys state. Two motorcycles and riders were noticed in the area, and it is theorized that the fire may have started from exhaust.

Other small fires were reported on the Ken Gutsforth place and on the Ken Turner ranch. The fire chief said that two others were reported in Blackhorse canyon but enough rain fell there to help extinguish them. Only a few drops of rain were noticed in Heppner, but other areas had somewhat more.

Hardest hit by the lightning strikes, though, were the forest areas, causing many fires and resulting in two major ones to the south.

Eight firemen remained on standby at the fire station here through much of the night. The fire on the northern range was probably one of the largest of recent years.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Gundersen and two boys, David and Doug, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Gribble and Gunderson's mother, Mrs. Lucille Troedson, spent several days on the Oregon coast at Agate Beach where they enjoyed playing golf, even though the weather was quite cool. On the course, they met former Heppner resident, Fred Gimbel, who now lives at Lincoln City. In Portland, the Gundersens stopped for medical treatment for son Doug, while the Gribbles traveled on to Salem to visit relatives.

Hastings Suffers Coronary Attack

Carey Hastings of Heppner was reported to be in serious condition in the Community Hospital, Pendleton, Tuesday after suffering a sudden coronary attack about mid-day Monday.

He was showing good improvement following a gall bladder operation last Thursday, and the report Monday morning was that he was recovering satisfactorily. When the complication came shortly afterwards, his wife, Alice, was called to Pendleton. Mrs. Grace Buschke accompanied her.

Mrs. Hastings remained in Pendleton, and the report Tuesday morning was that his condition remained about the same.

Correspondence Course Offered

Those who are interested in learning more about how to get the most from your food dollar, will want to sign up for the free correspondence course on food buying, offered this summer by home agent Molly Saul, through the Pendleton County Extension Office.

The five-lesson course will begin Monday, July 22, and will run approximately ten weeks. Two weeks will be allowed for each assignment. Because ample time is given to read and study the bulletins and lesson guides, the course may be worked around vacation periods.

Mrs. Saul emphasizes that this course is offered for all interested men or women food shoppers in Umatilla or Morrow counties. Extension membership is not a requirement.

Interested shoppers may enroll by telephoning or writing to one of the four county Extension offices.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Routh of Yakima, Wn., visited the first of the week at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Mabel Chaffee. The couple was on the return trip home after spending their vacation in the Portland area.

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Mr. and Mrs. Creston Robinson are home following an enjoyable week's vacation trip to Yellowstone National Park and Jackson Hole, Wyo. At West Yellowstone they watched from a distance as five large grizzlies were feeding.

NOTICE To Water Users

The City is trying to keep from rationing water. To do so everyone must cooperate. Please do not waste your water.

SPRINKLE ONLY IN THE EARLY MORNING OR LATE EVENING. LET'S ALL COOPERATE.

Heppner Water Department
VIC GROSHENS, Supt.

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\$2.00 For First 30-Gal. Can
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