



"I noticed how nice our Rodeo Queen and Court looked in the Gazette-Times, so I am sending this picture which I believe was taken at Pendleton, Sept. 14, 1911. Maybe some of the old timers will remember these girls." So writes Edna Hutchens in submitting this picture of "Cow Girls in the Bully West" and to call attention to "how times change."

# Top cowboys at Heppner Rodeo

Oregon's world champion team roper is among those cowboys planning to enter the Morrow County Fair Rodeo, Aug. 25-26, according to the Rodeo Cowboys Association.

Leo Camarillo, Donald, is among those indicating early that they plan to compete at the Heppner rodeo. The 27-year-old cowboy is making a strong defense of his world championship, having won more than \$11,000 in that event alone. His earnings in steer wrestling and calf roping have boosted his earnings to \$23,032, good for sixth place in the world all around standings.

Jack Kelley of Deer Lodge, Mont., who is 11th in the bull riding with more than \$8,000, also plans to ride at Heppner.

Last year, with 187 entries, prize money was \$6,385. This year cowboys will add their entry fees—\$20 in the riding and team roping events and \$25 in the timed-to-another

\$1,500 purse.

Entries for the rodeo, which is being produced by the Double R Rodeo Co. of Prineville, Ore., will close at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24.



LEO CAMARILLO



JACK KELLEY

## Electricity shortage brings curbs on use

Columbia Basin Electric Manager David Harrison reports that B.P.A. has issued a letter of urgent request for energy conservation.

The Bonneville Power Administration stated that it had hoped for a normal orderly plan. Now it points out that water shortages make it necessary to move into a conservation program at once. The need is due to a

deficit in energy being produced in the region due to the low stream flows.

Columbia Basin requests voluntary help from the members.

Residential users are asked to cut back on uses of hot water if possible, use the range efficiently, and turn off appliances and lights when not in use.

Commercial users are asked to eliminate or mini-

mize both internal and external lighting. Businesses are asked to raise the temperature of air conditioning by 2 per cent F. and minimize the use of hot water.

All members are asked to consider lowering the thermostat 2 degrees in winter for lowering electric heating use.

Likely the critical water levels will result in the request being applicable through April of 1974.

## Early winners in Fair competition

Fair booths were completed Monday evening, and the judges announced these placings on Tuesday.

Youth organization booths: 1st, 4-H Livestock; 2nd, Irrigon 4-H; 3rd, Heppner High Junior Class. A special blue ribbon was awarded the display entered by the 1973 Rodeo Court.

Social organizations were led by the Ione Garden Club which took the booth sweepstakes purple ribbon and 1st rating in this class. The Neighborhood Center rated 2nd and the Heppner Garden Club placed 3rd.

The American Legion Auxiliary was 1st in community service organizations and the Morrow County CowBelles placed 2nd. The Seventh-Day Adventist Church booth won a red ribbon.

Paul Miller's rock display took the 1st place in the hobby booth class.

Paul Miller's Rock Shop was rated 1st among the commercial booths. The World Book Encyclopedia display was 2nd and the Soroptimist's Holiday Coffee Shop, 3rd.

Mike Howell says that each of the 10 entered was awarded a red ribbon: Barbara Palmer, Ione; Marci Linnell, Boardman; Denise Henkle, Boardman; Vicky Sullivan, Irrigon; Cassie Chapel, Ione; Lisa Collins, Heppner; Karen Richards, Irrigon; Mary Healy, Heppner; Sherri Kemp, Heppner; Mary Ann Greenup, Heppner.

Junior horsemanship champion is Maureen Healy, Heppner, and reserve champion is Dana Creamer, Irrigon. Twelve entered this competition.

The champion rating in intermediate horsemanship was won by Sally Sumner, Heppner, and Janice Healy, Pine City, won reserve champion. Fourteen competed.

Colt horsemanship is Donna Palmer, Ione, and the reserve champion is Mary Ann Proctor, Irrigon, who competed in a group of eight.

Susan Johnson, Echo, took the championship in the class of four who entered small fry horsemanship.

### SHOWMANSHIP

Mary Healy, Heppner, was declared champion senior showman and Marci Linnell, Boardman, reserve champ-

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## Property assessment up

The Department of Revenue has finished certifying centrally assessed property values totaling nearly \$2.5 billion dollars to Oregon counties for use in setting their tax rates.

County assessors are responsible for valuations of residential property, commercial property, etc., within their county. The Department of Revenue, however, assesses utility properties throughout the state and advises counties of those values. This is done primarily to assure a uniform assessment of major properties statewide.

The centrally assessed values are added to locally assessed values from which a tax rate is computed for each taxing district.

This year's total of \$2,475,953,888 certified to the counties is up 9 per cent over last year's \$2,270,866,132.

Property value assessment in Morrow County is \$15,592,896, up 1 per cent from 1972; Gilliam, \$13,742,394, up 1 per cent; Wheeler County, \$1,024,200, up 1 per cent; and Umatilla County, \$64,411,548, up 6 per cent.

Columbia County registered the single largest jump from \$52.3 million to almost \$131 million—a 150 per cent increase. Most of that increase comes from Portland General Electric Company's construction of its Trojan nuclear plant located there.

Other than the Columbia

County spurt, utility value increases are uniformly scattered around the state with only one county, Jefferson, registering a decrease, and that was a scant one per cent.

For many years Pacific Northwest Bell and its predecessor company, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, held the distinction of being the taxpayer with the highest true cash value of utility property in the state. This year that position is occupied by Portland General Electric Company.

## Curbs off on use of city water

Restrictions on the use of water within Heppner city limits have been lifted, according to Bert Corbin, Superintendent of public works.

"Removal of air from existing mains has helped increase water pressure in various parts of the city," Corbin said, "and the weather has also been an important factor."

