

# Reigns in Retrospect



1932 May Gentry Plant

Lena District; Sue Coleman, Ione; Maxine Sicard, Boardman; and Pat Steagall of Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smithurst chaperoned the Court and Queen Pat rode a horse belonging to Bill Smithurst. The 1936 Court colors were a deep purple with lavender hats similar to the 1972 colors. During the summer, the Court traveled to Parades and Rodeos, including Umatilla, Ukiah, the Shrine Parade in Pendleton and the Dress-up Parade and Westward Ho! Parade in Pendleton. It was during her reign as Queen that Patsy met her husband, Don Anderson of Arlington, Don was the wild cow milking event at the Morrow County Rodeo that year. Bud Godby of Gooding, Ida won the Northwest Amateur Bucking Contest that year; Roice Fullerton won the Morrow County Amateur Calf Roping, and Christine Swagart won the Morrow County Derby. Patsy and her family live on a ranch near Arlington, and also manage her folks cattle ranch south of Heppner.

1937, Christine Swagart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Swagart, was Queen of the 1937 Heppner Fair and Rodeo. Christine was brought up on the back of a horse on her father's ranch, and rode many a horse in the races at the Rodeos. She also participated in the wrangler riding club events. Queen Christine and her Court were all blue-eyed blondes, and the princesses were Lorena Coder, Boardman; Sharon Cutsforth, Ione; Barbara Steagall, Lexington; and Janet Wright, Rhea Creek. The Queen was dressed in white and the Court was attired in blue. Christine was winner of the Morrow County Derby during her reign. Mrs. Don Heliker of Ione was chaperone. Christine Norden and her husband, Don, now reside in Kimberly, Ore.

1938, Pat Steagall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Steagall of Lexington, was named Queen in 1938. Her Court was Annabell Coleman Swartz, Karen Valentine and Joan Brosnan Robison. Chaperone for this Court was Mrs. Al Fetweh. Pat rode a registered thoroughbred, Justine K. Kraster, given to her by Frank Turner. They attended the various neighborhood shows that year. It was at Ukiah that this Court placed first in the Queen's Race, and Queen Pat received a trophy presented by Farley Motor Co. of Heppner. The Queen's coronation, which took place down town, following the dress-up parade. Pat particularly remembers the Grand Entries, which all Queens look forward to. Pat and Jerry Dougherty and family now live on a ranch near Heppner which was owned by Jerry's father, Cliff Dougherty, a member of the Heppner Rodeo Court.

1939, The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Cutsforth of Lexington, Sharon Cutsforth Gorman, was chosen Queen of the 1939 Heppner Rodeo. Sharon's princesses were Susan Partlow, Boardman; Judy Cochell, Lexington; Joan Moe, Rhea Creek; and Janis Martin Lena. Queen Sharon was dressed in white and her princesses were dressed in teal blue. 1939 was the Oregon Centennial. This Court was on the road throughout the summer by appearing at Rodeos, On T.V. and in Parades. They met the Oregon Centennial Wagon, the mock hanging at the Boardman Centennial celebration and attended numerous dances and banquets. Sharon, a 5'9" stately blond and excellent horsewoman resides with her family in Ione.

1960, Susan Partlow was Queen of the 1960 Fair and Rodeo. Princesses were Ge-

raldine Swagart, Marjorie Peck, Sharon Crabtree and Charlene Jones. Chaperones were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smithurst.

The Queen's first official appearance was in the Portland Meadows Race Track. They attended as many Parades and Rodeos as possible. They enjoyed a dance each Saturday night, beginning with a Kick-off dance. To quote Queen Susan, "We did so much, it would take a book to tell about it!"

1961, Joan Moe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Moe of Heppner was selected as Queen in 1961. Princesses that year were Patty Partlow of Boardman; Ronnie Belsma, Lena; Marlene Fetsch, Lexington; and Sandra Eubanks, Ione; Mrs. John Eubanks was chaperone. Joan was dressed in white trousers, shirt, hat and boots and the court wore purple pants and purple flowered shirts. This Court was present at many Rodeos and met many people. On the last day of the Rodeo, Queen Joan was presented with a set of luggage from the Kinzua Corporation. Joan, (Mrs. J.D. Hudson), lives near Heppner on the Lexington Highway. She has three daughters.

