

Princess is an artist, athlete and cowgirl



Mickey Hoskins interrupts her chores for the photographer. She is working on her father's hay baler, which she enjoys operating.

The Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Court has its own promoter, cartoonist, and all-around public relations person in Princess Mickey Hoskins.

A five-foot two, snappy, bundle of artistic talent, Princess Mickey has been making handbills to hand out to all of her friends, inviting them to Saturday night's dance. Each handbill is drawn with a clever cartoon and saying designed by Mickey.

Mickey is also making a large plaque for each court member's horse, to be placed on the horse stalls at the fair. Each plaque will have a drawing of the member's horse.

It's no wonder that Mickey is sought out for her artistic abilities. A 1974 graduate of Lone High School, 18-year-old Mickey has designed the cover for the high school annual the

last two years. Her portfolio is filled with drawings and pictures of backdrops she has painted for plays and concerts at the high school. She is particularly good at drawing caricatures, as evidenced in the comic posters she made for the high school gym of each member of the basketball team.

Mickey's talent is natural. She has never had lessons, but lessons will be started this fall when she enrolls in art at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton. She would most like to see the exhibition of Charles Russell's paintings.

Rodeo court life is not new to the Hoskins family. Mickey's mother, Darlene Biddle Hoskins, was a princess in 1945 and Queen of the Heppner Rodeo the next year. Older sister Anne was a princess on the 1972 court. Both girls have

been on the Arlington Rodeo Court. Mickey really wanted to be on the Heppner Court. Her dark eyes snap with excitement when she says, "I won't have a summer like this one again!"

The Robert Hoskins Ranch is located on Rhea Creek, but their summer range is on Meacham Creek in Umatilla County. Mickey and her sister spent many summers with their parents at the sheep camp on Meacham Creek. "When we were little, mom and dad put us on horses in front of them," says Mickey, "so I can't remember when I wasn't on a horse."

The Hoskins are pioneer stock of Morrow County. Dillon Hoskins arrived in Hardman in the 1850s and settled on Rock Creek. The Hoskins family is of Scottish descent. Mickey's grand-

mother, Maisie Hoskins, lives up the road from them. It was she who taught Mickey how to quilt and embroider. Mickey finds time to enjoy these skills, especially in the winter.

Princess Mickey is very active. She will be attending BMCC on a basketball scholarship. She was one of Lone High School's top ball players on the girl's basketball team. Mickey played guard position on the team. Highlight of her basketball career was when the team played the Portland Trailblazers' ballboys during the half time exhibition at the Portland Coliseum last year. "We beat them something like 4 to 2 and I made one of the baskets," she said.

For the last three years Mickey has participated in the state track meet for girls. She placed 6th in the state last year in the long jump. She also

runs relays and 100 yard dash. She took part in speech and drama activities at Lone High School. For one little girl, she gets a lot done.

Come parade time in August Princess Mickey Hoskins will ride her horse, Setha Rafe, a registered half Arabian-Quarter Horse, down Main Street waving to the crowd. Somewhere in the parade behind her will be the Hoskins' pack string which was used for years to pack into the Meacham Creek sheep camp. The Hoskins pack string has appeared in Heppner Fair and Rodeo parades, but this year will be the string's last appearance.

Saturday night Princess Mickey Hoskins invites everyone to dance to the music of the Moonlighters from Salem, at the Fair Pavilion, fairgrounds, in Heppner.

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Vol. 91, No. 22



Heppner, Ore., Thursday, July 18, 1974



'They're getting better all the time'

Early days of rodeo are recalled by Ebb Hughes

By MIZ CURTIS

W.E. (Ebb) Hughes is telling about early-day rodeoing in Heppner:

"The rodeo all but went broke one year along in the 30s. Somewhere between 300 and 500 CCC boys had their camp out where the fairgrounds are now. The Rodeo Board told the boys they could have free passes to the three-day rodeo if they would help put the grounds in shape. The fellas pitched in and the rodeo opened with a good crowd and great gusto. But gate receipts were unusually low. The board couldn't figure out the problem until they

checked around downtown. The CCC men had sold their free passes to folks downtown. A buck in the pocket meant more to them than a free pass to a rodeo.

"Another time we almost went broke. Len Gilliam was the treasurer. After each rodeo dance he would put the money from that dance in the safe at his store, which is now Case Furniture. We didn't have such things as night deposit then. Late one Saturday night some robbers got into the office from the roof and opened the safe. Len discovered the damage the next morning and got hold of the Rodeo Board. Len was a quiet man so he just let the

agitated men stew of 20 minutes or so. Then he walked over to a nail keg in the corner and gave it a kick, letting the staples on top and the dance proceeds, hidden underneath the staples, fall onto the floor.

"For some reason Len thought there might be trouble so he had hidden the money in the keg the night before, rather than locking it up in the safe.