The evenings have cooled down and residents are not watering their lawns and gardens as they were last month.

## Advice sought on how to use highway funds

Fred Klaboe, state highway engineer and administrator of the Highway Division, asked local government officials in Gilliam, Umatilla, Morrow, Wheeler and Grant Counties on Aug. 16 for assistance in selecting highway projects to receive financing as part of a \$150 million bond program authorized during the last legislative session.

In a meeting held at the courthouse in Heppner, Klaboe said that the Highway Division was anxious to receive local help in determining the best use of the \$10,455,000 allocated to the state's 12th administrative district.

The \$12th administrative district includes Gilliam, Umatilla, Morrow, Wheeler and Grant Counties.

Klaboe advised local officials that, "While the newly created Transportation Commission must by law bear final responsibility in the decision-making, the commission believes local assistance assures the best possible project selection."

He also expressed hope that expected cooperation between all units of local government will go a long way in strengthening the role of the regionally oriented administrative districts.

Local officials should have no difficulty identifying enough highway improvement projects in the area to make use of the \$10.4 million local share. Klaboe noted that the Highway Division has a ready backlog of \$500 million in critical needs identified on the state highway system.

"The \$150 million will make only a small dent," Klaboe said, "but it will be a welcome shot-in-the-arm."

He noted that Oregon road users are well aware of a number of critical deficiencies in the state highway system and have every right to expect that this money will be used

wisely to improve driving safety and efficiency.

Klaboe also requested local governments to incorporate citizen participation techniques in identifying their highway projects and priorities. He expressed hope that local officials will be creative in providing for full participation by all citizens and interest groups.

He pointed out that local citizen advisory committees, well-publicized town hall meetings, and the availability of technical staff to aid citizens can be productive mechanisms for obtaining citizen input.

The highway administrator's visit to Heppner is another in a series that he will make to the 14 administrative districts during the months of August and September to discuss highway planning under the bond program.

The members of the Carnation Club of the Degree of Honor Society will have a food sale Friday, Aug. 24, 9 a.m., at their building on Main Street.

## Ambulance volunteers in meeting

Robert Lowe of Heppner attended the meeting of The Volunteer Ambulance Association of Oregon at Vale, Aug. 11.

Despite the declaration that Eastern Oregon is now considered a drought area, 30 delegates came to the regular quarterly meeting of the

association. Thirteen volunteer ambulance services were represented at the meeting.

Delegates learned that House Bill No. 2257 which provides for licensing of ambulances and certification of ambulance personnel was passed by the 1973 state legislature and is awaiting the

governor's signature. This law will require every ambulance operating in Oregon to be manned by at least one emergency medical technician. Oregon now has 2,000 trained EMTs.

The next meeting will be a dinner meeting at Beaver Creek on Nov. 17.

# Rawlins and his snakes are off to Cornell U

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD

They're off to Ithaca, N.Y., to attend Cornell University—all 13 of them. Morrow County's farm-reared John Rawlins, 23, and his 12 deadly poisonous snakes started East Tuesday.

"I expect to achieve a Ph.D. in Aut-Ecology (environmental ecology and physiology) in two and one-half years. As a teaching assistant I have been given the responsibility of guiding, counseling and grading 100 of the school's 85 biology majors. I will deliver a lab orientation lecture each Friday. Dr. Harvey Pough is my major professor," Rawlins explained.

In June, John and his younger brother, Charles sons of Mr. and Mrs. William Rawlins of Eightmile, drove to Ithaca where John located lodging for the coming year, looked about the Cornell campus and checked in with the Ithaca Community Dram-

ma Group as he plans to try out for parts in its productions.

The 12 snakes are all rattlers. John has had as many as 30 snakes as pets at one time. He collected them from Mexico to Canada. One has been with him five years, Kirk Horn, former Heppner High biology teacher, stimulated John's boyish interest in reptiles; this led to a serious study of herpetology.

In 1972 John was graduated from Oregon State University with highest honors and a B.S. in zoology. His undergraduate honors study was on "encouraging fertility in rattlers." He injected estrogen, but found it didn't work with the snakes. In John's collection there are several couples of several different sub-species. He has had one baby snake bred in captivity.

John does not "milk" his snakes. For a while the U.S. Army was paying \$1,000 a litre for rattlesnake venom, and is

probably paying more now. John does not handle his snakes often. He examines their mouths, especially every three months, for "mouth rot." None of his rattlers has had the disease, which is easily contracted by the rubber boa, one of this county's rarest snakes.

Evidently, snakes are ideal pets in several ways. They don't demand much attention. John had one go 15 months without eating, but he usually feeds his collection once a month. They eat small mammals and birds—usually mice. It is important to keep them at an 80-90 degree temperature, he said.

John served as vice-president and president of the student body at Heppner High School. Before his graduation in 1968 he was active in journalism and dramatics. This last year while he was employed doing ranch work in the county he took leading roles in the Heppner Com-

munity Drama Club productions of Chekhov's "The Boor," Mary Stewart Chase's "Harvey" and Arthur Miller's "Crucible."

Although other scholars from the county have attended East Coast colleges, John, as far as is known, is the first to go to Cornell's Graduate School.

John and the 12 rattlesnakes will travel in his well-worn Ford. The snakes will be together in a flour sack. He has located a place to stay in Ithaca where the landlady will accept small pets, which is the classification John feels fits his poisonous snakes.

He will have a month's Christmas break and will probably bring his snakes home for a Christmas dinner of Morrow County mice.

Snakes are rising in interest with the current release of two movies with snake heroes, "Harry" and "Ssss." Several news media have carried features on snakes in recent issues.



Tom Roberts, Heppner FFA, leads his steer to the barn after unloading him Sunday at the fairgrounds.



JOHN RAWLINS