1962, Marlene Fetsch presided as Queen of the 1962 Heppner Rodeo. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Fetsch, long-time ranchers in Morrow County. Al was a member of the Rodeo board and helped to put on many shows. Edna Fetsch was a chaperone of the 1936 court. Queen Marlene's court was Jackie Brindle, Lena; Diane Pettyjohn, Ione; Diane Fullerton, Heppner; and Irene Potts Boardman. Mrs. Roice Fullerton was their official chaperone. The Queen wore white and the princesses wore bright blue pants with blue and white printed shirts, blue hats and tan boots. This group did an outstanding job representing the Heppner Rodeo at Arlington, Spray, Portland, Wallawa, Elgin, Pendleton as well as going to Vale for the Fourth of July weekend. Marlene recalls the summer with pleasure from selecting their outfits, the crowning on Main Street, the bustle-bustle of getting ready for Parades, the dances for each individual member of the Court, the luncheons, to many friends that were made with other courts. To quote Marlene, each year holds a significance for the Court, Marlene Longgood and her husband live at College Place, Wa., and she attends many Rodeos where her husband competes. Each time when introductions are made, many fond memories are recalled.

1963, Sandra Eubanks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Eubanks, was chosen for head of the Rodeo Court in 1963. Having been born and reared on her parents ranch where many horses were raised, she became an experienced rider and rode many race horses during the Heppner Rodeos. Queen Sandra's princesses were Nancy Cleveland, Louise Pointer, Sharon Donovan and Shannon Mahoney. Mrs. John Eubanks was chaperone. The group travelled to many Rodeos and won first place honors in the Queen's Court division in the Portland Rose Parade. They also rode in the Chief Joseph Days Parade and had their pictures taken with movie star Walter Brennan. The Rodriguezes live near Irrigon.

1964, Shannon Mahoney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Mahoney, long time residents of Heppner, was picked for Heppner Rodeo Queen. Shannon acquired her first horse, Kemper, at the age of ten. This horse, formerly owned by Kemper Snow, loved to a ripe old age of 37. Shannon's riding experience included helping many times to drive cattle belonging to Steve Thompson to the Summer Range. As Queen, Shannon rode her sorrel mare "Princess."

Princesses that year were Dewana West, Terry Greenup, Judy Sherer and Martha Doherty. This court, off Irish descendants, chose to wear kelly green pants, hats and boots with flowered shirts. Queen Shannon also wore the green flowered shirt with white hat, vest, pants, and boots. They traveled to many Rodeos including Condon, Arlington, Joseph, Elgin and Pendleton as well as participating in the Rose Festival Parade in Portland. Shannon was also a princess on the Round-up court of Queen Judy Curcio in 1965. Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Smith now live in Canby, Ore.

1965, An Ione beauty, Judy Sherer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sherer, was chosen for Queen in 1965. Judy, an accomplished rider, rode in Heppner Parades, competed in the races and shows from the early age of five. Princesses that year were Erna Lynn Winchester Heppner; Ginger Majeske, Lexington; Karla Luciani, Butter Creek; and Susan McCoy, Boardman. Judy was the first one to wear the now popular western suit complete with jacket in white. Her attendants wore purple suits with white boots and blouses and lavender hats. Judy's horse, Rocky, a sorrel thoroughbred, is now being used by their chaperone Mrs. Archie Munkers. This court also attended a long list of rodeos that summer including going to Redmond. Judy and her husband, Jerry Ritka, live on a farm near Salem and still enjoy the pleasure of having horses.

1966, The 1966 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo was reigned over by Erna Lynn Winchester, Heppner. Princesses were Barbara Bloodsworth, of Lexington; Susan Lindstrom, Ione; Mardee Childers, Boardman; and Verina French, Lena.

Erna, a lifetime resident of Heppner, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Winchester. Her family heritage had its place in Heppner's history. Great-grandparents Mr. and Mrs. James Reid came to Heppner in 1910 and built a house in the same place the Winchester home now stands. Behind the house James operated a lumber yard.