"We used to hold jitney dances to select the queen for the rodeo, and to make money. At a jitney dance a couple of guys go around the hall with a big rope and get everyone inside the rope so they have to dance. Each grange had

selected a princess and there was a picture of each girl with a ballot box in front of each picture in one corner of the dance hall.

"Everyone bought votes and voted for the girl they wanted to be queen. Of course, the guys with the 'big money' bought the queen. That caused some hard feelings after a while, so we had to quit selecting the queen that way.

"Used to be we raised our own stock to be used in the rodeo. A couple of weeks before the rodeo men would bring in horses to be tried out. A guy could earn a little money trying out stock. We used to trail our rodeo stock to

Pendleton for use in the Round-up in trade for some of their stock to use in our rodeo. I've trailed rodeo stock to John Day and Ukiah for their rodeos too. A few times we trailed to Condon and a few times we trailed steers.

"I remember one time we were trailing the horses up the North Fork of the John Day and these two horses, Wicki-up and Micky, broke loose and scattered the rest of the horses. We had quite a time getting them all gathered up in time for the Ukiah rodeo.

"There was one black horse that couldn't be ridden saddled. He was fine bareback. Someone tried to ride him saddled and the guy got

bucked off. The horse took off, saddle and all, up McDonald Canyon and it took a week to get him back. We wanted the saddle back pretty bad.

"I can remember when Harold Cohn used a big, long megaphone to call the rodeos. You could hear him better than you can hear the announcers now who use a microphone.

"Rodeos now are a faster show. They're getting better all the time. The men now do a lot more serious practicing for a rodeo because they're in it to make money. The early men only practiced on the range."

So says Ebb Hughes, grand marshal for this year's Fair and Rodeo parade. From 1931 until 1955 Ebb took an active role in putting on Heppner's rodeo. He started as a member of the Rodeo Board and later served as chairman of the Fair Board.

Ebb had a lot to do with making the Heppner Rodeo a good show, but one won't find that out by talking to him. He held a reputation as a good roper in the arena, but about all he'll say about his rodeoing abilities is that he was "sort of a clown." He'd rather talk about rodeos as he remembers them.

Ebb also has a reputation as one of the county's best livestock men. His many friends are quick to attest to that fact. The Hughes family dates back to sometime before 1870 in Morrow County. Ebb's grandfather, Bill, homesteaded on the land recently sold as the Fullerton place.

Bill Hughes was the first of the Irish to Morrow County. Ebb's father, Percy, homesteaded on what is now the Hughes Ranch on Butter Creek. The Hughes family left the county for a few years but Ebb returned to the Butter

Creek ranch in the early 30s to run a top-notch livestock operation on that ranch. In 1955 he moved to a ranch at Ukiah. His sons, Allen and Merlin, have remained in the county to carry on the Hughes reputation for raising good livestock.

Allen and Merlin have not taken part in rodeos as their father did. However, Allen's daughter, Patricia, was a rodeo princess last year.

Ebb was one of the men who helped to organize the Morrow County Cattlemen's Association and the Soil Conservation District in the county. He was Morrow County's second Cattleman of the Year, receiving that award in 1952.

Ebb and his wife aren't ones to seek publicity. Ebb would rather be the guy telling the stories about someone else. He has the stories to tell. His rodeo yarns are just a warm-up for all the others.

School head to be named Monday

Schools in good condition, Daniels says

Superintendent Ron Daniels had high praise for the school board, advisory committees, office staff and teaching staff of Morrow County's Schools at Monday evening's school board meeting at Lone.

Because of the strong support given him during his seven years as county school superintendent, he said he was leaving the position with mixed emotions.

Monday's meeting was Daniels' last official meeting with the board before taking the president's position at Blue Mountain Community College.

Out of a field of 26 who applied for the superintendent's position, the field of candidates has been narrowed to four. Official hiring of the new superintendent is to take place Monday, July 22.

Daniels reported to the board that the district closed out the fiscal year in good financial condition with a total cash carryover of \$70,000. Although fuel costs increased 30 per cent for the district, extra monies were received from federal and state funds. Daniels told the board that the cash carryover may become necessary in meeting the growth in the north end of the county for such items as hiring more teachers and possible portable classrooms.

"Until school opens in September we don't know how many new students we will have enrolled in the north end," Daniels told the board. "We could have 10 or 150 new students, depending on the opening dates of food processing plants." The board sug-

gested that a school census be taken in the north end of the district the first or second week in August.

The Field Training and Service Bureau of the University of Oregon, which has been conducting a survey of the five-year enrollment needs of the county for the school board, asked for a 30-day extension in the final presentation of its report.

The board voted to increase school lunch charges in all of the county's schools to meet rising costs. Beginning in September, student lunches will increase from 25 cents to 30 cents per meal. Adult lunches will increase from 30 cents to 40 cents.

Two teaching positions remain to be filled. These positions are language arts and Spanish-social studies at Heppner High School. Contracts were approved for six new teachers at Monday's meeting.

