

## Mrs. Rucker Honored at Irrigon

By FRANCES ROSE WILSON

IRRIGON — Mrs. Hol Rucker was honored on her 80th birthday, Sept. 26, at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Don Adams. Her entire family of 5 sons and 2 daughters were present with their families. Most of her grandchildren also attended the festive occasion. A number of her friends from the Hermiston Golden Age Club were present, as well as friends from the community. At the end of the day there were 100 names in her guest book. It was a beautiful fall day and the Adams home and well kept lawn was well suited to the occasion.

Mrs. Rucker has lived in Irrigon for 37 years. She and her late husband, Elmer Rucker, came from Wallowa County and lived in Oregon most of their lives.

Her family, some of whom traveled a distance to be present, include, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Rucker of St. Anthony, Idaho, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Rucker, of Arlington, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rucker, of Pocatello, Idaho, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Lopez and Mr. and Mrs. Bud Rucker, both of Kellogg, Idaho, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rucker and Mr. and Mrs. Don Adams of Irrigon.

Joan Adams and her sister Violet Lopez made and decorated the beautiful birthday cake, that was served with coffee and fruit punch, to guests.

### Moose Hunt in Alaska

Al Partlow of Irrigon and Frank Pelo of The Dalles returned Sunday from a 2 week hunting trip in Alaska, where they were successful in killing a moose. The men flew from Seattle to Anchorage, Alaska, and from there they were flown to Moose Creek. Their hunting was done in this area. They traveled down the stream on rubber rafts, camping in a different area each night. They reported the ground to be very marshy, making hip boots a necessity. Also the "bear" grass was 8 feet tall, and they had to be on the alert for bear.

Mrs. Mary Adams visited her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Rash in Wenatchee, last week. Also visiting there was another sister and brother-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ensminger and their daughter Mrs. Robert Behren of Maquoketa, Iowa, who returned home with Mrs. Adams to Irrigon on Thursday to spend a few days here.

Visitors at the Dave Graybeal home last week, were their daughter and granddaughter, Daphne Hardin and Virginia Robinson, of Mt. View, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Graybeal and their guests toured McNary Dam during their stay.

Mr. and Mrs. Don E. Heard of Huntsville, Ala., arrived Monday evening to spend a week here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Heard.

Mrs. Walter Edger who suffered a heart attack recently is home from the hospital and making satisfactory recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wright, her mother, Mrs. Glenn Farness and her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Farness and Glenn of Monument had a late summer trip into Canada. They went through Glacier on "Going to the Sun" highway, to Calgary, to Banff. Here they rode the gondola. Then to Lake Louise and Jasper. They went on a snowmobile tour on the Columbia Ice Fields and then turned back through Washington.

Later the Wrights went up to Federal Way, Wn., to visit her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Owen. They traveled the Olympic Peninsula and chartered a fishing boat out of Westport. There were seven fish brought in. Mrs. Wright had caught 3 of them and Mr. Wright 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Alderman and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Reid are in Portland for the funeral of Mr. Thornton Dunn of Portland.

### SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Heppner High-FFA Potluck Banquet—6:00 p.m. Riverside Independent College Visitation at Hermiston High—Seniors Only
- Riverside Jr. High Football at Stanfield—2:00 p.m. Ione Girls' Volleyball at Pilot Rock—7:30 p.m. Jr. High Football—Heppner at Ione—2:00 p.m.
- Ione High School Football at Culver—2:00 p.m. Riverside High School Football at Echo—7:30 p.m. Riverside Senior Pictures and Football Pictures
- Heppner High Football—Sherman at Heppner—8:00 p.m.
- Riverside Girls' Volleyball—Echo at Riverside—4:00 p.m. Heppner High College Panel
- School Administrators Meeting—Pendleton—6:15 p.m.
- Heppner High Girls' Volleyball—Stanfield at Heppner—3:00 p.m. Riverside NROTC—Jr.-Sr. Boys—8:30 a.m.
- Girls' Volleyball—Riverside at Ione—4:00 p.m. Heppner High Girls' Volleyball, at Umatilla—2:00 p.m.
- Heppner High School Football—Maupin at Heppner—8:00 p.m. Heppner Jr. High Football at Stanfield—2:00 p.m. Ione Bonfire
- Ione PTA—8:00 p.m. Ione Jr. High Football—Condon at Ione—2:30 p.m.
- Professional Inservice Day—No Students



"THE RUG on the stairs is good for sitting, too," says David Allstott. Lisa Burkenbine and Sally Matheny.



A CORNER of the boys' dressing room with football uniforms ready to pack. This shot shows the beautiful new torginol floor and wall and the new benches.

### 'See and Meet' The Teachers Monday Night

(Continued from page 1)

Formerly the steps were swept nightly, now vacuumed only twice a week.

The thunder of feet has been cut to only a whisper. Case Furniture laid the carpet.

The dressing rooms have undergone a face lifting that is hard to believe. They are now a delight to clean and something to be proud of that has cut vandalism to zero.