1966 saw Bob Steagall take the Morrow County Calf Roping Championship and Art Vance ride "Frosty" to the All Around Chautau position.

The court this year was clad in bright blue tailored wool suits with the Queen in the now traditional white, high crown hats came back this year leaving the flat top, large brimmed hats behind. Gardner's Men's Wear started a new tradition by furnishing the royal wardrobe for the second year.

Erna, now a graduate of Oregon State University, is presently in Heppner with plans of attending medical school in the field of Medical Technology this winter.

1967, Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Queen of 1967 was Verina French and her Court was princesses Rubiann Fullerton, Heppner Wranglers; Linda Tatone, Boardman; Maureen Doherty, Lexington; and Berniece Matthews, Ione. The chaperone Dimple Munkers, herself a past Queen, guided this group. The princesses' official suits were burnt orange, white blouses and brown hats, gloves and boots. The queens wore the traditional all-white suit with a hat band of rhinestones. The Court traveled to many parades and shows. One of the outstanding events was to have as their guest the Shrine Queen, Darlene Kuehn of Milton-Freewater, at the Heppner Sidewalk Bazaar. Luncheon for them was held at the Wagon Wheel Cafe with the Shriners as hosts. The Court modeled past Queen's official suits at the 4H Style Show at the Fairgrounds. Queen Verina's Parade was one of the longest in history and was headed by Lewis Cason as Grand Marshal. Verina is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond French and was reared on the family ranch on Butter Creek. Her younger sister, Susan, is Queen of the 1972 Fair and Rodeo.

Verina is now employed in Pendleton.

1968, Berniece Matthews, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Matthews of Ione, was crowned Queen of the 1968 Heppner Fair and Rodeo. The new grandstand was used for the first time at her coronation. The Court was Sheila Luciani, Sue Ellen Greenup, Marcia Jones and Kathy Hinton, who wore bright red outfits with white accessories. Dimple Munkers chaperoned them to many Fairs and Rodeos. They won blue ribbons at the Umatilla County Fair and Elgin Stampede Parades. Berniece recalls the night her parents called her at college to tell her

she had been chosen Queen. She said the roof almost went off the dorm. To her, the Grand Entries were particularly exciting and she made a lovely picture on her horse, "Sunday Driver." Harold Erwin was Grand Marshal of the Parade that year. To quote her, "...there were so many people who worked so hard and unselfishly to give my Court a great summer and a fabulous Rodeo."

Berniece now lives in Astoria with her husband, Pat Thornton, where they both teach school.

1969, Queen of the 1969 Morrow County Fair and Rodeo was Sheila Luciani, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Luciani of Butter Creek. George is a member of the Fair board, and has helped with the Fairs for a number of years. Queen Sheila, a stately brunette, was brought up on the family ranch, and rode from the time she was little. She was a princess on the court of Queen Berniece; her older sister Karla was a princess in 1965, and her younger sister, Patty, is a princess this year on Queen Susan French's court. Sheila's Court was Sheri Lynn O'Brien, Janet Palmateer, Rhonda Bellinger, and Patti Healy. The Queen wore the traditional white western suit and her Court wore green suits with white blouses, hats and boots. Sheila particularly remembers the good times and thrills they had at dances, as well as to the many Fairs and Rodeos. One particularly enjoyable day was an informal gathering at the river where they all went water skiing and picnicing. This was hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Luciani. Sheila and her husband Robert Cozad, are presently living in Sherwood, Or.

1970, A typically Irish lass, Sheri Lynn O'Brien, was crowned Queen of the 1970 Heppner Fair and Rodeo. This vivacious brunette, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pat O'Brien, rode from the time she was a child. She competed many years in the Wrangler Riding Club events participated in the Morrow County Horse Show and carried banners for many Rodeo Courts before her reign. Her father has assisted many years on the Rodeo Board. Queen Sheri's princesses were Vivian Phillips Parideso, Boardman; Jeri Krebs Lathrop, Ione; Michelle Miller Burns, Lexington; and Susan French, Lena.