Marshall Hesla was hired as librarian for A.C. Houghton school at Irrigon. He holds a BA degree from Portland State University and his MA from the University of Washington. Hesla's wife, Joyce, was hired as the Title I special reading teacher for A.C. Houghton. She holds a degree from Portland State University.

Shirlene Burton, a graduate of Warner Pacific College, was hired to teach music at Lone. Filling the business position at Lone will be Robert Beitel, who holds his MA from the University of Portland. Penny Shepherd was hired to teach fifth grade at A.C. Houghton. She is a graduate of Oregon State University.

A graduate of the University of Utah, Robert Kaltwasser was hired to teach science at Riverside High School in Boardman. Kaltwasser has done graduate work at Oregon State University.

Bill Cooley and Grace McKenny of Irrigon, were appointed to fill the vacant Irrigon positions on the county long-range planning committee.

Dr. Wallace Wolff was elected to serve a second year as chairman of the Morrow County School Board. John Mathews was re-elected vice-president.

Robert Abrams, attorney for the school district, was instructed to petition the Heppner City Council for annexation of approximately 30 acres of Heppner High School land to the city. At present part of the upper portion of the high school and upper parking lot, in addition to the land behind the high school, are not within Heppner city limits. Problems have been created in patrolling of the area by city police. City police can now patrol the lower parking lot but not the upper lot where student cars are parked.

The district again has made application for Title I federal funds to continue the special reading programs at A.C. Houghton and Riverside schools. One teacher has been filling that position, spending three-fourths time at the Irrigon school and one-fourth time at Riverside. Increase in the number of children needing special reading assistance

**SUPERINTENDENT
ALREADY SELECTED**

The Morrow County School Board has made a final selection for the county school superintendent's position.

This individual will be interviewed Thursday, July 18, at 9 p.m., at the district office in Lexington.

Official hiring will take place at a special meeting to be held by the board in Hermiston, Monday, July 22, at 7:30 p.m. in Hermiston.

is making demands for two special reading teachers in the north end of the county. Special reading programs are also carried on at Heppner Elementary and Lone Schools. There is increasing need for a special reading program at Heppner High School.

The paving jobs at Heppner High School and Lone have been completed. Daniels expressed high satisfaction with the jobs.

Fuel allocations and rising costs were the cause of no competition in the bids which were let by the board. Standard Oil Co. was the lone bidder for gas and Morrow County Grain Growers for diesel fuel. No bid was received for anti-freeze. For contract bus runs, Louis Carlson was granted the Peterson-Carlson run and Adon Hamlett the Lone-Lexington route. They were the only bidders for those runs. Two other contract runs are being negotiated.

All members of the board were present for Monday's meeting. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 19, at Heppner High School, beginning at 9 p.m.

**YOUTH CHARGED
IN DRUG CASE**

Darrel Lee Pummel, 19, of Irrigon was arrested by Oregon State Police Monday and charged with criminal activities in drugs.

A two-count information was filed in justice court Tuesday by the district attorney's office, charging Pummel with possession of marijuana and possession of amphetamines. Pummel entered no plea, and bail was set at \$1,505. The case will be heard Tuesday.

SWIM MEET MONDAY

The public is invited to see the Heppner Swim Team in action Monday, July 22, when it meets Hermiston in competition at the Heppner pool.



Ebb Hughes, one of the prime movers in the Heppner rodeo over the years, stands before the Morrow County Fair's grandstand. He has had many a rough ride from the chutes in the background.

Young men must still register for service

Even with the "all Volunteer Army" all young men are still required by law to register with Selective Service at age 18, according to Charles M. Jones, chairman, Local Board No. 31, The Dalles.

But due to cutbacks in funds for the Selective Service System which resulted in fewer personnel and local draft board offices, there are not as many places for young men to complete registration.

Local Board No. 31 office serving Morrow, Wheeler and Gilliam counties, located at Rm. 25, Post Office Bldg., The Dalles, has been reduced to 24 hours per week. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Young men are reminded they must register within 30 days before or after their 18th birthday.

Those unable to visit their local board office may regis-

ter through any duly appointed registrar. These registrars are located in most communities, many of them in high schools, federal, state, county or city offices. "Mail-in" registration forms are also available at some local board offices allowing the young man to simply complete and mail the form to accomplish registration.

Places of registration in this area include: James F. Green, Bank of Eastern Oregon, Arlington; Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Russell, Boardman; Volney Thomas, sheriff, courthouse, Condon; Mrs. Arlene Stegner, county clerk's office, Fossil; Mrs. Elvira E. Irby, courthouse, Heppner; Allen R. Nistad, Kinzua Corporation office, Kinzua; Leon R. McGuire, post office, Mitchell; Leora O. Stephens, School District 1, Spray; John Edmondson and Gordon M. Meyers, Lone Schools, Lone.