Dean Naffziger, boys PE instructor, drew up the plans for the long-range plans. There are now rooms for the home team as well as the visiting team to dress. The dressing room adjacent to the shower has torginol on the floor and halfway up the wall in shades of brown and white. The old cement had to be dug out and repoured to provide a correct slope for drainage. Formerly there was one toilet and one sink. The toilet has been partitioned off, two urinals added, the sink and a drinking fountain installed. Benches are smooth finished boards bracketed to the wall. New lights and ventilating system installed. Lott's Electric did the wiring.

A primer coat has been applied to the walls and next year, a heavy enamel will be applied as the next stage in the long-range plans.

The office now provides a view window to the dressing room and shower area for better supervision. Next year's plans call for a paint job in there and a torginol floor.

There's a new First Aid room which also provides storage for supplies.

The other dressing room has been remodeled. The floor which is slick when feet are wet will be replaced next year with torginol.

There will be a place for private conferences and record storage.

### More Changes

The bell system has been extended to both the girls and boys dressing rooms. New heat lights have been installed in the girls shower room. Future plans call for a restoration job on the girls' PE instructor's offices.

### New Paint

Five classrooms were repainted this summer as well as all the hallways and general office. It had been 15 years since they had been painted.

Mr. Martin said "We scrounge a lot, use our own personnel when possible and really get a lot for our money. The improvements this year have been general maintenance and upgrading for all who are using these facilities. We never cut corners when it comes to safety."

What's next? "Well I'd like to see some work done on the windows. They can't be opened, they can't be closed and they can't be secured."

Mrs. Annabelle Allison and her daughter, Janet Allison were here last weekend to visit her father, Frank Turner. They drove out to the Kenneth Turners for the agricultural view. Ken planted potatoes and beans this year. He says his potatoes ran 27 ton per acre and his beans are better than last year.

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## Prof Writes Prize Winner

The Heppner Gazette, forerunner of the Gazette-Times, is one of 15 Inland Pacific Northwest newspapers of 1860-1895 which provided material for a prize-winning doctoral dissertation by Donald M. Hines, assistant professor of English at Washington State University.

Hines' work is entitled "Dust Devils in the Great Desert, A Study of the Impress of the Frontier in Traditional Anecdotes of Humor and Exaggeration, in Folk Beliefs, and in Traditional Speech Gleaned from Some Old-time Weekly Newspapers from the Inland Empire of the Pacific Northwest." It won third place in the 1970 Chicago Folklore Prize competition. The prize is administered by the Department of Germanic Languages and Literature of the University of Chicago.

Some of the newspapers used by Hines still exist. Some which were weeklies then now are dailies.

The WSU faculty member spent two years working on the six-volume 2,312 page dissertation for his Ph.D. degree at Indiana University. A folklore study of frontier life in the Inland Pacific Northwest, contents range from home remedies to salty stories.

The dissertation illustrates the state of mind of the ordinary frontier people, and the "agonizing adjustment" they had to make in their new environment, Hines said.

He wrote that he "garnered and studied the humor, hoaxes and exaggerations, the faith, beliefs and cures, the folkspeech to determine the means by which the harsh world the settlers sought to tame and live in was made tolerable to them."

The area covered by the newspapers, Hines pointed out, was isolated for years from the remainder of the northwest, and took a long time to get established.

Because of its isolation, he wrote, "the local paper was thrown fully on the resources of the community it served: In times of sickness and death the weeklies commiserated, offered remedies by the score, or discussed the signs of death and dying at length; to entertain the readers, the weeklies printed humor or tall tales or 'lies' clipped from other Pacific Northwest or Eastern newspapers, or better, narratives which the editor heard from his cronies."

The three volumes contain anecdotes, one includes proverbial lore such as sayings, riddles and customs, and two contain cures.

Since the area had few if any doctors, cures and remedies assumed major importance at that time.

"I blanch to think of them," Hines said. "One of the worst-sounding was that of muriatic acid and quicklime for diphtheria throat." ("Muriatic" is the old name of hydrochloric acid.)

In another instance, the Walla Walla Union related that a sportsman bitten by a rattlesnake poured gunpowder on the wound and lighted a match to it, in the custom of the time. He suffered no pain or inconvenience—from the bite. The effect of the treatment on his hand is another matter. The burning gunpowder sometimes took some skin with it.

Settlers told grim and painful jokes to let off steam, according to Hines. Many stories poked fun at various social groups and keyed around the discomfiture of individuals.

Hines currently is doing a follow-up study. He received a graduate school research grant this past summer for a project entitled "A Folklore Study of Frontier Culture Extant Among Descendants of Frontier Settlers of Whitman County and the Palouse Country."

A graduate of Franklin High School in Portland, Ore., Hines holds a bachelor's degree from Lewis and Clark College and a master's from Reed College, both in Portland. He formerly was a high school teacher in Vancouver, Wash., and has taught at Yakima Valley College.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Brown accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Erickson of Portland were visiting old time friends in Heppner this week. Mr. and Mrs. Brown recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

They were married Sept. 21, 1920 in Condon. Later they operated the Rhea ranch for Bob Thompson on Rhea Creek.

This trip to Heppner was a birthday trip. Mr. Brown was 91 years old in September. He is quite hard of hearing and walks with a limp due to a broken hip a few years ago. He recalls with much pleasure his years in this area and his English born wife feels the same way. He is a true blue American and thinks Americans should live within their income as individuals as well as a government.

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