They made approximately thirty appearances throughout the summer. Some of the special highlights were the Milton-Freewater Pea Festival receiving 3rd place in the Parade; the Portland Rose Parade, 4th place; the Elgin Stampede, 1st place; and the Umatilla County Fair Parade, 1st place; and other shows. They were host for the Court of the Blue Mountain Community College Intercollegiate Rodeo held at Heppner that year. Sheri Lynn made a striking picture on her horse "Monkey," a bay gelding, in the Heppner Rodeo Parade and Grand

Entries in the arena. The Court was assisted that year by Dimple Munkers.

1971, The honors for 1971 went to Michelle Miller when she was crowned Queen of the Heppner Fair and Rodeo, Michelle, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tad Miller, was brought up on a ranch out of Lexington. Her father served on the Rodeo Board as president. Queen Michelle's princesses were Jeanne Daly from Butter Creek; Dovie Alderman, Heppner Wranglers; Jan Schlichting, Boardman; and Jeri Snow, Ione. Michelle was dressed in the traditional white western suit and the princesses wore electric blue outfits. They had a busy summer making appearances at Arlington, Milton-Freewater, Spray, Condon, Elgin, Joseph, Hermiston, John Day, Pendleton and the College and Junior Rodeos at Heppner. Michelle rode her registered quarter horse "Hot Walker" and the Court made a striking group in the Heppner Parades and Grand Entries.

Michelle and her husband, Donald Burns, are living in Baker.

Michelle is a graduate of Morrow County High School. She is currently employed in the field of Medical Technology at the Morrow County Hospital. She is a member of the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Association and the Morrow County Chamber of Commerce.

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Jim Mihalick, Broomfield, Colo., on "Hud" Bareback riding is one of the most physically-demanding events in professional rodeo. The rider has only a suitcase-type handle, atop the leather rigging, to hold onto. He points his chest skyward and wings his feet outward from the horse's shoulders throughout the ride. Great balance and exquisite timing are prime requirements.



Gayle Cox

## Recent Promotion

GAYLE COX

Gayle has accepted the position of Regional Marketing Administrator, for Honeywell Information Systems. Gayle most recently held the Branch Administrator position in San Francisco West. Since his date of hire in October, 1969, Gayle has also been a Regional Administrator with I.S.O. and a Systems Analyst with G.E. Previous employers were Boise-Cascade and United Airlines. Above and beyond handling the normal administrative traffic, Gayle's initial assignments include interfacing between the Region/Branches and Operations to align reported performance figures within the Operations Area with reality. Gayle is a graduate of Portland State University and lives in San Mateo. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cox of Heppner.

## How My Summer Vacation Spent Me

From Honeywell's News Letter!



SUITING UP

The "Most Unusual Vacation" award for 1972 goes to Gayle Cox, Northwest Region's Administrator.

On July 19th, Gayle headed south to—would you believe?—the Mojave Desert, destination "Jim Russell's Racing Drivers' School" in Rosamond, California, where in mid-summer a cold day is 105. Gayle's purpose—a week of driving lessons in a "Formula Ford" on the 2.5-mile desert course. After the week's instruction, those students qualifying trekked to Riverside, California, to run on the famous Riverside Raceway. Time trials and practice laps were held on Saturday, and Sunday's activities capped the week with two races held to qualify the participants for their Novice Licenses.

Gayle, driving a new "Merlyn", moved up from fifth on the starting grid to place second in a field of 17, hitting speeds of over 140 mph in order to do so.

Gayle joins such other illustrious graduates of Russell's Driving School as Steve McQueen and James Garner, who were tutored there for their roles in "LeMans" and "Grand Prix".

Gayle plans to attend additional races at both Riverside and famed Laguna Seca in the Bay Area, and would be interested in talking to fellow employees regarding sponsoring of a racing team.

**HOWDY  
PODNUH!**

Don't Forget that this is  
**THE PLACE  
TO MEET  
YOUR  
FRIENDS AFTER  
THE RODEO!**

It's No Accident That People Say We Serve  
**THE BEST FOOD in TOWN**  
We Work At It!

**Cal's Lounge & Cafe**

